



# AN BHRATACH GHORM BLUE FLAG

Tá Bratach Ghorm bronnta ar TRÁ BHAILE CARRAIGE, DOMHNACH BAT do sheasúr snámha 2025  
(an 1 Meitheamh go dtí an 15 Meán Fómhair)

A Blue Flag has been awarded to BALCARRICK BEACH, DONABATE for the 2025 bathing season  
(June 1st to September 15th)

## CUR SÍOS AR AN TRÁ / BEACH DESCRIPTION

Balcarrick Beach, Donabate, is a south-east facing, gently sloping sandy beach consisting of a large sandy dune area. There are rocks at the northern end and the main part of the beach which extends to the south is wide and sandy. From the beach, visitors can see Lambay Island, Howth Peninsula and Malahide Estuary.

## GNÍOMHAÍOCHTAÍ OIDEACHAIS COMHSHAOL / ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION ACTIVITIES

Gníomhaíocht / Activity	Sonraí / Details	Teagmháil / Contact
Clean Coasts Photography Competition	Capturing the essence of the Irish coast, its extensive beauty and diverse character. And also to help foster pride in our coastline.	An Taisce – Clean Coasts 01 – 4541786 www.cleancoasts.org
#2MinuteBeachClean	To encourage beach users to pick up marine litter found on the beach. A lot of people making a small effort can make an impact in tackling the problem of litter along our coastlines.	An Taisce – Clean Coasts 01 – 4541786 www.cleancoasts.org
Think Before You Flush	To inform beach users about the problem sanitary products and other items can cause in our marine environment and our wastewater systems if they are flushed down the toilet. The campaign encourages responsible flushing behaviour by highlighting the negative impact of inappropriate disposal of sanitary products and other items can have on our wastewater treatment systems, marine environment and coastlines.	An Taisce – Clean Coasts 01 – 4541786 www.cleancoasts.org
Dog Control Awareness	Encourage the public to abide by the criteria of the Blue Flag Award in relation to the prohibition of access to Blue Flag areas of the beach by dogs (excluding assistance dogs) and other domestic animals. Encourage responsible owners to abide by the rules during the Blue Flag season and use earmarked routes to access the non-blue flag areas of the beach.	Fingal County Council 01 – 890 5000 www.fingal.ie
Biodiversity of Beach Habitat	Encourage children to explore our beaches and learn about the biodiversity of these habitats. Get them involved in a quick litter pick of the beach, explaining how litter can impact these habitats.	Fingal County Council 01 – 890 5000 www.fingal.ie
Óran d'Ídeachais	Encourage children to explore our beaches and learn about the biodiversity of these habitats. Get them involved in a quick litter pick of the beach, explaining how litter can impact these habitats.	Fingal County Council 01 – 890 5000 www.fingal.ie

## EOLAS MAIDIR LEIS AN nGARDA TARRTHÁLA / LIFE GUARD INFORMATION

Bionn garda tarrthála ar dualgas ar an trá seo ag na hamanna seo a leanas: /  
Life guard times on this beach are:

MÍ / MONTH	LAETHANTA / DAYS	AMANNA / TIMES
Meitheamh / June	Dé Sathain agus Dé Domhnaigh Saturday and Sunday	11:00 – 19:00
Iúil / July	Dé Luain – Dé Domhnaigh Monday – Sunday	11:00 – 19:00
Lúnasa / August	Dé Luain – Dé Domhnaigh Monday – Sunday	11:00 – 19:00
Meán Fómhair / Sep	Dé Sathain agus Dé Domhnaigh Saturday and Sunday	11:00 – 19:00

## BRATACHA SÁBHÁILTEACHTA / SAFETY FLAGS

Ní téigh ag snámh agus an bratach cheang ar folaibh. Do not swim when the red flag is flying.

Ní téigh ag snámh ach amháin sa limistéar a bhfuil an garda tarrthála ar dualgas ann. Swim in the life-guard patrolled area.

Limistéar do chláir shurfarda agus d'arthaí uisce. Surf board & water craft zone.

Gan bratach a bheith ar foluan = Níl garda tarrthála ar dualgas. No Flag = No life guard on duty.

