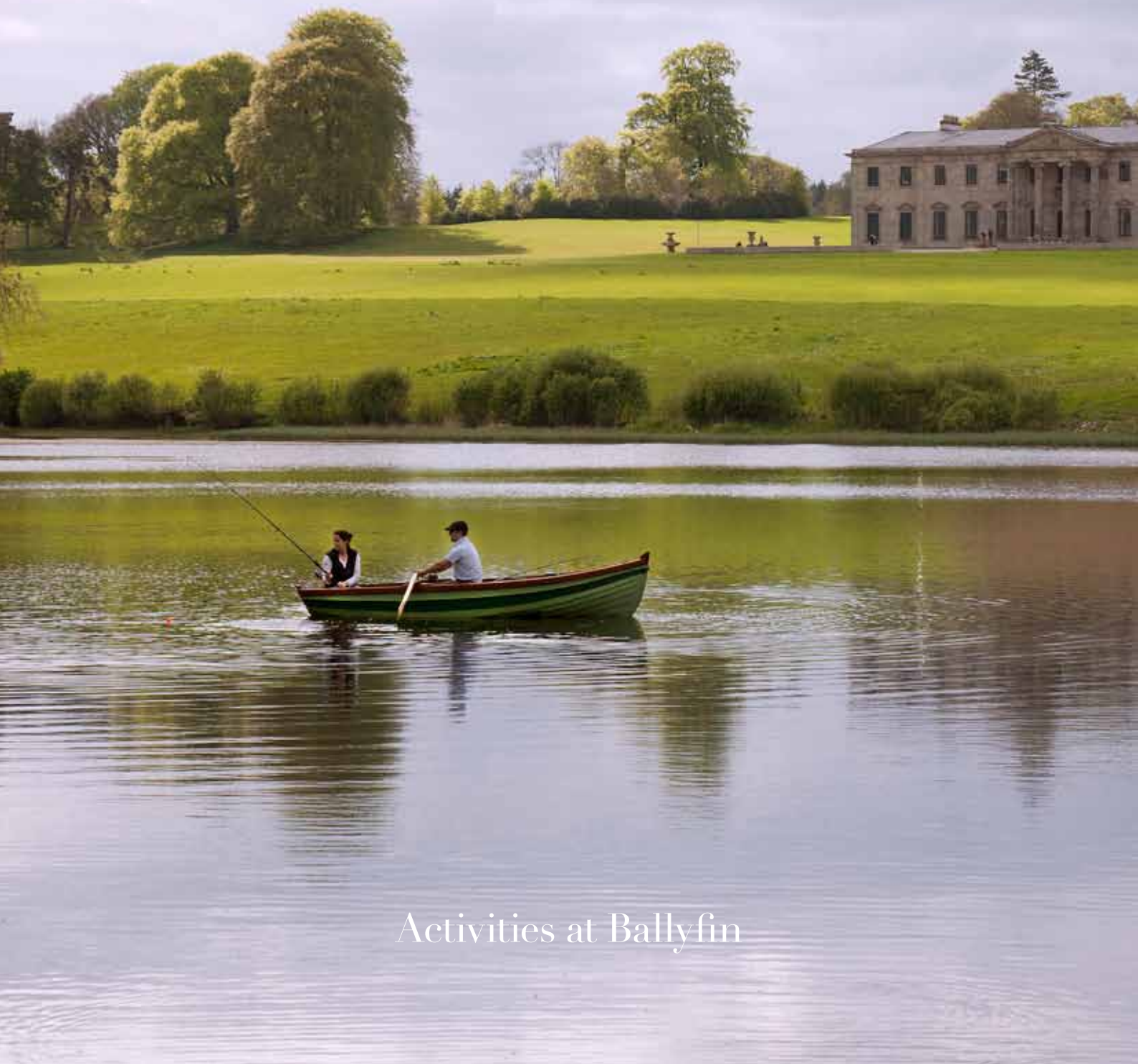




BALLYFIN



Activities at Ballyfin

When you come to Ballyfin we want you to feel at home, to enjoy the surroundings and amenities while we manage the details. Our setting is relaxed, do as much or as little as you'd like

Personalising your Travel experience

We would be delighted to arrange transportation of your choice in advance of your arrival at Ballyfin.

