

Iendalough (Gleann Dá Loch), the Glen of the two Lakes, is one of the most beautiful and best-known places in Wicklow. The landscape of the area was carved into breathtaking u-shaped valleys during the last ice age surrounded by a ring of granite mountains with summits reaching 699 metres.

Glendalough is also the site of the most important early Christian settlement in Europe. St. Kevin (b. 498 – d. 618 AD) founded a monastery here. His reputation as a hermit and holy man drew many followers and the settlement became a place of pilgrimage and scholarship. Although Glendalough is also known as the Seven Churches there are actually the remains of eight churches in the area.

Laragh, An Láithreach (possibly from An Lár meaning centre, although there is some mystery surrounding this), is a village in the heart of the Wicklow Mountains. Less than 2km from Glendalough, Laragh is a lively village with a thriving community, located on the Glenmacnass River just above where it joins the Avonmore River. The village itself was part of a centre of resistance from medieval times up to 1798 when the area was home to many of the rebels who supported Michael Dwyer. The Military Road built in the early 1800s to root out the rebels in the mountain passes through Laragh.







Design: Paul Francis, www.paulfrancisdesign/illustration.ie

Wicklow Mountains National Park Information Office

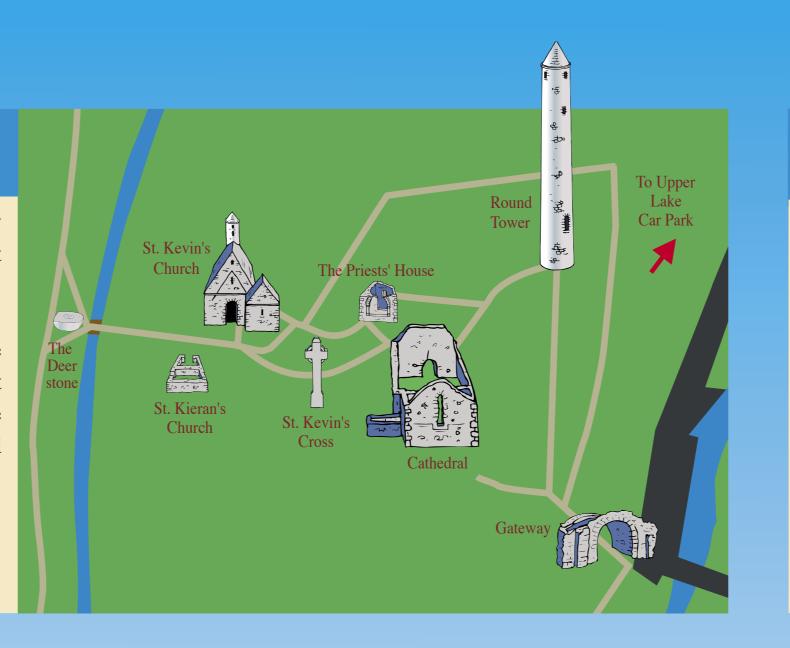
Wicklow Mountains National Park covers much of the Wicklow Mountains (including most of the land in Glendalough Valley) and is managed for nature conservation and public recreation. The National Park Information Office, open weekends all year and daily from May to September, provides maps of the nine colour coded walking trails and has an exhibition on wildlife in the





Monastic Site & Graveyard

The remains of an early Christianmonasticsettlement first established by St. Kevin in the 6th century. The monks abandoned the settlement centuries ago but many of the hand-built stone buildings such as the round tower, cathedral and St. Kevin's Church still stand.



Brockagh



Offers 'semi private retreats' based

on Celtic Spirituality with morning

reflections and plenty of time to enjoy

An Clochan

the spirituality of Glendalough.

The Green Road runs along the floor of the valley from the woollen mills in Laragh passing St. Saviour's Church on the right, the Visitor Centre, the Lower Lake and finally reaching the Upper Lake in Glendalough. The Green Road











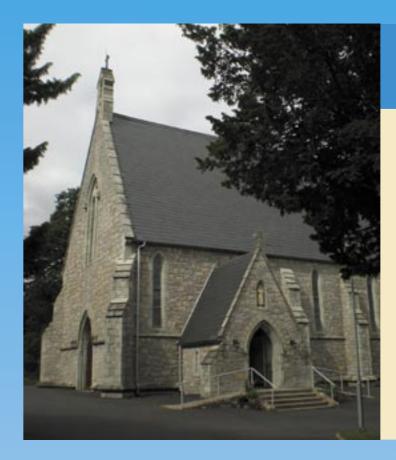




Glendaloug Visitor Centre

Built and opened in 1988 t provides an excellen of interpretation coming of St. Kevin and Christianity to the valley and also information other monastic sites around Ireland. It is open all year and provides an exhibition and guided walks monastic settlement.







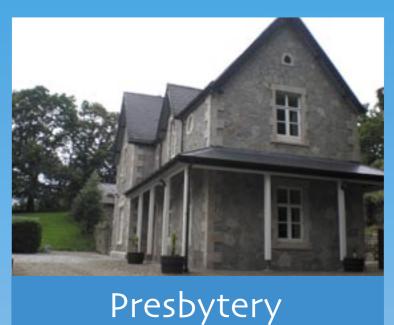
Retreat centre for people of all faiths who need time for reflection and guidance in their lives.

