



## **Delphi Lodge Events Calendar – What’s on in May**

### **Westport Food Festival**

14th – 16th June

Founded in 2011, the Annual Westport Food Festival shines a light on the best of Mayo’s food, drink and cookery with a weekend of fantastic fare.

[www.westportfoodfestival.ie](http://www.westportfoodfestival.ie)

### **Westport Sea Angling Festival**

21st – 23rd June

Westport Sea Angling Festival was established in 1956 and immediately broke all records in fishing terms and in the clientele it attracted. Westport Quay buzzed with the many languages of the anglers of many nations who came in great numbers year after year to do battle with the fish in Clew Bay.

[www.westportseaanglingfestival.eu](http://www.westportseaanglingfestival.eu)

### **Ballinrobe Races**

Ballinrobe, Co. Mayo

Monday 24th June

The Ballinrobe Races are a real family event. Entertaining families since 1921 at this racecourse, we pride ourselves on our racing heritage coupled with a tangible appreciation of the future. Ballinrobe has a rich tradition of horseracing. Records show that Ballinrobe hosted a steeplechase back in 1834 and there are records of meetings back as far as 1774. The Ballinrobe Races hosts the best in the business under the benign shadow of the Partry Mountains and the majestic strength of the old oak trees. At Ballinrobe, the races are an integral part of the community; the spirit is free and westerly, the air is fresh, the scenery is splendid, the people are the best. The bookies will entertain, the covered pavilion will comfort, and the sun will shine.

[www.ballinroberacecourse.ie](http://www.ballinroberacecourse.ie)

### **Kylemore Abbey & Victorian Walled Garden**

Kylemore Abbey and Victorian Walled Garden Originally built as a Castle in 1867 as a romantic gift, Kylemore Abbey and the surrounding mountains and lakes are steeped in history. Learn of tales of tragedy, romance, engineering initiatives and royal visits. It became home to a community of Benedictine Nuns in 1920 and has been renowned as a place of spirituality and education.

One mile west of the main Abbey building are the 6-acre Victorian Walled Gardens, built by Mitchell Henry at the same time as the construction of Kylemore Castle between 1867 and 1871. This garden was one of the last walled gardens to be built during the Victorian period in Ireland and is the only garden in Ireland that is located in the middle of a bog. The garden was so advanced for the time that it was even compared with Kew Gardens in London.

<https://www.kylemoreabbey.com/>

### **Connemara National Park**

The Connemara horizon is dominated by more than fifty magnificent mountains in four tightly packed ranges, the Twelve Bens, Maum Turks, Partry and Sheffrey. Diamond Hill in the Connemara National Park, with its wood and cut stone path, offers a very safe way to go hill-walking. 500 metres high, Diamond Hill rises above the small village of Letterfrack. This is one of the finest hikes in the country. It commands huge ocean, island and mountain views in all directions. From its sharp edge summit it looks down on Kylemore Abbey and deep into the Twelve Bens mountain range. On the slopes of the mountain are the remains of an abandoned 19th century farm and a megalithic tomb built by the first farmers of the area 5,000 years ago.

<http://www.connemaranationalpark.ie/>

### **Beaches**

Connemara's beaches are all individual, coming with their own different types of sand, rocks and an infinite variety of small shells. The Coral Strand in Ballyconneely is unusual for its golden coral sand. It's also easy to access, with plenty of space to park, and might be a slightly warmer swimming spot than other beaches! Shortly afterwards (turning right) you will find the beaches of Mannin Bay, a collection of white sandy beaches. Whatever the weather, a stroll in Mannin will leave you feeling refreshed and contented. Just off the Clifden to Roundstone road (a few kilometres before Roundstone), Dog's Bay and Gurteen are two dramatically beautiful beaches which lie back to back. Glassilaun, in Renvyle, where scenes of the movie Tristan and Isolde were filmed, is another glorious beach in North Connemara. From the village of Tully Cross, take the left turn by the church and follow the elevated coast road towards Little Killary Bay.