Green Holidays
Which holiday would you prefer?

Image A

The Cliffs of Moher, Co. Clare

Adjectives to describe this holiday:
Serene
Escapist

Image B

Grafton Street, Dublin City Centre

Adjectives to describe this holiday:
Bustling
Vibrant
Tourism

1. How central is tourism in your country?

2. What are the advantages and disadvantages of tourism?

3. Can you tell your partner about an area in your country that has been ruined by increased levels of tourism?

4. What is Eco-Tourism?

5. Do you have unspoilt tourist areas in your country?

Choose three words from the image below and explain them to your partner!
Eco-Tourism Guidelines

1. **Protect the environment** – stay on footpaths, don’t throw litter or start fires.
2. **Don't interfere with wildlife** - don't chase or feed the animals.
3. **Protect resources** - don’t waste water or use air conditioning.
4. **Support local communities** - stay in locally owned accommodation and buy produce from local people.
5. **Eat local food and drink** – Don’t use products that have been imported from MEDCs. (more economically developed countries)
6. **Respect local customs and traditions** - some communities do not find it respectful when tourists sunbathe topless or stroll around half-naked in or near certain religious places. Locals appreciate tourists who go the extra mile to learn the language and show a keen interest in their culture.

Ecotourism is becoming increasingly popular and many people appreciate locations away from the **hustle and bustle** of hectic city life. If a location becomes over-developed, they will head to alternative destinations.

**Discuss with your partner:**

1. What is your opinion about the guidelines above? Do you think some of them are too harsh?
2. What do you think are the three most important guidelines?
Tourism has been an **integral** part of the Irish economy for a very long time. Today, Ireland is one of Europe’s **pivotal** eco-tourism destinations and governments in both the north and south are enthusiastic about **safeguarding** their heritage of natural beauty. Ecotourism may be a **new-age** travel concept, but it has a **steeped** history in Ireland, where small-scale, **sustainable**, culturally-sensitive and nature-based eco-escapes have evolved naturally around the country’s **unspoilt** landscape. Ireland’s landscape has always **drawn** global attention, with its **breathtaking** mountain tops and **rugged** coastlines, attracting everyone from **hardcore** climbers, cyclists and surfers to walkers and wildlife **enthusiasts** and even now that tourism is a multi-million Euro industry, locals and tourists are fighting to keep Ireland green.
Choose an Eco-Destination in Ireland

You and your group are planning a visit to Ireland on an Eco-Holiday.

Below are some popular eco-destinations. Choose one of the following websites and answer the questions below.

A. [www.theorganiccentre.ie](http://www.theorganiccentre.ie)
B. [www.thevillage.ie](http://www.thevillage.ie)
C. [www.blaneyspaandyogacentre.com](http://www.blaneyspaandyogacentre.com)

Answer the questions below:

- Our destination is:
- How long will we stay?
- What type of accommodation is available?
- How will we get there?
- How will we get around when we’re there?
- What activities can we do?
- What classes/courses can we take?
- Any other information: