Cahir

Cahir is a beautiful and historic town where the Butler Family grew to power. The Butlers first settled here in the 13th century. Thomas Black Tom Butler, 10th Earl of Ormond (1610-1688) was the most colourful and influential family member who lived here.

Black Tom built a fine manor house as part of Ormond Castle in the 1560s in expectation of a visit from his cousin Elizabeth, daughter of Henry VIII and Anne Boleyn. Unfortunately Elizabeth never visited at all. Find out more about their much-talked-about relationship on a tour of Ormond Castle, Ireland’s only surviving unfortified Tudor Manor House which contains beautiful details including decorative plasterwork portraits of Elizabeth. Admission to the Tudor Manor House and local Heritage Centre is free.

Explore Cahir’s other rich cultural and sporting heritage on its historic town trail. Learn more about its famous sons including the former World Champion cyclist Sean Kelly, Irish folk music singers The Clancy Brothers, and the GAA’s first President, Maurice Davin. Enjoy a river walk or take time to shop in this market town with its mix of traditional and modern shops. Retailers offer a Golden Year’s discount every Wednesday.

Must See
• Old Saint Mary’s Church
• Town Walls
• Main Guard

Web: www.heritagecouncil.ie/irish_walled_towns
Email: cahir@failteireland.ie
Tel: 051 640787
Web: www.cahircastle.ie
Email: cahircastle@opw.ie
Tel: 052 7441011

Did you know?
Black Tom (1531-1614)

Why was he called Black Tom?

It is said Thomas Butler got his name when he spread a certain kind of plant named ‘black nightshade’ to grow in his garden.

What did Black Tom predict?

The story is told that in 1614 Black Tom said that his then four-year-old grandnephew James would be ‘the saviour of the Butler Family’!

Did you know?

Ormond Castle

Tel: 051 640787
Web: www.heritageireland.ie

Marina

Tel: 052 6122960
Email: clonmeltouristoffice@eircom.net.
Web: www.clonmeltourism.com

Cahir & District Anglers’ Association
Tel: 087 6934447 (Marina Manager)
Web: www.cahiranglers.ie

Cahir Tourist Information Office
Tel: 052 7441011
Email: calbear@eircom.net
Web: www.visitcahir.ie

Did you know?

Cahir Castle

Tel: 051 640403
Email: cahircastle@opw.ie
Web: www.cahircastle.ie

Fishing on the Suir

Tel: 068 6401647 (PRD)
Email: lbweerencing@gmail.com
Web: www.fishingonthesuir.ie

Cahir & District Anglers’ Association
Tel: 087 6934447 (Marina Manager)
Web: www.cahiranglers.ie

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Email: cahir@failteireland.ie
Web: www.visitcahir.ie
The Butler Trail

The Butler Trail in 2 days

Day 1

Start your day in Cahir Town and enjoy the river walk to the quaint Swiss Cottage. On returning to Cahir, enjoy a morning coffee and take a tour of Cahir Castle. Finish off your day in the picturesque town of Clonmel, renowned for its famous Cahir Castle and enjoy the recently reinstated Main Guard, where you can take in the history where you can take in the history of the Butlers at Ormond Castle. Explore the town experience the character of the town.

Day 2

Then head west to visit the bustling town of Cahir, renowned for its spectacular medieval walls. World-renowned Rock of Cashel or to Fethard with its stroll or scenic drive. A short drive will take you to follow or head to the mountains for a leisurely walk to Swiss Cottage. On returning to Cahir, enjoy the Rock of Cashel

The Butler Trail in 1 day

Day 1

Start your trail in Carrick-on-Suir and hear the story of the Butlers at Ormond Castle. Explore the town of Carrick-on-Suir. It moved to Kilkenny Castle in 1391. From the 13th century onwards, the Butlers were involved in politics and held many important offices. From this important role that his family took the name Butler from the forename of their benefactor, Butler Fitzwalter. As Chief Butler to Prince John he was entitled to 10% of all wine cargoes and it is from the origin of this role that the name Butler is derived. In 1534, the 7th Earl of Ormond married Anne Boleyn, mother of Queen Elizabeth I, for whom Black Tom Butler built the beautiful Manor House, was great granddaughter of the 7th Earl of Ormond. Queen Elizabeth I, the Virgin Queen, referred to as Black Tom in her eyes. Experience this compelling slice of history on the Butler Trail.

Carrick-on-Suir Heritage Trail and

Clonmel's hidden treasures or enjoy some shopping. Visit the Main Guard and from there discover some of the hidden treasures or enjoy some shopping.

Clonmel and enjoy some lunch at one of its cafes. Travel to Tipperary and enjoy some lunch at one of its cafes.

Tourist Information

Note: All roads featured are main routes concerning the Butler Trail only.

Photographs courtesy of Fáilte Ireland and The Photographic Section, The Department of Arts, Heritage and the Gaeltacht.