

Mizen Arched Bridge Replacement 2010



2010 is a very special year for Mizen Head Signal Station. The famous Arched Bridge is 100 years old. It has given great service. Until 1993 it was used solely by the Commissioners of Irish Lights personnel. Light keepers, tradesmen dignitaries and guests. The general public were not admitted unless they had written permission from CIL. In 1994 Mizen Tourism (a local community co-operative) took a lease on the path across the Bridge to open the Signal Station as a visitor experience. The Centre has gone from strength to strength, but a problem has been looming. Since 2005 the Bridge needed to be replaced. An expensive job! After five years of negotiations, the job has started. The Commissioners of Irish Lights, Cork County Council and Fáilte Ireland have joined forces to fund the new Bridge. It will look just like the old one. It will be constructed in concrete reinforced with stainless steel. It is guaranteed for the next 150 years. The schedule for completion is November 2010.

We apologise for any inconvenience. The contractors are demolishing the old Bridge and constructing the new Bridge throughout this year so we have some new displays and exciting attractions in the visitor centre for you.

We hope you enjoy them.



Mizen Head Visitor Centre

Near Goleen, West Cork

028-35225/35115

info@mizenhead.ie

www.mizenhead.com

www.mizenhead.net

Ireland's most South-westerly Point!



Mizen Café and Shop at the Mizen open daily

Directions

From Cork Follow the N71 to Ballydehob then take the R592 through Schull and Goleen; then follow the signs for the Mizen Head Drive.

From Killarney Follow the N71 to Bantry; take to R591 (marked Crookhaven) through Durrus and Goleen and follow the signs for the Mizen Head Drive

Opening Daily June—August 10 am-6pm
mid March April, May, Sept, Oct 10.30am-5pm
Weekends November-mid March 11am-4pm

Special Prices for 2010

Adults €4.50 Seniors and Students
€3.50 Children under 12
free. Groups less 10%

Manager: Stephen O'Sullivan



Photos by Michael Collins, Jules Thomas, Stephen O'Sullivan, Sue Hill and Darrmaid Glynn

Mizen Head

Ireland's most South-westerly Point!



*A must-see Experience
for Everyone!
Come and See for yourself!*

Mizen Head Visitor Centre

*Open daily mid-March to October;
November—mid March weekends.*

Mizen Head Visitor Centre Guide

- ⊙ **Mizen Café** serving the best of homemade dishes. Delicious light lunches, snacks, scones, desserts, tea and coffee. Children's menu.
- ⊙ **Shop @ the Mizen** has a wide range of gifts, cards, toys, books and souvenirs.
- ⊙ **Washrooms**

What can you see at the Mizen?

Entrance Hall

- ⊙ **Water on Rock and From Sea to Sky** –sculptures by Sheena Woods of The Ewe, Glengarriff. www.theewe.com
- ⊙ **Lighthouse Keepers' Crafts.** Models of hands making bread, fishing, gardening, putting ships in bottles, painting

Mizen Café

- ⊙ **Photographs of the Lighthouses of Southwest Ireland,** Postcards of all the lighthouses in Ireland, by John Eagle, Eyeries, Beara, www.johneaglephotography.com
- ⊙ **Mizen Birds, Fauna, Flora and Ancient sites** by Richard Mills.
- ⊙ **Admiralty Charts** of the Southwest Coast on your table.

Fastnet Hall

- ⊙ **Shop @ the Mizen** Gifts, books, toys, cards, souvenirs to suit all pockets.
- ⊙ **1/10 scale model of the Fastnet Rock Lighthouse** by ex lightkeeper Geoff McCarthy and master carpenter Dave Otway, framer@iol.ie
- ⊙ **The coast of the Mizen from the Fastnet mural** by Jules Thomas. www.julesthomas.com
- ⊙ **The Fastnet Lighthouse** on film (touchscreen)
- ⊙ **The Centenary of the Fastnet Lighthouse** celebrations
- ⊙ **Displays of local interests.**

Mizen Hall

- ⊙ **Rescue at sea around the Fastnet**— electronic moving Tide Clock. Hear the storm blowing and watch what happens every 15 minutes!
- ⊙ **Ecology of the Tide**— mural showing the sea creatures and plants at various stages of the tide
- ⊙ **Time lapse film** of the tide in Goleen Harbour
- ⊙ **Weather now and then.** Take a weather reading as the light keepers did and see how it is done now
- ⊙ **Geology of the Mizen**
- ⊙ **A tour and the history of Goleen Parish**
- ⊙ **The progress of the Mizen project** from 1992-2009
- ⊙ **What goes past the Mizen at sea?**
- ⊙ **Architectural model of Mizen Head** by Angelique Power

The Ship's Bridge

- ⊙ **Navigational Aids Simulator.** The Simulator gives you the experience of steering a real ship. It has been developed to train seafarers in every possible circumstance they might find themselves at sea. The screens show computer generated images (CGI) of real places in real time. The instruments are the helm—you can use the wheel or levers to steer the boat; radar, which shows you what other traffic is in the area; the electronic map which shows your route and also enables you to plot your journey. The weather, day/night, sea state, traffic, type of ship e.g. bulk oil tanker, container ship, car ferry, rib, yacht or trawler, can all be changed.
- ⊙ **For the first time this year you are invited to have a go, for a modest charge. It is first come, first served. The times are 3 minutes and 5 minutes. It doesn't sound very long, but it is surprising how strenuous it is!**

- ⊙ **Shipwrecks round the Mizen and Fastnet**
- ⊙ **CIL Photographic exhibition** of the building of the Fastnet Rock Lighthouse
- ⊙ **Signals**— International Flags and the Signals Book
- ⊙ **The Arched Bridge** The entries to the competition for the building of the original Bridge and photographs of the opening in 1910.



Upstairs to The Keepers' Quarters.

- ⊙ **The Bridge 2010 progress reports in photographs and film**
- ⊙ **Views of Mizen Head Signal Station**
- ⊙ **3 steps to see the cliffs** and the waves pounding in from the Atlantic ocean
- ⊙ **The Keepers in their Kitchen and Bedroom** (Quiet! You might wake him up!)
- ⊙ **The daily life of light keepers**
- ⊙ **Seabirds round our coast**
- ⊙ **Scale models of Whales**

