



BARTON TOURS



DISTANCES

LOCATIONS	DISTANCE A – B (MILES)
Enniskillen – Kesh	14 miles/ 25 minutes by road
Enniskillen - Bordeaux	1000 km.
Enniskillen – Fethard	200 miles/ 4.5 hours
Enniskillen – Straffan village	111 miles/ 2 and a half hours
Kesh – Tubrid	6 miles
Kesh – Pettigo	8 miles
Pettigo – Templecarne graveyard	2 miles
Straffan – Glendalough	33 miles/ 1 hour
Glendalough – Fethard/Clonmel	96 miles/ 2.25 hours
Kesh to Lusty Beg	15 miles/ 30 minutes
Enniskillen - Ballyshannon	30 miles. On the road to Donegal town. Journey takes 40 minutes.
Enniskillen to Portsalon	110 km/ 1 and three quarter hours
Fethard to Enniskillen	200 miles/ 4 hours
The Round ‘O’ to Portora School	Within walking distance, uphill

PRE-REQUISITES

You would need a Satnav, either as a standalone device or as an app on your smartphone.

We recommend a downloadable Satnav app, to cope with the Bermuda Triangles:- i.e. places in Ireland where there is no phone signal.

You may need the UK ETA installed on your handphone, if you live outside the British Isles.

Most of the tours are cross-border so if you have a hire car the Company needs to know because your Insurance would be involved.

GUIDES

You may get stuck. There are a couple of ways to hire a guide

- (a) Depending where you are, find and visit the local TIC (Tourist Information Centre) either North or South.
- (b) E-mail Bord Failte the centralised Tourist Promotion organisation asking to hire a guide.
- (c) E-mail us (Kesh2Cask@outlook.com). This email account is checked constantly.

Where guides are provided on the tours, we have said so.

CURRENT LIST OF TOURS

Ballyshannon	Tour of Portora
Northern Tour of Barton Houses	Tubrid Tour
Pub Crawl	Via Sensoria
Southern Tour of Barton Houses	

BALLYSHANNON TOUR

03/06/25 – 28/6/25



Ballyshannon was the centre of French Tom Barton's early years. This tour connects with what remains.

We suggest you drive to the town – the oldest village in Ireland – and park just behind the Coach Station. There is a Number 30 bus between Enniskillen and Ballyshannon.

Go to the Ballyshannon Museum on the other side of Main Street. Museum staff has offered to assist or guide visitors of the Wine Geese Festival. Please note: it often has parties of school children and they have priority.

What you are likely to see here

Apart from the museum, walk up main street and on your right is a yellow building named Dicey Reilly. It is now a bar. Inside you will see the mural of French Tom Barton.



Tom married Margaret Delap who lived here. Tom spent a lot of time with his Delap relatives who were merchants predominantly in the wine and spirits trade with France.

After Dicey Reilly's we hope you will visit Mall Quay.

Coming out of the Bar cross the road. Drop down the hill slightly and you will see Quay street. Just follow it till you come to the sea. Here is Ballyshannon Harbour known as Mall Quay.

In the old photograph above you should be able to make out some of the (5) ships in harbour. Several of them would undoubtedly have been owned by the Bartons. In French Tom's day the ships were named after the women in his family. For example, *the Everina*, *the Barbara* and so on.

The ships would typically arrive carrying Chateau Lafite or Brandy and once empty they would have re-stocked with either pilgrims bound for Santiago del Compostela and/or Irish butter.

PLEASE CHECK BALLYSHANNON MUSEUM'S WEBSITE FOR
OPENING DAYS/TIMES.

Northern Tour of Barton Houses

Suggest: 04/06/25



We suggest you start at the Fermanagh County Museum car park at 09:00

For members of the Barton family we have arranged lunch. Other cafes are available.

There are buses between Enniskillen to Omagh then Omagh to Letterkenny.

Drive to Portsalon on the Fanad Peninsula.

There you will find Greenfort House which was built and owned by Baptiste Barton. The House is still owned by descendants.

The grounds are open in summer for visitors to see the gardens.

The area the house is in has outstanding natural beauty.

Also worth a visit is Portsalon Church of Ireland churchyard where the Greenfort Bartons were buried.

Afterwards you can either return to your stay or get a hotel nearby. Letterkenny has good hotels and there is also the *Goose & Gander* resource closer to Portsalon. Just Google *Goose and Gander* to find it.

Pub Crawl

05 June 2025

A tour of **bars** – not country houses this time.

Enniskillen's *Wild Goose Trail* extends from the Cornerstone Bar (Ann Street) to Magee's Spirit Store on East Bridge Street, with bars all along.

Please be in the Diamond in Enniskillen. It is adjacent to Enniskillen Townhall. We will collect you at 18:00 hours and bring you somewhere to eat.

Those who don't wish to have a pre-meal should be in the Diamond (Square) at 19:00 hours.

The maximum number on the Festival Pub Crawl party is 10 each outing.

Until we know the final numbers it is not possible to say which bar we will visit and in what sequence.

Enniskillen is locally famous for its traditional Irish music in its bars.



Sunday, 11 May 2025

The plan is to visit each bar for an hour. That means

7 – 8 pm

Suggested date: 05 June 2025

8 – 9 pm

Finish time: 22:00 hours

9 – 10 pm.

Start time: see above.

