



WITHIN
THE
VILLAGE



Newsletter – Spring 2024

WITHIN THE VILLAGE



Hi all,

Welcome to the Spring edition of the Within the Village newsletter. It is great to see nature waking up and the evenings getting longer and brighter. Our aim is to produce a Spring, Summer and Autumn/Winter newsletter each year to reflect on the seasons gone by and to look to all the exciting things happening in the seasons to come. Opening in September allowed us the 6 months over the Winter to have a 'soft opening' and test our product. We have had some very interesting 'sleep testers' stay in the form of industry partners, hospitality providers, travel specialists, media, journalists, family and friends who have kindly shared valuable feedback with us. Like with any new renovation project and new business, we have made tweaks to our offering to make sure that we offer the best level of welcome and service to our guests in 2024 and beyond.



As they say, we remain a work in progress! We have also had some fun local events take place including the lovely meeting of neighbours in September on Culture night. Photography workshop run by local Clíodhna Prendergast and her wonderful team in the Autumn. In fact, it was such a success that they ran a second one in early March and are already planning their Autumn/Winter one. Further details will be available in the Summer newsletter. Roundstone Development Community Council along with villagers have too been busy with the launch of the '200 years of Roundstone' Bicentenary celebrations. It should be an exciting and busy year of visitors, tourists and events. Details of what will be happening are available on www.connemara.ie and @roundstone200.



So a lot to look forward to for 2024!

Maria, Lorna & Keith



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Community Events

Open House Culture Night - Roundstone – September 6th, 2023

Within the Village hosted an open house for locals to pop in for a chat and a tour and to toast the new business in the town. It also coincided with the annual Plein Air Painting Festival which took place down at the pier in the afternoon, followed by Roundstone Conversations at 7pm at St. Mary’s Church of Ireland. It was a great stop off between the two events and an opportunity for all the community to meet up.

Everyone was invited to drop into us en route between the two events to meet the new neighbours!



Tour de Bog - Roundstone – August 8th, 2023

Within the Village were delighted to be asked to sponsor the annual Tour De Bog this year before it opened its doors to the public in September. It was a way of saying ‘thanks’ to the locals who endured the inconvenience of the construction work to the village for the previous two years. And a gesture of good will in advance of the Culture Night event it hosted the following month.

The 2023 race was the 30th anniversary of the event with a mix of 320 locals and visitors taking part in the fun day. And thankfully the weather was very kind!

This year’s T-Shirts, green with the ‘Within the Village’ logo were completely sold out in advance of the event. The money left over from the sale of these T-Shirts supports local projects in Roundstone.

Our thanks to all the volunteers that made it such a successful day.

And our thanks to the Tour de Bog committee who put in months of hard work throughout the year preparing for and hosting the event.

Preparations are underway already for the 2024 race!





Sleep Testers Travel Specialists and Industry Feedback

Is this even a real job? According to research, 'Hotel sleep testers' are responsible for evaluating the quality of sleep in various hotel rooms. Their feedback helps hotels identify areas of improvement and make necessary adjustments to ensure their guests have the best possible sleep experience. It's a job that requires attention to detail, a love for sleep, and a strong ability to provide constructive feedback'.

Whilst Within the Village is 'not a hotel', we are a boutique self-catering accommodation and aim to provide all our guests with the same level of quality, in-suite products and customer service to match 5-star standards. We offer a luxury-self-catering experience through great staff offering the hospitality and welcome of any small Irish hospitality business.

We were lucky to have a number of industry professionals come stay with us over the past 6 months to 'test' our beds, along with all the rest of the Within the Village experience. They provided us with honest and constructive feedback which allowed us to tweak and improve our offering to date. They came from the world of hospitality and tourism ranging from 5-star hotels, award winning restaurants, designers, hospitality educators, Failte Ireland, national and international niche travel specialists/tour operators and well-travelled friends

And of course some wonderful guests. For further reviews, check out what the rest of our guests had to say about staying Within the Village

A real human interaction, real village life, all the while having your own luxury space that feels integrated into the place for you to sleep each night.

Tyler D

Nov 2023 Trip Advisor

The place was fab, the attention to detail was amazing, the art, the bed linen and decor was so beautiful!

Orla S

Jan 2024 Trip Advisor

The warmth, luxury and sense of respite offered by WTV offset any winter blues. From start to finish it was an absolute delight.

Doreen K

Jan 2024 Trip Advisor

The Tweed Project



@ardbia

@thetweedproject

“ Staying ‘within the village’ made Connemara feel different for me... the history and vernacular of the building is felt with a super contemporary respectful re - do which honours the unique location with feeling and taste. It made me experience Roundstone afresh... from an early walk to the pier where the fishermen just came in off the sea to the walk from the village to dogs bay by the coast and then breakfast with views of the bay by the fire back in the space... it was magical and in the winter too which made it sweeter still “

Aoibheann MacNamara – Ard Bia / Tweed Project



@WildernessIreland

‘I had the pleasure to tour and stay at Within the Village on an end of year trip to Roundstone, meeting some agent partners and laying eyes on some favoured hotels and restaurants.

