

We Have A Mission...



A dynamic growth centre for business
is developing in Ireland

Welcome To Carlow

WHERE PRECISION IS A TRADITION

to develop...

**business and technology opportunities
close to Ireland's capital**

Why Carlow?

Recent global analysis confirms Ireland as one of the most profitable countries in the world for international corporations. Profits made by US companies in Ireland doubled from 1999 to 2002.

Ireland offers:

- *The lowest corporation tax rate in Europe at 12.5%*
- *A skilled, well educated workforce, with relevant technological and business skills*
- *A competitive economy*
- *High productivity levels*
- *R & D environment*
- *An ability to win and keep business in domestic and foreign markets*

In an ideal location, Carlow has an envied history and international reputation for manufacturing excellence, quality and innovation.

Welcome to Carlow

The Spirit of Carlow and the pulse of an enterprising people

The strength of enterprise and community self-help is reflected in every walk of life in this get-up-and-go county. It is evident in a strong business and enterprise tradition, in the standard and quality of graduates from its two third-level colleges and in a people's pride in their award-winning colourful towns and villages.



Attractive Business Development opportunities centrally located for ease of access to Dublin and the Ports of Waterford and Rosslare.

Ideally suited to international trade and services, manufacturing, ICT, biotechnology, engineering and office development.

One of Ireland's main centres of excellence in engineering.

A location of choice for Corporate Headquarters and Offices:

- Teagasc
- Companies Registration Office
- Office of the Director of Consumer Affairs
- Department of Enterprise, Trade & Employment

Support from two of Ireland's third level colleges

Two of Ireland's third level colleges are in Carlow town – **The Institute of Technology Carlow** and **Carlow College**.

The **Institute of Technology Carlow** with over 4,000 students, has been a catalyst of economic development within the South Leinster Region for almost 35 years. The Institute provides multi-level undergraduate and postgraduate educational and research programmes leading to national and internationally recognised qualifications at Higher Certificate, Degree, Honours Degree, Masters Degree and Doctorate Degree level. The facilities include a state-of-the-art Learning Resource Centre, managed learning environment, purpose built laboratories, workshops and studios.

IT Carlow also provides a range of services to the industrial and commercial sectors throughout Ireland. These services include research, training and consultancy offered to a variety of enterprises in the multinational and SME sectors. The Institute has a high level of

interaction with government agencies and co-ordinates enterprise support activity through a variety of programmes including the Enterprise Platform programme, EnAct programme, Innovation Partnership programme and Campus companies' programme. A Campus Innovation Centre and Campus Incubation Centre provide facilities and services to entrepreneurs for the development of business ideas. Principal research strengths are in environmental, biotechnology, ICT and optical engineering.

Carlow College, known locally as St.Patrick's, is one of Ireland's oldest third level colleges. Founded in 1782 it is located in spacious parkland in the centre of Carlow town. It specialises in philosophy, theology, literature and social care and offers HETAC (Higher Education and Training Awards Council) certified courses in Humanities and Social Care at undergraduate and post-graduate level to its 500 students.



The National Biotechnology Centre...Carlow

Over 50 research Scientists in 7 customised Laboratories

The staff and resources of the National Plant Biotechnology Research Centre in Oakpark, Carlow are available to assist Biotech companies locating in the area. This centre provides research support through the availability of state of the art laboratories and facilities. The building can host over fifty active research scientists in seven custom-built laboratories. This is one of the highest concentrations of biotech research and expertise in Ireland.

