

**Site 1** **Iontaisí Siolúracha ag Cuan an Chaoil**  
**Silurian Fossils of Cuan an Chaoil**

Ag Cuan an Chaoil tá sioltachlocha idir corcra agus donnbnán ón dTréimhse Shiolúrach go bhfuil iontaisí caomhnaithe iontu, coiréil, tríliopaigh agus bracapóid san áireamh. Mhair na hainmhithe seo i muir éadomhain gair dos na hoileáin bolcánacha a bhí in aice Chinn Sraithe tráth dá raibh.



Radharc ó Cheann Sratha ar charraigeacha Siolúracha i gceantar an Fheirtéaraigh.

View from Ceann Sratha of the Silurian rocks of the Baile an Fheirtéaraigh area.

**Site 2** **Bolcáin ag Ceann Sraithe**  
**Volcanoes at Ceann Sratha**

Le linn Thréimhse an Siolúraigh bhí Éire roinnte ina dá chuid ag an Aigeán laipéitís. De réir mar a dhún sé seo de bharr teicteonaice phlátaí, cruthaíodh sraith oileán bolcánach in iarthair na hÉireann. Ar leithinis Chorca Dhuibhne chruthaigh na bolcáin seo luathreach, laibhe riallíteach agus sil-leagan píreaclastach atá anois áirithe le dróidair imtheacaí iontaise i gcomharsanacht Dhún Chaoin.



Riallít, carraig bholcánach mheathbhán le sreabh-bhandáil éagsúil cruthaithe nuair do shreabh laibhe le fána ó lár an bholcáin.

Rhyolite, a pale-coloured volcanic rock with distinctive flow-banding produced as lava flowed downslope from the volcanic centre.

During the Silurian period Ireland was divided into two portions separated by the Iapetus Ocean. As this closed on account of plate tectonics, a series of volcanic islands developed in western Ireland. On the Dingle Peninsula these volcanoes produced ash, rhyolitic lavas and pyroclastic deposits which are now found associated with fossil-bearing sediments in the Dún Chaoin district.

**Site 3** **Carraigeacha ag Ceann Sléibhe agus na Blascaoidí**  
**Ceann Sléibhe and Blascaodaí Rocks**

Tá cuid mhaith d'iarthair Leithinis Corca Dhuibhne comhdhéanta as dróidair domhanda mar chomhcheirtleán agus gaineamhchloch garbhghrínneach as atá Grúpa an Daingin déanta. Bhíodar siúd fágtha in abhainnchórais le linn tréimhsí an Siolúraigh agus an Deavónaigh. Tá bearna éagsúil eadarthu agus is fearr atá an Sean-Ghaineamhchloch Rua le feiscint ag Ceann an Daimh. Cé go bhfuil Inis Mhic Uileáin comhdhéanta as carraigeacha bolcánacha níos sinne tá na Blascaodaí eile comhdhéanta as carraigeacha i nGrúpa an Daingin.



Radharc ar an nDún Mór agus ar an mBlascaod Mór ó Cheann Sléibhe.

View of Dún Mór and An Blascaod Mór from Ceann Sléibhe.

Much of the western end of the Dingle Peninsula is composed of terrestrial sediments such as conglomerate and fine to coarse-grained sandstone that make up the Dingle Group. These were deposited in river systems during the late Silurian and early Devonian. There is a distinctive gap between them and the overlying Old Red Sandstone best seen at Ceann an Daimh. While Inis Mhic Uileáin is made of older volcanic rocks the remaining Blascaodaí are composed of Dingle Group rocks.

**Site 4** **An tOighearais ar Leithinis Chorca Dhuibhne**  
**The Ice Age on the Dingle Peninsula**

Sraith choirí agus lochanna ar thaobh thoir-thuaidh Chnoc Bhréanainn. Tugtar 'lochanna paternoster' ar na lochanna slabhracha. Chuir oighear ós na coirí leis an oighearshruth thíos a ghluais aneas ó thuaidh.



