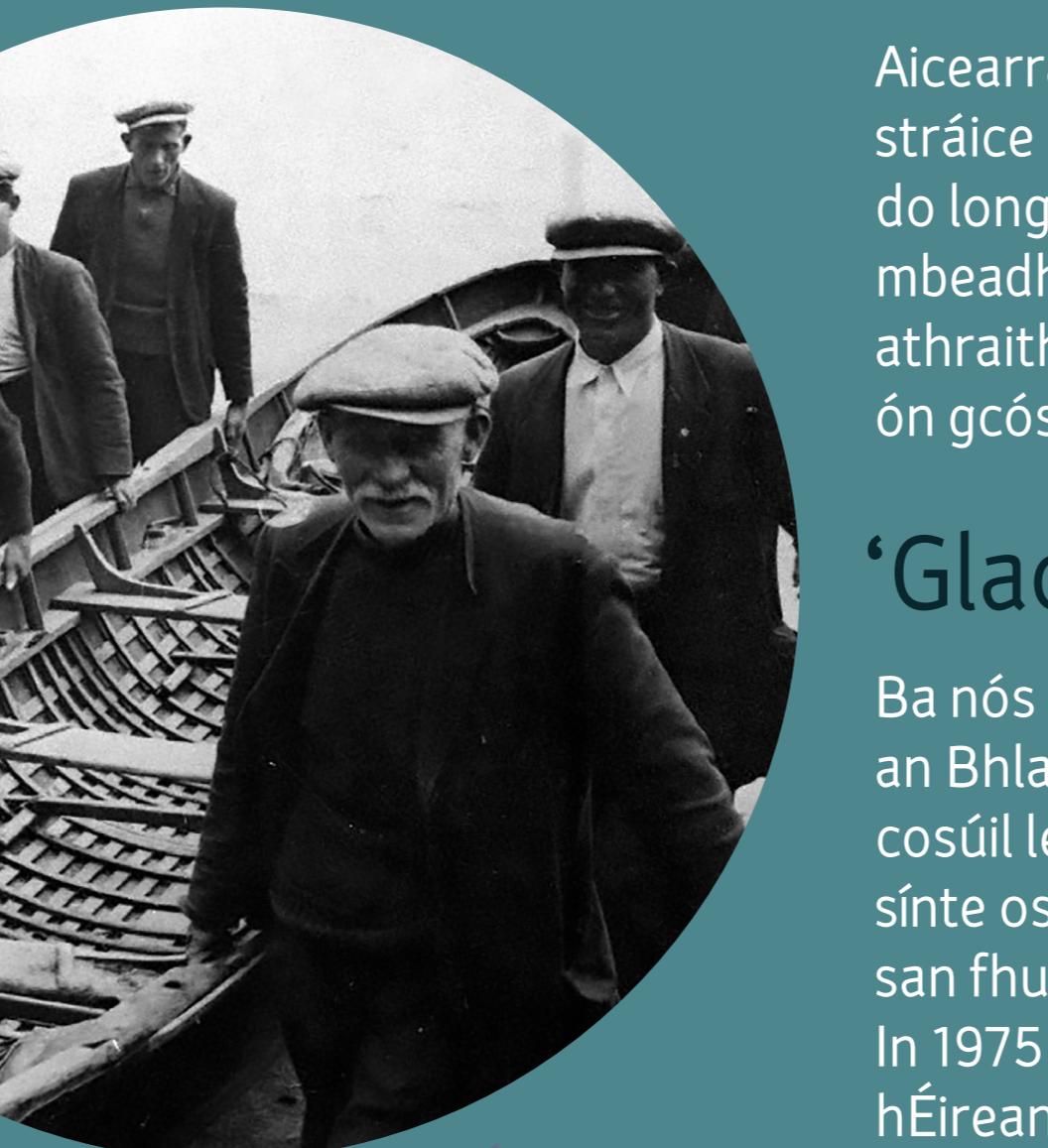




## Radharc na mBlascaodaí



“rye-urk nam-**LAS**-kay-dee”



Radharc ó mhórthír na lonnaíochta i dtreo na mBlascaodaí tréigthe  
View from the settled mainland to the now deserted Blasket Islands

Fir óna mBlascaodáí ag iompar naomhóg  
Le caoinhead ó Chartlanna an Chláiste Ollscoile, Baile Átha Cliath  
Men from the Blasket Islands carrying a naomhóg  
Courtesy of University College Dublin Archives

## Farraigí fealltacha

Aicearra ba ea Bealach an Bhlascaoid idir an stráice uisce ar an mórtír agus na Blascaodaí do longa, bíodh is go raibh an baol ann go mbeadh ar árthaigh dul i ngleic le taoidí athraitheacha agus carraigeacha amach ón gcósta.

## ‘Glao na farraige’

Ba nós leis na hoileánaigh dul trasna Bhealach an Bhlascaoid ina naomhóga, báid éadroma cosúil le canúnna, déanta de chanbhás tarrálite sínte os cionn fráma adhmaid. Bhí an fharraige san fhuil ag an bhfear áitiúil, Ger Ó Ciobháin. In 1975 chuaigh sé móirthimpeall chósta na hÉireann ina naomhóg i dteannta lena chara Danny Mac an tSíthigh. ‘Bhí grá farraige san fhuil. Bhí an fharraige ag glaoch agus bhí orm an glaoch a fhreagairt.’

## Longa cogaidh ollmhóra

In 1588 chuaigh cúig long ar a laghad a bhí ag tabhairt aghaidh ar an mbaile i ndiaidh Armáid na Spáinne i ngleic leis na carraigeacha ag an mbealach isteach chuiig Bealach an Bhlascaoid le dul ar foscadh. Ní raibh an t-ádh leis an ‘Santa María de la Rosa’, a bhual i gcoinne charraigeacha Stromboli agus a chuaigh go tóin poill láithreach. Níor mhair ach mac an phíolóta.

## A treacherous sound

Blasket Sound, the stretch of water between the mainland and the Blasket Islands, provided a short cut for shipping although vessels risked unpredictable tides and offshore rocks.

## ‘The sea was calling’

Islanders regularly crossed Blasket Sound in their lightweight, canoe-like naomhógs (nay-**VOGE**), made of tarred canvas over a wooden frame. Local man Ger Ó Ciobháin had the sea in his blood. In 1975 he rowed round the coast of Ireland in his naomhóg with his friend Danny Mac an tSíthigh. ‘I had a love of the sea in the blood. The sea was calling and I had to answer the call.’

## Mighty warships

In 1588 at least five ships from the retreating Spanish Armada negotiated the rocks at the entrance to Blasket Sound to take shelter. The ‘Santa María de la Rosa’ was less fortunate, hitting Stromboli rocks and sinking immediately. Only the pilot’s son survived.



wildatlanticway.com



1 Faigh bád go dtí na Blascaodaí ó Cheann Trá, an Daingean nó Dhún Chaoin.  
Catch a boat to the Blaskets from Ceann Trá, An Daingean (Dingle) or Dún Chaoin.

2 Déan aithris ar chuid de radhairc dhramáta ‘Iníon Uí Riain’ (1970) ar Trá an Choma.

Play out some of the most dramatic scenes from ‘Ryan’s Daughter’ (1970) on Trá an Choma (Coumeenole Beach).

3 Coinníogh do shúile oscailte, b'fhéidir go bhfeicfidh tú míolta móra agus deilfearna le linn duit a bheith ag druidim i dtreo Bhealach an Bhlascaoid.

Watch out for whales and dolphins passing through Bhealach an Bhlascaoid (Blasket Sound).