An Tearmann

Glendaloug P M Upper Lake

St. Kevin's Church

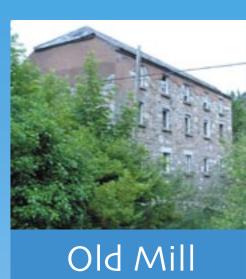
Roman Catholic Church of simple gothic design, built around 1847. was built along with St. John's Church as part of a famine relief programme. A millennium garden was opened in the church grounds in 2002.



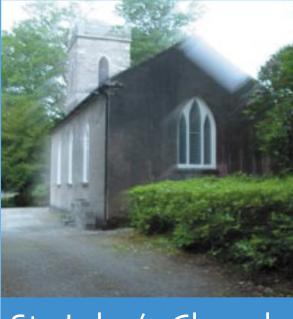
The priest's house built by William Byrne around 1864 has recently been totally restored to its original design.



Built by the local community in 2001. It is used by the community for all types of recreation. Full internet access for visitor use.

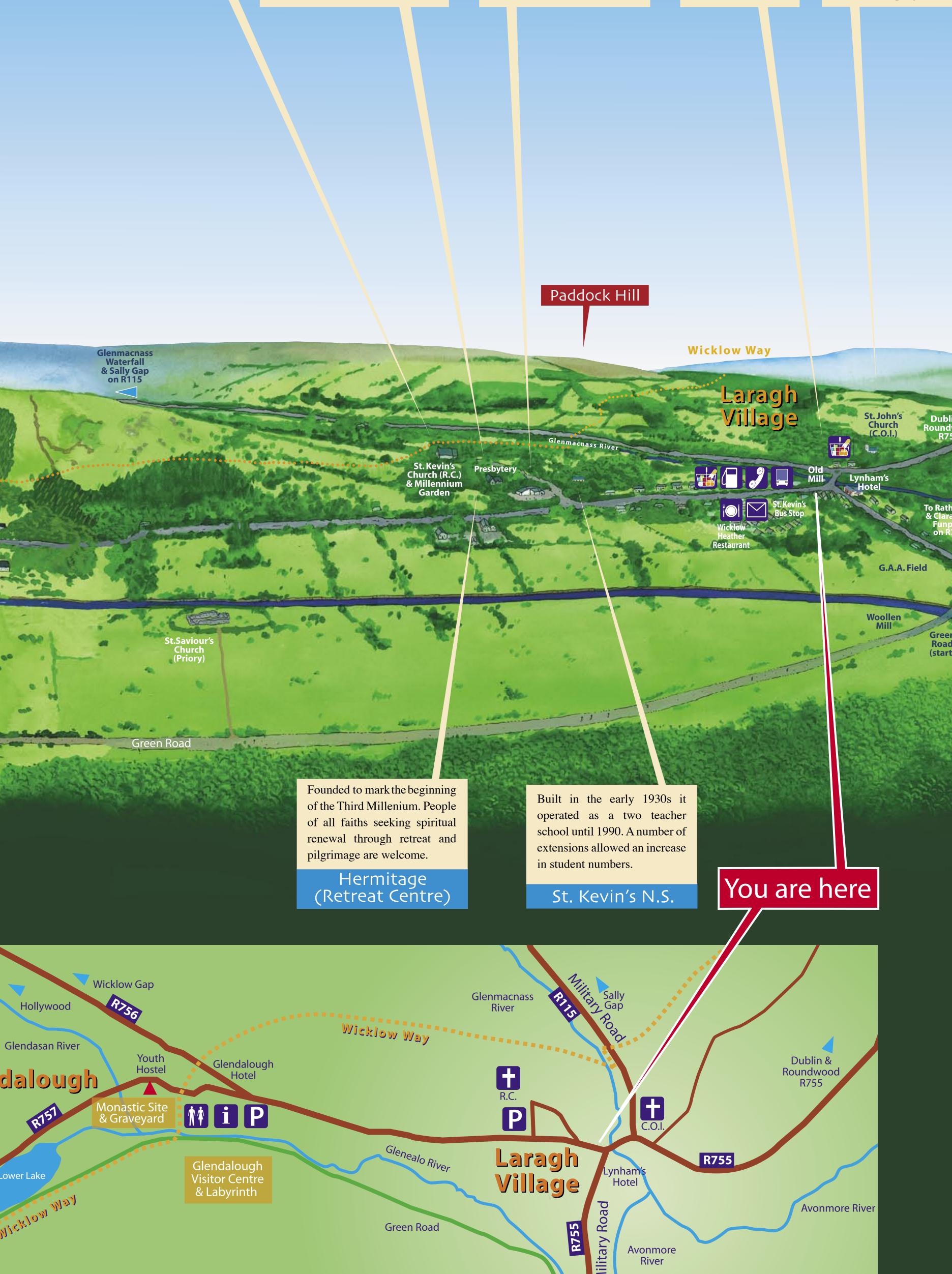


Built around 1855 using rubble and a slated roof. It is now derelict but it is still in it original form.



t. John's Church of Ireland

Built in gothic design around 1847 as part of a famine relief programme.



www.glendalough.ie