

HORIZON

Adventure & Education Centres



Primary School Tours *Made Easy*



Day Trips & Residential Programmes for 8-13 year olds



*Founder Member of Irish
Association of Adventure Centres*

HORIZON

Adventure & Education Centres

You Can't Beat Our Experience

Hundreds of Schools
and thousands of
Children have safely
taken part in our
programmes, so you
are in capable hands.

**"First time at Horizon.
Very enjoyable stay.
Excellent accommodation
and facilities. Staff very
efficient and friendly."**

Mary Slattery,
Ursuline Convent,
Thurles, Co. Tipperary

Horizon Activity Centre is an exciting departure marking the coming together of leading figures in outdoor education and Adventure. Horizon has invested heavily to produce programmes featuring a highly-imaginative combination of educational content and fun & challenging activities.

Significant financial backing has given Horizon the opportunity to provide an unprecedented range of programmes for Irish school groups, and schools and parents can rest assured that Horizon is a reliable, committed, environmentally-friendly organisation which is motivated to make your trip to our Westport Centre as enjoyable and beneficial as possible.

Thanks to many years of feedback from you, the teachers, we believe we know what is important to you on a trip of this nature. So we continue to offer you:

- 4 Four unique courses to choose from
- 4 Unparalleled levels of support - before, during, and after your stay
- 4 An outstanding safety record
- 4 24-hour supervision of all guests
- 4 Staff who are suitably-qualified and highly-trained
- 4 An approved, comfortable accommodation base
- 4 Excellent teacher facilities
- 4 A range of great activities at exceptional value for money
- 4 Easy access to Westport via road or rail

**Residential
Programmes
for 8-13 year olds
choose from:**

► Junior Adventure

Our Active Adventure programme is a physical programme of adventure activities. It has been designed specifically to promote healthy exercise, while also introducing young people to the benefits of co-ordination & teamwork.

► Eco Adventure

The world around us remains a source of fascination, even in these fast-changing times. Our experience is that young people are extremely curious about their surroundings, and our Westport Centre lies at the heart of a region of great natural beauty & significance.

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Unique Learning Beyond The Classroom

Activity programmes specially designed for your age group

Whether you choose Junior Adventure or Eco Adventure for your group we will offer a balanced content to you in advance that we feel will suit the needs of your group. We will then welcome your comments & recommendations on how it might be tweaked to be an exact fit for you. We undertake to balance fun and adventure with stimulating learning outcomes.



Activity Choices

- Abseiling
- Aeroball
- Archery
- Body Boarding
- Climbing
- Expeditions
- Fencing
- Field Studies
- Kayak/Canoeing
- Nature Trails
- Navigational Skills
- Part Climb of Croagh Patrick
- Personal Initiative Exercises
- Quad Biking

- Raft Building
- Ropes Course
- Team Tasks
- Wave Surfing

OPTIONAL EXTRAS

- (see Price Sheet)
- Horse Riding (at the Westport Woods Riding Centre)
 - Indoor Swimming Pool

Evening Entertainment Programme

Our evening schedule features our famous Entertainment Programme, and guests are left to feel that there simply aren't enough hours in the day.



Our talented and creative staff ensure the programme has just the right mix of excitement and winding-down activities before bedtime. Entertainments include Party Games, Singalongs, Supervised Disco, Bar-B-Qs, Feature Films and much more.

SAMPLE RESIDENTIAL TIMETABLE

TIME	DAY 1	DAY 2	DAY 3	DAY 4
8.30am	Breakfast	Breakfast	Breakfast	Breakfast
9am		HIGH ROPES	PART CLIMB OF CROAGH PATRICK	RAFT BUILD
10.30am		QUADS		JACOBS LADDER
11am				PACK
12pm				
1pm	Arrival Lunch	Lunch	Lunch	Lunch
2pm		CANOE GAMES	ARCHERY	DEPART
3pm	SURFING			
3.45pm		AEROBALL	TEAM TASK	
4pm			NATURE TRAIL	
6pm	Dinner	Dinner	Dinner	
7pm	CLIMBING TOWER	FENCING	INITIATIVE GAMES	
9pm	TALENT SHOW	PARTY GAMES	DISCO / DANCE	
10.30pm	Bedtime	Bedtime	Bedtime	



Residential

Our WESTPORT Centre



WHY WESTPORT? There are many compelling reasons why Westport is such an ideal base for our programmes, and why we believe it to be the best location for this purpose anywhere in Ireland.

