

Discover



Foras na Mara
Marine Institute

THE RV *CELTIC EXPLORER*



The RV *Celtic Explorer* is a state owned research vessel, which means that it belongs to everyone in Ireland.

Managed by the Marine Institute, the ship is 65.5 metres long and is equipped with large wet and dry laboratories, where marine scientific research takes place.

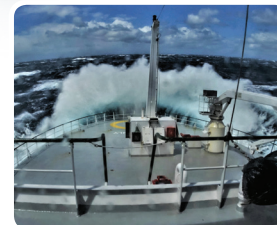
The ship has a crew of 35 people, including 22 marine scientists. Marine scientists and researchers come aboard to do all sorts of research including learning about our fisheries, the environment, climate studies, seabed mapping, oceanography, weather information and lots more.

Some scientists also come on board to observe whales, dolphins, birds and other animals that can be spotted at sea.



Did you know?

Lots of amazing discoveries have been made on the RV *Celtic Explorer* including cold water corals and sponges in areas around the continental shelf off Ireland [2018] ... mapping of the Charlie-Gibbs Fracture Zone on the mid-Atlantic Ridge [2015] ... the discovery of the Moytirra Hydrothermal vents north of the Azores, Portugal [2011] ... as well as many other findings of fish, sharks and marine mammals in our waters.



The research vessel is based in Galway and can stay out at sea for up to 35 days. The working speed of the ship is 6-10 knots, which is roughly 18km per hour.

The RV *Celtic Explorer* is an acoustically silent ship. This is important so that the scientists and crew can travel through the water quietly so that they don't disturb marine life under the water. You can track the RV *Celtic Explorer* using an interactive map as well as taking a virtual tour of the vessel at marine.ie.