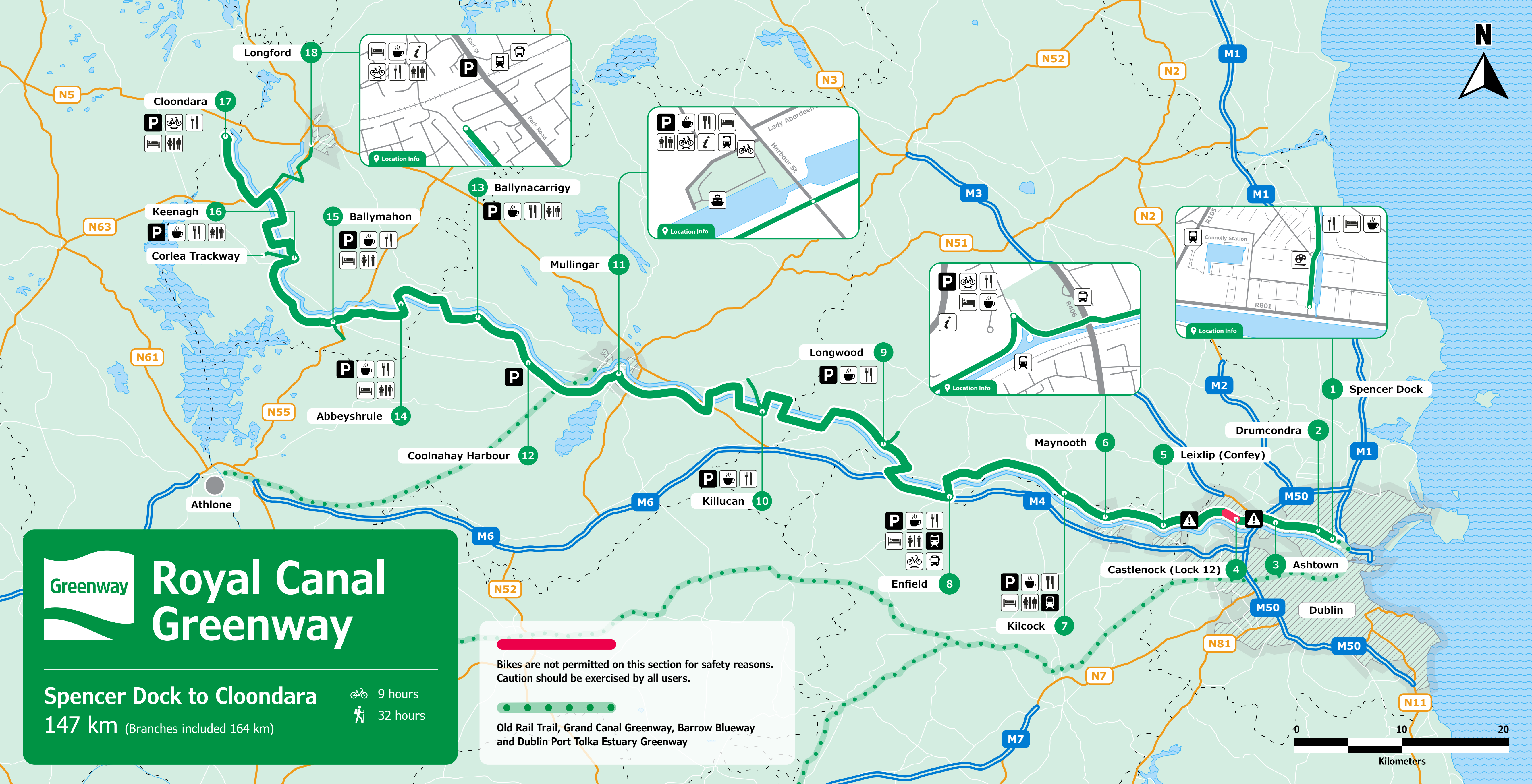




1-4 **Spencer Dock to Castleknock** 10 km

The greenway begins at Spencer Dock in Dublin city centre, a former industrial dock built in 1873. From here, the route quickly becomes off road, following the Royal Canal through the city. Passing the Luke Kelly statue, it continues through neighbourhoods including Glasnevin and Cabra, passing under Broom’s Bridge. As the landscape becomes more suburban, road noise increases. The route passes beneath the M50 via a distinctive aqueduct, after which the quieter setting of the 12th Lock provides a sense of transition before reaching Castleknock.

4-5 **Castleknock to Leixlip** 7 km

Leaving Castleknock, the route enters the Deep Sinking, where the towpath runs at a notable height above the canal. This section requires care due to uneven surfaces, steep embankments and overhanging branches. Bikes are not permitted on this section. At Clonsilla, the route briefly becomes smoother and more urban before reverting to a grassier, sometimes rutted path as the surroundings turn rural again. The Confey railway station signals the approach to Leixlip.

5-8 **Leixlip (Confey) to Enfield** 27 km

From Leixlip onwards, surfaces are generally tarmac or compacted gravel. The route passes over the Ryewater Aqueduct. Beyond Leixlip, the greenway passes by the 13th Lock, widening into a harbour at the gates of Carton House. At Maynooth, the canal features another harbour and a vibrant town. The route continues through open countryside passing through Kilcock. The canal crosses repeatedly between counties Kildare and Meath skirting the Enfield’s northern edge. The route switches to the southern bank, requiring careful crossing of a busy road.

8-11 **Enfield to Mullingar** 41 km

This is a largely rural section. Near Longwood, the distinctive Ribbontail Footbridge provides canal access, with the village located a short distance away. Shortly after, the route passes over the three arch Boyne Aqueduct, a gentle incline leads to Thomastown, where a harbour and the 18th Lock offer a natural rest point. The canal then reaches its summit through a dense sequence of locks before entering Mullingar, where the greenway passes a landscaped harbour area.

11-15 **Mullingar to Ballymahon** 38 km

West of Mullingar, the route continues under a series of stone bridges and past Coolnahay Harbour, an attractive stopping point. The journey continues through scenic countryside featuring canal heritage. On entering County Longford, the route crosses the impressive five arch Whitworth Aqueduct and passes through Abbeyshrule. A further 11 km leads to Ballymahon, including a short section on a local road.

15-17 **Ballymahon to Cloondara** 24 km

Rejoining the Royal Canal Greenway, the route bends northwards, with an optional detour to the Corlea Trackway. This heritage site features a remarkably preserved Iron Age trackway. Continuing along the towpath, the route passes through the picturesque Mosstown Harbour, with the village of Keenagh nearby. The route passes by the gate house of the former Mosstown Demesne. Although the main house no longer survives, an octagonal pigeon house and other remnants of this estate remain.

15-17 **Ballymahon to Cloondara (ctd.)** 24 km

At Cloonsheerin, there is an option to follow the Longford branch of the canal to Longford town, which has a railway station for onward travel. Staying on the main line, a further seven kilometres leads to Richmond Harbour in Cloondara, where plentiful amenities are available. Nearby, the 46th Lock marks the final lock on the Royal Canal before it meets the Camlin River and, shortly after, the River Shannon—an ideal place to celebrate completing Ireland’s longest greenway.

Map Legend

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|---------------|-------------|---------------|
| Parking | Train | Toilets |
| Train Station | Information | Bike Repair |
| Bus Station | Restaurant | Accommodation |
| | Picnic Area | Refreshments |
| | Ferry Port | Public Art |
| | Bus Stop | Bike Hire |