Lying at the western end of the East-West railway line, it is an easy town to access. Once you are here, you are in a prime position to explore and enjoy the surrounding wilderness. By locating our Centre in Westport, we feel we can offer you the perfect mix of great natural beauty in the hinterland, and the lively, cosmopolitan attractions of the town of Westport. You get the best of both worlds, all in one place.

Our Centre

Our Westport Centre is tucked away in the wooded grounds of the lovely Westport Woods Hotel & Spa, and features outstanding dining, entertainment, and relaxation facilities for students and teachers. All activities are either on-site or nearby. The accommodation consists of two- and four-bedded rooms for guests with adequate shower and toilet facilities close by. Teachers can avail themselves of all of the hotel's facilities during their stay, including the impressive Spa and Sauna, where you can obtain a luxury massage. The Award Winning Westport Woods facility adheres to environmentally sustainable best practice, students can experience at first hand sustainable development in action. The hotel has its own stables and horse-trekking. Westport Woods – where our centre is located – is conveniently located for both the town and the famous Harbour Quay area with its fine array of seafood restaurants and pubs.



Westport - Adventure Capital of Ireland

The heritage town of Westport was laid out in the 18th century as an adjunct to Westport House and Park. It is idyllically situated at the head of Clew Bay in the shadow of Croagh Patrick. Westport's architecture is one of its many attractions. Careful planning can be seen in the town's spacious streets around the canalised River Carrowbeg, flowing through the tree-lined mall. Westport enjoys the status as Ireland's adventure capital, as borne out by the staging in the town of Gael Force, Ireland's only international adventure festival.



Note: Our Westport venue is also available for Day Trips



Westport House

Our Day Trip Venues

Our Prestigious Venues are within 1½ hours maximum of most parts of the Country so that your group arrives full of energy and enthusiasm, ready to take part in an action packed day AND can be back home at an acceptable time for teachers and parents.

BELVEDERE ESTATE



Belvedere House, Garden & Parklands is simply magnificent (see www.belvedere-house.ie).

Located in the midlands near Mullingar, this 160 acre Lakeside Parkland is perfect for your Adventure Day Trip.

Our secure base exclusive to Horizon on the lakeshore, utilises a shallow and sheltered corner

Distances from Belvedere, County Westmeath, Ireland

From Dublin	1 Hour Exactly
From Galway	1 hour & 30 mins
From Limerick	1 Hour & 30 mins
From Cavan	1 Hour & 20 mins

of Lough Ennell for our Water-sports and the beautiful mature Woodland areas host our many exciting Land Based Activities. (See Activity Menu) including Climbing, Mini-Quads Track, the Magical Narnia Trail, etc.

Horizons unique Teacher Care approach offers you the teacher to relax in Belvederes tastefully restored Coffee Shop during the day or enjoy the magnificent woodland setting & facilities while your group enjoy themselves nearby.

STRUCTURE OF YOUR DAY TRIP

Arrival Time **Departure Time**
09.30 a.m. 15.30 p.m.
OR
10.00 a.m. 16.00 p.m.

Age Groups: (See Activity Menu)

- Junior/Senior Infants – Slow And Easy but fun Tempo geared down for this age group.
- 1st-6th Class – More Exciting Fun and Challenging range of Activities on offer but still with the emphasis on safety first. Sessions last approximately 45 minutes so boredom is never an issue!

Lunchtime:

Children should bring a packed lunch and plenty of drinks. Lunch is also available on site, which can be booked in advance if you choose this option.



ACTIVITY MENU

Activities For 5-6 year olds

- Acting
- Activity Splash
- Aeroball
- Arts & Crafts
- Big Camp Experience
- Biscuit Icing
- Bouncers
- Bouncy Castle
- Circus Show
- Construction Toys
- Dance Stars
- Dragon Boating (optional)
- Drawing
- Face Painting
- Funtime Bingo
- Funtime Gym
- Hooola Hoops
- Inflatable Games
- Mini Sports
- Music & Movement
- Nature Trails
- Painting
- Parachute Games
- Sand Play
- Songs & Stories
- Teddy Bears Picnic
- Treasure Hunt
- Trampolineing
- Uni Hoc

Activities For 9-12 year olds

- Acting
- Archery
- Aeroball
- Arts & Crafts
- Canadian Canoeing
- Cheerleaders
- Circus Show
- Climbing Tower
- Dance Stars
- Dragon Boating
- Face Painting
- Fashion DIY
- Fencing
- Field Sports
- Football
- Fun Orienteering
- Inflatable Games
- Initiative Exercises
- Its A Knockout
- Karaoke
- Kayaking
- Mini Quad Bikes
- Mini Olympics
- Nature Trails
- Nightline
- Painting
- Parachute Games
- Raft Build
- Secret Mission
- Surfing (Westport Centre Only)
- Swimming
- The Great Egg Game
- Trampolineing
- Treasure Trail

ROCKWELL COLLEGE



Rockwell College, near Cashel, Co. Tipperary with its own Watersports lake and fantastic Indoor & Outdoor sports facilities is the perfect venue for an exciting Activity Day Trip. Whatever the weather we can offer your school an unforgettable safe and thrilling day of Action Adventure including

Water-sports, Climbing Tower, Mini-Quads, Archery, Indoor and Outdoor Sports, etc.