Cuir ar an eolas maid faoi bhaithé tarrthála atá ar iarraidh ag [www.ringbuoys.ie](http://www.ringbuoys.ie)  
Please report missing ringbuoys here [www.ringbuoys.ie](http://www.ringbuoys.ie)

## CÉARD Í AN BHRATACH GHORM?

Éicilipéad idirnáisiúnta, toideonach is ea an Bhratach Ghorm i gcomhair trána agus muiríní. Bronntar an Bhratach Ghorm ar thránna agus ar muiríní a chomhlíonann critéir ar leith:

- Eolas agus Oideachas Comhshaoil
- Cáilíocht an Uisce
- Sábháilteacht agus Seirbhísí
- Bainistíocht Chomhshaoil

## WHAT IS THE BLUE FLAG?

The Blue Flag is an international, voluntary eco-label for beaches and marinas. The Blue Flag is awarded to beaches and marinas that meet a specific set of criteria:

- Environmental information & education
- Water quality
- Safety & services
- Environmental Management

## CÉ ATÁ TAOBH THIAR DE CHLÁR NA BRATAÍ GOIRME?

Is í an Taisce a fheidhmiú Clár Idirnáisiúnta na Brataí Goirme in Éirinn le tacaíocht ón Roinn Tithíochta, Pleanála agus Rialtais Áitiúil agus thar ceann na Fondúireachta um an Oideachas Comhshaoil.

## WHO OPERATES THE BLUE FLAG PROGRAMME?

The International Blue Flag programme is operated in Ireland by An Taisce – The National Trust for Ireland with the support of the Department of the Housing, Planning and Local Government and on behalf of the Foundation for Environmental Education.

## LE TUILLEADH EOLAIS A FHÁIL FOR FURTHER INFO.

FAOIN mBRATACH GHROM, ON THE BLUE FLAG  
DÉAN TEAGHMHÁIL LE: PLEASE CONTACT:

SONRAÍ TEAGHMHÁLA AN ÚDARÁIS ÁITIÚIL / LOCAL AUTHORITY CONTACT DETAILS

Comhairle Contae Fhine Gall  
Fingal County Council  
Water Safety Development Officer  
01 – 8905000

ARNA MHAOINIÚ IN ÉIREANN AG /  
FUNDED IN IRELAND BY



An Roinn Tithíochta,  
Rialtais Áitiúil agus Oidhreacht  
Department of Housing,  
Local Government and Heritage



Blue Flag  
An Taisce – The National Trust for Ireland  
5 Foster Place, Dublin 2, D02 V0P9  
Tel: 01 4541786  
blueflag@euan.taisce.org  
www.beachawards.ie



Blue Flag International  
Foundation for Environmental Education  
Scandlagade 13, 2450 Copenhagen, Denmark  
info@fee.global  
www.blueflag.global

POBLACHT NA hÉIREANN / REPUBLIC OF IRELAND

IDIRNÁISIÚNTA / INTERNATIONAL

## EOCHAIR / KEY SYMBOLS

Pointe Eolais Information Point	Cosc ar bhiosáil No drinking	Ní mór maicil a choinneáil ar lall Dogs on leads only	Saoráidí Aillichnata Recycling Facilities	Leitreacha Toilets	Pointe Sampla Cháilíocht an Uisce Water Quality Sampling point
Garchabhair First Aid	Cosc ar champaíl No camping	Limistéar an Gharda Tarrthála Life Guard Area	Leitreacha do Dhaisne bál Mhíchumas Disabled Toilets	Cosc ar dhóileán No swim	Leitreacha do Dhaisne bál Mhíchumas Disabled Toilets
Dealán leapaibh dhláibh in aice Nearby public transport	Páircéad Parking	Rochtain do Dhaisne bál Mhíchumas Disabled Access	Uisce Ótháilín Drinking Water	Limistéar a bhfuil Cosc ar Mhóadaí ann Dog Ban Area	Áiseanna Tarrthála Lifesaving Facilities
			Bosa Bhratach Litter Bin		
				Teileafón Telephone	