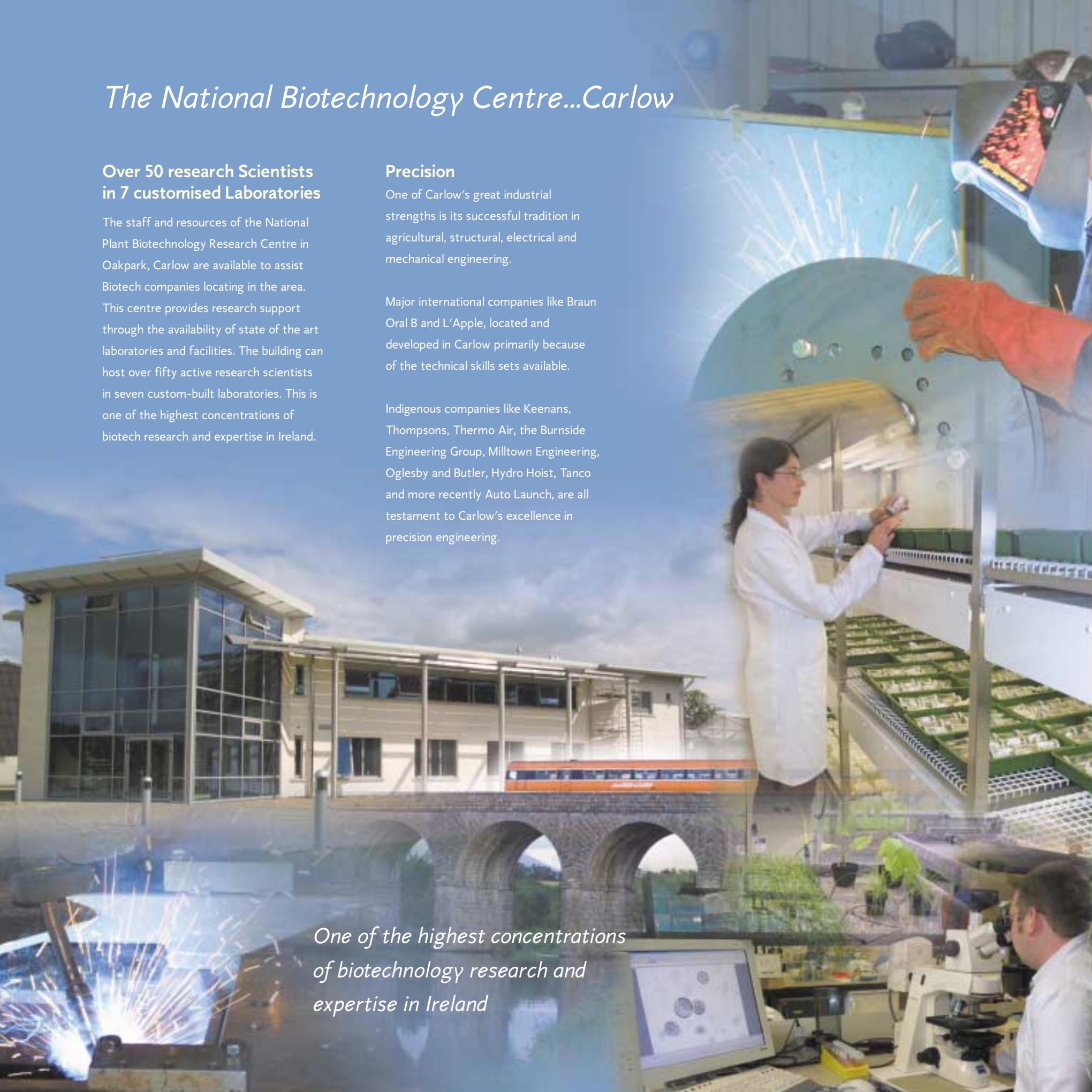
Precision

One of Carlow's great industrial strengths is its successful tradition in agricultural, structural, electrical and mechanical engineering.

Major international companies like Braun Oral B and L'Apple, located and developed in Carlow primarily because of the technical skills sets available.

Indigenous companies like Keenans, Thompsons, Thermo Air, the Burnside Engineering Group, Milltown Engineering, Oglesby and Butler, Hydro Hoist, Tanco and more recently Auto Launch, are all testament to Carlow's excellence in precision engineering.

