

# CROM CASTLE, IRELAND



WORKSHOPS ~ WRITING ~ NETWORKING ~ EXPERIENCE

GOOD FOOD ~ FRIENDSHIPS ~ SCENERY ~ RELAXATION

## THE VERANDA & SERENITY PRESS 2019 RETREAT SEPT 30 - OCT 5, 2019

[WWW.SERENITYPRESS.ORG](http://WWW.SERENITYPRESS.ORG)

OCT 5-10, 2019

# *The location*

CROM CASTLE, NORTHERN IRELAND



## THE PERFECT WRITERS' RETREAT LOCATION

Set in rolling parkland amidst an archipelago of wooded islands and peninsulae in tranquil Upper Lough Erne, the Crom Estate in County Fermanagh, the historic seat of the Earls of Erne for over 350 years, enjoys an unrivaled location in the heart of Ireland's Lake District..

Now you can fully experience the magic of this sublimely beautiful place by staying in the Crom Castle itself. Experiencing exactly what it is like to live as a Earl and Countess. Be lavishly taken care of so that you can focus on your writing and absorbing the unique experiences the Serenity Press Retreat experience has to offer.

Whether you are seeking creative inspiration, spiritual fulfillment or are planning to build upon the intimate connections you will make, this is a writers retreat designed to fuse experience and opportunity. The elegance of the castle, together with the majesty and serenity of its surroundings makes Crom an irresistible destination.

*A magical fusion of literary learning & unique experiences, all  
set in the most magnificent setting.*



# *The Rooms*

STAY IN A ROOM FIT FOR A EARL & COUNTESS



## EVERY ROOM HAS ITS OWN NAME.

**VIP State Room 1**

**VIP State Room 2**

**The Buff Room**

**The Print Room**

**The Crichton Room**

**The West Room**

**The Blue Room**

**The Rose Room**

**The Cottage**

Waking up in a castle is an experience that all writers should have the pleasure of experiencing in their lifetime.

The walls have stories, and you can feel the history sweeping through the corridors.

Crom castle has a special ambience that makes you feel at home in the most exquisite environment.

Each room has its own ensuite, each is decorated to match in with the theme of the room.

There are hidden doors throughout the castle, if you are brave enough to pursue them.

Take a moment to imagine what it would be like to wake up in a secluded location in a beautiful room designed for an Earl & Countess.

# *The Itinerary*

WRITING ~ ADVENTURE ~ EXPERIENCE ~ CONNECTIONS



*Day 1: October 5, 2019*

Airport pick-up  
Champagne on arrival  
Welcome dinner

*Day 2: October 6, 2019*

Morning meditation in drawing room  
Breakfast  
Boat trip & castle tour  
Lunch  
Writing time  
Evening meal

*Day 3: October 7, 2019*

Morning meditation  
Breakfast  
High-Tea Meet & Greet  
Lunch  
Afternoon workshop with Jane Talbot  
Evening meal

*Day 4: October 8, 2019*

Morning meditation in drawing room  
Breakfast  
Trip to Ulster American Folk  
Park(lunch inc)  
Writing time  
Evening meal

*Day 5: October 9, 2019*

Morning meditation in drawing room  
Breakfast  
In conversation with Special Guest  
Lunch  
Manuscript assessments (Assessor TBC)  
Writing time  
Black Tie Gala Dinner

*Day 6: October 10, 2019*

Morning meditation in drawing room  
Breakfast & Farewells  
Check out 11am  
Transfers to Dublin Airport



# MEET, GREET & PERFORMANCE

IN THE GRAND CONSERVATORY

The Victorian Conservatory at Crom Castle is one of the most spectacular in Ireland. Leading off the West Wing, it rises into the sky like a crystal cathedral and covers an area of approximately 2,000 square feet.

The 'L' shaped dimensions of this magnificent edifice facilitate select gatherings in the grandest of scales; the Camelia, Bay and Jasmine blooms that decorate this vast translucent arbour, further setting the scene for a perfect day.

- High tea event
- Guests arrive
- Authors intro to guests.
- Q&A
- Performance by Jane Talbot
- Book selling.
- High tea served

On October the 7th, 2019 we will host our author, special guest Jane Talbot to a crowd of readers and literary connections from groups and organisations throughout Ireland and Northern Ireland. This is a unique opportunity to showcase yourself to a new audience of readers.

This event was a wonderful success in 2017 and we are delighted to share that it will be bigger in 2019. Authors will also have the opportunity to sell their books. If you are not yet an author, you will have the opportunity to learn about the behind the scenes.





# SPECIAL GUEST

## JANE TALBOT



I have 20 years of experience as a coach, along with a career in training, teaching and facilitation that spans 30 years. I've worked as a youth worker, a school teacher, a volunteer project manager for a local adult education association, a health and fitness coach, a retained fire-fighter (yes, you read that right!), a community development practitioner, and a training and development specialist (heavy manufacturing and brewing sectors).

**Writer :** I write original, dark faerie tales which follow many of the conventions associated with traditional oral storytelling. I've been writing short stories as gifts for friends since 2003 and the more I write, the more I believe that words can be played like a musical instrument. I also think that we can 're-mix' our language to help readers get closer to the 'heat' of the stories we write. (And I know for a fact that stories can be magicked out of the very ground that we stand on.) The Faerie Thorn and Other Stories is my first published collection of short stories.

**Storyteller :** I'm a huge fan of oral storytelling. I think that when we tell stories (and listen to stories), it helps us to connect to each other and to the places and history out of which the stories grow.

I was brought up on the Brothers Grimm, Hans Christian Andersen, Ladybird books and real-life adventure stories that my grandparents told me. I studied German and French (Modern and Medieval Languages and Literature) at university, developing a special interest in Old Norse sagas and fairy tales. Since 2006, I've been doing my bit to keep the oral tradition alive by delivering specialist storytelling training programmes. Since moving to Northern Ireland I've performed stories for Big Telly Theatre Company [for the Ballysally Cornfield Project and for their regular Big Sunday event in Portstewart], for Causeway Museum Service [Sam Henry Project], at the Aspects Festival [Kiltonga Tales in Newtownards] and at the Grand Opera House [Christmas Ghost Stores and Tall Tales].

*I also think that we can 're-mix' our language to help readers get closer to the 'heat' of the stories we write. Jane Talbot*

# THE GALA DINNER

HOSTED BY THE EARL & COUNTESS

## An experience that will last a lifetime.

You will never feel anything quite like the spine-tingling moments you will experience during this exquisite banquet.

A welcome drink with the Earl & Countess congregated in the main hall before settling for an intimate moment in the drawing room.

Before being summoned to walk through the grand hall through to the magnificent dining room. The ambiance created by the bag-piper is one that needs to be experienced to fully comprehend.

The evening continues with great food and grand conversations.

The evening continues with great food and grand conversations.

*There is nothing quite like the feeling of walking through a grand hall to the sound of a bagpiper.*







## SERENITY PRESS RETREATS COSTS

VIP experience in Right Wing private	\$8500
VIP experience in Right Wing shared	\$7000
West Wing Private room	\$6500
West Wing shared	\$5000
Cottage stay private	\$3500
Cottage stay shared	\$2750

\$500 Deposit

25% due February 10, 2019, 25% due April 10, 2019,  
25% due July 10, 2019, final due September 10, 2019

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Register your interest today

[www.serenitypress.org](http://www.serenitypress.org)  
[publisher@serenitypress.org](mailto:publisher@serenitypress.org)