

WESTPORT FESTIVALS & EVENTS 2008

JUNE

Date: **JUNE 18TH, 20TH-22ND**
Festival: **WESTPORT SEA ANGLING FESTIVAL**
4 day angling event – 1 day shore angling and 3 day boat angling.
Location: Clew Bay (from Westport Quay)
Tel: 087 7656202 / 098 27297

Date: **JUNE 27TH -29TH**
Festival: **WESTPORT FOLK & BLUEGRASS FESTIVAL**
Pub's, gigs, music workshops and 2 nights of the best local, national and international folk and bluegrass bands.
Location: Westport, Co Mayo
Tel: 087 7570958
Email: urihcp@yahoo.ie
Web: www.myspace.com/westportfolkbluegrassfestival

JULY

Date: **JULY 1ST -6TH**
Festival: **MAYO FLEADH CEOIL**- A festival of traditional irish music , song, dance and storytelling with competitions for all age groups.
Location: Westport, Co Mayo
Tel: 098 29603

Date: **JULY 27TH**
Festival: **CROAGH PATRICK PILGRIMAGE**- One of Mayo's most famous landmarks and an international place of pilgrimage located just 9.5km from Westport. Traditionally known as "Reek Sunday", approximately 20,000 plus people climb the mountain on this day.
Location: Murrisk, Westport, Co Mayo
Tel: 098 25711

AUGUST

Date: **AUGUST 6TH – 10TH, 2008**
Festival: **WESTPORT MUSIC FESTIVAL** -The Westport music festival is completely free and family orientated .We have 5 nights of music with a finale of fireworks on the last evening of the festival.

Location: Westport, Co Mayo
Tel: 098 25711
Web: www.westportmusicfestival.com

Dates: **AUGUST 23rd and 24th, 2008**
Festival: **GAEL FORCE WEST** - returns for a 3rd year of adrenalin, action and adventure in the Wild Wild West! With nearly 400 adventurers taking part in last year's event Gael Force has become the most popular adventure sports event in the country in just two years. Join in this year and experience the challenge of the race, the camaraderie, stunning scenery and fresh Atlantic air as we welcome you to Westport in glorious county Mayo, for Gael Force 2008.

Location: Westport & Connemara
Tel: 098 28324
Web: www.gaelforcewest.ie

SEPTEMBER

Dates: **SEPTEMBER 27TH**
Festival: **WESTPORT HORSE FAIR-**
Location: South Mall, Westport, Co Mayo
Tel: 098 28940

Dates: **SEPTEMBER 27TH – OCTOBER 4TH**
Festival: **WEST OF IRELAND GOLF TOURNAMENT-** Further details from Westport Golf Club.
Location: Westport, Co Mayo
Tel: 098 28262
Email: info@westportgolfclub.com
Web: www.westportgolfclub.com

Date: **SEPTEMBER 25TH -28TH**
Festival: **ALL IRELAND CHALLENGE-** Looking for something different to engage and energise your business teams. If so join the all Ireland challenge in Westport and return to the workplace feeling energized & motivated.
Location: Westport
Tel: 01 6197960
Email: allirelandchallenge@bravo.ie
Web: www.challengerworld.com

OCTOBER

Date: **OCTOBER 3RD-12TH**
Festival: **WESTPORT ARTS FESTIVAL** – Westport Arts festival has long since established itself on the west coast calendar as an exciting and diverse event.
Location: Westport, Co Mayo
Tel; 098 27375
Web: www.westportartsfestival.com

Date: **OCTOBER 4TH & 5TH**
Festival: **THE HELM SKATE FESTIVAL** – 2 day fishing festival for common & other species of skate in the Clew Bay area. Prize fund €6000.
Location: Westport Quay
Tel: 098 26194
Email: thehelm@eircom.net

OTHER Mayo Calendar of Events 2008

May 2008

Dates: **2nd -5th May**
Festival: **Feile Chois Cuain**
Traditional music, song & dance featuring concerts, master classes, music and singing lessons, set dancing workshops & ceilis.
Location: Louisburgh, Co Mayo
Tel: 087 2412511/ 2328460
Email: feilechoiscuain@yahoo.com
Web: www.feilechoiscuain.com

Dates: **3rd & 4th May**
Festival: **Heinrich Boll -Achill Arts Weekend**
Lecture's and presentations throughout the weekend. Art exhibition artwork and archival materials from the Boll family.
Location: Dugort, Achill Island, Co Mayo
Tel: 098 47353
Email: info@achilltourism.com
Web: www.achilltourism.com

Dates: **16th -18th May**
Festival: **Clare Island Folklore & Maritime Communities Weekend.**
A weekend of culture and craic on Clare island

Location: Clare Island, Co Mayo
Tel: 098 26525/25087
Web: www.clareisland.org

Date: **24th & 25th May**
Festival: **Feile na Tuaithe- A celebration of Country Life**
Weekend long celebration of Irish country life featuring contemporary and traditional music, craft & country market

Location: National Museum of Ireland, Turloughmore, Castlebar , Co Mayo
Tel: 094 9031733
Email: tpark@museum.ie
Web: www.museum.ie

Date: **26th & 27th May**
Festival: **Ballinrobe Races**
Location: Ballinrobe Racecourse, Co Mayo
Tel: 094 9541811
Web: www.ballinroberacecourse.ie

June 2008

Dates: **30th May – 2st June**
Festival: **Castlebar Blues Festival**
Join the 15th year of one of the longest running blues festivals in Castlebar this bank holiday weekend
Location: Castlebar , Co Mayo
Tel: 094 9023111
Web: www.castlebarblues.ie

Dates: **6th – 8th June**
Festival: **Clare Island Singles Weekend**
A festival of young people aged 30 years plus which includes Ballroom of romance, computer dating, blind dating and romantic island walks.

