



Rabhcháin agus túir

Beacons and towers



Teach solais
Ardnakenna
© Peter Cox
Ardnakenna
Lighthouse
© Peter Cox

De réir na seanscéalta, chaith fathach an gallán Cré-Umhaoise, atá leagtha ag croílár an oiléain, i dtreo na mórhíre chun aird Bhanríon Bhéara a tharraingt air féin. Éacht ann féin ba ea gur bhog na lonnaitheoirí luatha an chloch ollmhór agus gur éirigh leo í a leagan i gcroílár an oiléain.

Legend claims that the Bronze Age standing stone, which marks the exact centre of the island, was thrown by a giant on the mainland to attract the attention of Princess Beara. What is remarkable is that early settlers moved the giant stone and positioned it so accurately.

Seifteanna cosanta an oiléain

I ndiaidh bagairtí maidir le hionradh na Fraince, thóig na Sasanaigh sraith cosaintí mórrhimpeall chósta na hÉireann. Ó tharla go raibh an tOileán Mór lonnaithe go straitéiseach ag an mbealach isteach chuig Cuan Bhaile an Chaisleáin, bhí an cheithre thúr Martello a tógadh ann i 1805, i measc na gcosaintí tosaigh a tógaadh.

Scéal teach solais

Ó 1850 anonn, rabhchán simplí cloiche a mharcáil an bealach isteach go Baile Chaisleáin Bhéarra, calafort iascaireachta tábhactaí ag an am. I 1965 rinneadh athchóiriú air agus tugadh Teach Solais Ardnakenna air. In 2014 athraíodh an solas ann agus is LED ísealfhuinneamh atá in úsáid ann anois.

