



COSÁN NA gCAPALL  
**BEARA**  
BRIDLE WAY

# WELCOME TO THE BEARA BRIDLE WAY

Etched into the sides of the Miskish and Knockgour mountains of the Slieve Miskish range which knuckles the Beara peninsula west, the Beara Bridle Way is Ireland's first ever horse trail. The main trail hugs the flanks of the mountains, overlooking 17 kilometres of rugged mountain scenery, stunning seascapes and dazzling island views. It includes some optional but highly recommended detours that climb to access even better vistas from elevated viewing points.

The Bridle Way links Clonglaskin townland several kilometres west of Castletownbere town with the colourful village of Allihies, once famous for its coppermines, and the coastal townland of Urhan near picturesque Eyeries village.

Despite the wildness of the scenery, the terrain has something for all experience levels and can be undertaken at any pace.



## URHAN TO ALLIHIES



The Bridle Way follows an old road originally built to enable villagers from Urhan and Eyeries to commute to the Allihies mines. The route is about 7km in length and comprises mostly moderate ascents and descents with just the occasional steeper section. There are also opportunities for a faster pace.

On leaving Urhan and joining the main trail, riders can optionally head eastward for a route spur which climbs to a stunning viewing point over Coulagh Bay. This follows a quiet tarmacked road for about 1km before turning onto a track leading to a bridle gate into private land where the trail climbs steadily to up to the vantage point.

The main trail toward Allihies climbs gently westwards and affords over-the-shoulder views of Urhan and Eyeries for a distance and spectacular vistas of Kenmare Bay. On a clear day, the jagged silhouette of the Skellig Islands may be spied. Eventually Allihies hoves into sight and the route descends and loops past the old mine Engine house before leaving the old copper mines road to join the public road into Allihies village itself where riders can follow signage to enjoy a pre-booked lunch at Beach View B&B (027 73105) while their horses are corralled in a paddock within sight.

## CONDITIONS OF USE

The Bridle Way has been developed by Beara Tourism on behalf of the local community who welcome all considerate users who are in compliance with the Conditions of Use. The trail follows both public and private tracks and the Bridle Way is only possible because of the kind permission of several private landowners.

- To ride on the Bridle Way you MUST become a member of the Beara Bridle Way and sign The Beara Bridle Way membership agreement.
- Membership of The Bridle Way is only open to Gold Members of the British Horse Society (BHS) OR by availing of the trekking services provided by local riding establishments.
- Members of The Bridle Way must adhere to the Code of Conduct of the membership agreement which should be read carefully and which includes:
  - Members must wear a properly fitted riding hat to a current approved standard and appropriate riding boots.
  - The Bridal Way can be used during daylight hours only.
  - Taking due care with other pedestrian users, livestock and vehicles.
  - Yielding at all times to pedestrians on the Bridle Way.
  - Taking the usual safety precautions with equipment, tack, first aid and care for both rider and horse including the carrying of equine shoes.
  - Obeying the country code and adhering to the marked route.
  - Members under 16 years of age must ride the Bridle Way with an adult member.
  - Absolutely no dogs are permitted on those sections of the Bridal Way on private land.
- It is also recommended that trail users ride at a pace appropriate to the level of experience of both the rider and the horse.

## SAFETY INFORMATION

For emergency services dial 999 or 112.

In anticipation of loss of a horse shoe, trail users should carry equine shoes.

The local veterinary can be contacted on 027 70366.

For the emergency farrier or horse box or any other horse-related issues please ring Tir na Hilan trekking on 086 172 1279 or Karin on 086 376 0688.

Please be aware that there is no mobile coverage for approximately 10% of the trail.

For more information on the trail contact Beara Tourism 027 70054 or [bearatours@eircom.net](mailto:bearatours@eircom.net)

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