

**Tipperary Walking Trails to suit all levels** 

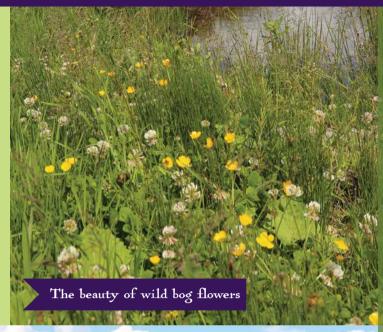
#### Heartland of Ireland

Tipperary is a place of majestic beauty situated in the heartland of Ireland. Bounded by stunning mountains and serene rivers and lakes, it offers a diverse array of spectacular walking trails with breathtaking views of open countryside and rolling hills.

#### Trails for All

Walk and hike through the many trails throughout the Munster Vales, the Knockmealdowns, Slieve Felims, the Silvermines, Galtee Mountains and The Devil's Bit taking in the splendour of the Golden Vale. Tipperary has walking trails to suit both the casual walker as well as experienced hikers.

Use our knowledge and your instincts and we're sure you'll enjoy these wonderful walks.



#### 1 Be Prepared

Ensure you have the fitness, equipment and time needed for the loop you choose. Check the weather forecast and be prepared for changing weather conditions.

#### Be Considerate of Other People

Park appropriately - do not block entrance to other cars. Respect people you meet and keep noise to a minimum. Do not damage property.

# Respect Farm Animals and Wildlife Keep dogs under close control

Avoid disturbing wild animals and birds and do not feed them. Remain at a safe distance from farm animals.

# 4 Protect the Trail from Erosion

Travel in small groups and walk in single file on wet or eroded sections.

#### 5 Leave What You Find

Leave gates as you find them. Do not damage structures, artifacts or monuments. Leave rocks, plants, animals and habitats as you find them.

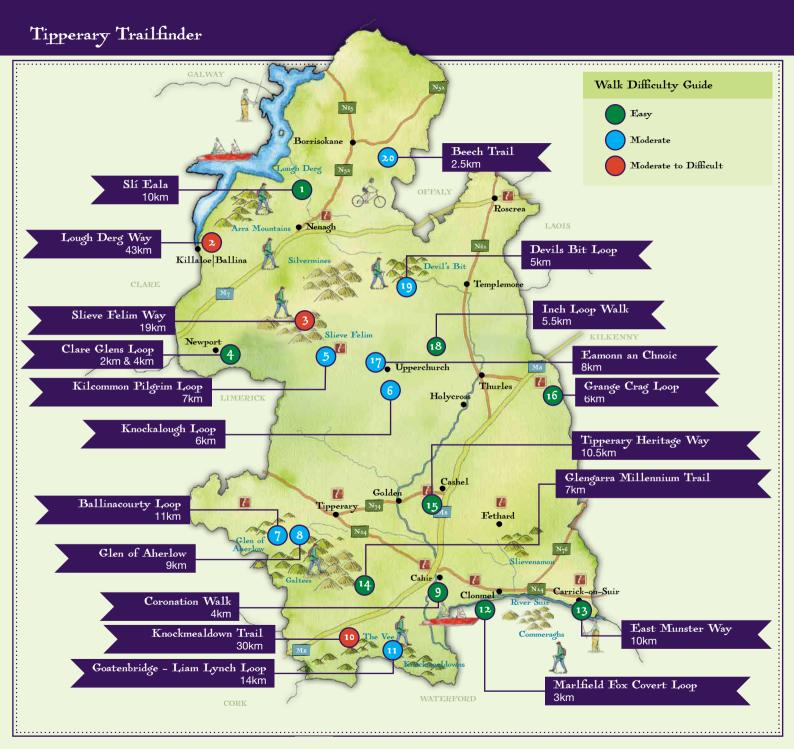
#### Dispose of Waste Property

Take home ALL litter and leftover food - If You Bring It In, Take It Out!

# Minimise the Effects of Fire

Do not light fires and if you smoke, take used matches and cigarette butts home with you.





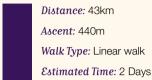


moves through an area of sublime natural beauty and rolling countryside. The route moves along an even plain and is filled with all manner of Irish river wildlife, including Ireland's largest indigenous bird, the Mute Swan, which

gives the walk its name.

