

**List of some of Ireland's naturist beaches, courtesy of the
Irish Naturist Association**

Please heed any warnings regarding currents and tides.

Connaught

Silver Strand

This beach is in Co. Galway. *DIRECTIONS:* Take the Galway-Spiddal road (R336). About four miles from Galway, just beyond Barna Woods and a Texaco filling station, there is a turn to the left signposted Silver Strand. About three hundred yards to the west of the main beach there is a small beach which is sometimes used by naturists. To get there walk for 15 or 20 minutes along the stones or on the rough path behind the wall nearby. Please note that this beach is covered when the tide is about 2/3 of the way in.

Roundstone

This beach is in Co. Galway. *DIRECTIONS:* Take the Galway - Clifden road (N59). Turn off onto the coast road (R341) to Roundstone. (Alternatively you can take the coast road from Galway (R336) until you come to Roundstone). The beach is near Dog's Bay, three miles past Roundstone. Dog's Bay is signposted - ignore the turn off for Gurteen Bay which is about one mile before Dog's Bay. There is parking and a primitive but adequate textile camping site here. Walk the length of the beach and take the short path up a small hill at the end of the bay. You will come to a gate. Go through the gate and walk across the headland for about 400 yards and you will come across the beach in a delightful sandy cove. Please note that the cove is not visible until you are nearly upon it.

Bartraw

This beach is in Westport Bay, Co. Mayo and is approximately five miles from Westport. *DIRECTIONS:* Take the R 335 from Westport towards Louisburg. After passing the village of Murrisk take the next turn to Bartraw Beach which is on a small peninsula. Use the eastern side of the peninsula.

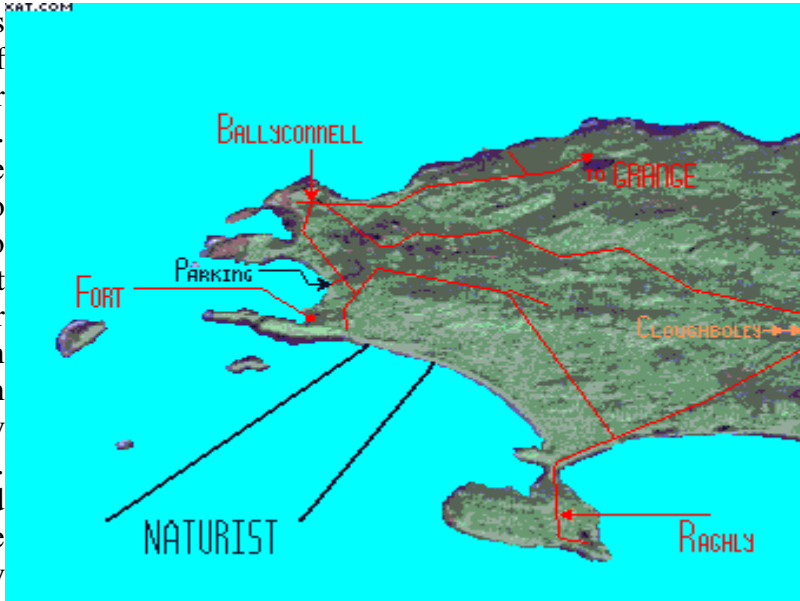
Trawmore

This long beach is on Achill Island. It was sandy but has now become very rocky. Use the eastern end of the beach at Dookinelly. *DIRECTIONS:* Take the R 319 from Achill Sound towards Keel for approximately five miles. There is a turn off for Dookinelly. You can also get there from Keel by a long walk up the beach.

Yellow Strand

CAUTION: The beach is fairly safe for swimming but as the beach is quite isolated never swim alone. Beware of currents. Swim parallel to the shore.