- Helicopter
- Chauffer driven car
- Luxury Mini Coach
- Self drive

Guided Tour

During your stay at Ballyfin we can arrange a tour in a vintage car, a helicopter tour, walking tours of the Slieve Bloom mountains, historical tours, personalised shopping trips and lots more... (pre-booking essential).



Ballyfin House Activities

- 80ft Library – collection of rare books
- Wine Tasting (sommelier table in wine cellar)
- Whiskey Tasting
- Cookery demonstrations **
- Treatments **
- Swimming
- History tour of the house and demesne
- Personal Trainer **
- Traditional & Classical Music
- Irish Folklore Story Telling

** Pre-booking essential



It is very easy to get totally away from everything as you explore the estate and in just a short distance from the house you can truly feel “lost in nature”

Demesne Activities

Tennis
Croquet
Lawnbowls
Sports Field – Hurling, Gaelic football, Soccer, Rugby, American football, Badminton (equipment provided)
Biking
Boating on the lake
Canoeing on the lake
Coarse Fishing on the lake for Pike & Roach
Walking in the Demesne
Golf Buggy's to explore the Demesne
Guided Garden Tours
Grottoes and Follies to find and explore
Ballyfin Picnic Experience
Ballyfin Tower with Telescope

Other onsite Activities

(pre-booking essential and charge applies)

Archery
Clay Pigeon Shooting
Horse Riding
Horse Lessons
Pony & Trap
Falconry (2 weeks pre-booking notice required)



Boating on the lake

Enjoy a leisurely boat trip on the 28 acre lake or why not let our Butler take you out while you relax and enjoy the scenery. Arrange a Ballyfin picnic and this will be ready for you at a beautiful private location close to the lake.

Coarse fishing on the lake

A morning or afternoon of fishing on the lake for Pike and Roach. If you are lucky enough to get the catch of the day then our Chef will gladly prepare your catch for dinner. We can arrange a ghilly and lessons if required.

Ballyfin Picnic Experience

Arrange a Ballyfin picnic in a place of your choice on the demesne. You are spoilt for choice with some excellent locations to choose from, the grotto, temple, by the water cascade, top of the tower, by the lake.

Horse Riding

With 600 acres to explore, horse riding around the demesne is a wonderful experience. Our experienced riders will guide you around the demesne trekking by the tower and lake and deep into the demesne. Horse riding lessons in the paddock can also be arranged with our experienced riders.

Pony & Trap

Step back in time and take a guided tour on a Pony & trap which awaits you at the front door. The tour will take you around the pathways of the demesne with your guide highlighting the history of the demesne.

Clay Pigeon Shooting

Clay Pigeon shooting is a thrilling experience. Whether you are a beginner or expert you will enjoy this sport. Perfect your aim, time your shots and let the competitive streak in you shine.

Falconry

Experience the beauty and elegance of these majestic birds of prey, get close and be captivated by eagles, hawks, falcons, and owls.



There is no better way to make a trip more memorable, entertaining, educational and fun, than enjoying a guided tour.

Excursions

Slieve Bloom Mountains (drive & walking hikes) (10km/6 miles)

The Slieve Bloom Mountains, a hidden landscape located at the crossroads of Ireland. Walking trails from every village Eco walks, Looped Walks, Long distance Walks-Slieve Bloom Way/Offaly Way, Guided Wilderness Walks, Self guided walks, maps available or join a guided walk any Sunday with experienced local guides. The Slieve Blooms is suitable for all levels of walker. Guide and transportation can be arranged.

Irish Georgian Tours

The Irish Georgian Society is Ireland's Architectural Heritage Society. The Society aims to encourage an interest in and to promote the conservation of distinguished examples of architecture and the allied arts of all periods in Irish Georgian Tours. We work with exceptional guides who will personalise an itinerary for you.

