

Killybegs, County Donegal, Ireland

Ireland's busiest fishing port punches well above its size — it's the launchpad for jaw-dropping Slieve League, the Wild Atlantic Way's wildest coastline, and some of the freshest seafood you'll eat on any cruise.

Pier (deep-water berth)

Typical call: 7-9 hrs

Currency: Euro (€)

Language: English (Irish Gaeltacht nearby)

Ireland's top fishing port

MY DAY IN PORT

Ship/Date: Arrive: All aboard:

Excursion: Notes:

GETTING ASHORE

Docking: Deep-water pier at Smooth Point — no tender

Best For: Slieve League cliffs, coastal drives, seafood

Walk to centre: ~1.5 km / 15-20 min flat walk (shuttle often provided)

Don't Miss: Fresh chowder at the harbour; Slieve League cliffs views

Getting around: Taxi €10–€15 · Rideshare Uber, Bolt

TOP THINGS TO DO

- Slieve League Cliffs** — At 601 m, these Atlantic sea cliffs are nearly three times the height of the Cliffs of Moher — and far less crowded.
- Slieve League Boat Trip** — View the towering cliffs from the water on a RIB or small boat out of nearby Teelin Pier.
- Donegal Town & Castle** — The county town is about 27 km east and packs a full cultural day: Donegal Castle (15th-century O'Donnell stronghold), the ruins of Donegal Friary...
- Killybegs Carpet & Maritime Centre** — Killybegs was home to Donegal Carpets, whose hand-knotted work graced the White House, Buckingham Palace, and the Vatican.
- Harbour Seafood & Local Food Trail** — Killybegs lands some of Ireland's best fish — mackerel, cod, haddock, and shellfish.

BEST WALKS

- Killybegs Heritage Harbour Walk** 3.5 km | 45-60 min | Easy | Self-guided — Follow the bronze pavement plaques around the inner harbour past the fish-processing quays, St.
- Fintra Bay Walk** 3 km from town | Easy coastal path | Blue Flag beach — Head west along the coast road from town to reach Fintra Beach (also spelled Fintragh), a sheltered Blue Flag strand backed by dunes.

WEATHER · DAYLIGHT · MONEY

CLIMATE (AVG °F · RAINY DAYS)

	Mon	High	Low	Rain
Apr		53°	42°	16d
Jun		62°	52°	18d
Aug		63°	54°	22d
Sep		60°	52°	19d
Oct		55°	48°	20d

DAYLIGHT & MONEY

Apr 6:31AM–8:37PM · Jun 4:57AM–10:11PM · Aug 6:10AM–9:04PM · Sep 7:07AM–7:49PM · Oct 8:03AM–6:34PM

Currency: Euro (€)

KNOW BEFORE YOU GO

- Dress in layers. Donegal weather is famously changeable — four seasons in one hour is no exaggeration. A windproof, waterproof jacket is essential, especially on Slieve League.
- Book taxis immediately on arrival. Killybegs has limited taxis. If you want to get to Slieve League or beaches independently, arrange transport at the pier welcome desk the moment you step off the gangway.
- Eat the seafood. Killybegs is Ireland's top fishing port — the fish is as fresh as it gets. The Seafood Shack on the pier and Anderson's Boathouse are both excellent.
- Cards accepted almost everywhere, but bring a little Euro cash for the Seafood Shack food truck and small local shops in the town.
- Donegal tweed and Aran knitwear are the shopping highlights — authentic and made locally. Find them in Killybegs shops or in Donegal Town if you head that way.
- Killybegs is small — plan to go out. The town itself is a nice hour's wander, but the real draws (Slieve League, Wild Atlantic Way, Donegal Town) require a half- or full-day excursion by coach or taxi.

Killybegs, County Donegal, Ireland — Port Map

cruiseports.org

Red = walkable sights · Amber = excursions farther out · P = cruise terminal. Numbers match the order you'd typically visit.



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| 1 St John's Point Lighthouse | An 1832 lighthouse on a narrow peninsula near a beautiful sandy beach south of Killybegs. | 2 Trá Bán Beach | A pristine white sand beach perfect for relaxation. |
| 3 Muckross Head | A dramatic sandstone headland on the Wild Atlantic Way, known for its layered rock formations and coastal views. | 4 Killybegs Maritime & Heritage Centre | A museum in the town's harbour district tracing Killybegs's history as Ireland's largest fishing port, with a giant hand-tufted carpet display. |
| P Cruise port / terminal | | | |