

# Let's Go Walking...

Here are a few useful tips that will help you to enjoy your walk and do your heart good.

- If you're not in the habit of taking regular exercise, start slowly, enjoy being out and about, and gradually build up to the recommended 30 minutes walking a day.
- Drink a glass of water before and after your walk and, don't forget, wear good, comfortable shoes.
- Gradually warm up at the beginning and cool down towards the end.
- Remember, loose clothing is more comfortable and, in winter, add light layers rather than thick, chunky clothes. It's much better.
- Why not try to incorporate walking into your daily activities. Walk to work, to meetings or the shops. The list is endless....
- If you have a history of heart trouble or other significant medical illness, talk to your doctor before you start.
- Stop if you experience unusual symptoms, such as chest pain, dizziness or breathlessness, and consult your doctor.
- Why not invite your friends, family or work colleagues to join you when you go walking...

## Slí na Sláinte

# Slí na Sláinte®

A regular programme of walking...

-  ... keeps your heart strong
-  ... improves muscle strength
-  ... helps to manage your weight
-  ... makes you feel good

**BUT, ABOVE ALL - WALKING IS FUN**

### PHYSICAL ACTIVITY

...reduces risk for several chronic diseases including heart disease, high blood pressure, osteoporosis, anxiety and depression.

For health benefits you need to walk at a hearty pace for at least 30 minutes most days of the week. You can accumulate the 30 minutes or more over two or three shorter sessions.

#### Help to maintain Slí routes

Please report any dangerous obstacles or missing / damaged signs to:

**Customer Services,  
Westmeath County Council  
(044) 933 2000**

# Slí na Sláinte®

The Irish Heart Foundation.  
4 Clyde Road, Ballsbridge, Dublin 4.  
Tel: 01-668 5001 Fax: 01-668 5896

e mail: [info@irishheart.ie](mailto:info@irishheart.ie) • [www.irishheart.ie](http://www.irishheart.ie) • Helpline: 1890 432 787

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The Irish Sports Council



IRISH  
HEART  
FOUNDATION



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SUPPORTED AND FUNDED BY  
WESTMEATH COUNTY COUNCIL

Mullingar, County Westmeath

## Slí na Sláinte

Slí na Sláinte stands for 'path to health'. Developed by the Irish Heart Foundation - the national heart and stroke charity - it's the outgoing way to make walking far more enjoyable. Already, it's capturing the attention of young and old, not only in Ireland but in Europe and other parts of the world too! And no wonder, because it's a fun, healthy way for the average adult to accumulate the recommended 30 minutes of physical activity on most, or preferably all days of the week.

You'll find Slí na Sláinte walking routes all over Ireland. They are marked by bright colourful signposts which are not numbered and are situated at 1 km intervals.



Simply follow the Km signs, set your pace to suit your enjoyment and you'll quickly feel better and get fitter. You will also experience a great sense of achievement.



**The Mullingar Slí na Sláinte is a 4.2km route** which starts beside the shopping centre just off St. Loman's Terrace/Grand Parade and continues for a short distance before turning right onto Ennel View Terrace and on to Patrick Street. Follow the route along Patrick Street for over 1km before turning right at roundabout on C-Link road (canal/railway bridge on left). Walk along the new C-Link road for almost 2km, passing residential areas on left and right, turning right again at the Ballynacarrigy road roundabout and back onto Ashe Road. Continue along Ashe Road past the gaelscoil and army barracks towards the starting point, to complete the walk.

Suitable as a daytime and evening route and can be walked in both directions.

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