A hot lunch (included complimentary to accompanying teachers) is available to your students in the college canteen if required.

Our Safe & Secure base in Rockwell, exclusive to Horizon, together with our fantastic Staff Team ensures that your group will be well supervised throughout their visit to this wonderful college.

Distances from Rockwell College, County Tipperary, Ireland

From Dublin	1 Hour & 30 mins
From Limerick	1 hour
From Athlone	1 Hour & 30 mins
From Cork	1 Hour

Your Peace of Mind: Our First Priority

We understand from many years involvement in the educational tour market - and coming from a school-teaching background ourselves - that Safety and Security are key concerns for you.





Staff Recruitment & Training

Our Staff Recruitment & Training Policy conforms to the Code of Ethics and Good Practice for Children's Sport in Ireland, which is the Government-approved standard for recruitment and training.

This means that all staff, when appointed, are offered contracts of employment subject to the satisfactory completion of a probationary period. A formal induction period is followed and documented. Further reviews of staff performance take place during the period of employment. Staff are continuously assessed in practical skills, technical knowledge and teaching ability.

Each staff file contains a copy of all National Governing Body certificates and awards held by that instructor.

First Aid

Every instructor holds an Emergency First Aid Certificate. Professional medical services are available nearby and Mayo General Hospital, Castlebar, is just 15 minutes away.

Health & Safety, Risk Assessment

Health & Safety and Risk Assessments, for all aspects of our operation, are updated regularly and are available for inspection when visiting the centre.

Safe & Secure

- Our staff are suitably-qualified and trained to an exceptionally high standard
- All our staff adhere strictly to our Health and Safety procedures
- We are experienced operators and can thus anticipate issues before they arise
- We have an excellent Safety record
- Our accommodation base is secure and private, and we provide 24-hour Security supervision

"Pupils and staff thoroughly enjoyed our experience with Horizon Adventure. Nothing was too much trouble for all the staff, a most professional team!"

Jennifer McQuaid,
Teacher, Ballymena

"An excellent time was had by all at Horizon Adventure! We especially wish to commend the staff on their successful efforts at getting the students to sleep so early! Instructors all very popular, as they say in Cork they are 'legends!'"

Kevin O'Sullivan,
St. Anthony's Boys School, Ballinlough, Cork



Horizon Duty Nurse always available



Supporting You All The Way

We pride ourselves on providing the best possible support to Party Leaders. We know all too well the stress that booking a trip can cause teachers, and we endeavour at every turn to make life easier for you. With this in mind, we set out to achieve twin aims during your trip - the well-being & enjoyment of your group 'on tour', and the wellbeing and enjoyment of the Party Leaders.



Safe & Easy Travel

We will, if you wish, organise your travel arrangements from your school by luxury coach or rail. Please enquire for further details. Our Westport Centre is just ten minutes from Westport Rail Station. Easy-to-follow Booking Procedure Just call the number below and we will be happy to guide you through the Booking Procedure. We don't take just your Booking and then let you do the rest - we will help you right up to the day of departure, thus ensuring you are not left to do it all yourself. We provide you with the support material you will need, including a supply of Parent/Pupil Information Leaflets, which will answer many of the queries that parents & pupils will have.

"Excellent - everything very clearly outlined to us when we arrived and we were kept up-to-date at all times. Best accommodation we have stayed in on one of these types of tours"

Jason Carrig, St. Fintan's CBS, Limerick



Our Bookings Manager
Denise Moran



Party Leader Bedroom



A Stress-free Experience for Party Leaders

Our hands-on support system includes:

- Comprehensive, easy-to-follow booking procedure
- Safe and accessible transfer options to our Centre (10-minute transfer from Westport Rail and Bus Station)
- We provide 24-hour supervision of your students
- Party Leaders are accommodated in separate hotel-standard accommodation at our Centre, and they also enjoy separate dining and relaxation facilities. These facilities are just close enough to your group to allow you observe, first-hand, the behaviour & progress of the group, but far enough away to permit you your own space to unwind and relax
- We invite Party Leaders to join us on Preview Visits before they book their trip - to give you the peace of mind you need before committing your students to the programmes
- We offer Free and Concessionary Places for Party Leaders and their families Teacher Facilities at our Westport Centre

