

EAST CLARE is home to a pair of rare White-tailed Eagles that have successfully hatched chicks in Ireland for the first time in over 100 years. This pair also created history in 2012 when they nested for the first time on an island near Mountshannon, Co. Clare, on the shore of scenic Lough Derg.

These are the first chicks of the high profile re-introduction programme which began in 2007 with the release of young Norwegian eagles in Killarney National Park as part of the White-tailed Eagle re-introduction programme developed and funded by the Department of Arts, Heritage and the Gaeltacht in partnership with Golden Eagle Trust.

The eagle pair made Mountshannon their home in 2011 and it is expected they will remain and nest here every year. The eagle chicks are flying since late July and are expected to remain in the area for some months. The eagles have generated huge interest locally and nationally.

"It's fantastic that the high profile conservation effort to restore this magnificent eagle to Ireland is now proving successful in East Clare," said Project Manager, Dr. Allan Mee. *"We knew that Lough Derg would be a great place for White-tailed Eagles but we didn't realise when we released the birds in Killarney that our first nest would be here in Mountshannon. The eagles are a real addition to the area and the people of East Clare should be proud to have the first pair nesting in this beautiful area!"* Over the weeks and months people have travelled from all over Ireland to see the eagles. *"We invite anyone keen to see this amazing wildlife spectacle to come to Mountshannon to see White-tailed Eagles for themselves and discover all that East Clare has to offer"!!*

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Photography: Valerie O'Sullivan, Golden Eagle Trust • Print: MDP 061 921475 info@mdpireland.ie

White-tailed Eagle Watching

in
East Clare



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