



‘Áit rómánsúil’ ‘Invented for romance’



Radharc ón aer ar pharthis fothrópaiceach
Le caoinchead ó Oakwood
Aerial Photography
A sub-tropical paradise from the air
Courtesy of Oakwood Aerial Photography

Sin é an cur síos a rinne Prionsa Gearmánach, a bhí ag fanacht le 1ú Iarla Bheantraí, ar an nGleann Garbh i 1828. Bhí spéis ar leith ag an mbeirt fhear i dtírdhreacha rómánsúla. I measc na gcuairteoirí eile chuig an oileán bhí an file William Wordsworth, an drámadóir George Bernard Shaw agus an t-údar William Thackeray, a dúirt go raibh an tírdhreach ‘thar a bheith fiáin agus pictiúrtha’.

Faoin mbliain 1835 bhí an chéad óstán oscailte ar an oileán. Tá glacadh leis an nGleann Garbh mar scothionad turasóireachta ón mbliain 1858 i leith, nuair a chuaigh Prionsa na Breataine Bige ar thuras ó Bheantraí go Cill Airne. Gan mórán moille, áiríodh turas i gcarráiste a thabhairt feadh ‘slí Phrionsa na Breataine Bige’ i measc ceann de na gníomhaíochtaí ba mhó tóir i measc turasóirí a tháinig go hÉirinn.

Ag fanacht

Cheannaigh John Annan Bryce Ilnaculin Island i 1910 agus ba ann a chruthaigh sé gairdíní Gharinse, gairdíní a bhfuil cáil ar fud an domhain mhóir orthu.

Cuairteoir eile a d’fhan ar an oileán ba ea an réalta scannán Éireannaigh, Maureen O’Hara, a bhog isteach i dteach sa Ghleann Garbh i 1970. D’fhan sí ann ar feadh breis is 40 bliain.

This is how a German Prince, staying with the 1st Earl of Bantry, described Glengarriff, whose Irish name, Gleann Garbh, means rough glen, in 1828. The two men shared a love of romantic landscapes. Other visitors included poet William Wordsworth, playwright George Bernard Shaw and author William Thackeray who considered his surroundings ‘exceedingly wild and picturesque’.

By 1835 the first hotel opened. A visit by the Prince of Wales on a tour from Bantry to Killarney in 1858 sealed Glengarriff’s position as a premier tourist resort. Taking a carriage along ‘The Prince of Wales route’ became one of the top visitor attractions in Ireland.

Staying on

John Annan Bryce bought Ilnaculin Island in 1910 where he created the world famous Garinish gardens.

Another visitor who stayed was Irish film legend Maureen O’Hara who moved into a Glengarriff hideaway in 1970 staying for over 40 years.



- 1** Bain taitneamh as bia mara na háite agus ceol traidisiúnta i sráidbhaile an Ghleanna Ghairbh.
Enjoy fresh local seafood and traditional music in Glengarriff village.
- 2** Bain taitneamh as na radhairc ó Ionad Bhandiarna Bheantraí in Anaclann Dúlra Choillte an Ghleanna Ghairbh.
Enjoy views from Lady Bantry’s Lookout in Glengarriff Woods Nature Reserve.
- 3** Téigh ar thuras báid thar choilíneacht róna chomh fada leis na gairdíní lodálacha ar Oileán an Chuilinn.
Take a boat trip past a seal colony to the Italianate Gardens on Garinish Island.



Taitneamh á bhaint ag turasóirí timpeall 1900
Le caoinchead ó Leabharlann Náisiúnta na hÉireann
Tourists enjoying a drive, around 1900
Courtesy of National Library of Ireland