Location: Clare Island, Co Mayo
Tel: 098 26525
Web: www.clareisland.org

Date: **13th -15th June**
Festival: **Ras Connachta** – Mayo Wheelers cycling club present a 3 day race.
Location: Westport, Co Mayo
Tel: 086 8702062
Email: joe@mayowheelers.com

Date: **16th June –**
Festival: **Ballinarobe Races**
Web: www.ballinroberacecourse.ie

Date: **21st June**
Festival: **Louisburgh Horse & Pony Show**
Location: Louisburgh, Co Mayo
Tel: 097 9777041

JULY 2008

Date: **1st July – 31st August**
Festival: **Island Hopping Weekends**
An enchanting journey through Clare Island, Inishturk and Inishboffin, taking in scenery, culture etc- on various dates throughout July & August.
Location: Clear Island, Inishturk and Inishboffin.
Tel: 098 26525 / 25087
Web: www.clareisland.org

Date: **3rd -6th July**
Festival: **Castlebar International 4 days walks.**
Location: Castlebar, Co Mayo
Tel: Elaine Devereaux 094 9024102
Email: info@castlebar4dayswalks.com

Date: **3rd -6th July**
Festival: **The Bard Summer School** – Cultural show comprising of music, song and dance exploring ancient Irish myths.
Location: Clare Island, Co Mayo
Tel: 01 4904879
Email: bard@bard.ie
Web: www.bard.ie

Date: **11th – 20th July**

Festival: **Ballina Street Festival**- One of Irelands premier fun packed festivals attracting huge crowds nationally and internationally with a cultural, heritage and international flavour.
Tel: 096 79814
Email: ballinastreetfestival@eircom.net
Web: www.ballinastreetfestival.ie

August 2008

Date: **31st July – 3rd August**
Festival: Newport Grainne Uaile Festival – Festival of Street music and sporting events to be enjoyed by all the family.
Location: Newport, Co Mayo

Date: **8th August**
Festival: **Lovefest**- 12 hour open air concert featuring bands, local and nationwide With fun for all the family.
Location: Swinford, Co Mayo
Email: lovefest@live.ie

Date: **11th August –**
Festival: **Ballinrobe Races**
Web: www.ballinroberacecourse.ie

Date: **13th -17th August**
Festival: **Feile na Locha & Ceol na Locha Summer School**
Music & Dance , workshops and fun
Location: Tourmakeady, Co Mayo
Tel: 094 9544229
Web: www.tourmakeady.com/ceolnalocha.htm

Date: **16th August**
Festival: **Swinford Agricultural Show**
Featuring all things from the agricultural sector.
Location: Swinford, Co Mayo
Tel: 087 7716028
Web: www.swinfordagrishow.com

September 2008

Date: **7th September**
Festival: **Ballinrobe Agricultural Show**
Location: Green Park, Ballinrobe, Co Mayo
Tel: 094 9541523

Date: 19th -21st September
Festival: **Clare Island Singles Weekend**
A festival of young people aged 30 years plus which includes Ballroom of romance, computer dating, blind dating and romantic island walks.
Location: Clare Island, Co Mayo
Tel: 098 26525
Web: www.clareisland.org

Date: **19th – 21st September**
Festival: **Clifden Community Arts Week**
A great celebration of the arts- music poetry, lectures and exhibitions.
Location: Clifden. Co Galway
Tel: 095 22899
Web: www.clifdenartsweek.ie

Date: **20th & 21st September**
Festival: **Windsurfing & Waves ailing Championship**
Annual wave sailing competition
Location: Keel, Achill, Co Mayo
Tel: 098 43958
Email: info@windwise.ie
Web: www.windwise.ie

October

Date: **17th – 27th October**
Festival: **Connemara Seaweek** – A celebration of our marine heritage
Location: Letterfrack, Co Galway
Tel: 095 41034
Email: lfrack@eircom.net
Web: www.ceecc.org

Date: **20th -27th October**
Festival: **RoolaBoola Childrens Art festival**
Locations; Linenhall Arts Centre, Castlebar, Co Mayo
Tel: 094 9023733
Email: artaccess@eircom.net
Web: www.thelinenhall.com.

Date: **28th October**
Festival; **Maam Cross Fair**
Traditional fair day – a very popular and colourful event
Location: Maam Cross, Connemara, Co Galway