

Greenway

# An Chanáil Ríoga Royal Canal

## Cumar ag Craobh Longfoirt Longford Branch Junction



## CUMAR AG CRAOBH LONGFOIRT & AN CHANÁIL RÍOGA LONGFORD BRANCH JUNCTION & THE ROYAL CANAL

### CRAOBH BHAILE AN LONGFOIRT / LONGFORD TOWN BRANCH

Oscloaíonn an craobh Longfoirt den Chanáil Ríoga i 1830. Tógadh é tar éis feachtas ag fáil gnó agus trádálaíche i Longfoirt a bhí míbhásta go raibh an chanáil i bhfad ón mbaile. Bhí an craobh chomh fada le 8.4km agus chomhóg sé €12,651 (níos mó ná €940,000 sa lá atá inniu ann). Ba thialóg ag Coimisinéir an Mhargaidh a stáisiún ceann airde, a bhí tógtha ag an Tiara Longfoirt. Mar bhaile le gailgear faoi bhliáth, chuir gnó Longfoirt le trácht ar an gcánál ar feadh na blianta. É sin ráite, áfach, sa bhliain 1855, oscloadh stáisiún trárach nua sa bhaile agus ón am sin ar aghaidh, tháinig meath ar úsáid na canálaigh. Ní raibh craobh Longfoirt in úsáid leis na blianta sin agus sa bhliain 1951, d'aontach Comhairle Ceannair Uirbh Longfoirt an canáil a chosnadh. Le níos déanaí, ní raibh an canáil in úsáid. Níl aon amhras gur Ard-Gaíle Naoimh Mel an sainchomhartha is cáiliúla i mbailé Longfoirt, áit a oscloadh i 1856. Bhí an áit buailte go dona mar a chuangh an Ard-Gaíle trí thine ag an tNuallag 2009. Tar éis athchruinníocht oscloadh arís ag an Nuallag 2014.

The Longford branch of the Royal Canal opened in 1830. Its construction followed a campaign by businessmen and traders in Longford who were unhappy that the canal was so far from the town. The branch was 8.4km long and cost £12,651 (over €940,000 today). To terminus was a Harbour at the Market Square, which was specially built by Lord Longford. As a thriving market town, Longford's business contributed to traffic on the canal for several years. However, in 1855, a new railway station opened in the town and from then on, the canal declined. The Longford branch was disused for many years and in 1951, Longford Urban District Council agreed to buy the harbour. Later, the branch was filled in. Longford town's best-known landmark is St. Mel's Cathedral, which opened for worship in 1856. The cathedral was devastated by fire on Christmas Day 2009. A massive restoration project led to its re-opening at Christmas 2014.



Royal Canal Longford Branch Junction

### SLÍ AN GHORTA MHÓIR / THE NATIONAL FAMINE WAY

Cuirimid tús le Slí Náisiúnta an Ghorta Mhóir i 2020, síkúid 165km trácht ar bhruach na Canálaigh Ríoga. Feictear dealbh de bhriogá cré-umha ar an slí. Is feidir an síkúid a dhéanamh i bpalas de níocht sin tomáil, mar a righ-naíon le hÉir. Tá an chuid muidem lochnáir ar an slí. Múseam Náisiúnta an Ghorta Mhóir i bPalas Bhig na mBailé, Co. Ros Comáin, Long an Ghorta Mhóir an Jeannie Johnson agus EPIC, Múseam Éimircia na hÉireann, ar thuaisí Bhaile Átha Cliath. Is feidir bheith i do shúilí oifigiúil le Treasúraíocht Párlaimint Náisiúnta an Ghorta Mhóir. Fagh tithid lóngae agus seantas críochúil. Tá an chuid seirbhíse faoi shuíle mar a bhí ar thuaisí Slí Náisiúnta an Ghorta Mhóir weon náisiúntaíneimirey. Insíon Daniel Tighe a dhéan 47 sa Bhrión, buachaill ar bhá dhá bliain d'aois agus figháimí fá stair áitúil nuaimí oimpeil na hAie seo.

Ireland's official Famine trail, launched in 2020, is a 165 km cross-country walk along the banks of the Royal Canal. You will see bronze shoes sculptures along the way. It can be done in sections or all at once – as you choose. The trail is topped and tailed by iconic museums – the National Famine Museum at Strokestown Park in Co. Roscommon and the Jeanie Johnston Famine Ship and EPIC, the Irish Emigration Museum, at the Dublin end. You can become an official walker with the National Famine Way Passport Guide, receive a ship ticket and certificate of completion. The National Famine Way website www.nationalfamineway.ie details many real life stories. Little twelve-year-old Daniel Tighe tells his story from Black 47 and learn all the interesting local history around you in this area.



National Famine Way Coat Bronze Shoes

### AN BHFUIL FHIOS AGAT? DID YOU KNOW?

- Tá múseam imbaile fearainn Aghnaskeagh, Claisáin an tAimín seo páircéara na seach gearl, 300 an phointe a thagann Craobh Bhaile Longfoirt le chéile le príomhíne na Canálaigh Ríoga.
- Tógadh líne scáimha ar chuid den suíomh ina raibh Caladh Longfoirt. Leagadh é agus tá carr-chóis san áit a bhí sé. Tá obair ar an áit a dhéanamh níos tarraingí mar chuid de thionscail athnuachana.
- Tá anois 8.4km i mbailé Longfoirt, 2km o Chill na Sí, 7.7km o Chluain Dá Rath, 8.9km ón Ionad Cuairteoirí Bháthair Chorr Láith.
- You are now in the townland of Aghnaskea, the name of which means 'field of the hawthorns'. This is the point where the Longford Town Branch joins the Royal Canal's main line.
- A swimming pool was built on part of the site of Longford Harbour. It has since been demolished and replaced with a car-park. The area is being enhanced as part of a regeneration project.
- You are now 8.4km from Longford town, 2km from Kilskeary, 7.7km from Choodara, & 9km from Corlea Trackway Visitor Centre.

For more information visit  
[royalcanalgreenway.org](http://royalcanalgreenway.org)  
#RoyalCanalGreenway or longford.ie

