

The Extreme Waves Map of Ireland

Ireland is battered by waves from all sides and has suffered many extreme oceanic events. From one of the largest known underwater landslides in the world at Storegga to the tragedy of the Fastnet Yacht race; from tsunamis in Kinsale to the navy vessel Róisín battered by rogue waves, it is clear that Ireland has experienced a wide variety of ocean extremes. This map presents the first catalogue of such events, dating as far back as the turn of the last ice age. Detailed studies of this kind are important both to understand the science of the ocean wave environment of Ireland, and also for applications such as improving the safety of shipping and coastal structures, and generating renewable energy from the sea. They can also provide new insights into myths and legends, and the origin of many unexplained features of our natural environment.