The Westport Woods Hotel facilities are at your disposal during your visit, and we urge you to enjoy them:

- Hotel standard en-suite accommodation & dining
- Free and unrestricted use of Westport Woods Hotel Leisure Centre (Swimming Pool, Sauna, Jacuzzi, etc)
- Full use of Spa facilities – we issue Concessionary Vouchers on your arrival
- Unrestricted use of Westport Woods Hotel relaxation facilities throughout your stay, with tea/coffees on demand
- We can put together a separate Teacher Activity Programme for your visit, if required, including complimentary bike hire, etc

Your On-site Group Leader

From the moment you arrive on-site at our Westport Centre, you will be greeted by your Group Leader. In many cases, this will be the Centre Manager. This person will have the experience, maturity and focus to ensure you and your group have a memorable visit to the Centre. They will spare nothing in the effort to make it as enjoyable as possible for you, and will take full responsibility for your group's welfare. They will liaise with you on a regular basis, and keep you informed on the progress of your group. Thus you are secure in the knowledge that you and your group will get every last benefit out of your stay with us.

Super Value for Money

Our Price Sheet provides an all-in price - it includes Full Board, Activity Programme, Instruction, 24-hour Supervision, and Insurances. In short, everything is listed, there are no hidden extras. This makes it easier for you to communicate the cost to your students.

Free Places and Concessionary Rates for Family Members

We offer one free place for an accompanying teacher for every 15 paying students. To make the trip more enjoyable for teachers, we also offer additional free places, and generous concessionary discounts, for accompanying family members of the Party Organiser. Please contact us for more details on these offers.

Free Preview Visits

We run an annual Gala Teachers' Preview Weekend at our Westport Centre, to which you will be invited if you are contemplating booking one of our programmes. You will be able to view our facilities & programmes. However, if you are unable to attend this Preview Weekend, we will be happy to arrange a free visit for you at another date throughout the year.





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"Everyone at Horizon was very helpful, friendly and every effort was made to make the party feel welcome. The 24 hour supervision is just wonderful and would encourage teachers to take a group to this centre. Pre-planned activities for evenings ensure students are kept busy and entertained. Overall we were very impressed with how pleasant and professional the instructors were, you were well prepared for us and it showed. Kids had a great time and so did we!!"

Tony McHugh, Beech Hill College, Monaghan

Questions & Answers

You may still have some questions - if we don't answer them here, please contact us and we will deal with your queries.

Q: WHAT EXPERIENCE DOES HORIZON EDUCATION AND ADVENTURE ACTIVITY CENTRE HAVE?

A: As pioneers of educational activity centres in Ireland and the UK, we have many years of experience in this sector behind us. We have kept in touch with every change in Outdoor Education – and, in most instances, we have led the changes. We bring that experience to bear in everything we do – how we devise our programmes, how we roll them out, what staff we employ, how we ensure the trip is as enjoyable as possible for students and teachers.

Q: ARE YOUR PROGRAMMES UP-TO-DATE?

A: Yes. We don't wish to sound boastful, but we are at the cutting edge of educational activity trips. We note every innovation in foreign countries and implement them where we think they would apply in Ireland - and we also conjure up our own new approaches.

Q: IN BRIEF, WHAT BENEFITS WILL MY CLASS GET FROM A RESIDENTIAL TRIP TO YOUR WESTPORT CENTRE?

A: We will introduce your students to a brand new learning environment. It will be exciting, it will be challenging, and it will be fun – and these three components, when mixed together, produce an environment where your students learn quickly and enthusiastically. They will expand their horizons, gain in self-confidence and independence.

We promote teamwork and this approach can have far-reaching benefits in terms of bringing a class, and its teacher, closer together.

Q: IS YOUR CENTRE SECURE AND SAFE?

A: Yes. We offer 24-hour supervision, so you can rest assured that your students are constantly monitored. The Centre itself is a secure entity within the Westport Woods Hotel complex. Our staff are highly-trained. Upon arrival at our Centre, all schools receive a fire safety briefing, where all emergency exits and meeting areas are pointed out. Procedures for evacuating the buildings are also rehearsed at this point. This is followed by an emergency fire drill that includes everyone – students, teachers and staff.

Q: DO WE HAVE TO ORGANISE OUR OWN INSURANCE?

