

The People's Millennium Forests

Glengarra, Co. Tipperary

The **People's Millennium Forests** is the largest-ever project in Ireland aimed at restoring and managing our native woodlands. **Native woodlands** are forests or woodlands made up of tree species that occur naturally in Ireland, such as oak, ash, elm, Scots pine, yew and birch.

Once an intimate part of our culture, Ireland's native woodlands were in danger of becoming a lost legacy and this project, with the support of AIB and the National Millennium Committee, is a hugely successful step to redress centuries of over exploitation, neglect and clearance of our native forests.

To coincide with the celebration of the third Millennium in 2000, sixteen woodlands around Ireland, comprising fifteen hundred acres, were chosen as the **People's Millennium Forests**, and were dedicated in perpetuity to the people of Ireland. 1.3 million young trees of native species were planted on the sites – a tree for every household in Ireland. The millennium trees were planted in sections of the area shown as Young, Mixed Native Woodland on the accompanying map. These saplings have developed into a young, vibrant, **native woodland community**, rich in both plant and animal life. It will take centuries for these forests to reach ecological maturity. Naturally, some of the trees you see here today will disappear from the developing forest, while others will survive to maturity. Many more young trees will join the developing woodland through natural processes over time.

Glengarra is located on the southern foothills of the Galtee Mountains and is some 12km west of Cahir. The Irish name, "An Ghealann Ghairbh", means either "the rough glen" or "Garra's glen" – Garra was a local chieftain in the second century AD. The earliest maps show that there has been forest here for centuries. During the 19th century, Viscount Lismore built a lodge in a beautiful location in Glengarra and surrounded it with a plantation of about 150 acres, containing many unusual, exotic trees. Over the years, an elaborate network of roads and pathways have been created to facilitate the general public. Today, where the millennium trees were planted, you will see young, developing native woodland underneath older trees of oak, birch and Scots pine. Oak trees cling to the steep slopes of the Burncourt River, which bisects the wood. Alder and silver birch grow near the river; with ash, hazel, holly, rowan, wych elm and grey willow on more fertile soils. During spring and summer, yellow pimpernel, bilberry and lady fern can be seen on the forest floor. Look carefully and you may see signs of fallow deer, red squirrel, pine marten, badger and fox. Stay silent and you may hear the call of birds like long-eared owl and sparrow hawk.

We hope you enjoy your visit.



