

## **BUSINESSES IN MONKSTOWN**

Monkstown's idyllic setting at the head of the West Channel as it turns to join Monkstown Bay and the Lower Harbour offers much to the day-tripper and tourist. Situated between the Cross River Ferry and the ferryport at Ringaskiddy, it is an ideal stop-off for travellers heading either east or west. Some six miles from the southern suburbs of Cork City and five minutes drive from Carrigaline, businesses in Monkstown specialise in offering, not the shopping experience of larger towns, but the finer things in life.

Whether passing through or relaxing after a walk along the sea-front, the finest of refreshments and service are offered in the village's three hostelrys. The Bosun Bar and Restaurant is on the main road opposite the pier. Pub of the Year in 2002, the Bosun offers a wide selection of bar food any time of day, all year round. Table d'hôte and a la carte menus are offered in the 80-seater restaurant, with seafood being a particular speciality. The Bosun also offers accommodation with harbour views. The ever-popular Ensign featuring routine live music, vibrant clientele and boasting a bright new look in recent times is a great spot to relax overlooking the water. At the heart of the village and signposted from the Sandquay is the Monkstown Inn. Established in 1835, the bar is spacious, of great character and a great live music venue. The restaurant seats 50 and offers a fine selection of good food. Take your refreshments outside and relax in the sun while your children have fun in the playground across the road.

Perhaps inspired by the local heritage and fine architectural character of the village, art, architecture and interior design are a strong characteristic of business in Monkstown. Centre to this is Hazelhurst, a fine Victorian house overlooking the water, which welcomes visitors even for just a look around. A visit to Hazelhurst would transform even the most modest of homes. Here, Hazelhurst Interiors displays its fine array of personally selected artefacts and furniture. The materials and wallpapers offered by the Designer Library in the Hazelhurst basement are virtually unique in their magnificence and opulence. Ivan Wolfe, a framemaker of the finest skill, has his workshop on the first floor. The Gladys Leach Collection is also based in Monkstown, featuring reproductions and other gifts based on the work of the fine Cork artist. Art and construction meet through the work of architect Alex White, operating out of his premises on the Strand Road, while the designs of Coveney & Associates Architects on Fairy Hill combine modern ideals with historic elegance.

Should you not have time to relax in the picturesque Monkstown environment, you can take a quick stop at the Spar Daily Express shop tucked between The Bosun and The Ensign. This bright new shop is stocked with all the daily essentials and a few non-essentials too!