*One of the highest concentrations
of biotechnology research and
expertise in Ireland*



The world is local in Carlow

Carlow Town

A thriving business town, Carlow is a rapidly developing education, services and industrial centre, facilitating both indigenous and foreign investment. With its two third-level colleges and youthful, student population, Carlow reflects a vibrant university atmosphere. Here is an old-world, historic town, but with new-world ideas in the provision of commercial and professional support to investment. There is a very strong commercial dynamic, with major investments by the high street multiples.

Carlow...pivotal

Carlow offers a pivotal, unrivalled location, with significant business opportunities in a major urban centre close to Dublin.

Muinebheag

Located on mainline rail and with easy access to the capital city, this attractive and colourful riverside town on the banks of the Barrow was the vision of its founder William Bagenal, from nearby Dunleckney Manor. Bagenal's 18th century dream that his town would become a hub of commerce and enterprise is being realised today through substantial economic investment in the new Business Park and other town centre developments.

Tullow

With good road access to South Dublin, historical Tullow sits in the lush, green, fertile lands of the Slaney River Valley. The town is the ancestral home of the famous Wolseley Family, whose name became synonymous with pioneering the automotive industry. The Mount Wolseley estate is now home to Mount Wolseley Country Resort, offering world-class facilities and a championship golf course. A growing market town, there is increasing economic activity and strong tourism and residential development.



Carlow is...

- A designated growth centre under the Regional Spatial Strategy
- A location of choice for international trade and services, manufacturing and corporate headquarters and offices
- Within one hour's drive of Dublin's M50 ring road
- Within easy access of Dublin International Airport and the ports of Dublin and Rosslare
- Within easy access of Kildare, Laois, Kilkenny, Wexford, Wicklow and their populations
- Served by seven trains daily return to Dublin
- Served by two of Ireland's third level colleges and a national biotechnology research centre
- A centre of excellence in engineering
- Growing rapidly. The population of County Carlow is 48,000. There are over 20,000 people living in Carlow town and its environs and this is expected to grow to 28,000 by 2020

Pro-business Climate

With its proven manufacturing tradition, Carlow is progressively pro-business and the county is fully supportive of investment in industrial, commercial and office development.

Substantial areas of quality serviced land are available in Carlow, Tullow and Muinebheag for industrial, office, commercial and mixed use development.

The logo for IDA Ireland, featuring a green stylized clover-like symbol to the left of the text "IDA IRELAND" in a bold, sans-serif font.

The word "CARLOW" in a bold, sans-serif font, positioned on a grey rectangular background.

The words "BUSINESS & TECHNOLOGY PARK" in a bold, sans-serif font, stacked vertically on a grey rectangular background.





Carlow Business and Technology Park

The recent development of the IDA (Industrial Development Agency) new generation 70 acre Business and Technology Park in Carlow reflects strong confidence in the town's location as a major centre for manufacturing, international trade and services, ICT and Health Care Products. Here is an ideal growth centre, near Dublin, for progressive and expanding companies. The Park is fully serviced with resilient dual broadband links.



Utilise our resources

Carlow...World-class

Carlow has a world-class telecommunications and Internet infrastructure. A publicly funded Metropolitan Broadband Network has recently been installed, servicing all the main industrial and commercial locations in the town. This network is designed to ensure easy access to highly resilient broadband services at competitive cost. This superior telecommunications infrastructure is being made available to private telecoms companies to ensure that a wide choice of service providers is available, thus ensuring competition and therefore lower costs to individual users.

Electricity

The Electricity Supply Board (ESB) has augmented the local supply infrastructure by developing a 220 watt sub station. This network enhancement ensures the industrial and domestic needs of Carlow.

Roads

The inter-city high quality dual carriageway linking Dublin, Carlow, Kilkenny and Waterford will be in place by 2010.

Natural Gas

Carlow became one of the first towns in Ireland to benefit from the Natural Gas trunk line between Cork and Dublin. There is now a comprehensive gas mains system serving the town of Carlow and the suburbs. This ensures that Carlow has considerable capacity to meet expected growth in the area of energy supply. This strategic location on a Natural Gas pipeline is a major incentive for enterprises with high energy needs.