Iora Rua
Red Squirrel



An Cloigín Gorm
Bluebell



An Snag
Tree Creeper

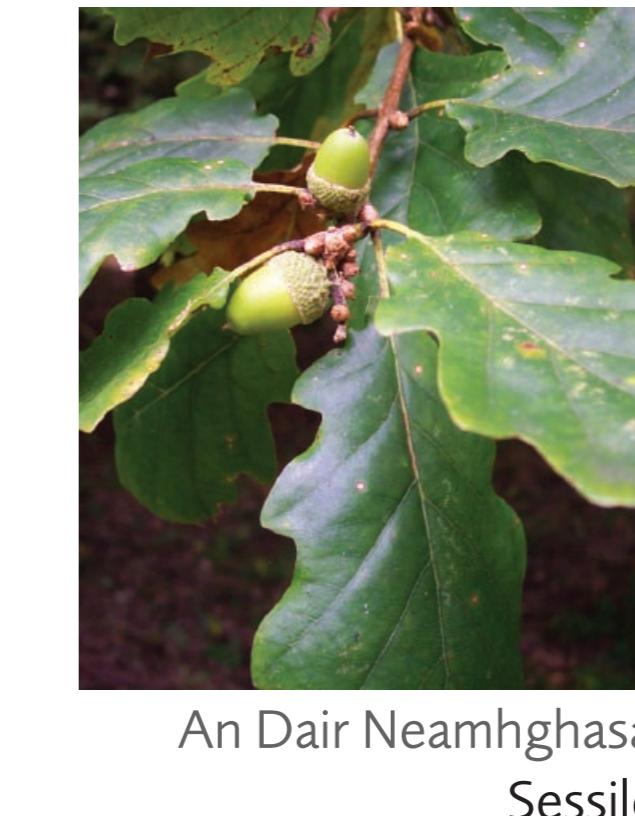


Lus na Gaoithe
Wood Anemone

urraithe ag
sponsored by



