Tulira Castle
Ardrahan, County Galway

A national landmark and one of the finest examples of an Irish Castle set within 101 hectares of mature woodland and parkland.

For Sale by Private Treaty.
On c. 101 Hectares (250 Acres)
Tulira Castle

Entrance Hall • Great Hall • Drawing Room • Library • Dining Room • Morning Room • Sitting Room • Study • Kitchen • Butlers Pantry • Work Room
Laundry Room • Boiler Room • Second Floor Sitting Room • Cloak Room • Walk in Vault
Master Bedroom with Dressing Room and Bathroom • Six Further Bedrooms, Five Ensuite • Bathroom • Dressing Room

Castle Tower

Entrance Hall • Edward Martyns Study • Chapel • Wine Cellar • Banqueting Hall

Gate Lodge

Sitting Room • Dining Room • Kitchen • Bedroom • Bathroom

Stable House

Sitting Room • Kitchen • Two Bedrooms • Two Bathroom
Butlers Apartment
Sitting Room • Kitchen • Two Bedrooms • Bathroom

Staff Apartment
Sitting Room and Kitchen • Two Bedrooms • Bathroom

Courtyard
Two Double Garages • Laundry Room • Two Stables • Extensive Original Staff Quarters • Old Laundry Room

Stable & Farm Yards
16 Stables • Various Storage Sheds and Workshops • Hay Barn

Gardens and Lands
Walled Garden • Ornamental Lake • Woodland Walks • Numerous Outdoor Seating Areas • Extensive Woodland • Mature Parkland
Tulira Castle

Tulira Castle is without doubt one of Ireland's most historically significant Castles, with a rich architectural heritage. One enters Tulira Castle through impressive entrance gates which were brought from Dunsandle House in 1950. The Castle is approached by an immaculate three-quarter-mile avenue, lined with 95 lime trees.

The Castle comprises three main buildings, a medieval tower, courtyard buildings and the Victorian Castle. The original structure, a medieval tower house, rests on 12th century foundations. A castellated house was added to the tower in 1882 by Edward Martyn, a leading figure in the Irish Literary and Artistic revival, he commissioned George Ashlin as his architect. Ashlin, a renowned ecclesiastical architect, had only completed two smaller houses prior to designing Tulira, and consequently it became his star project. A large stone set over the main castle door dates the Victorian addition to 1882.

The Victorian Castle

Edward Martyn's large collection of papers and documents relating to Tulira have not survived, however, it is known that the Castle stands on the ruins of an earlier house that was destroyed by fire. The front façade of the castle is in the Gothic Revival style and is striking from every angle. It is believed that Tulira is the only castle in Ireland that has never been invaded, attacked and ransacked and the beautiful Gothic interior attests to this.
The Great Hall

The monumental Great Hall with its 40ft high timber ceiling is the centrepiece of the castle. There are several fine Irish marble columns, varying in style from Irish Black to Connemara Green. The capitals which crown the columns are of carved stone upon one of which an unknown craftsman carved his own likeness. The chimneypiece was designed by Pugin, who famously designed the Palace of Westminster. In 2000, the magnificent stained glass window was added; the design was taken from Pugin work. The main hall window was never glassed, until the present 12-piece stained glass and was installed in 2000. Its design was taken from Pugin work.
**The Reception Rooms**

Apart from the Great Hall, all rooms in the castle have pitch pine floors, which were imported from the U.S.A.

The Drawing Room has hand-made wallpaper to a design by Pugin for Nowton Hall, Suffolk. There eleven original stained glass panels in the upper windows, the remaining four were made to the same design in Galway. The ceiling quadrant decoration stands out by its detail and intricacy. The large marble and carved stone mantel piece with gold over mantle mirror are the centre piece of the room.

The Dining Room has the original wallpaper from the 1880’s. The upper windows in the bay contain six stained glass panels with the crests of the Galway tribes.

The Library is dominated by an oversized limestone mantelpiece; two andirons in the fireplace carry the Martyn family crest. There are three original stained glass panels in the upper windows. The Bay has a stained glass portrait of Edward Martyn flanked by Irish provincial crests.

The Morning Room is the brightest room in the castle. The mantelpiece is very large, similar to the library and would most likely have been moved to Tulira from a nearby Tower House.

