



*Greener Sustainable
Tourism*

CASTLE
Leslie
ESTATE



Castle Leslie Estate is located in the peaceful village of Glaslough in County Monaghan.

Nestled on 1,000 acres of undulating Irish countryside, surrounded by ancient woodland and glittering lakes. Castle Leslie Estate is one of the last great Irish Castle estates which is still in the hands of its founding family since the 1660's. The estate is home to some of the most unique and enchanting accommodation on one of Ireland's most breathtaking estates.

Give Something Back



Our aim is to preserve this unique part of Irish Heritage for people to enjoy through innovated sustainable tourism. We strive to protect and enhance the environment and wildlife within the estate wall while retaining the historical home of the Leslie family.

Our aim is that our guests find a refuge here from the outside world, a tranquil timeless atmosphere, wonderful staff, exceptional food and discernible charm. We hope that they leave here relaxed with a better understanding of the importance of the survival of historical buildings such as Castle Leslie.

For our staff we aim to provide a healthy, happy, working team environment without which the above cannot be achieved.

Sustainable Tourism

Sustainable Tourism is the concept of visiting a place as a tourist and trying to make only a positive impact on the environment, society and economy.

Castle Leslie Estate is a working example of Sustainable Tourism, through its measures to protect, restore and give back to its local community.

Sustainable Tourism Criteria for Destinations

- 🌿 To demonstrate sustainable destination management
- 🌿 To maximise social and economic benefits for the host community and minimise negative impacts
- 🌿 To maximise benefits to communities, visitors and cultural heritage and minimise negative impacts
- 🌿 To maximise benefits to the environment and minimise negative impacts

The steps we have taken this far in our journey towards creating a greater sustainable tourism product offering are:
Greener Measures

Cardboard / Plastic / Glass / Paper

RECYCLING MEASURES

- ☞ We encourage all of our suppliers to provide ingredients within re-usable containers, reducing the amount of waste generated in cardboard and plastic.
- ☞ We have introduced a policy within our **Guest Bedrooms** to reduce the number of **Single Use - Plastic/Card Board** guest items within our bathrooms. This policy has reduced 100% of the waste that was generated in this way, prior to the change. We estimate that this has reduced the waste of single item bathroom guest amenities by over 85,000 units per year, through the introduction of wall mounted pumps.
- ☞ We have introduced re-usable large water bottles within our guest bedrooms – we estimate that this measure has reduced our waste in **Glass Bottles by over 30,000 units per year.**
- ☞ We have introduced a Suite Pad (iPad Technology) within our guest bedrooms. This technology has reduced our **Paper Consumption** by over 1,200 boxes per year. (2,500 single paper pages per box)
- ☞ We have introduced via our **Suite Pad Technology** that guests can request to re-use their towels and not have their room re-serviced in order to reduce waste/energy consumption.
- ☞ We recycle over **19 Tonnes of Cardboard/Plastic Waste** annually.
- ☞ We recycle over **30 Tonnes of Glass** annually.

Greener Measures

Water / Sewerage / Energy

REDUCING OUR IMPACT

- 🌿 The Castle at Castle Leslie Estate implemented a **New Integrated Waste (Sewerage) Water System** in 2016. The Castle waste was previously connected to a septic tank and the waste was disposed of in a normal routine fashion. The Castle Waste System is now connected to the “**Wetlands Project**” and is treated in a 100% environmentally friendly way, where the waste water returns to the environment as clean water, without the use of chemicals or other elements.
 - 🌿 The Castle Sewerage System has reduced our impact by over **25,000 cubic metres** in the past 2 years.
- 🌿 The Estate is spread over 1000 acres of land and we have implemented measures throughout the estate to **directly reduce our water consumption**.
 - 🌿 We monitor our water meters daily throughout the estate.
 - 🌿 We have repaired and replaced infrastructure to reduce our water waste.
- 🌿 The Old Stable Mews is a 12 x 2-bedroom complex that sits within the tourist accommodation offering at Castle Leslie Estate. The **waste sewerage water** is treated via a “**Wetlands Project**”, thus reducing our impact on the environment.

