

Westmeath Royal Canal Greenway (Cycle/Walking Trail)

Westmeath County Council in cooperation with Waterways Ireland & funding from the Department of Transport, Tourism & Sport have developed 32.3km length of the Royal Canal towpath as a walking & cycling route.

While some of the royal canal towpath was always accessible to the public, other sections had become grassed over through lack of use. The active travel and the national cycle network funding scheme which was availed of by Westmeath County Council saw the completion of a shared cycle and pedestrian track around the town of Mullingar. While this work was in progress the Council identified an opportunity to extend this to the County boundaries of Meath & Longford.

At this stage the cycle/walking path has been completed from the Meath Boundary to Coolnahay Harbour. The Department of Transport, Tourism & Sport recently announced further funding to complete the section west of the county from Coolnahay to the Longford boundary. The cycle/walking trail from the Meath county boundary to Mullingar will form part of the National Cycle Network, which when completed, will form a cycle route from Dublin to Galway. The section from Mullingar to Athlone has also recently been awarded funding by the Department of Transport, Tourism & Sport.

The Greenway route provides the necessary safe, off road cycling & walking infrastructure that will encourage and promote increased cycling and walking activity in Westmeath. The cycle track is a great attraction for cyclists, families and tourists alike.

Use of the Greenway

- Do not enter adjoining farmland
- Respect the habitat that is the Greenway and its flora & fauna
- Do not litter the trail – take home your litter
- Keep Dogs on leads (scoop the poop)
- Cyclists should wear a helmet
- High-viz jacket/top recommended - "be safe be seen"
- Take special care at junctions
- Cyclists should give clear hand signals and use bell.
- Walkers be aware that cyclists may be approaching from behind.

In case of emergency dial 999 or Mullingar Garda Station (044) 9384000

Westmeath Royal Canal Greenway employs the Leave No Trace Principles – www.leavenotraceireland.org

Westmeath Royal Canal Greenway

Recommended Access Points

There are several access points to the cycle/walking trail from various public roads.

The access points listed below are shown on the map overleaf, some of which will have parking facilities and amenities.

- 2 D'Arcy's Bridge, Hyde Park, Killucan
- 3 Thomastown Bridge (Nanny Quinn's)
- 4 Riverstown Bridge, Killucan Station
- 5 Footy's Bridge, Porterstown, Killucan
- 6 McKnead's Bridge (Mary Lynch's), Coralstown
- 7 The Downs Bridge (Genesis), The Downs
- 8 Baltrasna Bridge, Marlinstown, Mullingar
- 9 Piper's Boreen, Millmount, Mullingar
- 10 Dublin Bridge, Mullingar
- 11 Harbour Bridge, Harbour St., Mullingar
- 12 Green Bridge, Dominick St., Mullingar
- 13 Kilpatrick Bridge, Kilpatrick, Mullingar
- 14 Belmont Bridge, Belmont, Mullingar
- 15 Ballinea Bridge, Ballinea, Mullingar
- 16 Shandonagh Bridge, Shandonagh, Mullingar
- 17 Coolnahay Harbour, Coolnahay



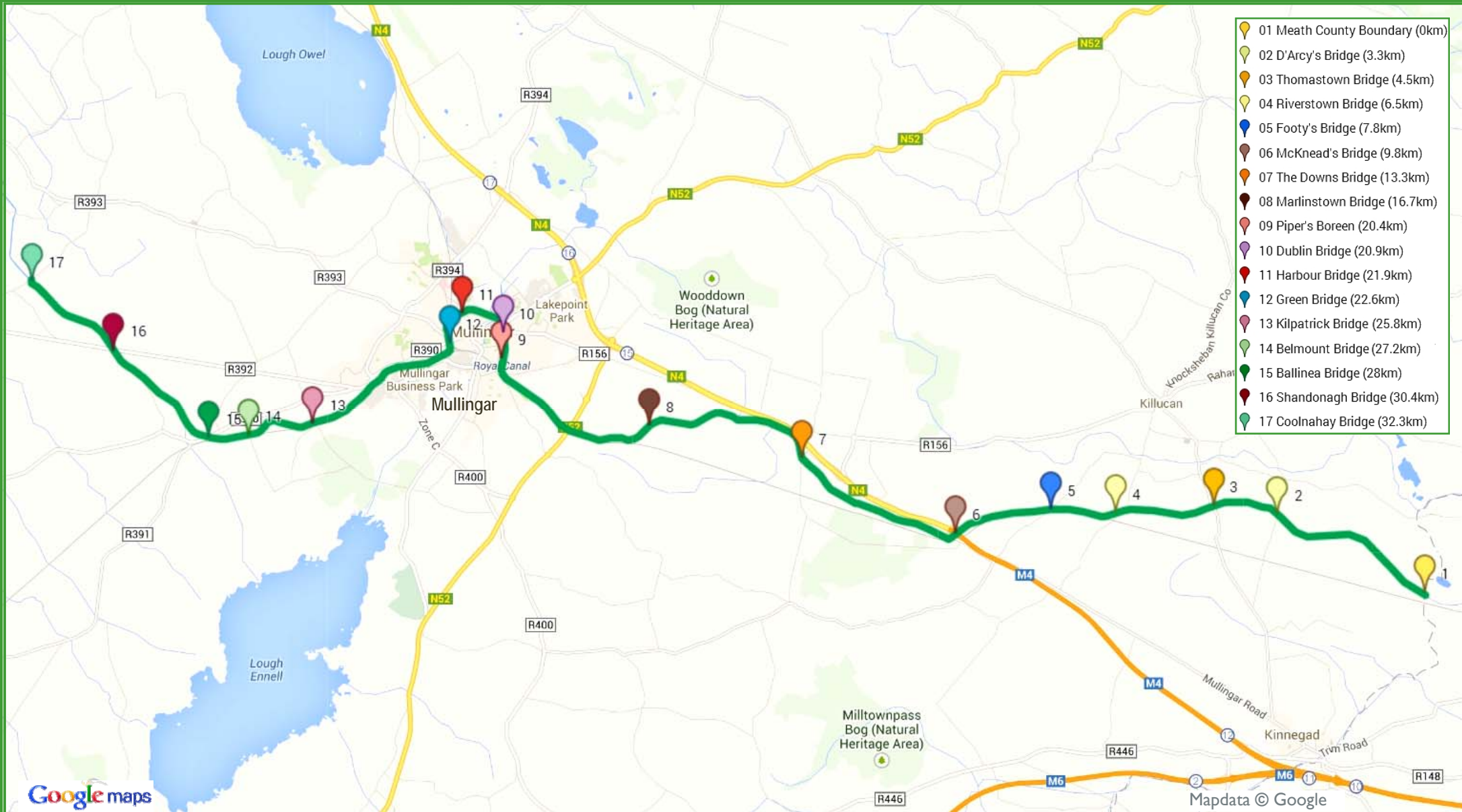
Westmeath Royal Canal Greenway



greenway.westmeathcoco.ie



Westmeath Royal Canal Greenway - Route Map



Suggested Routes

1. Mullingar to Coolnahay Harbour (10.5km)
2. Mullingar to Thomastown Bridge (17.8km)
3. Coolnahay to Meath Boundary (32.3km)



Route Grading & Suitability Rating

Route is rated as 'Easy' and suitable for 'Infrequent Cyclists'. However, for those who might be intending to cycle the route with children, please be aware that there are drops off the route both into the canal and sometimes off steep embankments.