Did you know?

As you'll be walking through working farms, you are likely to pass grazing cattle, sheep or horses You should remember to follow the Farmland (ode of (onduct.



Terrain: Minor country roads and lanes, forestry tracks and

pastureland

Walk Information

Trailhead: Ballina. Near Flanagans, Co. Tipperary

Finish: Dromineer. Co. Tipperary

Nearest Town: Ballina, Killaloe &

Nenagh, Co. Tipperary

A stunningly beautiful walking trail that stretches from Ballina to Dromineer and follows along the eastern shores of Lough Derg, with terrain consisting of open countryside, minor country roads and lanes and riverside pathways.

The Lough Derg Way showcases some of the finest scenery around Lough Derg and you also might be lucky enough to spot the white-tailed sea eagle.

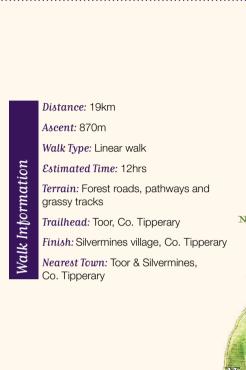




### Did you know?

Follow in the footsteps of Brian Boru (the famous High King of Ireland) on this walk with breathtaking views of Lough Derg. It gives you a bird's-eye view of the many islands dotted around the lake; one of which is home to the white-tailed sea eagle.





The Slieve Felim Way brings you right to the heart of Tipperary's beautiful countryside. The trail from Toor to Silvermines gives walkers a series of stunning views from a number of different mountains along the route.

Starting with the Slieve Felim range to the south, valleys and hills run east to west in the general area. The renowned Silvermine Mountains loom large in the northern section of the trail and there are also breathtaking views of Lough Derg and beyond.



(lare, and offaly. You can also see sections of the

River Shannon as it winds its way to the sea.

Distance: Nature Loop (Green Arrows) 2km / Glen Loop

(Purple Arrows) 4km

Ascent: 60m

Walk Information

Walk Type: Looped Walk

Estimated Time:

30 mins - 1 hr (Green Arrows) 1 hr - 1hr 30mins (Purple Arrows)

Terrain: Woodland Paths

Trailhead / Finish: Clare Glens Amenity Area, Co. Tipperary

*Nearest Town:* Newport, Co. Tipperary

Start Scraggeen Moroe Ringfort Ashroe Clare Falls 500 Meters

The Clare Glens is a wooded area along the banks of the Clare River, separating Co. Limerick and Co. Tipperary.

The Glens consist of a picturesque red sandstone gorge through which the Clare River flows, displaying numerous waterfalls. The scenery is nothing short of breathtaking, with rugged dense forestry and tranquil clear waters.

# Did you know?

Michael Bourke writer of the internationally acclaimed song "Dear old Newport town" brought the Clare Glens to the World's attention when Ryan's Fancy sang "And sweet Clare Glens whose flowery dells I oft strolled up and down, Must I leave those scenes and the girl I love in dear old Newport town."



# Walk Information

Distance: 7km

Ascent: 170m / 350m
Walk Type: Looped Walk

Estimated Time: 2hrs - 2hrs 30 mins

*Terrain:* Minor roadways, forestry roadways and cross-country

Trailhead / Finish: Community Centre,

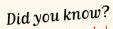
Kilcommon, Co. Tipperary

Nearest Town: Kilcommon,

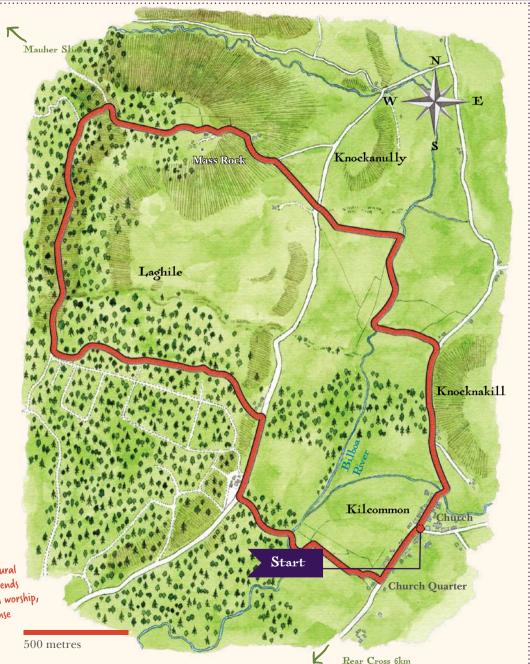
Co. Tipperary

Follow in the footsteps of pre-Christian pilgrims along the trail of Mother Mountain, once used for journeys of homage to the goddess Eilbhe.