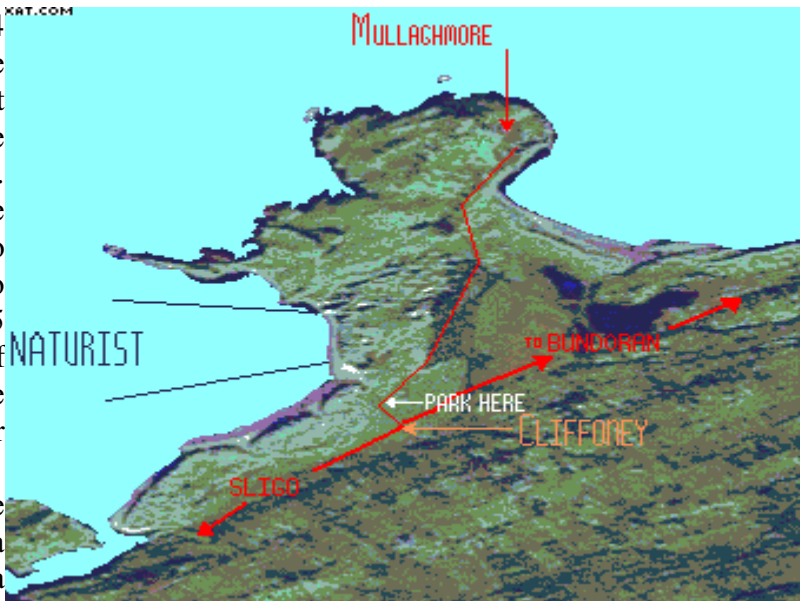
This fine long beach is on the northern side of Sligo Bay, near Drumcliff Bay. *DIRECTIONS:* Take the N15 (Sligo to Donegal) from Sligo to Drumcliff. Just past Drumcliff turn left for Carney. If coming from Ballyshannon direction turn right for Carney just before Drumcliff. Follow the main road through Carney. The main road turns sharply left at the end of the village. Continue on this road and you will come to a crossroads with a pub on the left, stay on the main road and take the next road to the left (sign for Ballyconnell). Disregard all roads left and right for approximately 1 mile, then you will come to a crossroads straight on through, after 0.3 of a mile take the next road/lane to the left. This road/lane goes all the way to the beach. Please park in the parking area on the right hand side of road/lane and walk the last 500 yards to the gate where the lane ends. The man who owns the land around the beach becomes a virtual prisoner on good days as inconsiderate beach users block the lane to and from his house and farmyard.



Trawalua Strand

CAUTION: Beware of currents

This beach is about 4 miles long, but because of strong currents not many locals use the beach for swimming. *DIRECTIONS.* Take the N15 (Sligo to Donegal) from Sligo to Cliffoey for about 15 miles. In the middle of Cliffoey village take the road for Mullaghmore. 400meters down on the left is a laneway on a right hand bend with a



set of double wooden gates (plenty of parking on right-hand side of road, don't block laneway as it's a busy right of way). Walk to end of laneway (the land on either side of lane is private), through another set of wooden gates and across a small stream (This land is commonage). Following heavy over-night rains, it may be difficult to cross the stream. In this case, stay beside the stream, still on the commons, it's walkable. Follow this stream to the beach. Naturists traditionally use the right-hand side of this lovely soft sandy beach down as far as the rocks, almost a mile long. Tourists, many of whom are German, from a local German-owned horse riding school use the left hand side for horse riding. Past the main naturist beach is a second, smaller beach. Locals have told us that it is safe to swim here, although this has yet to be confirmed. Caution is advised until further notice.

Leinster

Corballis

This beach is near the village of Donabate in north Co. Dublin, off the main Dublin-Belfast road (N1). Driving from Dublin go past the Airport and past the town of Swords. One mile past the last of a series of roundabouts watch for the turn right to Donabate off the dual carriageway. This road leads to Donabate beach. Drive onto the beach and park as far



down as possible. Beware of soft sand. Walk further down the beach for 15 to 20 minutes. This area is known as CORBALLIS and is used by naturists. *Alternatively:* Two miles down the road to Donabate turn right at the signpost for the Island Golf Club and Corballis Golf Club. Continue for about 1½ miles until you see a small green gate just before the entrance to the Island Golf Club. Walk through the gate and follow the path over the dunes until you reach the beach. Turn right and walk for 10-15 minutes.

Brittas Bay

CAUTION: Beware of currents. Always swim parallel to the beach.

