

## St. Oliver Plunkett's Church.

This beautiful Hiberno-Romanesque church, built on a foundation stone from Oliver Plunkett's chapel in Ballybarrack, Dundalk, dates from the 1920s.

## Dundalk Bay and the Blackrock Seashore

Dundalk Bay is one of the most important ornithological sites in Ireland. It is designated a Special Area of Conservation (SAC) and a Special Protection Area (SPA), protected at both national and EU level. The seashore and beaches around Blackrock, including the inter-tidal mudflats and salt marshes, are an integral part of the delicate ecology of Dundalk Bay and provide excellent opportunities for viewing oystercatchers, redshank, godwit and brent geese. Information panels on the promenade wall explain the birds and other sea-life of the Blackrock seashore.

## The Heritage of Blackrock

Blackrock has a rich historical and natural heritage arising from its fishing origins and its seashore location. Various heritage points are identified throughout the village and many are marked with this QR code for additional online information.



## Awards

Blackrock is a Gold Medal winner in the National Tidy Towns Competition and overall winner of "Louth Looking Good". It was awarded the title of Ireland's Tidiest Small Town in 2019. It has also received numerous litter-free awards, as well as various distinctions for its clean coastline, green community, and for Blackrock Park.



## What's On in Blackrock

For details of forthcoming events as well as information on cafés, restaurants and pubs in Blackrock, check out our websites

[www.blackrockvillage.ie](http://www.blackrockvillage.ie)  
[www.visitblackrock.ie](http://www.visitblackrock.ie)



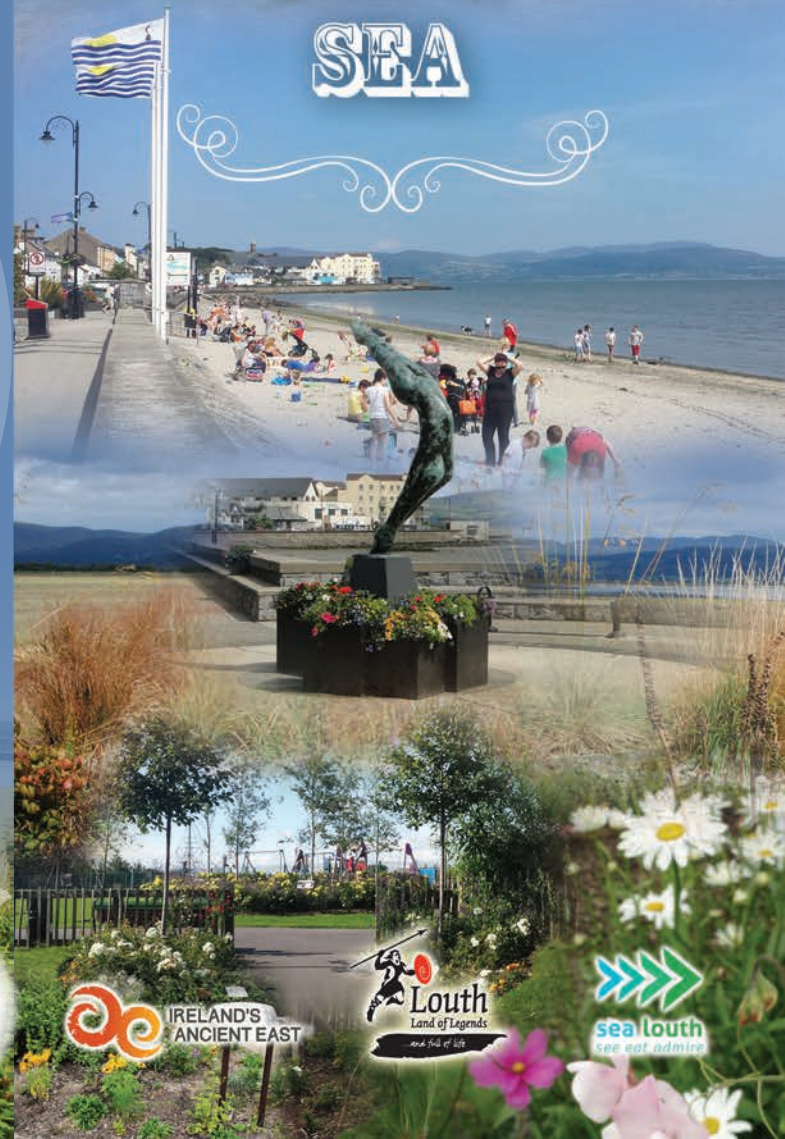
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# BLACKROCK

Co. Louth

So much to *see*  
beside the  
**SEA**





## Blackrock (Na Creagacha Dubha)

The charming seaside village of Blackrock lies on the shores of Dundalk Bay, just 10 minutes drive from Dundalk. Enjoy its beautiful promenade and beaches, seafront cafes and shops, lively pubs and top quality restaurants, tranquil coves and rock pools, and spectacular views of the bay backed by the Cooley Mountains. Blackrock is also one of the scenic viewpoints on the Sea Louth seafood trail ([www.sealouth.ie](http://www.sealouth.ie)). It's the ideal location for a short break, a leisurely daytrip, or an afternoon stroll in the bracing sea air.



## Blackrock's Beaches

Blackrock's beaches include the Main Beach along the promenade, the family-friendly Priests' Beach near the church, the secluded Ladies' Beach just north of the church, and a variety of tranquil havens among the black rocks which gave the village its name.



## Blackrock Millennium Sundial

Blackrock Millennium Sundial is located in the centre of the promenade. It is the largest sundial in a public place anywhere in Ireland and has become the symbol of Blackrock. The bronze sculpture "Aisling" is the work of local artist Tanya Elliott Nyegaard. Instructions on how the Sundial works are provided in the raised rose bed close by.



## "Bradáin"

"Bradáin" (Irish for "Salmon") was installed on the promenade in 2013. It is made from Kilkenny blue limestone and represents the 18th century fishing origins of Blackrock village. The sculpture was created by internationally renowned artist Richard Perry.



## "The Cocklepickers"

"The Cocklepickers" completes a trio of public artworks on the promenade and was installed in 2018. Created from inter-woven stainless steel strips by local artist Micheál McKeown, the sculpture reflects on the importance of cockles to Blackrock families as far back as medieval times.



## Watersports

When conditions are favourable, the waters off Blackrock are ideal for watersports including windsurfing, kitesurfing, paddleboarding and canoeing.



## Blackrock Park

Blackrock Park is on Sandy Lane, only a few minutes walk from the promenade. There is a large children's playground, a sports zone, and a variety of gardens for you to browse at your leisure. The park holds the prestigious Green Flag Community award and is a former national Best Public Park winner. The biodiversity garden has been described as the best in Ireland. The entrances to the park are beside the Community Centre.



## Dundalk Golf Club

Dundalk Golf Club is an 18-hole parkland championship course in an idyllic setting overlooking the bay to the north of the village.