Starting in the village of Kilcommon, it brings you along the old mass path, traversing the Bilboa River and the forested lower slopes of Mother Mountain and then loops all the way back to the village of Kilcommon. The trail provides stunning views of the Tipperary countryside.



Defined by it's wonderful natural environment, it's ancient legends and by centuries of (hristian worship, the Pilgrim Loop evokes a sense of spirituality and serenity.





500 Meters

Distance: 6km

Ascent: 280m / 400m

Walk Type: Looped Walk

Estimated Time: 2hrs - 2hrs 30 mins

Terrain: Forestry roads, old laneways

and agricultural land

Trailhead / Finish: Upperchurch

Village, Co. Tipperary

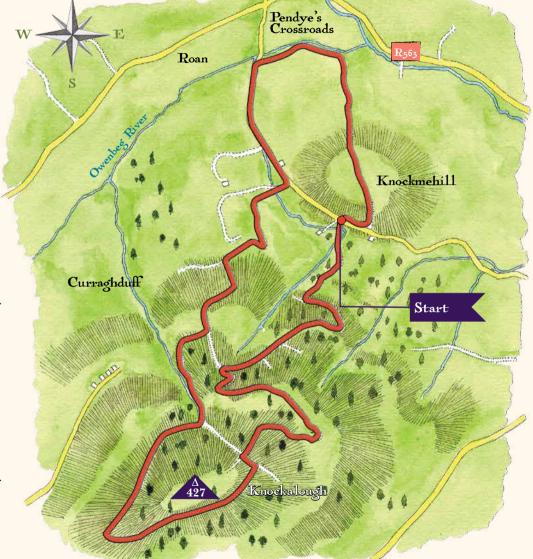
Nearest Town: Upperchurch Village,

Co. Tipperary

Walk Information

This loop explores an area associated with Red Hugh O'Donnell – the last Chieftain of Tir Conaill (County Donegal). Born in 1572, Red Hugh is famed for his imprisonment in Dublin Castle in 1587 and escape attempts in 1591 and 1592. He was defeated at the Battle of Kinsale in 1601, having led his army along the entire length of Ireland to meet his Spanish allies.

Retrace his journey up and around the hill of Knockalough by following the purple arrows for a beautiful 6km loop.



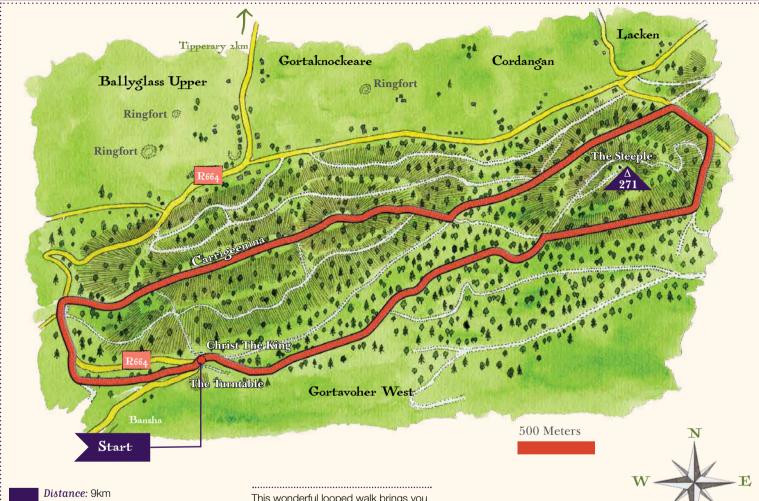
Upperchurch



Did you know?

A Robin Hood figure by the name of Eamonn an Chnoic was one of a gang of bandits who championed the cause of the poor. They roamed these hills and many legends are told of these men and their deeds.