á bhainistiú ag
managed by



An Dair Nearmghasánach
Sessile Oak



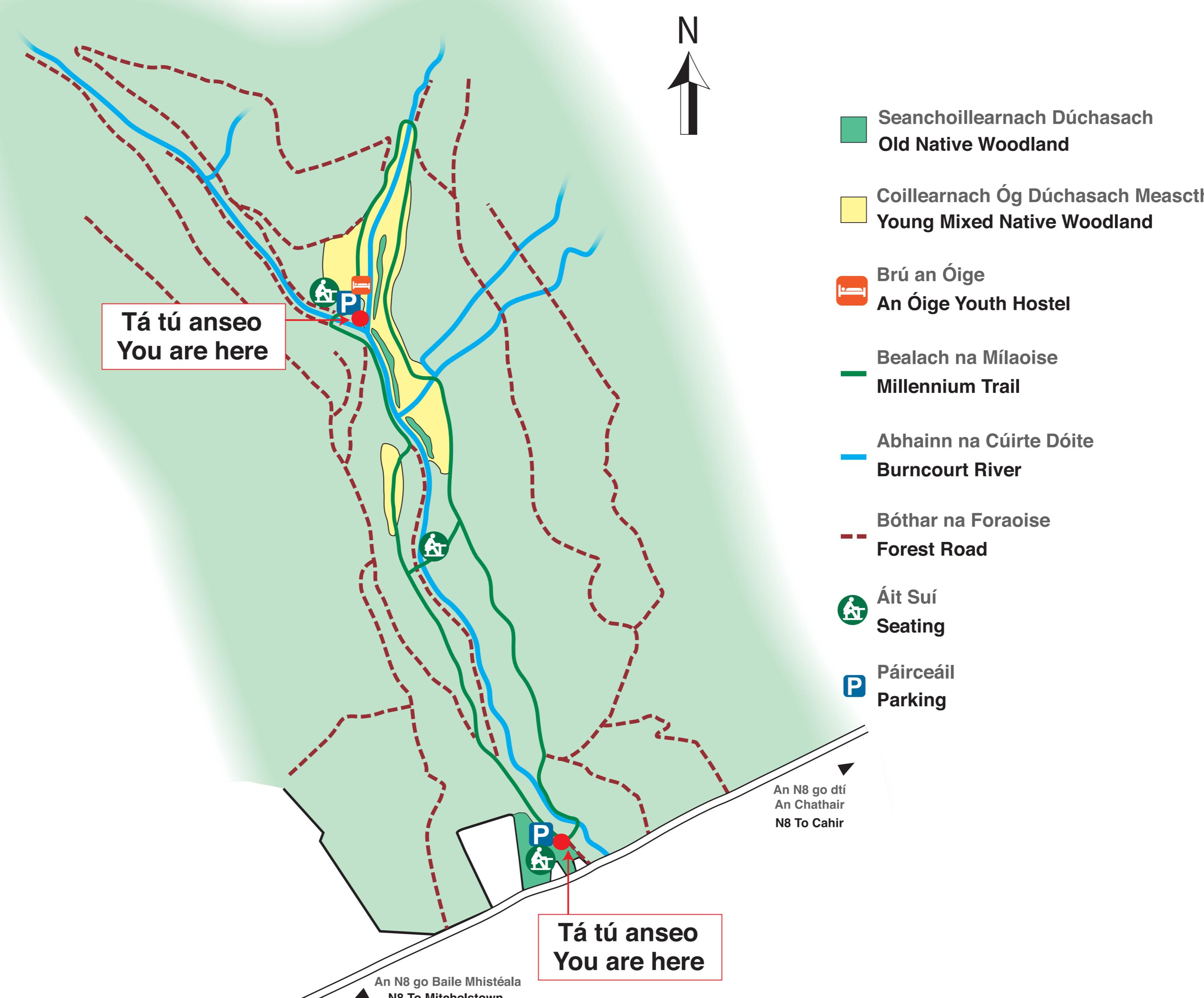
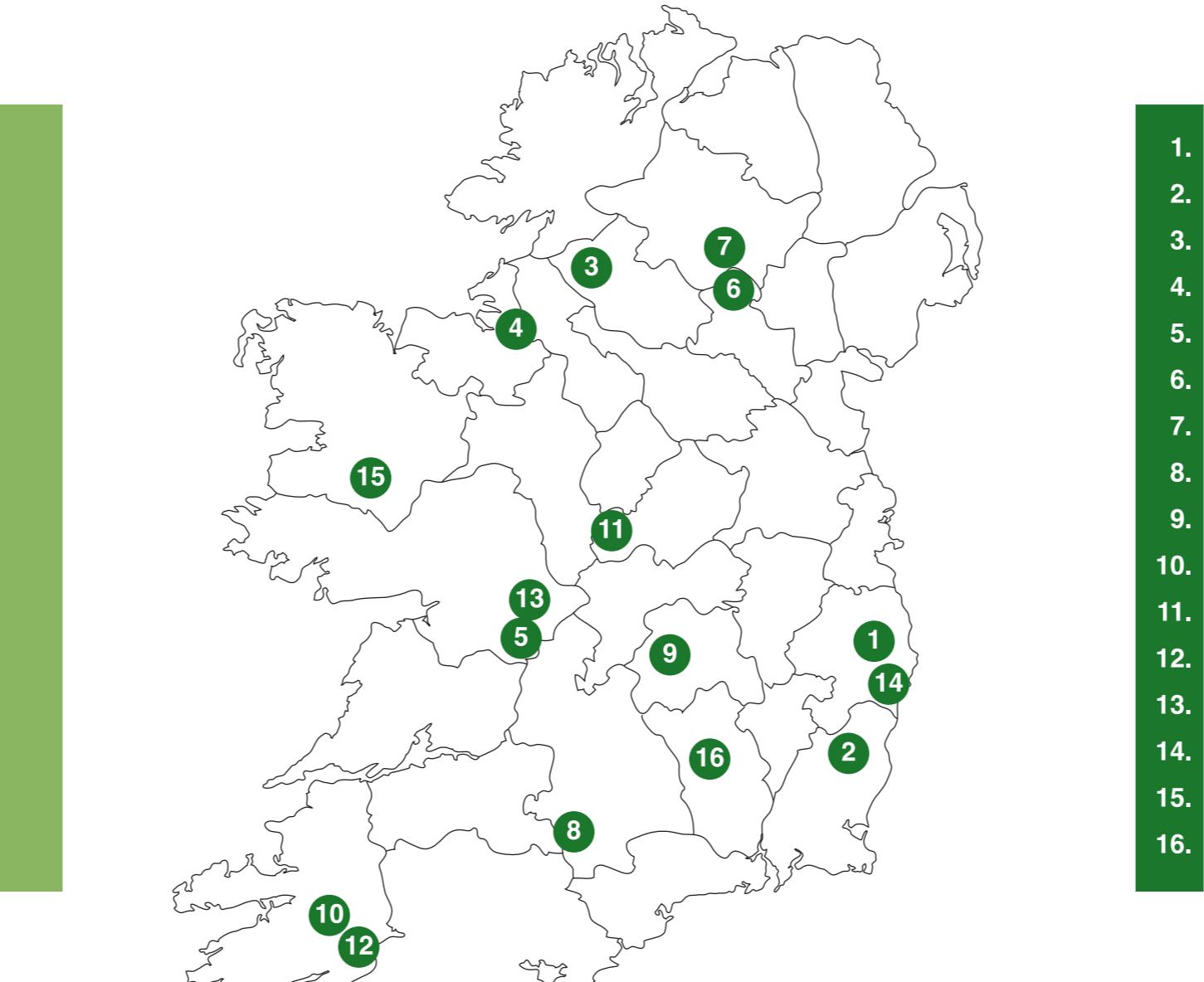
Caor Chon
Guelder Rose