Kilkenny – Ireland's finest medieval city (57km/35 miles)

The past echoes in every footstep as you walk through the medieval city of Kilkenny. Explore its ancient laneways and wonder at the majestic halls of Kilkenny Castle or experience the glory of thirteenth century St Canice's Cathedral. Once you have finished sightseeing, browse the famous craft gallery opposite Kilkenny Castle or enjoy lunch in one of Kilkenny's many fine restaurants and bars.

Birr Castle Demesne – A glorious centre of science and horticulture (52km/32 miles)

The gardens at Birr are set in a landscape of 50 hectares and contain some of the largest and rarest tree species found in Ireland. The gardens have a rich history attached to them. They were originally landscaped around the lake in the eighteenth century by Sir William Parsons and over the generations of the Parsons family the demesne has increased in beauty and interest. The demesne is also home to Ireland's historic Science centre, where visitors may travel back in time to when Birr Castle was a hub of scientific discovery and innovation.

Emo Court – eighteenth century mansion and landscaped gardens (19km/12 miles)

Emo Court was designed by the architect James Gandon in 1790 for the Earls of Portarlington and is a magnificent example of the neoclassical style. During the middle of the century it was owned by the Jesuits, it was then acquired and extensively restored by Mr Cholmeley-Harrison in the 1960's. The house is surrounded by beautiful gardens and parkland which were first laid out in the eighteenth century and contain formal lawns, a lake and woodland walks with many fine trees and shrubs. The house and gardens were taken into State ownership in 1994.

Dublin – The Irish Capital (90km/58 miles)

The Irish Capital offers a wonderful selection of activities. Whether it is visiting the Georgian centre, Dublin Castle, galleries and museums or the Guinness Storehouse and the old Jameson Distillery.

Kildare Village & Newbridge Silverware Centre (45km/28 miles)

Kildare Village is one of the Collection of nine Chic Outlet Shopping Villages, Home to boutiques of the world's leading fashion and lifestyle brands. Kildare Village offers luxury outlet shopping experience and has become synonymous with luxury brands, in a charming open-air 'village' setting.

Newbridge Silverware is a major name in design for jewellery, accessories, gifts, kitchenware and interiors. Newbridge Silverware Visitor centre is currently one of Ireland's premier attractions with an award winning restaurant, extensive showrooms and its constantly updated and internationally acclaimed Museum of Style Icons which has hosted international collections of artefacts from well renowned artists such as Michael Jackson, Bob Hope, Audrey Hepburn and Marilyn Monroe.

National Stud & Japanese Gardens (45km/28 miles)

Nowhere better symbolizes all that is great about County Kildare, the beating heart of Ireland's thoroughbred industry, than the stud, a unique attraction of outstanding natural beauty that is home to some of the most magnificent horses and sumptuous gardens to be found anywhere in the world. From horses to horticulture, the Irish National Stud & gardens offers you a unique experience.

And numerous more on request!!!

Championship golf is nearby with some of the finest golf courses in Ireland within driving distance of Ballyfin.

Golf

The K Club (80km/50 miles)