Water & Waste Water Services

Carlow has significant water availability and capacity. Carlow local authorities produce over 14,000 m³ of water per day, with a capacity to double this amount. A modern Waste Water Treatment Plant services all of the zoned land of Carlow town and its environs. All county towns have proprietary secondary treatment systems.

People

Carlow has a labour force of 20,000 highly-motivated people driving the economy and has access to a labour pool of 100,000 in a 30 mile radius including Kilkenny, Kildare, Wicklow, Laois and Wexford. It is one of the fastest growing areas in Ireland with a highly qualified and loyal labour pool. Carlow benefits from this highly-motivated and flexible workforce which has encouraged many enterprises to develop long-term roots in the county. In Carlow, labour costs are lower than the national average and over 24% of people of working age have a Higher Education qualification.

Education and Enterprise

Continuous liaison and an active understanding of the needs of industry exists between the education sector and enterprise development in Carlow at all levels. At post leaving certificate level, the Carlow Institute of Further

Education provides courses to over 600 students in the area of business, IT, applied languages and engineering.

Research and Development

Research and Development activities are complemented by various campus-based specialist centres and campus companies, offering suitable research projects access to a range of facilities and supports that have been specially designed to accelerate the R&D period for new product and process ideas – making time to market for new products shorter.



The region's percentage of total employees in the technology sectors is above the national average.

Pressure
Hydraulics
Ltd.



You are part of our plans

An attractive work-life balance

County Carlow is fast becoming one of the most popular places to relocate with a working population that is growing at double the national average. The area draws highly educated people because of the attractive work-life balance which is synonymous with Carlow. A vibrant community spirit creates a pleasant and safe living environment for families in a land where unpolluted rivers flow through green, unspoiled countryside.

There are four superb golf courses located throughout County Carlow. Fishing and boating on the Rivers Barrow and Slaney provide excellent, easily accessible leisure time activities, offering an idyllic

lifestyle opportunity close to Dublin. With walking trails, gardens, historical tours and stately homes, there's simply lots to enjoy.

Affordable Carlow

The cost of living in Carlow is estimated to be between 10 – 18% lower than in Dublin. There is a good supply of affordable housing, providing a generous mix of apartments, townhouses, semi-detached and detached homes.

Education

County Carlow is well served in the primary and post-primary sector, with 41 primary schools and 11 post-primary including gaelscoileanna.

Cultural & Recreational Facilities

Carlow is developing a 125 acre Regional Forest Park at Oak Park, a new theatre for the performing arts, linking the town to its benefactor George Bernard Shaw and VISUAL - the National Centre for Contemporary Arts, on the grounds of Carlow College.

Award Winning Towns and Villages

From one end of the county to the other, the towns and villages of Carlow express its unique charm and rich heritage. Their participation in successive National Tidy Towns Competitions has seen them among

the winners of regional awards and gold medals. Focal points for living and trading, riverside communities with graceful medieval bridges, bustling market communities and hillside villages, add their individual colour and character to the Carlow landscape.

Beautiful Countryside

Often called the Floral County, throughout the summer the streets, parks and gardens of County Carlow's towns and villages erupt into a sea of colour, with living evidence of times gone by in historic homes such as Altamount House and Gardens, Borris House, Dunleckney Manor and Huntington Castle.





and **We**'ll build a better future

*Exceedingly beautiful,
with noble hills rising
on either side
and the broad silver
Barrow flowing through
rich meadows
of that astonishing
verdure....*