A late November trip to Connemara provided me the opportunity to visit Roundstones newest bespoke accommodation Within the Village. Nestled in the heart of tranquility, this charming retreat is a testament to the perfect blend of modern comfort and rustic charm. Surrounded by sea views and colourful shop fronts, Within the Village seamlessly blends into the picturesque country village but behind the unassuming exterior lies tasteful decor reflecting the essence of the region’s rich heritage. The attention to preserving the authenticity of the surroundings while offering modern amenities was apparent and all suites contain everything a family or group would need for a home away from home stay.

I look forward to offering Within the Village to clients who are keen on experiencing an authentic village life stay, without compromising on their accommodation needs’

Louise Kavanagh, Wilderness



@bogandthunder

When we walked in the door at Within The Village our son said, “It feels like home.” And that’s exactly how we felt our whole time staying in the Bog Cotton suite. The self catering apartments are both beautifully designed and elegantly curated, making you feel both pampered and at home. After spending a day exploring Connemara, it feels wonderful to return to such a warm and inviting space. It’s so much more personal than staying at a hotel, and we can’t wait to come back!

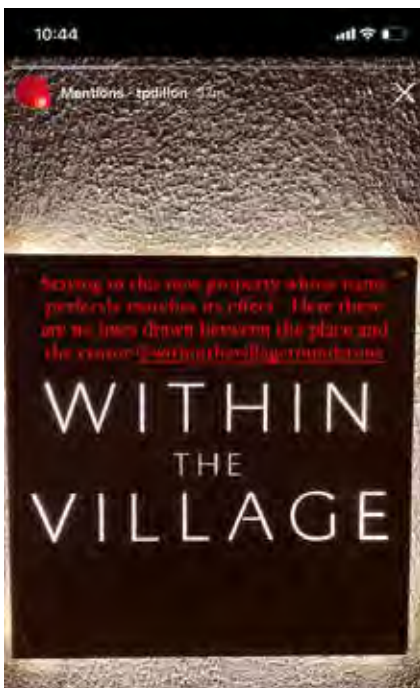
Kate McCabe

Regional Industry Stakeholder Engagement



November 2023

International travel specialists, Tyler Dillon @tpdillon of Truffle Pig Travel, Canada and Kate McCabe @bogandthunder of Bog & Thunder Travel Company, USA who were overstaying at Within the Village in November visited the Galway International Hotel School at the Atlantic Technological University in Galway (GMIT) at the end of their trip. There they joined Irish Wellness travel expert Kate O'Brien @kateobrienwellness in delivering a joint lecture on all things travel, wellness, food, Ireland and sustainability to students studying Tourism, Hospitality and Event Management at the college. They were well received and very impressed with the wonderful tourism, event, hospitality and culinary programmes of study available in the region. www.atugalway.com



January 2024

Sustainable Travel Ireland Conference

Members of the Within the Village team attended the annual sustainable tourism conference in the Ardilaun Hotel in Galway on January 25th, 2024. The theme of this year's conference was Climate Action, Community & Collaboration and was packed with insights from both international and Irish leaders in their fields. It provided practical advice as well as inspiration from business owners who have transformed their operations and taken the lead in responsible, sustainable and regenerative tourism.

www.sustainabletourismnetwork.ie



February 2024

Failte Ireland visits

Petrina Hayes, one of Failte Ireland's Quality Assurance Advisors visited in February and following an inspection of the property awarded Within the Village the 'Welcome Standard' classification. The Welcome Standard allows properties to differentiate themselves according to the range of services and facilities that they provide and reward the guest experience provided by accommodation businesses that are going the extra mile and effort in offering quality service.

These are awarded to businesses that are warm, friendly, hospitable, and efficient and provide the welcome that is expected by visitors to Ireland. Failte Ireland - Welcome Standard | Quality Assurance

Letitia Wade, Programme Officer for the Wild Atlantic Way Galway also visited in February and provided great help and advice on all the supports available from Failte Ireland to small businesses in the region and nationally along with a range of visitor information including maps of the region, etc. www.failteireland.ie



March 2024

Members of the Within the Village team attended an informal pre-tourism 2024 season networking event in Wildlands, Moycullen on March 7th, 2024 organised by Connemara & the Islands networking group . This event enabled business owners to introduce their business and its locations to all the other providers in the region and to listen to very interesting guest speakers and their stories and advice for all to learn from. This provided an excellent opportunity for collaboration across a wide range of sectors within the tourism industry in Connemara and the Islands into the future.

Media Visits & PR

A number of journalists and media people came to stay at Within the Village over the winter months and experience true Connemara in the off-peak time of the year. This resulted in some very positive press for Within the Village and the greater Connemara region. Hopefully this will continue into the future and keep destination Roundstone, Connemara and Within the Village on the map!



