



# ARMAGH...

The First Place

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[www.visitarmagh.com](http://www.visitarmagh.com)



# OUR STORY...

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A majestic landscape, rich in cultural heritage and mythical legends. Set amidst the splendour of rolling drumlins, parks, open spaces and legendary orchards.

A backdrop of architectural class, soaring iconic spires, historic buildings and attractions of stature. An epic past interwoven with present day trailblazers of artisan food and drink.

A place of charming guest houses, retail boutiques and signature events. A vibrant café culture with award-winning brasseries.

A haven for cultural seekers, art enthusiasts, historians, foodies and story-lovers. A playground for the imagination. The uniqueness of our landscape, is the bedrock of our story.

A land of eminent people. Embark on an enchanted journey of discovery. Visit our places. Meet our people. Immerse yourself in our world.

# FROM EPIC BEGINNINGS

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The story of Armagh is a tale of myths, turbulence and the strongholds of an Ulster ruled by ancient Kings. Legend has it that Macha - the goddess of war and fertility, who ruled from the Emain Macha (Navan Fort) gave Armagh its name - Ard Macha.

Centuries of conflict ensued with Viking, Norman and Saxon invasion however, in 1765, ruins were restored back to elegant glory by the Church of Ireland Primate - Richard Robinson, who commissioned a collection of graceful buildings and urban parklands. One such building is the Armagh Planetarium, where you can sense the wonderment of interstellar space as you explore the galaxies and beyond!

Today - you can capture the essence of a City steeped in Christianity - the ecclesiastical capital of Ireland. A place where the spirit of Saint Patrick is embedded in our landscape, buildings and attractions and where the skyline is beautifully adorned with the magnificence of both our cathedrals. Our festivals of colour, song and literature also epitomise Armagh as the home of Saint Patrick. Follow the footsteps of this great legend for yourself, with a visit to an ancient crypt at Saint Patrick's (Church of Ireland) Cathedral, dating from 445AD and the burial plot of the greatest of the Irish High Kings - Brian Boru. Saint Patrick's Catholic Cathedral, originally built in Gothic style in 1840 and famous for its twin spires and triumphant echo of the 'Great Bell', is also adorned with opulent marble altars and mosaics that will truly delight.





# THE ORCHARD OF IRELAND

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As the 'Orchard of Ireland', Armagh is famously known for its 'Bramley' apple - a Protected Geographical Indication (PGI) product of world-class. Orchards are an acquainted fabric of our landscape, with exquisite pink apple blossoms decorating the countryside during the month of May, before the blossom fades and the apples burst to life during the summer months. From September onwards, many varieties of apples are harvested, hand pressed and transformed into brands of apple juice and artisan ciders distributed locally, regionally, nationally and globally.

As the 'Food Heartland of Northern Ireland', our artisan food and heritage is celebrated in events such as the Armagh Food & Cider Festival. With a landscape of lush pastures, artisan producers, award-winning chefs, authentic produce, rich aromas and decadent dishes - we promise to serve up a gastro delight!

If dining with a difference is what you seek - we invite you to visit our orchards, learn about the heritage of your dish from field to fork or dine al-fresco under the stars - how spellbinding! This undulating countryside also has in its roots the birth of Orange Heritage. Through history and stories - delve into the narrative symbolising the rich culture of the Order.

From orchard tours, cultural experiences, food trails, immersive food demos and pop-up restaurants to tasting menus, urban markets and enchanting bespoke events - visit us for an aromatic and culturally captivating journey!

# THE GOLDEN AGE OF LINEN

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For well over two and a half centuries, Irish linen has had a world-wide reputation for excellence. Follow the story of its growth, development and the manufactured techniques from flax to cloth. Visit the famous Thomas Ferguson Irish Linen Factory - one of the last surviving mills in Northern Ireland, famously known for their quality Irish Damask linen and most recently, creators of a beautiful hand-embroidered tapestry, woven for the epic TV drama - Game of Thrones™.

Enjoy a guided tour and learn about this beautifully skilled craftsmanship. A skill so precious, the fine linen it produces has adorned the residences of royalty and aristocrats worldwide.





# DISCOVER OUR ART GALLERIES & MUSEUMS

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F.E. McWilliam - a son of Banbridge and prolific sculptor, famously renowned for his surreal figurative sculptures, has placed this area on the world map. Today, a gallery in his name, including a studio replica preserve such highly acclaimed works. This purpose-built space also complements other award-winning venues such as the Market Place Theatre and the permanent JB Vallely exhibition at the Palace - all providing a rich tapestry of many arts genres that enrich the lives of our residents and visitors alike.

# MORE TO EXPLORE

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## OUR SIGNATURE EVENTS

From the Home of Saint Patrick and the Georgian Festival to the Food and Cider Festival, together with our rich literary and musical heritage, we have created a distinctive calendar of annual events. Our characters, our uniqueness, our hospitality and our welcome is sure to add to your stay.

## PLACES TO STAY

From guest houses in listed buildings, boutique style townhouses and contemporary hotels to self-catering accommodation, B&B's, stable yards and campsites - the choice is endless!

## GENEALOGY

Step into the roots of the past with a visit to many of our archive libraries and museums, including local study collections, artefacts and many more specialist resources.