Southern Tour of Barton Houses

Suggested date: 05/06/25



The Great Houses built for the Barton dynasty are South of Enniskillen.

We suggest you be in the car park of Fermanagh County Museum at 09:00 on the pre-agreed Date. There are no suitable buses for this cross-country tour.

You should then drive to STRAFFAN village West of Dublin, adjacent to the Liffey River. It is a pretty village. There are outlets – cafes – there for you to eat or you can go straight to the next way point: STRAFFAN HOUSE.

Also called the K-Club, short for Kildare.

The finest example of French architecture on the island of Ireland.

Another option is to have afternoon tea at Straffan House. Note the Barton Room, which serves Chateau Barton wines.

Straffan Church of Ireland nearby is a must see. It contains graves and reminders of the Bartons.

The modern Church is normally locked when services are not running.

We have access to the Minister though. Let us know via Kesh2Cask@outlook.com

After Straffan proceed to Glendalough in County Wicklow. For those of you who have never been it is a place of great beauty.

Why there? To see GLENDALOUGH HOUSE, built for a different branch of the Barton dynasty. It is not open to the public.

After Glendalough you could proceed to County Tipperary. Go to Clonmel town and thence to Fethard. What is at Fethard? Another branch of the family lived there at the Grove House. It is still owned by descendants.

After Fethard you can either return to County Fermanagh or, stay the night perhaps in Clonmel.

The tour can be undertaken any time between 31/5/25 and 28/6/25 at your own pace.

PORTORA TOUR

Saturday 07/06/25. This Date is subject to change based on Visitor requirements. Since we have your email address we can and will keep you informed.



The male Bartons went to a variety of schools, Portora was one of them.

Please drive to the Round 'O'. It is shown on maps and everyone in Enniskillen knows this park.

At 11:00 on the agreed date you will be collected from the JETTY and brought to the 400 year old school, now part of Enniskillen Royal Grammar School (ERGS).



Those who might have mobility problems getting up or down, please let us know in advance, Kesh2Cask@outlook.com

Sunday, 11 May 2025

The school tour will take roughly 1.5 hours so you should be able to return to your car at 12:30 pm

The tour will be guided by personnel provided from ERGS. It is free but a contribution to the school's current Charity would be appreciated. Charity details will be provided.

Sunday, 11 May 2025

Tubrid Tour

09/06/25 for the guided tour



Two options guided or 'DIY'

Apart from the Guide the only difference is that with the Guide you will visit the Masonic Hall in Pettigo which has a long association with the Bartons.

On the day (pre-agreed as 09/06/25 in the case of the Guided tour) we suggest you drive to the rendezvous point. This is Muckros Road car park.



If you are on Main Street Kesh, looking towards Pettigo, proceed over Kesh Bridge then immediately on your Left is the car park.

There is a regular bus service: Enniskillen – Kesh – Pettigo.

For those on the guided tour you will be gathered with others at Noon on the day.

There will be a short introduction and chance to meet the others, then drive to Pettigo and park. The Masonic Hall is at the entrance to the village.

There the staff of the Masonic Hall will give a talk about relevant history, for 30 minutes.

Afterwards you will be guided to the Church of Ireland round the corner.

On the day of the Guided tour it will be open. Other days you would need to inquire in advance.

OUTSIDE the church note the extensive BARTON tombs.



INSIDE this pretty church there are dozens of reminders of the Bartons including descriptive mini plaques.

After ticking off Pettigo it is time to drive to Templecarne graveyard. This is in the direction of Lough Derg (North).

There are more large tombs of specified Bartons here. The churchyard is in a beautiful location. The Barton graves are listed at the churchyard entrance.

After Templecarne you may proceed to Tubrid, a hamlet due North of Kesh.

Head for the Church of Ireland and you will find a series of graves of the Bartons. There are also signs listing prominent Bartons and Childers (a related family).

This ends the tour which will typically take 2 hours.

Food: there is a café in Kesh: Kesh Courthouse Café on Main Street and after the tour you may wish to visit Lusty Beg Resort for an early evening meal. Please Google Lusty Beg Resort.

Or you can drive straight home/back to Enniskillen.

VIA SENSORIA

The starting date is up to you



In 1725 French Tom Barton emigrated to Bordeaux. This tour picks up the other half of the story.

Tour cost estimate per person: £ 400. This tour can be done on a do it yourself basis, but we have a Travel Agent willing to help you book each aspect of this trip:-

Wine Museum Entry and Wine Tasting

Flights to and from

Airport coaches

Hotels whilst in Bordeaux.

Bordeaux is listed as one of the top value for money destinations.

Each person is different so what follows is just one option

Whether you book through us or not is up to you.

Set off from Enniskillen/your home/your hotel and proceed to Dublin Airport.

There are several departures/airlines on the route so obviously your set off time depends on the allocated flight.

Proceed (drive or by coach) to Dublin Airport and fly to Bordeaux airport.

You may wish to check in depending on your arrival time. You are probably going to need a hotel for two nights.

We suggest you visit the two wine museums in turn.

Cite du Vin and

Musée de Vin et négociants.

If you have time you can obviously arrange to see several vineyards as well, and maybe a visit to French Tom's grave in the Old English Graveyard in Bordeaux.

To find it either use a smartphone map app or contact us on

Kesh2Cask@outlook.com for directions.

All that remains is the flight home.