Island defences

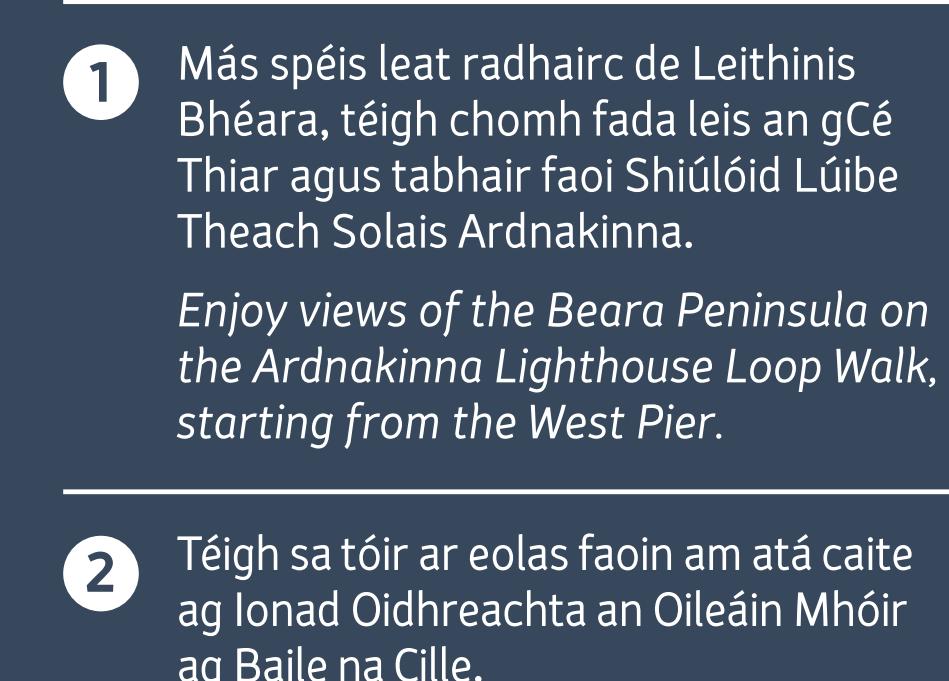
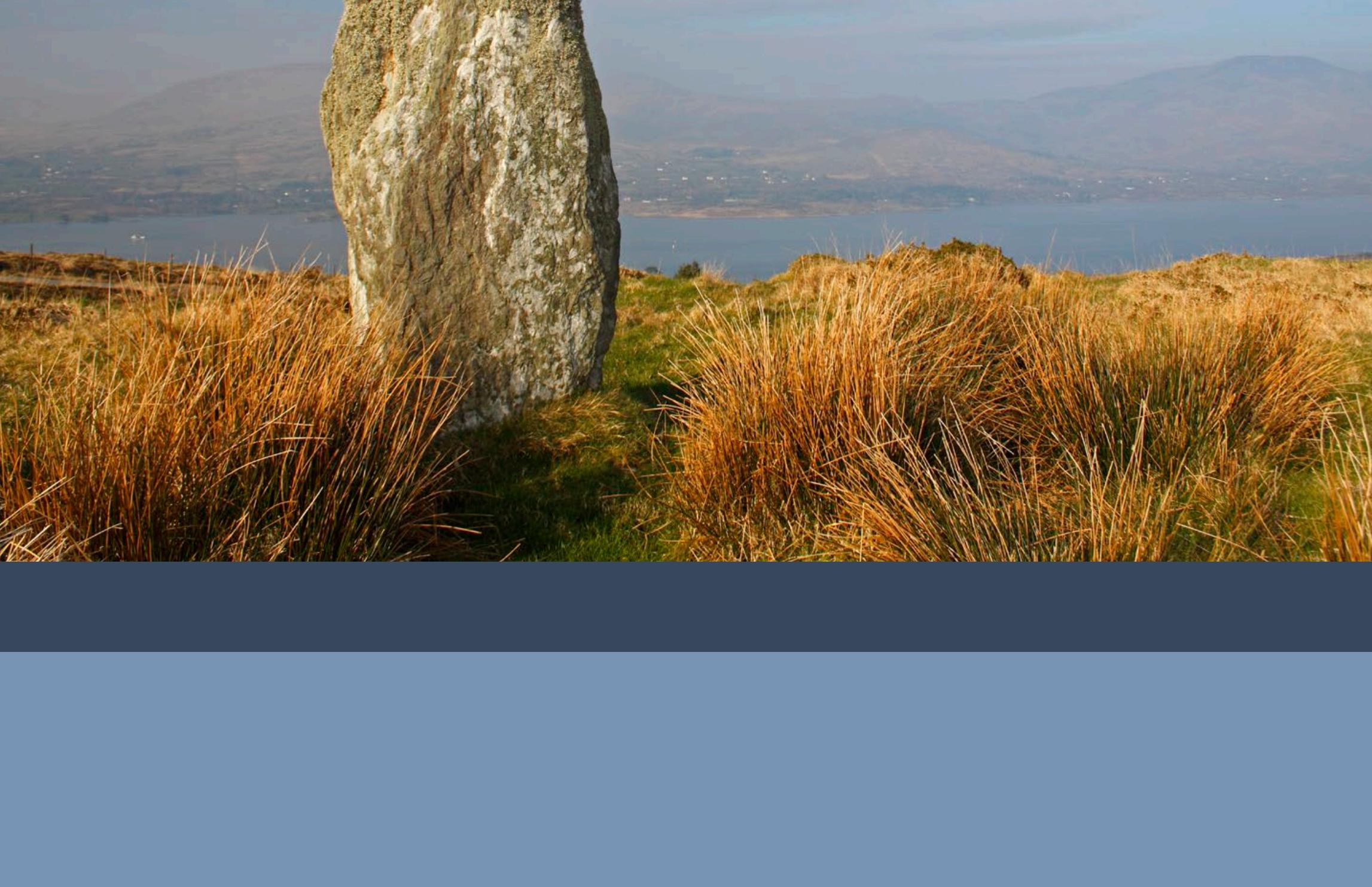
Following threats of French invasion, the British erected a chain of defences around the Irish coast. Because of Bere Island's strategic position at the entrance to Berehaven Harbour, its four Martello towers were among the first to be built, in 1805.

The story of a lighthouse

From 1850 a simple stone beacon marked the approach to Castletownbere, already an important fishing port. In 1965 it was remodelled as Ardnakenna Lighthouse. In 2014 its light was converted to low energy LED.

An gallán ag croílár an Oileán Mhóir
© Trish Punch / Getty Images

The standing stone marking the centre of Bere Island
© Trish Punch / Getty Images



1 Más spéis leat radhairc de Leithinis Bhéara, téigh chomh fada leis an gCé Thiar agus tabhair faoi Shiúlód Lúibe Teach Solais Ardnakenna.

Enjoy views of the Beara Peninsula on the Ardnakenna Lighthouse Loop Walk, starting from the West Pier.

2 Téigh sa tóir ar eolas faoin am atá caité ag Ionad Oidhreachta an Oileán Mhóir ag Baile na Cille.

Delve deeper into the past at the Bere Island Heritage Centre at Ballinakilla.

3 Más spéis leat réamhstair an oiléain tabhair faoi Shiúlód Lúibe Raerinn. Learn about the island's prehistory on the Rerrin Loop Walk.