

## 35. Galtymore

Galtymore is the highest point in County Limerick, shared with County Tipperary, and is situated southeast of Galbally. From Lisvernane in County Tipperary, travel eastwards on the R663 road for Bansha. After 1 km take the next right and then left at the T-junction. This will bring you to the Clydagh Bridge on the bend of the road. Avoid the laneway immediately after the bridge and turn next right, which is signposted. After a short distance you will see a car park [**Point 1**].

Walking distance 13 km,  
Time 4 hrs. Terrain tough.  
O.S. Map 74: Start grid ref  
R875277

**Warning: This walk is for the experienced hill walker.** There are no defined paths and the

terrain is rocky, boggy and uneven, with steep slopes. Knowledge of how to use a compass and read maps is essential. The text below should be matched to the map (Discovery Series 74). Complete a route card, available to download at [www.kerrymountainrescue.ie](http://www.kerrymountainrescue.ie) Do not attempt this on your own, and bring the following: compass, whistle, first aid kit, a packed lunch and a hot drink. Wear waterproof boots and all-weather clothing with a change of clothes for after the walk.

**Starting at the car park [Point 1]** walk straight ahead, passing a sign for Galtymore and lakes. Continue along the tarmac road looking out for Common Darter dragonflies in late summer on the vegetation. Chiffchaff and Willow Warblers can be heard singing from the trees. Ireland's largest butterfly, the Silver-washed Fritillary, may be seen here in July and August as well as Red Admiral, Painted Lady and Peacock. Follow the road, passing some farms, for about 3km to where the road eventually crosses a ford and turns to the right. Keep to the left of the last farmhouse; walk through the forestry and pass through a gate [**Point 2, grid ref. R886255**].



*Galtymore (Patrick Hunt)*



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Peacock



Common Darter (Padraig O'Callaghan)

You are now in a Special Area of Conservation; there is also a sign stating that dogs are not allowed. From this point on there is no obvious path. Walking on the grassy heath, aim for a point between Cush and Galtymbeg. Climb for a while until you reach a stream. Without crossing the stream keep to the left, heading for the shoulder of Galtymbeg. From this shoulder you can see Borheen Lough down below to the left. Soon you will reach rockier ground and some fence posts **[Point 3, grid ref. R 894244]**. Turn right to walk up the steep slopes of Galtymbeg [799m] to the summit **[Point 4, grid ref.**

**R 890241]**. From here, looking west you can see an eroded gap in the blanket bog exposing the bare rock. At the saddle between Galtymore and Galtymbeg you will have met the County Limerick border.

Begin the climb for Galtymore by keeping to the right along the edge overlooking Lough Diheen. When you reach the summit at 919m you will be at the highest point in the County of Limerick **[Point 5, grid ref. R 878238]**.

Though generally lacking in a variety of wildlife, the wonderful views surely make up for that. Look for the Viviparous Fescue Grass, with a head of tiny plants instead of seeds. Descend westerly on a short steep rocky slope, with Lough Curra down below to the right, before heading for a rise. Look for the start of a dry stone wall to the left and follow this around until it turns sharp left **[Point 6, grid ref.**

**R 863242]**. Here you should continue on straight down. By descending to the right you will soon notice a track further down. When reaching this track **[Point 7, grid ref. R 868259]** keep left and follow it until you reach a zigzag. From

here move to the right and follow a line of fence posts along a ditch. At some point you should cross over this fence. Further down you will meet a farm and a gate. Pass this and keep to the road. At the T-junction turn right and pass a small gravel area for parking. Cross over the bridge, avoiding the next laneway and turn right at the next road junction. This will bring you back to the starting point.

Lisvernane  
R 663

Rossadrehid

Clydagh  
Bridge

Farm

Start

1

N ↑

grassland

10km

7

forestry

2km

△  
Cush  
Mountain

Ford

Farm

gate

2

Slieve  
Cushnabinnia

6

8km

Heather

4km

3

Lough  
Curra

Lough  
Diheen

Borheen  
Lough

Galtymore  
(919m)

5

Galtybeg  
(799m)

Co. Limerick

Co. Tipperary

blink  
design

Galtymore 35