In the East Wing there is a fully furnished and equipped kitchen, with an AGA, marble tiled floor and small Dutch wall tiles of varying colours. The Wing also contains a study, workroom, and laundry room.
Morning Room
The Bedrooms

On the first floor of the castle, there are seven substantial bedrooms, the master has a large dressing room and bathroom. Five of the bedrooms have private ensuite bathrooms, and one has a large dressing room. There is also a large family sitting room in the East Wing. Many of the bedrooms contain fireplaces with unique tile motif surrounds depicting various different scenes. On the second floor of the main castle, an oak stairway leads to a sitting room in the tower.
Four Poster Room
The Medieval Tower

While the castle was being built Edward Martyn decided to make the tower habitable. The stone spiral staircase leads to the first floor room with timber floor and ceiling, a fireplace and an adjacent vaulted and brick-clad room. Edward, man of the arts, poet and author, founder of the Palestrina Choir, always worked standing up, and a reproduction of his tall desk is witness to this. There are five panels of stained glass made and signed by Edward Frampton, 1883. The chapel, on the second floor is furnished with an altar and a set of eight oak pews. On the top floor of the castle is the banqueting hall.
The walled garden, which was fully restored in 2006, extends to approximately 2 acres. During the restoration a classical design was chosen with the front cantered around a large stone fountain. The front wall features a greenhouse and a pergola, as well as herb and vegetable gardens. The orchard to the rear with ruined original greenhouse which was originally heated by a fireplace to the rear wall.

To the front of the castle is a large ornamental lake, built in 1990, manicured lawns surround the castle. The estate extends to about 101 Hectares (250 Acres) of which approximately 160 Acres is arable and 90 Acres of mature woodland. There are extensive road/pathways through the woodland and an ornamental summer house.
Secondary Accommodation and Cottages

Tulira Castle has a number of additional houses, including a Gate Lodge, Stable House, Butlers Apartment and further Staff Apartments. There are also extensive original staff quarters in the courtyard that could be converted to further accommodation if required.
Situation
Less than 40 minutes from drive from Galway City, Tulira is a haven of peace and tranquillity majestically situated in mature parkland, within County Galway. County Galway countryside is known for its picturesque beauty in the heart of the West of Ireland.

Schools
There is an excellent selection of schools in the area, which include a number of local primary and secondary schools. There are a number of fee paying schools within driving distance including Yates College in Galway. The renowned National University of Ireland, Galway is also within easy reach.

Shopping
Local needs can be catered for at Ardahan, which offers everyday amenities. Galway city, has an extensive range of shops, boutiques, restaurants, pubs, theatres, cinemas and supermarkets.

Hunting
The renowned Galway Blazers are within easy reach. Other Hunts in the area include, the North Galways, East Galways, Grallagh Harriers and Roscommon Harriers. There are also a number of equestrian centres in easy reach.

Shooting
There are a number of private syndicate shoots in the area.
Fishing
The quality of fishing in the West of Ireland is renowned. There are a number of famous fishing rivers within easy reach, which include the Corrib, Errif, Ballynahinch as well as the famous Delphi Fishery.

Racing
The famous Ballybrit Racecourse which is home to the famous Galway Race Week, is under twenty minutes away and there are many other race meets that occur across the county.

Golf
There are a number of Golf courses within driving distance, which include the Galway Bay Golf Resort, Athenry Golf Club and Gort Golf Club.

Travel
Tulira is extremely well located being close to a network of major roads, railways and airports. The N18 offers a convenient route to Galway City. The M4 to Dublin is within a half an hour drive. Once on the motorway Dublin and Dublin Airport are within a two hour drive. The N18/M18 connects Tulira to Shannon Airport in approximately 50 minutes. Galway is served by a mainline rail service to Athlone and Dublin.
Tulira Castle Approximate Gross Internal Floor Area

Castle: 1,185 sq.m  
Tower: 160 sq.m  
Staff Apartment: 210 sq.m  
Stable House: 130 sq.m  
Gate Lodge: 67 sq.m
Services
OFCH, Two Wells, ESB, Broadband.

BER Details
BER Exempt (Listed Building)

Viewing
Strictly By Appointment

Directions

**From Galway:** Take the N18 in the direction of Gort. After Ardrahan Village continue straight. After 1.7km you will pass a service station on your left. After 1.2km Tulira will be on your left with grey stone pillars.

**From Shannon:** Take the M18/N18 towards Galway. Continue through Gort. After 7km Tulira will be on your right marked by grey stone pillars.
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