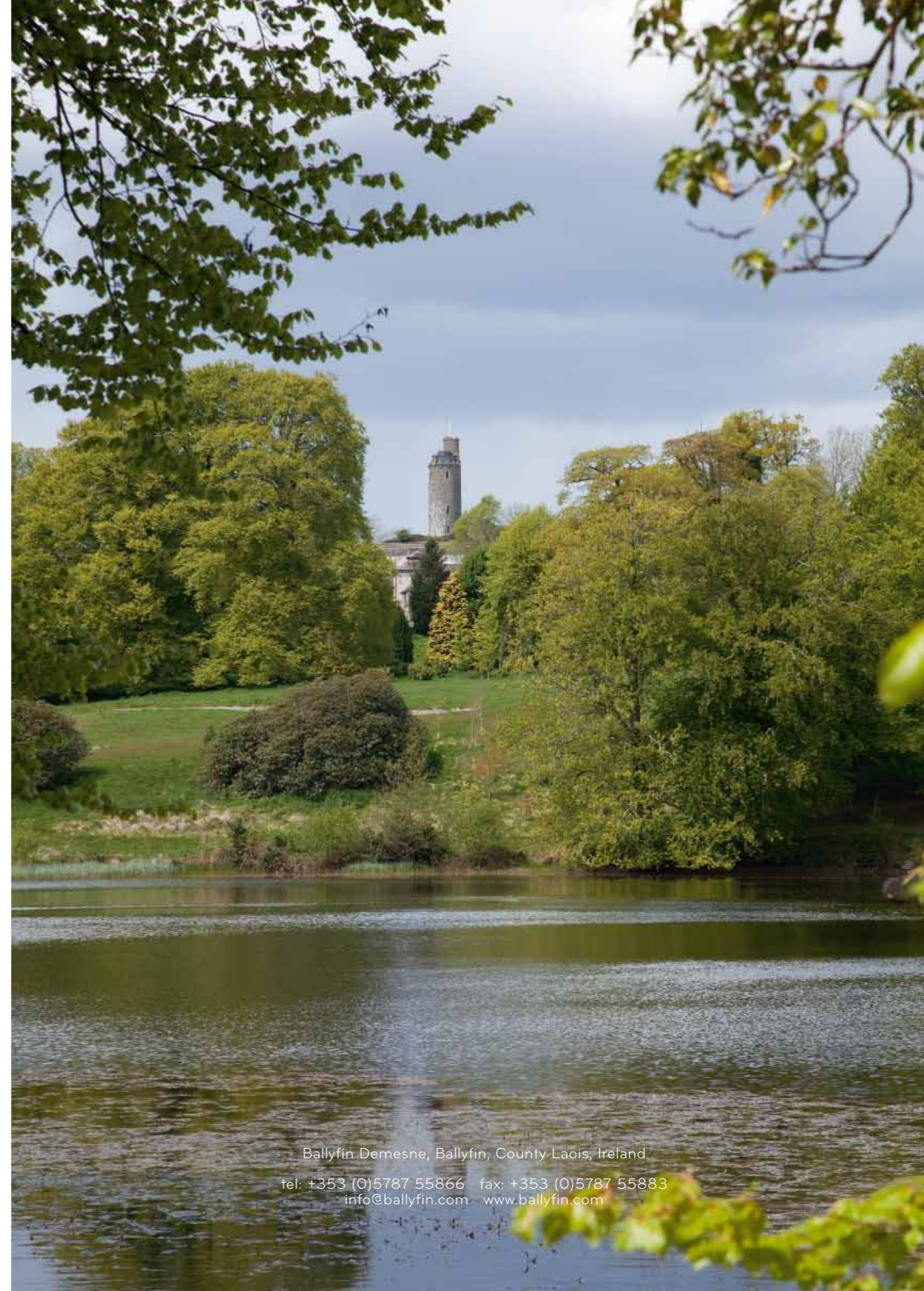
Designed by Arnold Palmer, The Palmer Ryder Cup Course is ranked regularly in the top 3 parkland golf courses in Ireland. This Palmer designed golf haven is a must-play 'badge of honour' that has hosted the top golf players in the world. The Ryder Cup in 2006 and 11 European Opens testify to the importance of The Palmer Ryder Cup Course to European Golf.

Mount Juliet (75km/45 miles)

The beautiful and challenging Mount Juliet golf course has established itself as a premier golfing venue for professionals and leisure golfers worldwide. Chosen as the first and only Jack Nicklaus signature golf course in Ireland. The par 72, 7300 yard layout boasts rolling fairways, many featuring water hazards and contoured greens, all superbly blended into the spectacular setting of this famous old Irish Estate.

The Heritage (30km/18 miles)

A 72 par Championship golf course designed by Seve Ballesteros and Jeff Howes is located nearby in County Laois, with the Slieve Bloom Mountains as a backdrop. Five lakes and a stream meander through the course and bring water into play on 10 holes. 98 beautifully shaped bunkers and 7,000 trees adorn the landscape, which is very gently undulating without any climbing involved.



Ballyfin Demesne, Ballyfin, County Laois, Ireland

tel: +353 (0)5787 55866 fax: +353 (0)5787 55883
info@ballyfin.com www.ballyfin.com