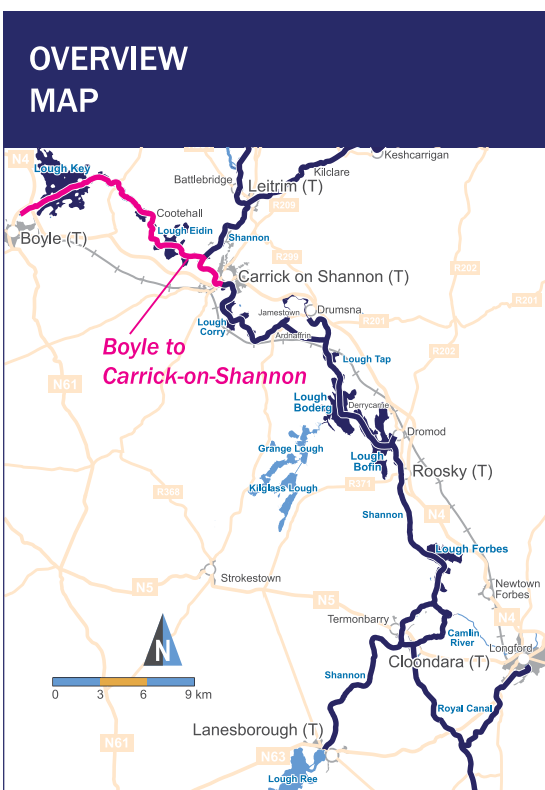
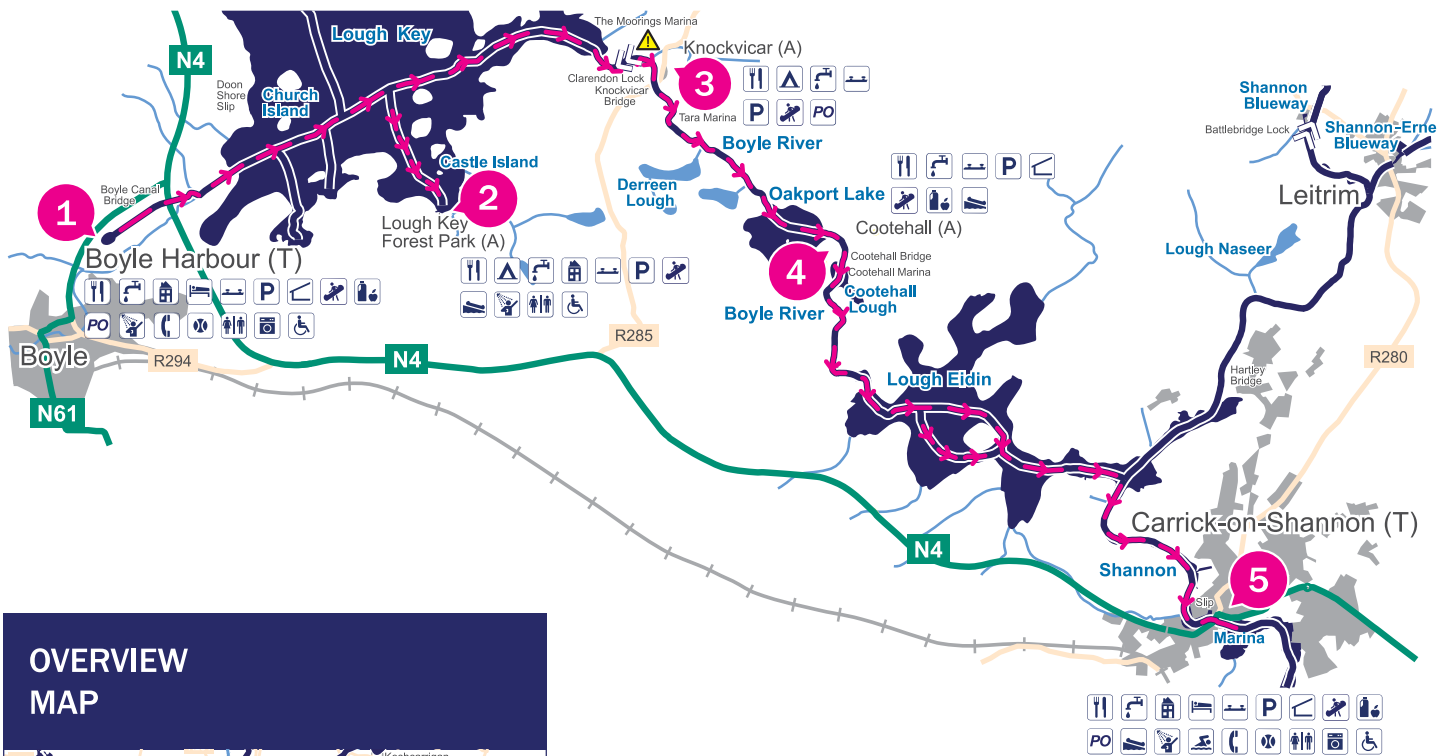


# Boyle to Carrick-on-Shannon



## MAP LEGEND

- Paddling Trail
- Direction of Flow
- (A)** Access Point
- (T)** Trail Head
- Cafe/Restaurant
- Camping
- Fresh Water
- Historical Building/Ruins
- Hotel
- Jetty
- Parking
- Public House
- Put in/Take out Points
- Shop
- Post Office
- Shower
- Slipway
- Swimming Pool
- Tennis
- Telephone
- Toilets
- Laundry
- Wheelchair Accessible
- Warning - Weir/Sluices

### 1 Boyle to Lough Key Forest Park

Access and car park at Boyle Harbour.  
**Distance**  
 4.5km  
**Duration**  
 1hr 30mins  
**Description**  
 River with cruiser navigation. Grade 1 with water moving downstream. Trail crosses Lough Key.

