Radharc Chruach Phádraig

Croagh Patrick View

“rye-urk kroo-uc **FAW**-rick”

Oilithrigh ina n-éadaí Domhnaigh ag sárú an aird achrannaigh, 1924
Le caoinchead ó Leabharlann Náisiúnta na hÉireann

Pilgrims in their Sunday best tackling the arduous climb, 1924
Courtesy of National Library of Ireland

An sliabh beannaithe

Is ag bun Chruach Phádraig atá sráidbhaile Mhuraisce. Ba anseo a rinneadh ceiliúradh ar chlabhsúr réamh-Chríostaí an fhómhair – Lughnasa.

Ghlac críostaithe seilbh ar ionaid sácráilte cosúil le Cruach Phádraig. I ndiaidh 40 lá a chaitheamh ar mhullach an chnoic sa bhliain 441 AD, deirtear gur chuir Naomh Pádraig an ruaig ar nathracha agus ar dheamhain trí iad a chur amach i dtreo na farraige.

Domhnach na Cruaiche

Is cnoc ard é cruach. Ar an Domhnach deiridh i mí Iúil tugann breis is 25,000 oilithreach aghaidh ar Chruach Pádraig chun meas a léiriú d’éarlamh na hÉireann trí aifreann a léamh ar mhullach na cruaiche.

Tugann roinnt oilithreach aghaidh ar an gcruach cosnochta nó ar a lámha agus a nglúine.

Lá an phátrúin

Reáchtáiltear lá pátrúin i Muraisc ag deireadh mhí Lúnasa. I ndiaidh Aifrinn i Mainistir Mhuraisce, tiomnaithe do Naomh Pádraig, bíonn ócáid cheiliúrtha ag an bpobal. I measc na n-ócáidí a reáchtáiltear tá ceol, damhsa, sleádóireacht, trialacha madraí caorach agus moltóireacht caorach.

‘Téigh, a fhir naofa, go mbarr na an tsléibhe siar ón ngrian, ionas gur féidir muintir na hÉireann a choisreacan.’
Leabhar Ard Mhacha, 9ú haois AD

‘Climb holy men, to the top of the mountain to the west of the sun in order to bless the people of Ireland.’
Book of Armagh, 9th century AD

The holy mountain

The village of Murrisk lies at the foot of Croagh Patrick, where the pre-Christian harvest festival of Lughnasa was celebrated.

Christians adopted sacred sites like Croagh Patrick. After fasting on the summit for 40 days in 441 AD, St Patrick is said to have banished snakes and demons by chasing them into the sea.

Reek Sunday

A reek is the Irish name for a high hill. On the last Sunday in July over 25,000 pilgrims climb Croagh Patrick where they honour Ireland’s patron saint by celebrating mass at the summit.

Some pilgrims still climb barefoot or on hands and knees.

Pattern day

Murrisk holds its patron saint’s day in late August. After Mass at Murrisk Abbey, dedicated to St Patrick, the community celebrates with music, dance, turf cutting, sheepdog trials and sheep judging.

Amharc ó bharr Chruach Phádraig
Le caoinchead ó Liam Lyons

View from the summit of Croagh Patrick
Courtesy of Liam Lyons

1. Tabhair cuairt ar fhothracha Mhainistir Mhuraisce a tógadh sa 15ú haois.
   Visit the ruins of 15th century Murrisk Abbey.
2. Cuir do bheannacht in iúl do na daoine a cailleadh ag Séadchomhartha Náisiúnta an Ghorta Mhóir i Muraisc.
   Pay your respects at the National Famine Memorial at Murrisk.
3. Tabhair cuairt ar Chathair na Mart, cathair fhuinniúil, lán d’iontais ailtireachta.
   Visit atmospheric Westport, an architectural gem.

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