

# Carrickmacross Workhouse



## Real Life in an Irish Workhouse, the Last Resort for the Destitute Poor of Ireland

Guided Tours | The Great Famine | Personal Stories | Mass Graves | Genealogy | Irish History

The story of the Irish famine is interlinked with the many workhouses that were built to house the poor of Ireland in the 1900's. Destitute with no land, home or food, many families were left with no option but to enter the harrowing workhouses. Families were separated and expected to work with just enough food to survive in return. **Carrickmacross Workhouse** is one of 163 workhouses built to house Ireland's poor. Built in 1841 to accommodate 500 people, the workhouse at its worst in 1851 was home to nearly 2,000 men women and children, living in horrific overcrowded conditions.

**Carrickmacross Workhouse** tours bring history to life by telling the tragic and heart wrenching story of life in the Workhouse during the Great Famine. This truly moving experience allows the visitor to gain an understanding of life for the "inmates" through interpretive artworks, stories and animated film as well as a visit to an original children's dormitory whose windows overlook mass famine graves. Lovingly restored with many original features, the building is now a thriving Community Resource, Training, Heritage and Tourist Centre. **Highlights include:**

- **Life in the Workhouse** | insight into daily life in Irish Workhouses | last resort for desperate families
- **Irish History** | the great famine | the potato blight | the role of the British government
- **Guided Tour** | see an original children's dormitory | interpretative artworks and wall panels
- **Animated Film** | based on the story of one girl's life in the workhouse
- **Pauper's Emigration Scheme** | girls aged between 14 and 18 sent to Australia as servants and wives
- **Genealogy** | service available to locals or tourists seeking relatives in South Monaghan
- **Restored Building** | work by expert craftsmen | traditional skills | many original features
- **At the Heart of the Community** | now a training, resource and heritage centre
- **Rest Assured** | your safety is our priority | Covid-19 Chartered Business

## Carrickmacross Workhouse | Visitor Experience

Experience	Short Description	Min-Max Numbers Normal Trading	Min-Max Numbers Covid-19	Duration Approx.	Public Price Per Person
<b>Guided Tour</b>	Gain an insight into life in Ireland during the famine and the daily life of “inmates” in the Carrickmacross Workhouse. See an original children’s dormitory which overlook Mass Famine Graves	4-10	Min/Max 4	1 hour	Adult- €XX Student - €XX

## Carrickmacross Workhouse | Experience Description

Awaken Irish history through this guided visit that shares the tragic and heart wrenching story of the workhouse during the Great Famine. Built in 1841 to house 500, Carrickmacross was home at its worst in 1851 to nearly 2,000 destitute men, women and children. Through this moving experience, gain an understanding of daily living for the “inmates” through interpretive artworks, stories and animated film as well as a visit to an original children’s dormitory with windows overlooking mass famine graves. Lovingly restored with many original features, the building is now a thriving Community Resource, Training, Heritage and Tourist Centre.



# Carrickmacross Workhouse | General Information

---

- **Booking**

- **T:** +353 (0)42 9664540
- **E:** [info@carrickmacrossworkhouse.com](mailto:info@carrickmacrossworkhouse.com)
- Advance booking is essential

- **Opening Dates and General Tour Times**

- Open Monday to Friday year round
- Tours are twice daily at 11.30am and 2.30pm
- Advance booking essential
- Lift available (max 3 persons)

- **Genealogy Service**

- Research service available to families of South Monaghan only- 1800's onwards
- Cost is €50 per search
- **E:** [heritage@carrickmacrossworkhouse.com](mailto:heritage@carrickmacrossworkhouse.com)

- **Schools**

- Special curriculum focused tours available for primary, secondary and college students.
- **E:** [education@carrickmacrossworkhouse.com](mailto:education@carrickmacrossworkhouse.com)

- **Facilities**

- Public car/bus park
- Fully accessible toilet facilities
- Fully accessible elevator (max 3)
- No refreshments available onsite

