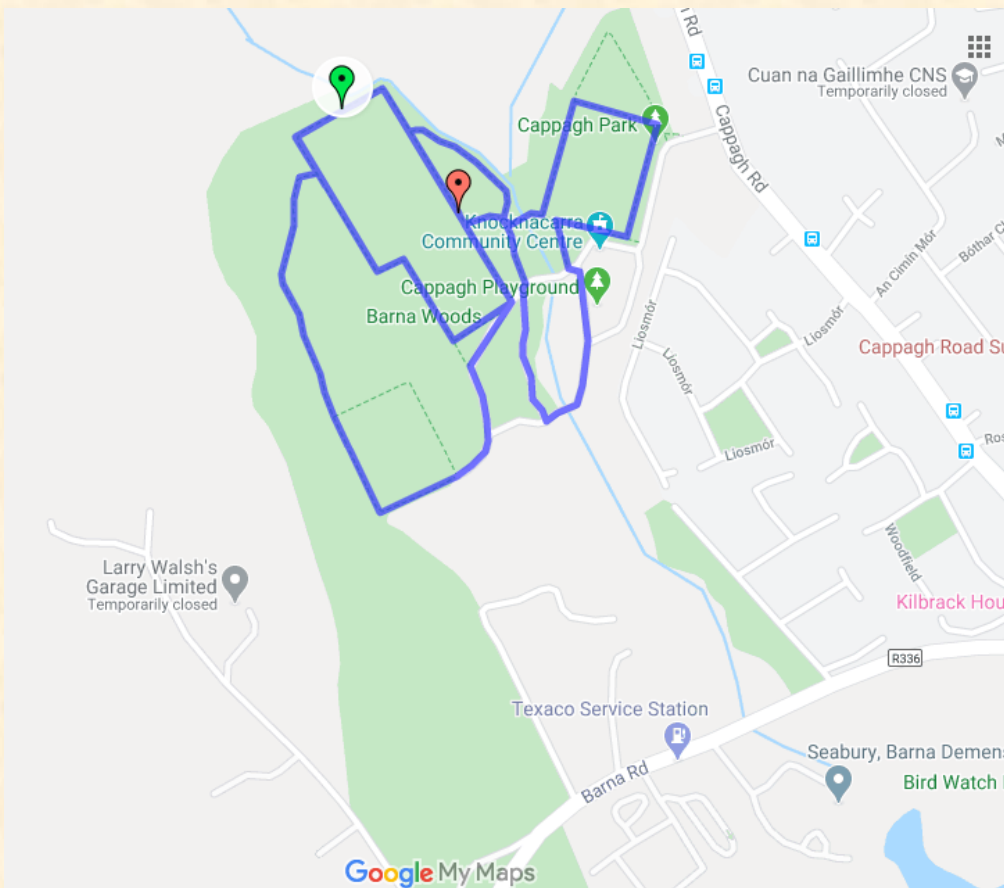


Local Dog Walks

1. Barna Woods

The entrance to Barna Woods is approximately 2km from The Twelve. The entrance is just before Texaco Service Station and there is a car park on either side of the road should you wish to drive rather than walk there. The blue route is 1.66 km. It is used on a Saturday morning at 9.30am by the local parkrun team – they do three laps so it is best avoided at this time.

To get to the woods from the hotel car park you turn right coming out of the car park, then left at the lights as if you are going back towards the city. The woods is on your left hand side just after the Church.



2. Silver Strand

Silver Strand is located on the right hand side of the road, just before Barna Woods. The beach isn't long to walk on but it is lovely for a dip!



3. Roads Around the Hotel

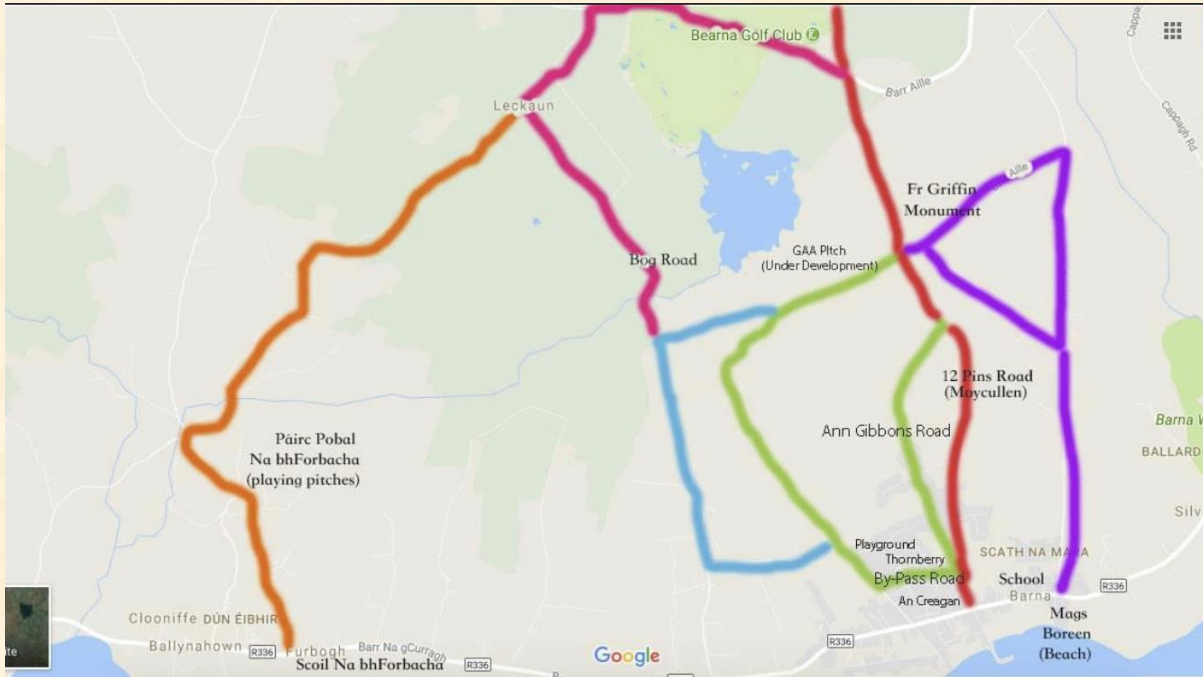
There are various loops that can be taken from leaving the hotel. For reference the hotel on the map is the bottom of the red line.