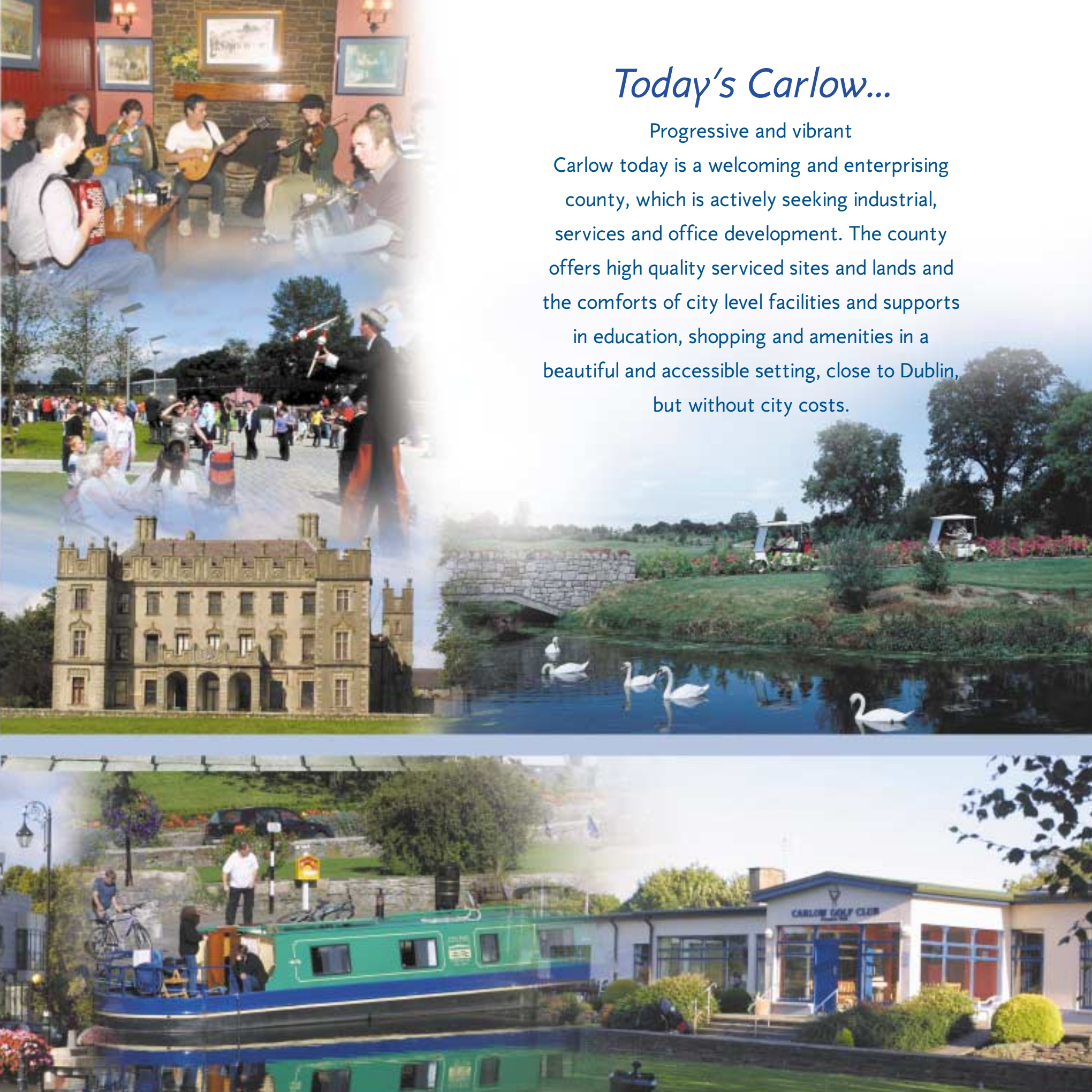
William Makepeace Thackeray on Carlow



Today's Carlow...

Progressive and vibrant

Carlow today is a welcoming and enterprising county, which is actively seeking industrial, services and office development. The county offers high quality serviced sites and lands and the comforts of city level facilities and supports in education, shopping and amenities in a beautiful and accessible setting, close to Dublin, but without city costs.



C A R L O W
C O U N T Y C O U N C I L

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grow your business

in Carlow

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