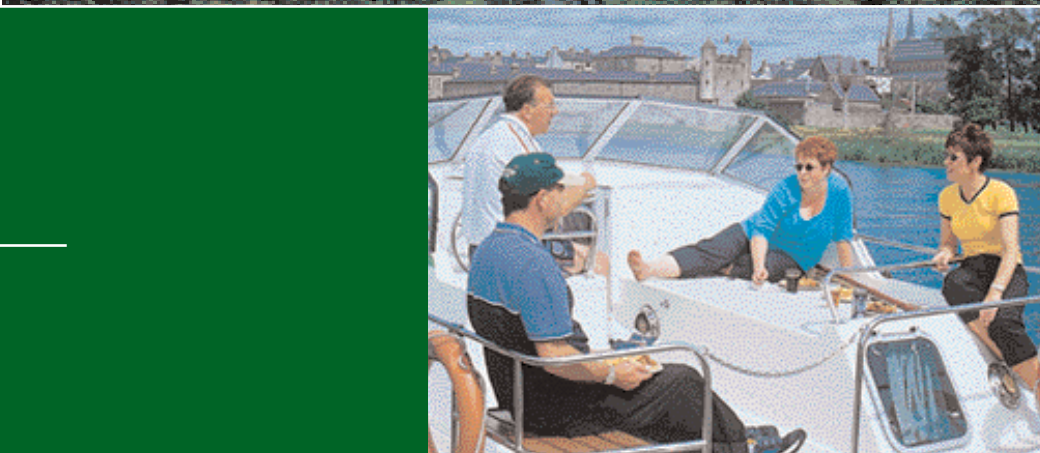


IRELAND -

# Portumna PEACEFUL WATERS AND DRAMATIC SCENERY



Cruise the southern section of the Shannon, a region holding some of Ireland's most cherished ancient treasures from castles to cathedrals and country parks.

The Portumna base is located at the northern tip of Lough Derg, a vast lake almost 40 kilometres long nestled in the midst of grassy hills and lush green landscapes. Portumna National Park on the northern shore has its own harbour and a secluded nature trail. This is the place to go to experience peaceful waters and beautiful dramatic scenery. The recently restored Portumna Castle, dating from 1618, lies just outside the town and is one of the finest 17th century manor houses in Ireland.

Lough Derg is famous for its idyllic towns and villages, each with unique attractions, that fringe its shores and its many small harbours with plenty of moorings. Terryglass is a charming village and

winner of numerous tidy towns awards, as well as the site of a 6th century monastic settlement. The small, friendly harbour is very popular with local boaters.

North of Portumna, the lower Shannon lazily winds through undulating countryside that is steeped in history as well as real Irish character. The river slowly winds past Shannonbridge and then Clonmacnois, the ancient Christian capital of Ireland where you will find eight churches, a cathedral, two round towers and more than 200 carved headstones dating from the 6th to the 12th centuries.



## One week cruises

### Lough Derg cruise

Return trip – Portumna to Killaloe  
112km/ no locks

### Lower Shannon and Lough Ree cruise

Return trip – Portumna to Roosky  
290km/4 locks/1 lifting bridge

## One way cruise

### Carrick on Shannon cruise

One way trip – Portumna to Carrick-on-Shannon  
160km/5 locks/2 lifting bridges



## Not to be missed...

Cruise the delightful stopovers on the shores of Lough Derg. **Garrykennedy** dates back to the Norman era, and the ruins of the castle on the lake remain the centrepiece of the village.

Some of the lough's many harbour villages have unique attractions. In **Terryglass**, the local dramatic society gives pub performances; at **Dromineer**, home of the Lough Derg Yacht Club, there are frequent colourful regattas and at **Mountshannon** the August fair day attracts visitors from miles around.

Cruise to Lough Ree, a vast inland sea that boasts inspiring scenery, diverse wildlife and excellent fishing facilities. Further on at **Roosky**, negotiate the 240 year old canal, going through one of the Shannon's oldest surviving locks.