Distance to Bearna Golf Club: 3.6 km

Distance to Fr Griffin Monument (walking to the start of the purple line and taking the short route) 2.8Km

Distance to Fr Griffin Monument taking the red route: 2.1Km

Distance to Leckaun using red and pink route: 5.1KM coming back down the blue route is another 5km then.



Connemara Walks

There are so many fabulous beaches and walks for humans and dogs as you move further into Connemara.

- The closest coastal walk (apart from Salthill) would be Spiddal Promenade – Spiddal is a ten minute drive from the hotel and you can walk along the paved area right along to a lovely beach called An Trá Mhór.
- Connemara National Park is 1hr and 20 minutes from the hotel. The scenery on the way to and in the park is spectacular. There are three pathways in the park. The highest route wouldn't be suitable for dogs as it gets very steep and rocky, but the lower route is ideal and possibly the medium depending on your dog.
- Sky Road is a must see when near Clifden. There is a 5-6km route taking 1.2 hours. Leave Clifden by the Beach Road, descending towards the quay. Directly ahead on the hill opposite is a monument to John D'Arcy, the founder of Clifden and the man who built Clifden Castle. Just after the ball alley and childrens' playground you will arrive at Clifden Quay. Alexander Nimmo drew up the plans for the quay in 1822, and it was completed in 1831. Clifden Inshore Lifeboat Station is located here and is called out on a regular basis. After about 2km, the road widens into a parking area for Clifden Beach. The Clifden Boat Club is 100 metres further ahead. It houses the Boardwalk Café, where you can stop-off for refreshments. Then, walk back to take the first left, up the hill of Mine Road. Looking back we occasionally get a fine view over the bay and the distant navigation mark, the White Lady on the south-western approaches. A lime-kiln is integrated into the stone wall on the right side of the road 800 metres from the turn. This was used to burn lime-rich rock to fertilise the acidic fields of the Clifden demesne to your left. Soon you come to the castle gates, the entrance

to the demesne. If you have the time, walk through the gateway arch and stroll along the winding trail edged with a series of five standing stones (only one is original). Soon you will be led downhill and turning right to discover a magnificent view of Clifden Bay and Clifden Castle, which was built by Clifden's founder John D'Arcy circa 1810 and which was once his residence. Spend an hour here exploring amid the ruins of D'Arcy's splendid home (exploring inside the castle is not advised). Walking back towards the town, you will notice a sign pointing to the John D'Arcy Monument to your right. A short climb to the summit of Monument Hill will reward you with panoramic vistas of Clifden Bay, Clifden Town and the surrounding area, a good opportunity for photography enthusiasts.

- Derrigimlagh Walk - An easy three to four-hour flat hike exploring the historic Marconi site and part of the Roundstone Bog complex. The Wild Atlantic Way Signature Point of Derrigimlagh, or Derrygimla, is where the first ever transatlantic telecommunications took place and where Alcock & Brown's first non-stop transatlantic flight landed. The ruins of the Marconi telecommunications complex are located in the midst of the very special Roundstone Bog habitat with its unique flora and fauna and multitude of lakes. Terrain includes gravel trails, boardwalks, and wet bogland.
- Dogs Bay and Gurteen (Errisbeg) Peninsula - A two to four-hour coastal walk on the spectacular Gurteen/Gorteen peninsula near Roundstone and Ballyconneeley which is a Discovery Point on the Wild Atlantic Way. Features several spectacular beaches with fine sands and dunes, extensive flora (including rare machair, vibrant lichens, along with seasonal heathers, sea holly, primroses and sea pinks), interesting rocks (granites, gabro), and wonderful sea/mountain views. Distance is ~6km with very little climbing. Terrain is mostly grassy and sandy, with some rocks. (image below)