Series of corries and lakes on the north-east side of Cnoc Bhréanainn. The string of lakes are known as 'paternoster lakes'. Ice from the corries fed the valley glacier below that flowed from south to north.

**Site 5** **Aois an Oighir ag Loch an Pheidléara**  
**The Ice Age at Pedler's Lake**

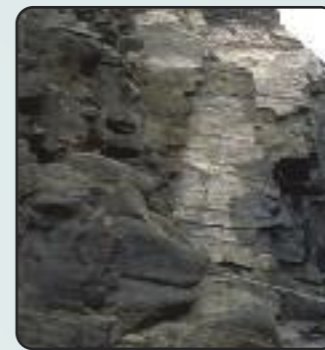
Loch an Pheidléara i gcom a bhí tráth dá raibh lán d'oighear, a chothaigh i sruth oighir na hAbhann Móire.



Pedler's Lake is a glacial corrie that was once full of ice that fed the Owenmore Valley glacier.

**Site 6** **Fásach Ársa ag Bá Chill Mhuire**  
**Ancient Deserts at Cill Mhuire Bay**

Is mór an díol suime é Bá Chill Mhuire ar dhá chúis. Tá duimhche atá 380 milliún bliain d'aois le feiscint anseo agus iad caomhnaithe ina gclocha sna failtreacha. Ina theannta sin, tá ceann de na cladaigh stoirme is fearr i nÉirinn anseo.



Duimhche caomhnaithe ina gclocha, de Chloch Ghainimhe Chill Mhuire (tréimhse an Deavónaigh), a léiríonn tras-srathú.

Fossil sand dunes of the Cill Mhuire Sandstone (Devonian) showing distinctive herring-bone layering or cross-stratification.

I dtréimhse an Deavónaigh, bhí aibhnteacha ag rith aneas trí fhásach mór, ag iompar dróidair garbh agus gaineamh leo. Sa lá atá inniu ann, tá comhcheirtleán déanta den ábhar garbh, mar atá le feiscint ag Inse. An ghaineamh a bhí sna duimhche cuaracha sa bhfásach, deineadh Cloch Ghainimhe Chill Mhuire de, atá éadrom buí. Is aonad é seo den Sean-chloch Dhearg Ghainimhe, a sholáthraigh cuid mhaith den ábhar atá i Sliabh Mis agus sna cnoic sall uaidh i nUíbh Ráthach.

Tá blocanna de chlocha gainimhe maolaithe ag na tonnta agus ó bheith ag bualadh i gcoinne a chéile. Tá siad caite aníos ar chúl na trá ag na stoirmeacha, mar a dheineann siad iomaire cloch ar a dtugtar cladaigh stoirme.

Cill Mhuire Bay is of great geological interest for two main reasons. Here 380 million year old fossilised sand dunes can be seen in the cliffs, and it contains one of the finest storm beaches in Ireland.

In the Devonian period rivers flowed south across a large desert, and carried sands and coarse sediments. Today the coarser material forms conglomerates now seen at Inch while the sand that formed crescent-shaped sand dunes in the desert makes up the pale yellow coloured Cill Mhuire Sandstone. This is a unit of the Old Red Sandstone that forms much of the Slieve Mish mountains and those seen on the Iveragh Peninsula opposite.

Blocks of sandstone have become rounded by the action of the waves and from knocking against each other. Storms have thrown them towards the back of the beach where they form a ridge called a storm beach.

**Site 7** **Carraigeacha Sean-Ghaineamhchloiche Rua ag Inse**  
**Old Red Sandstone rocks at Inch**

Carraigeacha claonta de Chomhcheirtleán Inse agus Gaineamhchloch Chill Mhuire (ar dheis) ina suí ar barr ghaineamhchlocha níos críona (ar chlé). Greanadh adhmaid ón 19ú céad ag George Victor Du Noyer, geolaí le Suirbhéireacht Gheolaíochta Éireann (le cead Shuirbhéireacht Gheolaíochta Éireann).



