The Cork City Otter Trail

The Eurasian Otter (Lutra lutra) is a semi-aquatic mammal from the Mustelidae family, which includes ferrets, badgers, and minks. Otters likely arrived in Ireland after the last Ice Age, with evidence dating back 4,000 years. While otter populations across Europe are declining, Ireland remains a stronghold. However, Irish otters still face threats like habitat destruction, human disturbance, and poor water quality.

Otter Project

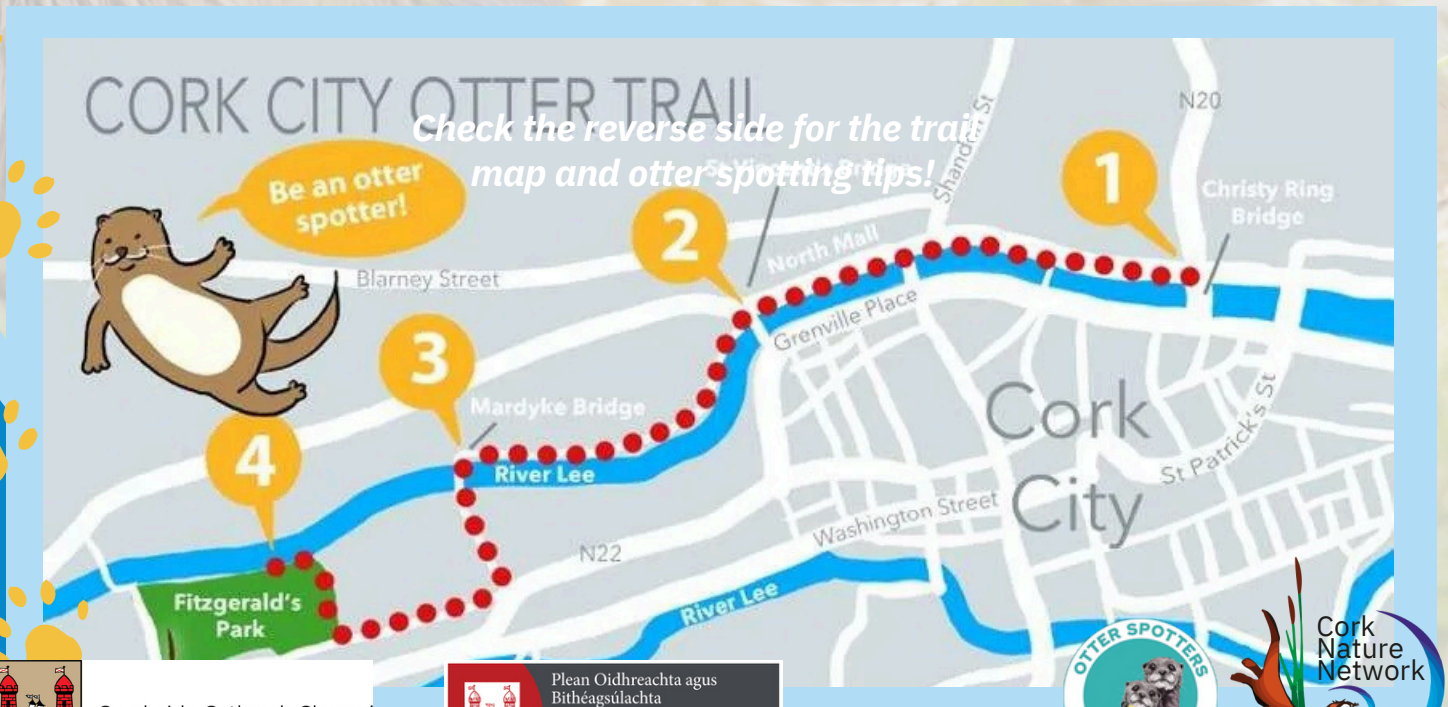
Cork Nature Network launched its otter project in 2016 due to habitat loss in Cork City. The project aims to raise public awareness by creating otter trails with educational signage to showcase their habitats.



Follow the trail maps below and on the back of this leaflet and get otter spotting!

Cork City Otter Trail

In 2020, Cork's first otter trail was developed along the River Lee, from Christy Ring Bridge to Fitzgerald's Park. It encourages outdoor engagement with local wildlife, and visitors might even spot an otter!



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Bishopstown and Ballincollig Trails

A second trail runs along the Twopot River in Bishopstown, and a third is in Ballincollig Regional Park. Both were created in collaboration with local councils

and community groups.

We invite and encourage you to become a Citizen Scientist and help us map the distribution of otters in your area.

Your records will contribute to National Otter Survey efforts and data be supplied to the National Biodiversity Data Centre.

Cork Nature Network would like to extend thanks to our partners, sponsors and funders for supporting this leaflet project.



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