

Wicklow Town: 13th out of 40 Towns / Cities surveyed. Cleaner than European Norms

A best-ever showing for Wicklow Town on its return to the League after an absence of several years. Top ranking sites included the Car Park on Church Street, the Main Street and Wicklow Harbour to Murrough Playground – the latter was exceptionally good in terms of litter. This lovely ‘promenade’ walk is clearly a very well respected environment. Ironically, the one seriously littered site was the ‘Viewing Area’ on Dunbur Road. Most of the site was excellent with regard to presentation and maintenance but it was badly let down by heavy accumulations of food and alcohol related litter in a corner location.

Main Street: Grade A. The Main Street in Wicklow Town has quite a number of vacant / unoccupied / boarded up properties but these didn’t impact in any negative way on the litter situation - clearly a careful eye is kept on them. The remainder of the street was generally good with regard to litter.

Car Park, Church Street: Grade A. This town centre car park was excellent with regard to litter. The seating, visitor information notice and pathways were all in very good order. The wall mural for the plant shop added some great colour.

Market Square: Grade B+. A very attractive town centre environment with surrounding buildings well presented. Ornamental trees, paving, sculpture, seating, etc. were all in very good condition. Most of the litter was on the ramp area - otherwise it was very good with regard to litter.

Wicklow Harbour to Murrough Playground: Grade A. This was an extensive stretch of pedestrian pathway, parallel to the sea. It was an excellent site with regard to litter, spotless throughout. Dog fouling equipment / life belts / PE equipment / playground etc. were all in very good condition. Clearly this popular area is very well respected by the users.

South Quay: Grade B+. Dog fouling smell was pronounced on arriving from Bridge Street. Cigarette butts were the most widespread form of litter, most particularly outside the various commercial premises, ironically, many of which were health / fitness related. Being a waterside environment if the cigarette butts are not removed in a timely manner they will quickly enter the water close-by. The remainder of the area was fine with regard to litter.

‘Viewing Area’ on Dunbur Road: Grade C+. An amenity with parking, picnic tables, extensive grass area where one can enjoy sweeping sea views. The majority of the area was in very good order in terms of presentation and maintenance. However, there was a corner site on the left hand side as one looked out to sea where there heavy accumulations of litter, mostly food and alcohol related. The remainder of the site was spotless.

Dunbur / Brittas Approach Road: Grade A. Welcoming signage and planted areas created a positive first impression of Wicklow Town. There was no visible litter along the area surveyed.

Glebemount: Grade A. A very extensive residential development with mature planting throughout. Maintenance was excellent and litter was virtually non-existent throughout many side roads. Care needs to be taken inside the entrance on the left hand side to ensure that items are not discarded.

Approach to Grand Hotel from Ashtown Roundabout: Grade A. There were no litter issues along this route, with good road surface (along some stretches) creating a fresh impression.

N11 / M11 from Bray direction: Grade A. The overall impression created along this road was an excellent one. All appeared in good order, with the maintenance / grass cutting contributing to the overall impression.