A: Full Public Liability Insurance cover is included in the overall package price.

Q: HOW DOES PAYMENT WORK?

A: Once you have booked your dates for a visit to our Westport Centre, the first, non-refundable deposit will fall due within 21 days. The second deposit is due eight weeks after the first, and the third, and final, payment falls due ten weeks before you arrive.

Q: WHAT ABOUT DATES AND PRICES?

A: Please refer to the Dates & Prices Sheet inserted in this brochure. If one is not included, please call us on the number below.

Q: DO THE DREADED MIDGES SPOIL OUR ENJOYMENT OF THE OUTDOORS?

A: No. Westport is a midge-free zone, you will be glad to hear!



How To Book

STEP ONE

TELEPHONE BOOKING, AND DEPOSIT

Once you have selected the course that suits your needs, contact us as soon as possible to avoid disappointment on your preferred dates. We can hold a telephone booking for 21 days, during which time you send us the Booking Form and the relevant

First Deposit:

Up to 2-night stay - ⇄40 per person

Up to 3-night stay - ⇄50 per person

Up to 5-night stay - ⇄70 per person

STEP TWO

INTERIM PAYMENT

Eight weeks after you pay the First Deposit, you pay the

Second Deposit:

Up to 2-night stay - ⇄40 per person

Up to 3-night stay - ⇄50 per person

Up to 5-night stay - ⇄70 per person

STEP THREE

FINAL PAYMENT

The final payment must be made not later than ten weeks before you arrive.

FURTHER INFORMATION

YOUR ACTIVITY PROGRAMME

Please phone us three weeks before your departure date in order to finalise activities, programme and accommodation.

Please Note: Activities, especially Surfing are weather-dependent, & may be cancelled at the Instructor's discretion, in the interests of safety. Alternative activities will, of course, be provided.

BEDDING

Pupils need to bring their own sleeping bag, bed sheet and pillow case with them. Bedding is automatically provided for adults.

Booking Conditions

DEPOSITS

Before a booking can be considered firm, the Party Organiser must confirm in writing an intention to proceed, and forward the initial, non-refundable, non-transferable deposit for each paying member of the party.

A booking is made and contract exists when the Company receives the first deposit.

Payment of deposit, or full fees, is regarded as evidence of your acceptance of the booking conditions.

A contract will only exist when we have received the required deposit and have acknowledged your completed form by the issue of our official booking confirmation.

The person signing the booking form accepts these conditions on behalf of all party members.

BALANCE OF PAYMENTS

The final balance on all courses must be settled not later than ten weeks prior to departure, or by return of post where receipt of invoice is within ten weeks. If final balances are not received by the due dates, this will be a breach of contract between us, entitling us to treat the booking as cancelled by you.

Note: The arrangements and prices announced in this leaflet are given in good faith on August 1, 2010, and we reserve the right to change prices and arrangements due to unforeseen circumstances. This condition does not apply to bookings confirmed with deposits.

Cancellations are accepted under the following conditions:

- (a) All cancellations must be advised to us in writing
- (b) Deposits are non-refundable and non-transferable
- (c) Cancellations made at short notice are subject to the following Cancellation Charges:
 - i. All cancellations made within 8-6 weeks of your commencement date are subject to a cancellation charge of 50% of the total fees due.
 - ii. All cancellations made within 5-2 weeks of your commencement date are subject to a cancellation charge of 75% of the total fees due.
 - iii. All cancellations made within 2 weeks of your commencement date are subject to a cancellation charge of 100% of the total fees due.

All balances must be paid no later than 10 weeks prior to the commencement of your programme. If your balance has not been received by us before this time, we retain the right to cancel your booking and charge the appropriate cancellation fee.

The arrangements in this brochure are written in good faith and are correct as of August 1, 2010.

We do not accept responsibility for delays or changes in travel arrangements or activity programme caused by strikes, breakdowns, or any other causes beyond the direct control of the Company, and we reserve the right to amend the transport arrangements and activity programme according to the weather, satisfactory numbers, schedule requirements and for any other reason deemed fit.

A safety deposit box is provided for storage of valuables. We cannot, therefore, be held responsible for loss of valuables or personal property whilst on one of our programmes.

HORIZON

Ireland's Most Experienced
**Summer Camp
Operator**

OUR CAMP VENUES



CAMP ROCKWELL
Tipperary



CLONGOWES COLLEGE
Kildare



WESTPORT SURF CAMP
Mayo

Special concessionary rates for your school:
Call 098 35844 for further details.



Email: enquiries@horizonireland.com
www.horizonireland.com

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