



Walkers to come out in force for Special Olympics

SPECIAL Olympics Ireland is inviting walking enthusiasts of all levels to join the inaugural Special Olympics Walking Festival.

The two-day guided walking tour, which will take place on July 28 and 29 will take in the breathtaking scenery of Glendalough, the Vale of Glendassan and the gentle slopes of Camaderry Mountain.

The event is open to walkers who wish to join for either or both days and the route has been carefully mapped out by experienced guides who will accompany the walkers every step of the way.

On the Saturday the walk will take in the Circuit of Glendassan, a distance of 16.5km. Walkers will set out from the Glendalough Visitors Centre Car Park at 11am. The route is along a narrow valley bounded by steep forest cliffs before ascending the gentle slopes of Camaderry Mountain and finishing along the spur of Camaderry Mountain.

The following day walkers will be bussed to Glenmalur from where the planned route will follow the Wicklow Way as far as the monastic site and tower of St Kevin, covering a total distance of 14 km.

All funds raised through this walking festival will go to support the work of Special Olympics Ireland.

Looking forward to the inaugural walks, Special Olympics athlete and avid walking fan Fiona Byrne said "The Special Olympics Walking Festival is going to be a great event.

"I love to get out and explore the beautiful countryside in my free time. It's a great way to keep fit and have fun at the same time.

"If you have never been

part of a walking tour like this before you really should give it a try, I can guarantee you will really enjoy it!"

The Special Olympics Walking Festival is proudly supported by mention 53 Degrees North and Camino Ways.

For more info. or to book your place please contact Jeremy Perrin at Special Olympics Leinster on 01-629 6999 or visit www.specialolympics.ie



Fiona Byrne, a Special Olympics athlete and a member of An Oige Hillwalkers Club at the launch of the inaugural Special Olympics Walking Festival in the Phoenix Park