



# Trá na Coime

“traw nuh-KUM-uh”

## Keem Bay



Grúpa fear agus siorc á tharraingt ar teaghrán i dtreo an chladaigh acu in Acaill sna 1960idí  
© Getty Images

Men towing a tethered shark to shore on Achill Island in the 1960s  
© Getty Images

### Siorcanna ag snámh amach ón gcósta

Tá síul ghéar á coinneáil ag Cruachán ar Chuan na Coime. Ó mhullach Chruacháin, tá an chuma ar an scéal gur isteach san Atlantach atá ceann de na hailtí cósta is airde san Eoraip (688m) ag titim.

I rith lár an 20ú haois, bhíodh síul á coinneáil ag lucht faire siorcanna ar Chuan na Coime ó bharr na n-allte. Nuair a chonaic siad liamhán gréine, chuirfeadh siad scéala chuig na hiascairí a bhíodh amuigh i dtíralaeir agus curacha beaga, ionas go mbeadh harpún ina lámha acu. Thabharfaidís an ghabhláil ar ais go calafort an Phoirtín áit a raibh na siorcanna á dtabhairt í dtír ar chraenacha lena bpróiseáil mar gur bhain luach ar leith leis an ola.

Chomh maith leis sin, caitheamh aimsire ba ea dul sa tóir ar shiorcanna. I 1932, rugadh ar chraosaire, le slat agus dorú, amach ó Thrá na Coime. Ba é sin an siorc ba throime a rugadh le slat agus dorú riagh in Éirinn. Bhí meáchan 165 cileagram (365lbs) luaite leis.

### Sharks offshore

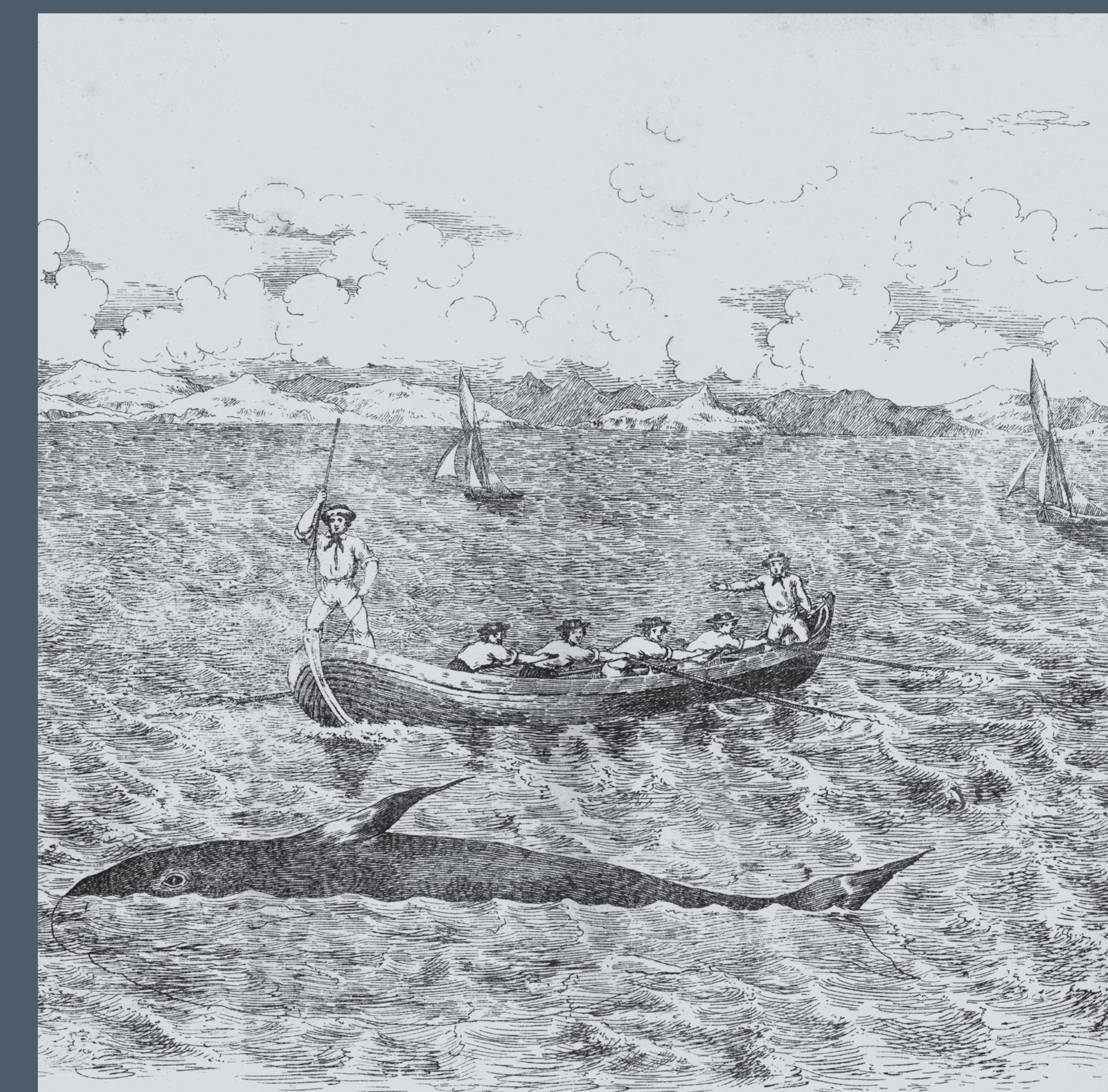
Croaghaun mountain stands guard over Keem Bay. From its summit, one of Europe's highest sea cliffs (688m) falls sheer into the Atlantic.

During the mid-20th century shark spotters watched from the cliffs around Keem Bay. When basking sharks were sighted, they alerted the fishermen who sailed out in small trawlers and currachs with harpoons at the ready. They towed the catch to Purteen harbour where the sharks were craned ashore to be processed for their valuable oil.

Sharks were also hunted for sport. In 1932 a porbeagle shark, caught with rod and line off Keem Beach, broke Irish records. It weighed in at 165 kilos (365lbs).

Deirtear gur bhaist Naomh Pádraig Cuan na Coime, agus gur gheall sé nach mbáfaí aon duine in uiscí an chuain arís go deo.

St Patrick is said to have blessed Keem Bay, promising that no one would ever drown in its waters.



Léiríu de shá siorca nó éisc gréine amach as an gcósta in larthar na hÉireann le Wallop Brabazon, 1848  
Iascach domhainfharraige agus cósta na hÉireann

Illustration of shark or sun fish spearing off the West of Ireland by Wallop Brabazon, 1848  
The Deep Sea and Coast Fisheries of Ireland



1 Téigh chomh fada le stáisiún feachana a bhí in úsáid tráth an chogaidh ag Máiteog, siar ó Thrá na Coime.  
Climb to the war-time observation station at Moytoge Head west of Keem Beach.

2 Bain taitneamh as conair snorclála Ghormbealach na Coime.  
Enjoy the Keem Blueway snorkelling trail.

3 Bíodh béis blasta bia mara agat ag an Caol.  
Feast on fresh local seafood at Keel.