Tilted rocks of Inch Conglomerate and Kilmurry Sandstone (right) sitting on top of older sandstones (left). 19th century woodcut by George Victor Du Noyer, geologist with the Geological Survey of Ireland (courtesy Geological Survey of Ireland).

**Site 8** **Goba agus tambalónna**  
**Spits and tombolos**

Aolchloch ag Cill Seanaigh le hOileán tSeanaigh (láthair luath-Chríostaíochta) tamall laistiar.



Limestone at Kilshannig with Illauntannig (an early Christian site) in the distance.

**Site 9** **Fásach Ársa ag Bá Chill Mhuire**  
**Ancient Deserts at Cill Mhuire Bay**

Is é till an oighir (cré na mbollán) atá sna failtreacha ag Cill Gobáin; leagadh síos é nuair a leáighan chuid deireanach d'oighear Aois an Oighir. Le mapáil na mbuncharraigeacha, is féidir a dhéanamh amach cén treo a d'imigh sruthanna agus leaca an oighir ach féachaint ar na sagsanna cloch a fágadh sa till. Is amhlaidh a phioc an t-oighear suas iad sin do réir mar a ghabh sé thar an mbuncharraig.



Sagsanna éagsúla cloch i dtill an oighir ag Cill Gobáin.

Different rock types found in the glacial till at Kilgobbin.

The cliffs at Kilgobbin are composed of glacial till (boulder clay) that was deposited when the ice of the last Ice Age melted. By mapping bedrock one can determine the direction that glaciers and ice sheets flowed by looking at the rock types left behind in glacial till. These were picked up by the ice as it passed over the bedrock.

**Site 10** **Iontaisí agus éisc ar Chathair Conraoi**  
**Fossils and faults on Caherconree**

**Ciaróga Plúir Siolúracha:** tá na hiontaisí artrapódacha seo caomhnaithe in Aolchloch Bhaile Fhionáin (ag bun ar dheis). Anseo tá an ceann (cephalon) agus an t-eireabal (pygidium) de thrí speiceas difriúil léirithe.



**Silurian Trilobites:** these fossil arthropods are preserved as fragments in the Ballynane Limestone (bottom right). Here the head (cephalon) and tail (pygidium) of three different species are illustrated.

