Ellen Hutchins, who is widely regarded as Ireland’s first female botanist, was born in Ballylickey on the shores of Bantry Bay in 1785. This trail will take you to places that were important to Ellen and will allow you to experience the beautiful environment which inspired her to study and record the flowering plants, seaweeds, mosses, liverworts and lichens around Bantry Bay. Her story is told using her letters and the journal of a Walsh botanist who visited her at Ballylickey. This trail provides an introduction to Ellen’s story but to find out more and to hear the seaweeds, mosses, liverworts and lichens around Bantry Bay. For more information on other activities and sites around Bantry, see www.visitbantry.ie

**INTRODUCTION**

Ellen Hutchins, who is widely regarded as Ireland’s first female botanist, was born in Ballylickey on the shores of Bantry Bay in 1785. This trail will take you to places that were important to Ellen and will allow you to experience the beautiful environment which inspired her to study and record the flowering plants, seaweeds, mosses, liverworts and lichens around Bantry Bay. Her story is told using her letters and the journal of a Walsh botanist who visited her at Ballylickey. This trail provides an introduction to Ellen’s story but to find out more and to hear the seaweeds, mosses, liverworts and lichens around Bantry Bay. For more information on other activities and sites around Bantry, see www.visitbantry.ie

**BOTANICAL BEGINNINGS**

Ellen became ill at school in Dublin and Dr Whitley Stokes, a family friend, took her under his care in his Dublin home. When she was called back to Ballylickey to help look after her mother and disabled brother, Dr Stokes advised her to take up the study of botany, which would encourage her to spend time outdoors and also give her an interesting indoor occupation: examining, recording and preserving the plants she collected. He introduced Ellen to James Mackay, botanist at Trinity College Dublin, and Mackay sent Ellen’s specimens to many of the eminent botanists of the day.

Ellen showed “extraordinary talents and extraordinary industry” in her pursuit of botany and had the advantage of living by Bantry Bay, an area with a magnificent biodiversity and remote enough not to have been explored. Ellen quickly became a valued member of a community of specialist botanists. One in particular, Dawson Turner, in Yarmouth, England, became Ellen’s greatest mentor and friend. Although they never met in person, their correspondence led to a deep friendship that developed over a seven-year period. Dawson Turner named one of his species in Ellen’s honour, and asked her to become the child’s Godmother.

An audio guide to the trail is available via www.ellenhutchins.com

Please wear suitable footwear for walking. Check local forecasts and tides. See plants up close by borrowing a hand lens from Bantry Tourist Office. Visit www.ellenhutchins.com for:

- audio guide to trail
- in-depth information on Ellen Hutchins
- links to online plant identification resources
- details of the annual Ellen Hutchins Festival which takes place in and around Bantry during Heritage Week in August.

**LOCATION: Church Road, Bantry (V9882 4999).**
**ACCESS:** Within walking distance of all car parks in Bantry. Open 10am-5pm most days.

**1. Garryvoe Beach, Bantry**

**LOCATION:** Garryvoe Beach is located 8.5km north of Bantry on the N71.
**ACCESS:** Parking is available at Manning’s Emporium (W9094 5320) or the Ouseen Falls.

**2. Blue Hill and Beach, Bantry**

**LOCATION:** Blue Hill is located 6km north of Bantry on the N71.
**ACCESS:** Car parking and picnic areas are available in the woods.

**3. Snave Beach**

**LOCATION:** Snave Beach is located 8.2km north of Bantry on the N71 (V981 5434).
**ACCESS:** Parking is available at the side of the road at Snave Bridge.

**4. Coomhola**

**LOCATION:** Coomhola is located 1.7km north of Snave (W941 5355).- take the right hand turning just after Snave Bridge.
**ACCESS:** Parking is available near Coomhola Bridge at the trailhead for the Corrycomman Loop Walk. Visit www.ellenhutchins.com/Trail/Corrycomman-Loop/5856/

**5. Priest’s Leap**

**LOCATION:** Priest’s Leap is located 8km north of Coomhola (W985 6116).
**ACCESS:** Parking is available in a small layby at the summit of the road.


**LOCATION:** Glengarriff Woods is located 1km north of Glengarriff village on the N71 (W9512 5316).
**ACCESS:** Car parking and picnic areas are available in the woods.
[www.glengarriffnaturereserve.ie](http://www.glengarriffnaturereserve.ie)

**7. Hungry Hill and Healy Pass**

**LOCATION:** Adrigole is 1km south west of Glengarriff on the N572 towards Castletownbere. Turn right in Adrigole for the Healy Pass, travel 7km to the highest point (W7888 5357)
**ACCESS:** Parking is available in a layby overlooking Adrigole Harbour.
In Ellen's day, the most common way to travel down the peninsula was by boat as the roads were extremely rough. Ellen, being able to get to Hungry Hill would have been a major expedition for Ellen. At its summit, Ellen would have found the ancient cairn which is still there today. To the east, across the two sides are two lakes, both of which drain into the Ballylickey Channel. The eastern part of the Peninsular is St Patrick's Cabbage, Kitty Santiago and Irish Sprigge. As with the western,你喜欢的话，可以将这段文本翻译成中文。