Sunday Times Oct. 2023



Sunday Independent Oct. 23



Image Interiors Oct. 23



The Gloss, January 2024



Saturday Independent Feb 24



Saturday Times Feb 24



The Examiner Feb 24



Image on-line Feb 24



Galway Now March 24

ROUNDSTONE Events Calendar

Feb 17	Valentines Quiz Night	Shamrock Bar	7pm
Mar 2	Bingo Night	Shamrock Bar	7pm
Mar 9	Pool Tournament	Shamrock Bar	7pm
Mar 17	Roundstone Annual Parade		2.30pm
Mar 24	Card Drive 9x9	King's, O'Dowds & The Shamrock	7pm
Mar 30	Launch of Print with Rosie McGurran	Community Hall	5.30pm
Mar 31	Dawn Mass	Gurteen Graveyard	6am
April 1	Easter Egg Hunt under 12's only	Errisbeg House	2.30
May 11	Roundstone Parish Darkness into Light		5.30am
May 11 & 24	Heritage Walks with Michael Halliday		2pm
May 18-25	Biodiversity Week		
May 24	Forna & Bog Project with Ecologist Marie Louise Heffernan		
May 31	Confirmation with archbishop Francis Duffy	Star of the Sea Church	12pm
June 1 & 15	Heritage Week Walk with Michael Halliday		2pm
June	Archaeology Talk and Walk with Michael Gibbons		
July & Aug	Roundstone Irish Nights Every Thursday	Community Hall	8.30-10pm
July 4, 11, 18 & 25	Heritage Village Walk with Michael Halliday		2pm
July 14	Roundstone Pony Show	Farrel's Field	10am
July 20 & 21	Roundstone Regatta		
July 21	Archbishops Mass & Blessing on the pier		12pm
July	Floating Memorial Wreaths for lost souls		
July & Aug	Alexander Nimmo Rendition 2 performances	Community Hall	
July 1 Aug 7 & 14	Historic Lectures The Search for Franklin - Kevin Cronin / Roundstone History / Life of Kate O'Brien		
Aug 1, 22 & 29	Heritage Village Walk with Michael Halliday		2pm
Aug 3-17	Rosie McGurran's Art Exhibition	Community Hall	
Aug 5	All Ireland Dog Show	Farrell's Field	1pm
Aug 6	Roundstone Tour de Bog Family Cycle Tour	Church Car Park	2.30pm
Aug 8	Roundstoneforfun.ie Dinner and Dancing	Community Hall	8pm
Aug 17 - 24	Heritage Week with Marie Mannion		
Sept 22	Culture Night		
Oct 26-27	Windsurfing Festival	Gurteen Beach	9.20am
Dec 26	St Stephen's Night Table Quiz	Shamrock Bar	7pm
Dec 31	New Year's Eve Party Community Gathering	Community Hall	8pm



REVISED SPRING & SUMMER RATES

Our **Within the Village** stays from March 2024 are typically based on 3,4 and 7 night stays. 2-night minimum stays are sometimes available subject to demand. As the season gets busier it is on a 3-, 4- and 7-night stay basis with check in on Mondays and Fridays. As this is our first year of business, flexibility may apply so please email info@withinthevillage.ie if you are confused by the booking system.

March 1 st 2024 to April 30 th 2024		
Suite	No. of Rooms	Nightly Rate
Bracken	1 - sleeps 2 *	€300
Bog Cotton	2 - sleeps 5**	€400
Lichen	3 - sleeps 7**	€600
Kelp	3 - sleeps 6	€600
Sea	3 - sleeps 7**	€600
* sofa bedding €50 extra charge per night ** 1 Bunk Room		
Check in Monday and Friday		

May 1 st 2024 to June 16 th 2024		
Suite	No. of Rooms	Nightly Rate
Bracken	1 - sleeps 2 *	€350
Bog Cotton	2 - sleeps 5**	€450
Lichen	3 - sleeps 7**	€650
Kelp	3 - sleeps 6	€650
Sea	3 - sleeps 7**	€650
* sofa bedding €50 extra charge per night ** 1 Bunk Room		
Check in Monday and Friday		

7 night minimum stay June 28 th - August 23 rd June 17 th 2024 to September 27 th 2024		
Suite	No. of Rooms	Nightly Rate
Bracken	1 - sleeps 2*	€425
Bog Cotton	2 - sleeps 5**	€500
Lichen	3 - sleeps 7**	€700
Kelp	3 - sleeps 6	€700
Sea	3 - sleeps 7**	€700
* sofa bedding €50 extra charge per night ** 1 Bunk Room		
Check in Monday and Friday		

7 night minimum stay from June 17th to August 23rd in the 3 bedroom Townhouses (Lichen, Kelp and Sea) – Friday - Friday

3, 4 and 7 night minimum stay in Bracken and Bog Cotton Townhouse.
Check in on Monday and Friday

Rates for Autumn 2024 and 2025 will not be available until September 2024 after we have completed our first year of opening.

We will give first priority to returning guests for the 2025 season so if you know the dates you wish to book for the following season, please let us know on check out or email us at info@withinthevillage.ie

Please subscribe to our newsletter for more information

EXCLUSIVE HIRE RATES

For Events, Retreats and Groups please email info@withinthevillage.ie and one of our team will call you to discuss your requirements.

An exclusive hire fee is required based on a minimum 3-night minimum stay basis.