



## Uncovering the unique story of Literary Legends, Inventive Intellectuals & Enlightened Educationalists

The Maria Edgeworth Visitor Centre and Museum is an unexpected gem in the unassuming small settlement of Edgeworthstown in the midst of Ireland's Hidden Heartlands. Local history enthusiasts are paying tribute to the celebrated 18th century novelist Maria Edgeworth, her family and their town.

Exploring the life & works of this woman, a pioneer of literature, a feminist and social commentator of her time. She was considered a lioness by literary giants like Wordsworth, Scott and Jane Austen.

It is an inspiring interpretive centre that is home to many original exhibits dating back to the 18th century. Uncovering the rich history of Ireland's early education system and the role played by the Edgeworth Family, in, what is believed to be, the oldest existing National School building in Ireland.

Uncover one of Ireland's best kept literary secrets in Ireland's Hidden Heartlands.

Highlights include:

- **Interactive Museum** | stories | video | audio guides | touchscreens
- **Expert Guides** | experienced local guides | sharing their passion and knowledge
- **History** | set in an 1840 school building | recreation of a school room | rare artefacts | personal family items
- **Multilingual** | audio tour | seven languages | multilingual texts available
- **Landscape** | Lowland Plains | close to Longford's Royal Canal walking & cycling amenity
- **Access** | served by national road bus & train networks | on the N4 & N55 | approx. one hour from Dublin





## Experience Description

### Self-Guided Tour of Maria Edgeworth Centre

1h

€7.50pp

Uncover Literary Legends, Inventive Intellectuals & Enlightened Educationalists. Follow in the footsteps of not just the intriguing Edgeworth Family but also discover their surprising links to well-known like-minded contemporaries, politicians, revolutionists, and scientific minds. An Audio Guide will lead you through the museum while you immerse yourself in a journey through Ireland's intriguing past from rebellions to famine. Additionally, explore the origins of Ireland's first primary school system. A visit is a must for those interested in Ireland's past and wish to experience it in a unique setting.

### Guided Tour of Maria Edgeworth Centre

1-1.5h

€10.00pp

Take part in a guided journey through the Maria Edgeworth Centre, following in the footsteps of one of Ireland's foremost writers who was a pioneer in children's literature and considered by many to be the 'Mother of the Novel'. Listen to intriguing and wonderful stories from her life and her many friends and acquaintances. A local Tour Guide will share their stories and secrets while you explore rare and unique artefacts dating back to the 17<sup>th</sup> century.

### Guided Edgeworthstown's Heritage & Literary Trail

2-2.5h

€16.50pp

The town retains many sites associated with the Edgeworth family and other historical figures. A local Guide will bring you on a magical journey through time with a visit to the Walled Garden of the ancestral home of the Edgeworths. Listen to stories of some of the historical figures who visited the house. The walk continues taking in St John's charming village graveyard where Maria Edgeworth and Isola Wilde, sister to Oscar Wilde, are interred alongside the last Chief of the O'Farrell Clan. And learn of the town's connections with the French Revolution. Lastly, discover the Maria Edgeworth Centre with its wonderful collection of rare and precious artefacts.

### Afternoon Tea Experience

€25.00pp

After a guided Tour of the Maria Edgeworth Centre, you will experience the timeless tradition of afternoon tea, where elegance meets flavour. Savour freshly baked scones, delicate finger sandwiches, and exquisite pastries, all paired with tea or coffee. Whether celebrating or unwinding, our afternoon tea offers a luxurious escape. The Edgeworths and their friends once enjoyed similar gatherings, and now you can too, in the historic Edgeworth living room. Depending on your group size, relax and enjoy this delightful experience either in the living room or in our more spacious facility located in the adjoining grounds. A true taste of the past awaits you!





## IMPORTANT INFORMATION

<b>Contact Information</b>	<b>Contact:</b> Matt Farrell   Janine Roder <b>T:</b> +353 436671801 <b>E:</b> <a href="mailto:info@mariaedgeworthcenter.com">info@mariaedgeworthcenter.com</a> <a href="http://www.mariaedgeworthcenter.com">www.mariaedgeworthcenter.com</a>
<b>Opening and Closing Dates</b>	Open all year Tuesday – Friday, 10 am – 5 pm Saturday & Sunday, 11 am – 5 pm Last admission an hour before closing Closed on Mondays Closed Christmas & New Year
<b>Location</b>	The Maria Edgeworth Centre Ballymahon Rd, Edgeworthstown, Co Longford N39E3C8 Town Walking Tour meeting point either at Maria Edgeworth Centre or can be otherwise arranged 53.6964525,-7.6126124
<b>Parking</b>	Free on street parking and coach parking
<b>Customer Information</b>	Accessibility <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Wheelchair accessible toilets on ground floor</li> <li>○ No wheelchair access to second floor</li> </ul> Dietary Requirements <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Requirements and allergies can be addressed subject to advance notice</li> </ul> Languages <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Guided Experiences are delivered in English – audio guide system available</li> <li>○ Self-guided Audio Tour in English, Irish, German, Spanish, Italian, French, Chinese</li> </ul> Fitness Level: low to medium fitness is all that is required Pricing: Group rates available for 10-50 visitors
<b>Our Sustainable Ethos</b>	A place of social sustainability where your visit supports local community education and development projects



## WHAT WE LOVE TO DO IN IRELAND'S HIDDEN HEARTLANDS

**1**

**Strokestown Park, House, Garden & National Famine Museum** in County Roscommon.

**Booking Contact:** Tel No: +353 71 963 3013, E-Mail: [info@strokestownpark.ie](mailto:info@strokestownpark.ie)

**2**

**Corlea Trackway** in the bog lands of County Longford, not far from Kenagh village.

**Booking Contact:** Tel No: +353 43 3322386, E-Mail: [corlea@opw.ie](mailto:corlea@opw.ie)

**3**

**Tullynally Castle and Gardens** Castlepollard, Co. Westmeath.

**Booking Contact:** Tel No: +353 44 9661856, E-Mail: [info@tullynallycastle.ie](mailto:info@tullynallycastle.ie)

**4**

**Knights & Conquest Heritage and Visitor Centre** in Granard, Co. Longford,

**Booking Contact:** Tel No: +353 86 700 6715, E-Mail: [info@knightsandconquests.ie](mailto:info@knightsandconquests.ie)

**5**

**Cloughan Farm & Cookery School**, Abbeyrule, Co Longford

**Booking Contact:** Tel No: +353 87 145 7741

**6**

**The Shed Distillery**, Drumshanbo, Co Leitrim

**Booking Contact:** Tel No: +353 71 931 7000