



# FINDING YOUR *Feat*

Summer has ushered in a new season of outdoor japery. The outdoors beckon and the only question is – what pursuit suits you? **David Fallon** explores

**F**resh, rosy-cheeked summer has arrived, meaning longer days. And longer days means being outside. And while the chaps in the office are 'dead keen' to play five-a-side every Wednesday evening, you're well aware that come the second week they'll be crying off with excuses ranging from dodgy hamstrings to groin-constricting shorts. So, rather than chasing a ball around an astroturf pitch on your own, we've compiled a range of outdoor pursuits that will get you on the water, in the air, behind the wheel and basically outside enjoying yourself. And should those 'friends' of yours not fancy taking part you can just spend Monday morning watching them squirm with jealousy while you tell the office about how you manned an air balloon solo. Well, a little white lie never hurt anyone.

**GUN FUN** Simulated Rifle Shoot in East Cork It's not a politically correct thing to point out, but guns are terrific fun. For that very reason, if you're organising an adventure day for a group of friends or a corporate day out for clients, you can't go wrong with a 'Simulated Driven Shoot' at the picturesque Ballynatray estate in east Cork. While other clay-pigeon shooting experiences can get predictable after a while, with the computer controlled system in Ballynatray you never get that chance. The strategically placed traps fire up to eight clays per second at different heights, trajectories and speeds to keep you thinking throughout the day. The idea is to simulate how different birds fly during a driven shoot, but without



the accompanying blood, feathers and mess. Lessons can be provided for beginners and there's plenty to occupy shooters of all levels, right up to international level competitors. Even those who have been clay pigeon shooting regularly before will be shocked by the adrenaline buzz when the sky fills with clay pigeons, all coming from different directions. Unlike other shooting experiences there are no hidden charges – for the full day's shooting all cartridges and clays are included, as is a slap-up barbecue lunch prepared by the estate's own housekeeper. After a hard morning's shooting, you'll need it! Full and half day shooting packages are available for groups between 4 and 64 from €195 per person [www.shootingireland.ie](http://www.shootingireland.ie). Accommodation is also available on the estate [www.ballynatray.com](http://www.ballynatray.com), phone 024 97460 - 024 97899. Harry Leech