### 2 Lough Key Forest Park to Knockvicar

Access and car park at water's edge in Lough Key Forest Park.  
**Distance**  
 4km  
**Duration**  
 1hr 20mins  
**Description**  
 River with cruiser navigation. Grade 1 with water moving downstream. Route from Lough Key Forest Park to Clarendon Lock crosses open lake.

### 3 Knockvicar to Cootehall

Access and car park at Knockvicar.  
**Distance**  
 3km  
**Duration**  
 1hr  
**Description**  
 River and lake with cruiser navigation. Grade 1 with water moving downstream. Trail crosses Oakport Lake.

### 4 Cootehall to Carrick-on-Shannon

Access and car park at Cootehall.  
**Distance**  
 8.3km  
**Duration**  
 2hrs 50mins  
**Description**  
 River and lake with cruiser navigation. Grade 1 with water moving downstream. Trail crosses Lough Eidin. Boyle River converges with the River Shannon 1km north of Carrick-on-Shannon.

The Shannon Blueway offers a myriad of paddling journeys to experience, set in idyllic locations, with everything from secluded canal sections to vast open lakes. The network of Blueway trails in this North Shannon area centres around Carrick-on-Shannon, spanning north towards Lough Allen, west to Boyle, south to Lanesborough, and east as far as Belturbet. Visit [www.bluewaysireland.org](http://www.bluewaysireland.org) for details of all trails in this area.

The Blueway from Boyle to Carrick-on-Shannon offers 20km of paddling options in total. Within that 20km, a series of "journeys" are described, guiding the user between access points along the route. Choose your journey according to the level of experience of your paddling group.

**In the unlikely event of an emergency dial 999 or 112 to contact emergency services. Use VHF channel 16 to contact the coast guard.**

We welcome feedback about your paddling experience. Please contact us at [info@bluewaysireland.org](mailto:info@bluewaysireland.org)

For further information please contact Waterways Ireland at either: Northern Regional Office, Carrick-on-Shannon +353 (0)71 965 0562 or Clarendon Lock +353 (0)71 966 7011

**Users of this trail do so at their own judgement and risk.**



# Boyle to Carrick-on-Shannon

## Shannon Blueway Guide



**Paddling Trail**

**INVASIVE SPECIES**

Help stop the spread of invasive species by following these simple steps when you leave the water:

- 1. CLEAN** and wash all equipment, footwear and clothes thoroughly of any organic material and living organisms. Pay particular attention to areas that are damp or hard to reach/inspect.
- 2. DISINFECT** all equipment using: **a)** 1% solution of "Virkon Aquatic" solution if available (rinse all disinfected equipment thoroughly with clean tap water) and/or **b)** Steam Cleaning and/or **c)** Power-hosing with water above 65 degrees Celsius or washing with water above 65 degrees Celsius.
- 3. DRY** all equipment and clothing thoroughly as certain species can survive for up to one month in wet or moist conditions.

**All users of the waterways must ensure they don't transfer water or invasive species from one area or water body to another.**

**LEAVE NO TRACE**

- 1. Plan Ahead and Prepare**
- 2. Be Considerate of Others**
- 3. Respect Farm Animals and Wildlife**
- 4. Travel and Camp on Durable Ground**
- 5. Leave What You Find**
- 6. Dispose of Waste Properly**
- 7. Minimise the Effects of Fire**

Practising a Leave No Trace ethic is very simple: Make it hard for others to see or hear you and LEAVE NO TRACE of your visit. [www.leaveoutretraceireland.org](http://www.leaveoutretraceireland.org)

**PADDLING ADVICE**

Please note, access to all weirs is forbidden.

Be careful when using open water crossings to avoid getting stranded far from shore. Be aware that wind and visibility can change, especially in open water sections, so take care.

Canoeing is an adventure sport. When you go canoeing follow the five points below to stay safe:

**Planning** - Plan your trip well in advance by consulting with the trail website and local providers.

**Experience** - Ensure the trail is a suitable match for your group's experience. If you are inexperienced use a local guide.

**Conditions** - Consult the weather forecast and the water level gauges in advance of your trip and only go canoeing in favourable conditions.

**Equipment** - Always wear an approved buoyancy aid. Wear a helmet on Grade 2 and 3 trails. Bring extra and suitable clothing - preferably a wetsuit - as well as equipment to deal with an emergency.

**Emergencies** - Ensure everyone in your group can swim to the bank or shore in the event of a capsize. Be ready and equipped to help one another if someone should get into trouble.