Drumshanbo to Carrick-on-Shannon

Drumshanbo to Battlebridge

Access and car park south of Drumshanbo Lock.
Distance
6km
Duration
Slow: 2.5 hours  
Fast: 1 hour
Description
Canal with cruiser navigation, Grade 1 - flat water, Acres Lake is exposed to wind.

Acres Lake

Additional access point on the Drumshanbo to Battlebridge journey. Access at the jetty.

Battlebridge Lock to Carrick-on-Shannon

Car park adjacent to lock.
Distance
10.5km (including returning spur into Leitrim)
Duration
Slow: 3 hours  
Fast: 1.5 hours
Description
River with cruiser navigation, Grade 1 moving water downstream from Battlebridge Lock, potentially Grade 2 in flood water.

Leitrim Village

Additional access point on the Battlebridge to Carrick-on-Shannon journey. Access at Leitrim Village Service Block.
Shannon Blueway Guide

Drumshanbo to Carrick-on-Shannon

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:

1. Planning - Plan your trip well in advance by consulting with the trail website and local providers.
2. Experience - Ensure the trail is a suitable match for your group's experience. If you are inexperienced use a local guide.
3. Conditions - Consult the weather forecast and water level gauges in advance of your trip and only go canoeing in favourable conditions.
4. 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.
5. Emergencies - Ensure everyone in your group can swim to the bank or shore in the event of a capsize. Be ready and capable to help one another if someone should get into trouble.

LEAVE NO TRACE

1. Plan Ahead and Prepare
2. Be Considerate of Others
3. Respect Farm Animals and Wildlife
4. Dispose of Waste Properly
5. Leave what you find
6. Enjoy What You Find
7. Leave No Trace

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.leavenotraceireland.org

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.
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.
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 do not transfer water or invasive species from one area or water body to another.

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 the 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 for details of all trails in this area.

The Blueway from Drumshanbo to Carrick-on-Shannon offers 16.5km of paddling options in total. Within that 16.5km, two '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

For further information please contact Waterways Ireland at either: Northern Regional Office, Carrick-on-Shannon +353 (0)71 965 0562 or Drumshanbo Lock +353 (0)86 812 7522

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