Cat Crainn
Pine Marten



Cuileann
Holly



Foraoiseacha Mílaoise an Phobail

Gleann Garaidh, Co. Thiobraid Árann

Foraoiseacha Mílaoise an Phobail an tionscadal is mó riamh in Éirinn atá dírithe ar choillearnach dúchasach na tíre a athbheóú agus a bhainistiú. Is éard is **coillearnach dúchasach** ann ná foraoiseacha nó coillearnach ina bhfuil speiceas a bhaineann go nádúrtha leis an té seo, speiceas mar dair, fuinseog, leamhán, péine Albanach, iúr agus beith.

Cuid dlúth de chultúr na tíre tráth, tá coillearnach dúchasach na hÉireannanois i mbaol dul in éag agus is céim mhór chun cinn éan tionscadal seo, le tacáchtó AIB agus ó Choiste Náisiúnta na Mílaoise, le haghaidh a thabhairt ar an bhfaillí agus ar an dúshaothró a rinneadh orthu leis na céadta bliain.

Tráth a rabhthas ag ceiliúradh na tríú Mílaoise in 2000 roghnaíodh sé choillearnach déag ar fud na hÉireann, cuig chéad déag acra ar fad, ar **Foraoiseacha Mílaoise an Phobail** a fhágfar anois le hoidhreacht go brách ag muintir na hÉireann. Cuireadh 1.3 milliún crann de speiceas dúchasach ar na láithreacha - crann in aghaidh gach lón tí sa tir. In áiteanna sa limistéar ar a dtugtar Coillearnach Óg Dúchasach Measctha ar an láearscáil a théann leis seo a cuireadh crann na mílaoise. Tá na crainn óga sin anois óg, láidir agus ar **choillearnach dúchasach** a bhfuil saibhreas plandaí agus ainmhithe ag baint leo. Glacfaidh sé na céadta bliain ar na foraoiseacha sin aibíu ó thaobh na héiceolaíochta de. Ar ndóigh ní mhairfidh roinnt de na crainn atá le feiceáil anseo inniu ach mairfidh cuid eile acu go mbeidh siad lán-aibí. Le himeacht ama fásfaidh crann óga eile go nádúrtha sa choillearnach.

Tá **Gleann Garaidh** suite ó dheas ag bun na nGaibhlte 12 km siar ón gCathair. "An gleann garbh" nó "Gleann Garra" – taoiseach áitiúil ab ea Garra sa dara céad AD – an bhri atá leis an ainnm. Léiríonn na láearscáileanna is sine go bhfuil foraoise anseo leis na céadta bliain. Le linn an 19ú céad thóig Vicount Lismore teach in áit álann i nGleann Garaidh agus chuir crann ar 150 acre timpeall air, go leor crainn neamhgnácha, andúchasacha ina measc. Le himeacht na mblianta tóghadh lónra bóithre agus cosán le freastal ar an bpobal. San áit ar cuireadh crann na mílaoise tá coillearnach óg dúchasach le feiceáil ag fás inniu faoi chrainn darach, beithe agus de phéine Albanach atá níos sine. Tá crann darach ag fás ar bhrúacha géara abhainn na Cúirt Dóite a roinneann an choill. Tá fearnóg agus beith gheal ag fás in aice na habhann; chomh maith le fuinseog, coll, cuileann, caorthann, leamhán sléibhe agus saileach liath a bheith ag fás ar thalamh níos fear. San Earrach agus an Samhradh bionn lus Cholm Cille, fraochán agus raitheach Mhuire ag fás ar thalamh na foraoise. Féach go grinn agus feicfidh tú lorg an fhia bhui, an iora rua, an chait chrainn, an bhoic, agus an tsionnaigh. Bí ciún agus b'fheidir go gcloisfeá éin mar an ceann cait agus an spioróg ag gaoach.

Tá súil againn go mbainfidh tú sult as do chuairt.