Greener Measures

Water / Sewerage / Energy

REDUCING OUR IMPACT

- ♻️ The Lodge Bedrooms (29) are fitted with **energy saving lights and switches**. Once the card is removed from the **energy switch** – all electrical items turn off.
- ♻️ The Guest Bedroom Toilets in the Lodge are fitted with a “**Toilet Tank Bag**” which reduces the consumption of water by approx. 1ltr per flush. We estimate that on the basis of a toilet being used 4/5 times per day by a guest, that this measure has reduced our water consumption by over **80,000 litres**.
- ♻️ The Estate has a policy where we do not use **Bleach/Chemical** within our bathrooms to reduce the impact on the environment.
- ♻️ The Estate reduces its use of **chemical cleaners** by using hot water/damp cloths/dusters etc.
- ♻️ The Estate is a member of the “**Green Hospitality**” Program

Sustainable Tourist

Greener Measures for the Future...

Castle Leslie Estate has undertaken research and carried out surveys/quotations to introduce further measures to reduce our impact on the local environment.

Solar Panelling

We have received quotations to undertake the implementation of solar panels to contribute towards our energy needs in hot water/heating at The Lodge. The proposal intends to implement the panelling at the Equestrian Centre which consists of a large roof area. We aim to introduce this measure in 2019/20.

Plastic / Paper Reduction

We aim to further reduce our plastic/paper consumption by removing plastic drink straws/paper coasters and looking at other high volume single item consumables.

Forestry

The Estate Management undertakes an annual review of the forestry throughout the estate. We actively engage with a professional Tree Surgeon and advisors on how to best preserve old species of trees in order to prolong their life span and to continue to look at ways of regeneration of areas for wild life etc.

Greener Measures for the Future...

Carbon Neutral

The Estate Management has undertaken a trial study to determine the impact of the 1000 acres of woodland and parks. It is planned that we should have an outcome to this study in 2018.

Wild Life Preservation at Castle Leslie Estate

The Estate actively works to preserve the natural wild life domain and natural habitat at Castle Leslie Estate.

- ☞ **Our Lakes** operate on a “Catch & Release Policy” – birds nesting on the lake are given freedom and space to do so – left uninterrupted.
- ☞ **Our Fields** contain natural wild grasses/flowers/ weeds and areas where fallen trees or marsh lands exist have not been drained or tampered with to allow wild life to continue to thrive in these areas.
- ☞ **Deer/Foxes/Badgers** are protected within the Estate walls – we do not permit the hunting or shooting of these animals over the 1000 acres.
- ☞ **Equestrian Centre** re-uses the animal waste/ bedding to create composting and natural compost for our lands.
- ☞ **Walled Garden** – We created a “Farm Life Project” earlier this year to broaden our guests’ experience by introducing the production of our own eggs and honey which we supply across our dining offering on the Estate.

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Greener Measures for the Future...

Community / Social Engagement at Castle Leslie Estate

The Estate actively works to engage and support the local community.

- ✿ **Sponsorship** of the “Tidy Town’s Committee” and local Glaslough Development Association are two such examples.
- ✿ **Healthier Life Style** – we support the local Glaslough Running Club through sponsorship and have provided a green area for the local Vegetable Growers.
- ✿ **Village Brochure & Website** – Castle Leslie Estate provides information on Village activities and manages the Glaslough Village website.
- ✿ **Community Events** – are hosted at Castle Leslie Estate such as the:
 - ✿ Annual Lions Club
 - ✿ Glaslough Harriers Awards Night
 - ✿ Annual Christmas Eve Reception at the Castle for our local community
 - ✿ Heritage Week
 - ✿ Bike Trails – with new electric bikes
 - ✿ Supporting Local Businesses – For Example, Glaslough Chocolates
 - ✿ Wetlands Project
 - ✿ Heritage Walk
- ✿ **Leslie Foundation** (Registered Charity) was created to ensure that the Estate will continue to protect this natural historic environment.







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