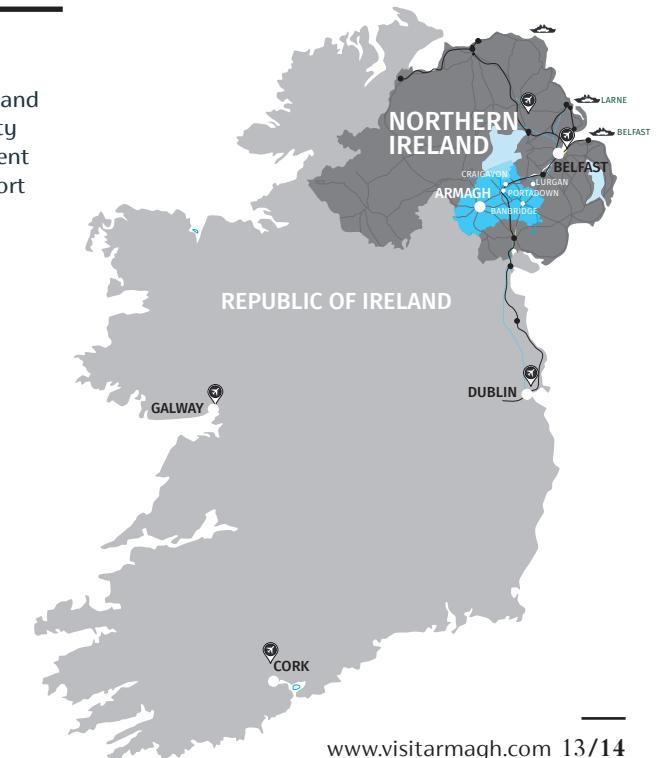


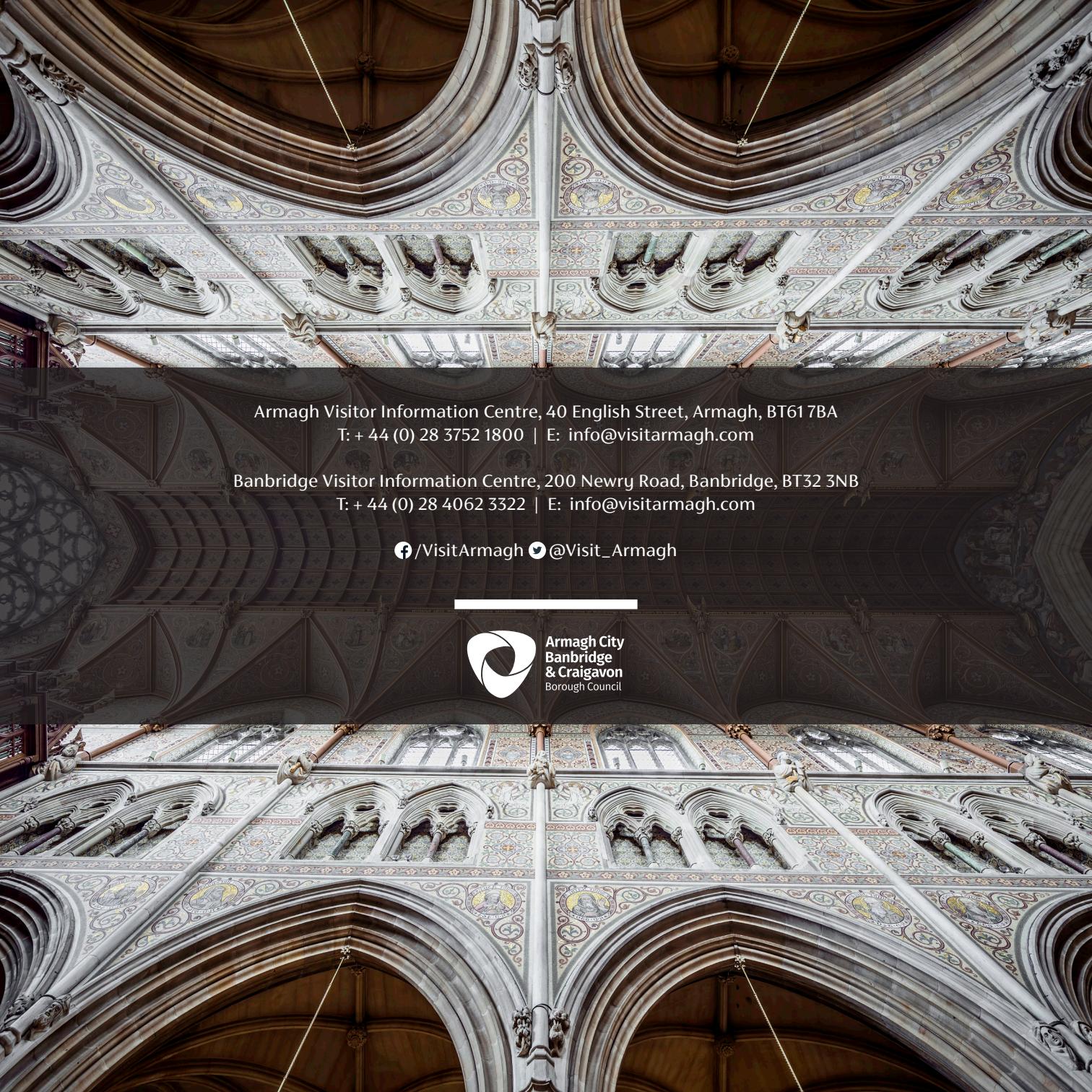


# A DESTINATION WHERE MEMORIES ARE MADE... VISITARMAGH

Be anywhere in Northern Ireland  
in 1½ hours // Close proximity  
to airports, ferries and excellent  
road networks // Dublin Airport  
1hr 20mins

- ..... Motorway
- Dual Carrigeway
- Rail Network
- 📍 Airport
- 🚢 Ferry / Port





Armagh Visitor Information Centre, 40 English Street, Armagh, BT61 7BA

T: + 44 (0) 28 3752 1800 | E: [info@visitarmagh.com](mailto:info@visitarmagh.com)

Banbridge Visitor Information Centre, 200 Newry Road, Banbridge, BT32 3NB

T: + 44 (0) 28 4062 3322 | E: [info@visitarmagh.com](mailto:info@visitarmagh.com)

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