I gCás Eigeandála In an Emergency	Suíomh Location	Ná Níl áireamha a Bhíonn Fál air Times Available
Garchabhair First Aid	Stáisiún Garda Tarrthála Life Guard Station	Nuair a bheidh an Garda Tarrthála ar dualgas When Lifeguard on duty
Teileafón Telephone	Stáisiún Garda Tarrthála Life Guard Station	Nuair a bheidh an Garda Tarrthála ar dualgas When Lifeguard on duty

## NA TORTHÁÍ CÁILÍOCHTA UISCE IS DEIREANAÍ / LATEST WATER QUALITY RESULTS

FÉACH LE DO THOIL AR AN TAOBH EILE DEN CHLÁR FÓGRAÍ SEO LE HAGHAIDH  
NA DTORTHÁÍ CÁILÍOCHTA UISCE IS DEANAÍ

PLEASE SEE THE OTHER SIDE OF THIS NOTICEBOARD FOR THE LATEST WATER  
QUALITY RESULTS

### Cáilíocht an Uisce / Water Quality

Glahtar sampla gach 31 lá ar a laghad le linn an tséasúir snámha leis na leibhéil baictéar atá san uisce a sheiceáil de réir pharaméadar na Treorch maidir le Cáilíocht an Uisce Snámha ón AE agus an tEintreachas cáilíochta uisce na Brataí Goirme. Is iad an E. coli agus an tEintreachas Stéigeach na paraméadar a ndéantar tástáil lena n-aghaidh. Déantar measúnú ar cháilíocht an uisce i ngach sampla agus faifeadair cibé acu atá sí 'Ar fheabhas', 'Go maith', 'Imleor' nó 'Go dona'. Tá na teorannacha seo cáilíochtúil agus bunaithe ar na teorannacha reachtúla a leagtar síos leis na Rialúcháin um Cáilíocht an Uisce Snámha, 2008.

During the bathing season, samples are taken at least every 31 days to check the levels of bacteria in the water in accordance with the EU Bathing Water Directive parameters and Blue Flag water quality standards. The parameters tested are E.Coli and Intestinal Enterococci. The water quality of each sample is assessed as either 'Excellent', 'Good', 'Sufficient' or 'Poor'. These limits are qualitative and take account of regulatory limits set out in the Bathing Water Regulations 2008.

### Céard a chiallaíonn na torthaí? / What do the results mean?

Paraméadar / Parameter	Stádas an tSampla / Individual Sample Status			
	Ar fheabhas / Excellent	Go maith / Good	Imleor / Sufficient	Go dona / Poor
E. Coli	≤ 250	251 – 500	501 – 1000	> 1000
Intestinal Enterococci	≤ 100	101 – 200	201 – 250	> 250

Leis an scéala is deireanaí a fháil faoi cháilíocht an uisce téigh chuig [www.beaches.ie](http://www.beaches.ie)  
For the most up to date water quality testing and information please visit [www.beaches.ie](http://www.beaches.ie)

### Rátáil Bhliantúil Cháilíochta an Uisce / Annual Water Quality Rating



#### Cáilíocht Uisce den Scoth / Excellent Bathing Water Quality

- ★★★★ Ar Fheabhas / Excellent
- ★★★ Go Maith / Good
- ★★ Imleor / Sufficient
- ★ Go Dona / Poor

### An mbíonn an trá seo truaillithe go gearthéarmaigh? / Is this beach subject to short term pollution?

Bionn / Yes  Ní bhíonn / No

Líon na laethanta le linn an tséasúir snámha dheireanaigh a moladh gan dul ag snámh / The number of days when bathing was advised against during the last bathing season

Lá / Days

Bíonn an rátáil bhliantúil maidir le cáilíocht an uisce bunaithe ar na torthaí a fuarthas sna ceithre sheasúir snámha is deireanaí. Fágann an cur chuige seo nach n-imríonn gnáthruithe séasúiracha tionchar ar an rátáil agus go gcuirtear raon iomláin na dtorthaí san áireamh. The annual water quality rating is determined from results covering the previous four bathing seasons. This approach averages out the impacts of seasonal variations and takes account of the spread of results.