Connemara Mountain Walking Festival – Terms and Conditions

1. Acceptance of Terms By registering for, purchasing a ticket for, or participating in the Connemara Mountain Walking Festival ("the Festival"), you agree to be bound by these Terms and Conditions. Participation is strictly conditional upon full acceptance of these terms.

2. Ticket Policy: Non-Refundable & Non-Transferable

- **Non-Refundable:** All ticket sales are final. Tickets are strictly non-refundable under any circumstances, including personal injury, illness, travel disruption, or inability to attend.
- **Non-Transferable:** Tickets are registered to the named participant and are strictly non-transferable. You may not resell, gift, or transfer your registration to another individual.

3. Age Restriction

- **No Under-16s:** All participants must be aged 16 years or older on the date of the walk. Proof of age may be requested at registration. Individuals under 16 are not permitted to participate in any festival walks.

4. Health, Fitness, and Preparedness

- **Physical Capability:** Mountain walking in Connemara involves rough, uneven, boggy, and steep terrain in an exposed maritime environment. By registering, you confirm that you are in good physical health, free from any medical condition that could endanger yourself or others, and possess the required fitness and stamina for the specific grade of walk you have selected.
- **Required Equipment:** Walkers must arrive at the assembly point with appropriate mountain gear (including sturdy ankle-supporting hiking boots, full waterproof jacket and trousers, warm layers, food, and water).

5. Guide Authority and Right to Refuse Entry

- **Final Decision:** Festival walk leaders and guides hold absolute authority regarding safety on the mountain.
- **Right to Refuse:** Guides reserve the right to refuse participation to any walker prior to departure—or to turn back any walker during a route—if they deem the participant to be inadequately equipped, lacking sufficient fitness, unwell, or under the influence of alcohol or non-prescription drugs. **The guide's decision is final**, and no refund will be issued in the event of refusal.

6. Itinerary Changes, Weather, and Mountain Conditions

- **Route Alterations:** Mountain weather in the West of Ireland is unpredictable and can deteriorate rapidly. All scheduled routes are subject to change. Walks may be rerouted, shortened, delayed, or cancelled at short notice depending on weather forecasts and ground/mountain conditions.
- **No Liability for Alterations:** In the event that a walk is rerouted or cancelled due to adverse weather or safety concerns, the Festival organisers will endeavour to provide an alternative low-level route where safe to do so, but no refunds or compensation will be provided.

7. Assumption of Risk and Liability

- **Inherent Risks:** Hillwalking and mountaineering carry inherent risks of personal injury, illness, or loss of property. You participate entirely at your own risk.
- **Limitation of Liability:** To the fullest extent permitted by Irish law, the Connemara Mountain Walking Festival, its organisers, volunteers, and guides accept no liability for any injury, loss, damage, or expense suffered by any participant during or in connection with the event.

8. Conduct and Leave No Trace Participants must follow the instructions of the walk leaders at all times, stay with the group, and adhere to **Leave No Trace** principles, respecting local farmland, livestock, wildlife, and stone walls. Dogs are not permitted on festival walks.

9. Governing Law These Terms and Conditions are governed by and construed in accordance with the laws of Ireland.