Brittas Bay in Co. Wicklow is a popular camping and caravanning resort. The main beach is textile. The naturist beach is located almost 2 miles south of the main beach and is the most popular naturist beach in Ireland. It is long and sandy, backed by large dunes but with a stony strip between the dunes and the water (sandals are recommended!). Turn off the main



Dublin - Wexford (N 11) road nine miles south of Rathnew at the signpost at Jack White's Cross. There is a pub (Jack White's) on the corner. Go down this road until you can go no further. Turn right and follow the coast for about 1¾ miles until you come to a collection of fir trees and gateposts marked Buckrooney at a road junction. At the junction there is a small green gate. Walk through the gate and follow the path to the naturist part of the beach. *Alternatively* you can drive on until you come to a small car park beside a path down to the beach. Once you are on the beach turn left and walk until you see fencing up on the dunes past the sixth in a line of lifebuoys. Between the fencing and the stream further along the beach is the naturist area. You can swim, sunbathe and walk around in comfort on the beach or in the dunes. Please do not go nude outside this area.

Vico Road

CAUTION: The path to the the bathing place is steep. This location is not suitable for children or for elderly or disabled people. Those using the path to the cove – it has been eroded and is very narrow, so be extremely careful.

This is a small bathing place just outside the village of Dalkey, not far from Dun Laoghaire. In Dalkey turn onto Sorrento Rd. and then turn right onto the coast road (Vico Rd). The bathing place is signposted. Walk across the footbridge and follow the path. To the left is a path down to the changing huts and diving board. This clothing optional bathing place is used by naturists and there is a good tolerance between the naturist and textile bathers. There is also a rocky cove around to the right suitable for sunbathing.

Curraclloe

The village of Curraclloe is approximately 5 miles north of Wexford town or 10 miles from Enniscorthy. From Wexford access is via the R741/742 road. From Enniscorthy take the R744 road to Blackwater and then south on the L304. The coastline in this area is one long beach. There is a wooded area at the south end of Curraclloe beach. Park in the car park and walk south along the edge of the wood for 10 or 15 minutes.

This secluded part of the beach is regularly used by naturists. Discretion is required at weekends.

Munster

Clonakilty Bay

CAUTION: Beware of strong currents in this area.

There are a number of quiet and secluded coves on the eastern and western sides of Clonakilty Bay which are very suitable for naturism. DUNOWEN also called DUNEEN ends at a rocky cliff, so there are very few passers by. Further out are DUNNY COVE and SANDS COVE. Further west towards Glandore lies the rocky PRISON COVE. On the eastern side there is a suitable cove near the village of RING. Turn right over the bridge in the village and follow the road along the coast with Inchadoney island across the channel on the right. After a while the road turns inland and uphill. Half way up this hill is a narrow lane on your right which leads almost to a sheltered rocky cove. Park and take the footpath leading around to the left and down. Further along this hilly road is a sign for SIMON'S COVE which is along the headland to South Ring where a small lane leads to the sea. The Cove is protected by a reef but can be thick with stringy seaweed. The shores of Roaring Water Bay past Lough Hyne, which is past Skibereen, and the Beara peninsula have many deserted beaches.

Inchidonney

CAUTION: Swimming is dangerous because of strong currents. At high tide the beach is cut off, and you may face a climb over high sand dunes.

Inchidonney is in Clonakilty Bay, off the N 71 road. The beach is near the Inchidonney Hotel. Heading east from the Hotel, you come to the estuary up to Clonakilty. The attractive sandy beach is virtually unfrequented except at weekends during the Summer.

Long Strand

CAUTION: Swimming is dangerous because of strong currents.

This beach is also in Clonakilty Bay. Take the N71 road from Clonakilty towards Skibereen for approximately six miles. Turn at the signpost for Owenachna and follow the sign for Long Strand. Go through the Hotel area and caravan park and continue on the coast road. As you come to the top of the hill you will see the beach stretching out before you. The beach and the dunes behind it are used by naturists.

Inch

This beach is on the southern side of the Dingle peninsula and is one of the best in Ireland. It is more than two miles long and is backed by sand dunes. Walk for about

half a mile until you are past the textile bathers. *DIRECTIONS:* Turn off the N 70 road from Tralee at Castlemaine onto the R 561. Continue for approximately 12 miles until you reach the village of Inch.