*Geolaíocht Chorca Dhuibhne cois bóthair*  
*The Roadside Geology of West Kerry*

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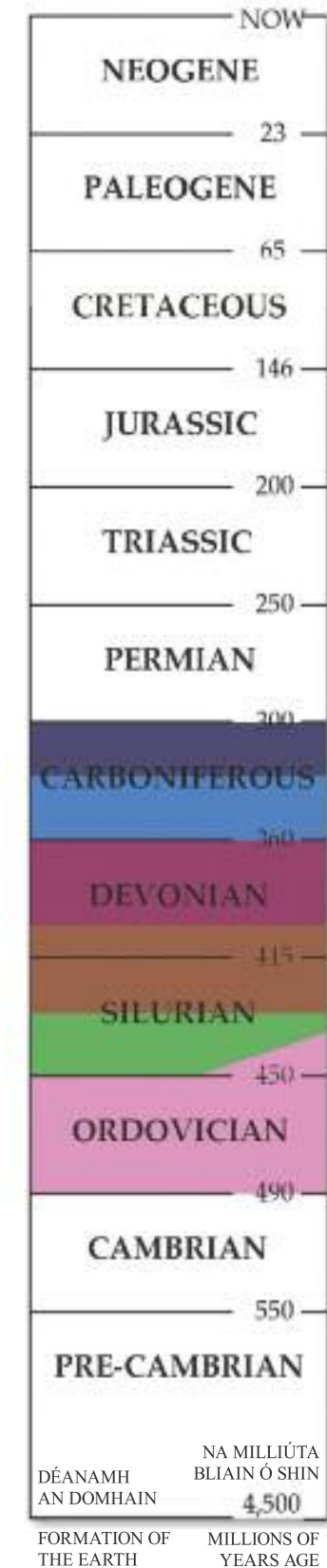
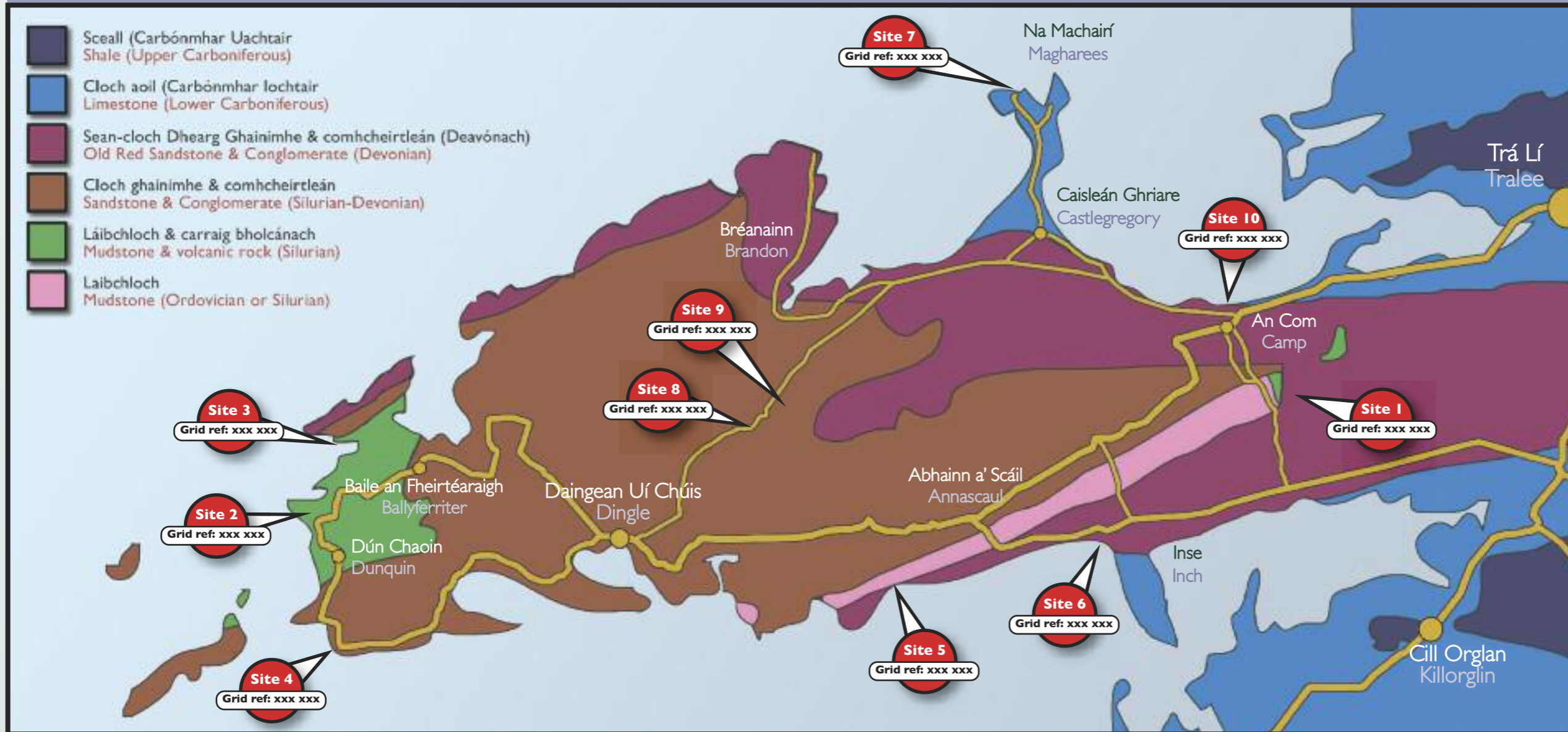
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# Geolaíocht Chorca Dhuibhne cois bóthair

