



The River Boyne (Irish: An Bhóinn or Abhainn na Bóinne) is a river in [Leinster, Ireland](#), the course of which is about 112 kilometres (70 mi) long. It rises at Trinity Well, Newberry Hall, near [Carbury, County Kildare](#), and flows towards the Northeast through [County Meath](#) to reach the [Irish Sea](#) between [Mornington, County Meath](#) and [Baltray, County Louth](#). [Salmon](#) and [trout](#) can be caught in the river, which is surrounded by the Boyne Valley.

Despite its short course, the Boyne has historical, archaeological and mythical connotations. The [Battle of the Boyne](#), a major battle in [Irish history](#), took place along the Boyne near [Drogheda](#) in 1690 during the [Williamite war in Ireland](#). It passes near the ancient city of [Trim](#), [Trim Castle](#), the [Hill of Tara](#) (the ancient capital of the High King of Ireland), [Navan](#), the Hill of [Slane](#), [Brú na Bóinne](#) (an archaeological site), [Mellifont Abbey](#), and the medieval city of [Drogheda](#). In the

Boyne Valley can also be found other historical and archaeological monuments, like Loughcrew, [Kells](#), Celtic crosses, castles, and more.

This river has been known since ancient times. The Greek geographer [Ptolemy](#) drew a map of Ireland in the 2nd century which included the Boyne, which he called Βουουινδα (Bououinda), and somewhat later [Giraldus Cambrensis](#) called it Boandus. In [Irish mythology](#) it is said that the river was created by the [goddess Boann](#) ('queen' or 'goddess') and Boyne is an anglicised form of the name. In other legends, it was in this river where [Fionn mac Cumhail](#) captured Fiontán, the [Salmon of Knowledge](#). The Meath section of the Boyne was also known as "Smior Fionn Feidhlimthe" [1] (the 'marrow of Fionn Feilim').

There are a number of railway bridges and viaducts crossing the Boyne which are well known.