# The Roadside Geology of West Kerry



An Chomhairle Oidhreachta  
The Heritage Council



Le linn thréimhse an Ordaivisigh agus thréimhse an tSiolúraigh, is laistean de mheánchiorcal an domhain a bhí Éire, faoin bhfarraige idir dhá mhór-roinn. Bhí pluda agus gaineamh á leagadh síos ann, gur deineadh díobh na carraigeacha atá le feiscint anois gairid d'Abhainn an Scáil. Le linn an tSiolúraigh, bhí bolcáin ag pléascadh leis an laibhe agus leis an luaithreach atá le fáil inniu ag Ceann Sratha. Théadh ainmhithe i ngréim i ndrúdar láibe agus tá siad le feiscint inniu ann mar iontaisithe nó fosailí gairid do Dhún Chaoin agus ar Chnoc Chathair Chonraoi. Drúdar gainimhe a leagadh síos ina dhiaidh sin a chruthaigh na clocha gainimhe in aice leis an nDaingean agus ag Ceann Sléibhe.

Faoi thréimhse an Deavónaigh, bhí an fharraige dúnta ar fad, rud a chruthaigh mór-roinn mhór talún le fásaigh ann. Deineadh Sean-Chloch Dhearg Ghainimhe den ngaineamh, mar atá i ndrom Shliabh Mís, agus den ndrúdar garbh, deineadh na carraigeacha ar a dtugtar comhcheirtleán, atá le feiscint inniu ag Loch Slat agus ag Inse.

Ag tús an thréimhse Carbónmhar, bhí an talamh faoi bhun farraige tanáí trópaiceach agus bhí an coiréal agus an t-iasc síogánach ag maireachtaint go ráthmhar ann. Tá a rian siúd caomhnaithe sna clocha aoil sna Machairí.

Le dhá mhilliún bliain anuas go dtí deich míle bliain ó shin, bhíodh comanna á gcruthú ar thaobh na gcnoc ag an oighear; is minic a bhíonn locha iontu inniu. Ritheadh sruth an oighir le fána trí na gleannta, agus de réir mar a leá sé, leagadh síos cré na mbollán le mórán saghsanna cloch tríd.

During the Ordovician and Silurian Ireland was south of the equator and under an ocean between two continents. Mud and sand deposited into it eventually became the rocks seen near Annascaul. In the Silurian, volcanic islands erupted lavas and ash now found at Ceann Sratha. Muddy sediments trapped animals today preserved as fossils near Dún Chaoin and on Caherconree Mountain. Younger, sandy sediments produced the sandstones near Daingean Uí Chúis and Ceann Sléibhe.

By the Devonian, the ocean had disappeared, forming a large continent with deserts. The sand formed Old Red Sandstone, the backbone of the Slieve Mish Mountains, while coarser sediments produced rocks called conglomerates, seen now at Lough Slat and at Inch.

At the beginning of the Carboniferous period the land was flooded by shallow tropical seas where shellfish and corals thrived. These are preserved in the limestones on the Magharees.

During the last 2 million years to 10,000 years ago, ice on mountainsides formed depressions called corries, many of which now contain lakes. Glaciers moved downslope along river valleys, and when they melted boulder clay containing many different rock types was deposited.

Text by Patrick Wyse Jackson. Photographs by ?? .

Gníomh do plean Oidhreachta do Chomhairle Contae Chiarraí.  
An action of the Kerry County Councils Heritage Plan.

- 1 Chathair Conraoi Caherconree
- 2 Ceann Sratha Clogher Head
- 3 Cuan an Chaoil Ferriter's Cove
- 4 Ceann Sléibhe Sleah Head
- 5 Bá Chill Mhuire Kilmurray Bay
- 6 Inse Inch
- 7 Na Machairí Magharees
- 8 An Chonair Conor Pass
- 9 Loch an Pheidléara Pedlar's Lake
- 10 Cill Gobáin Kilgobbin