Ascent: 310m

Walk Type: Looped Walk

Estimated Time: 2hrs 30 mins - 3hrs

Terrain: Forest tracks and woodland

Walk In∮ormation

Trailhead / Finish: Christ The King Statue, Glen of Aherlow, Co. Tipperary

Nearest Town: Lisvarrinane village,

Co. Tipperary

This wonderful looped walk brings you along Slievenamuck, the mountain of the pigs. The ridge of the mountain is mainly composed of old red sandstone.

The trail incorporates the Millennium Stone, which was erected to celebrate the new millennium. From a viewing area along the trail, walkers will be treated to magnificent views of Tipperary Town and the wider area.

## Did you know?

The tradition of Geoffrey Keating lives on in folklore of the Glen of Aherlow. Keating preached sermons here, took refuge and, according to tradition, lived in a cave for a large part of the time while on the run and compiling his magnum opus, Foras Feasa Ar Éirinn (c. 1634)





Follow the Butler Trail along the Coronation Walk starting at Cahir Castle, built by the Butlers and one of Ireland's largest castles. The path weaves towards the southwards to the Swiss Cottage. Swiss cottage is an exquisitely beautiful cottage orné that was originally part of Lord and Lady Cahir's estate and was used for entertaining guests.

The walk moves along even ground and is surrounded by native broadleaf woodland (planted in the 1790s), including mature beech, oak, Spanish chestnut, sycamore, laurel, rhododendron and elder. The area is also teeming with wildlife, such as red squirrel, pheasant, duck, swans and woodcock.

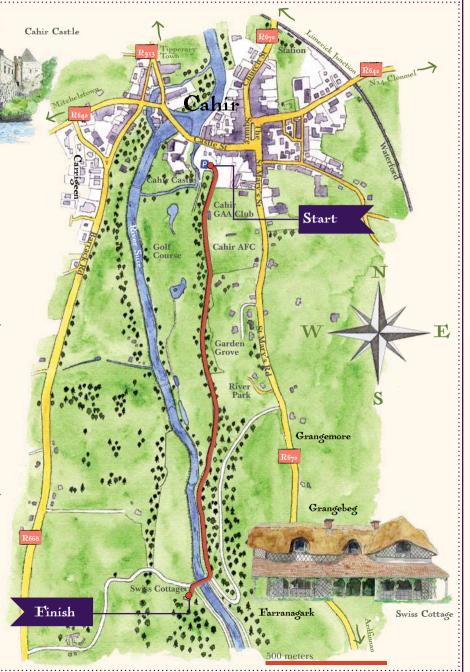
Did you know?

Swiss (ottage is not only Ireland's most beautiful

Swiss (ottage is arguably one of the most romantic
cottage; it is arguably one of the world.

cottages to be found anywhere in the way
cottages to be found anywhere in the way
Add to this the fairy villages along the way
and you really have something special.

and you really have







Distance: 30km Ascent: 700m

Walk Type: Linear walk

Estimated Time: 1.5 days

Terrain: Forestry tracks, hillside slopes

and minor roads

Trailhead: Newcastle Bridge,

Co. Tipperary

Walk Information

Finish: Ballyporeen Community Centre,

Ballyporeen, Co. Tipperary

Nearest Town: Ballyporeen, Clogheen

& Newcastle, Co. Tipperary

The Knockmealdown trail takes you on a 30km trek along country roads, old pathways and minor roads and through forestry tracks on the scenic northern slopes of the Knockmealdown Mountains.

This area is steeped in historical, cultural and ecological interest and has marvelous vistas stretching across rich agricultural lowlands to the slopes of the Knockmealdowns.

There are a number of loop walks that can be enjoyed along the way.

- » Knockballiniry loop
- » Knockroe loop
- » Knockmealdown lakes loop
- » Crough loop
- » Duck Ponds
- » Clogheen loop
- » Sheephill Ballyporeen

www.irishtrails.ie





#### Did you know?

In the early summer months the lower areas of the hills are filled with rhododendron blooms. Distance: 14km

Ascent: 280m / 360m
Walk Type: Looped Walk

Estimated Time: 3 hrs 30 mins - 4 hrs

Terrain: Forestry roadways

Trailhead / Finish: Car park at Goatenbridge, Co. Tipperary (Grid: S 080 124 OS map no. 74)

Nearest Town: Ardfinnan,

Co. Tipperary

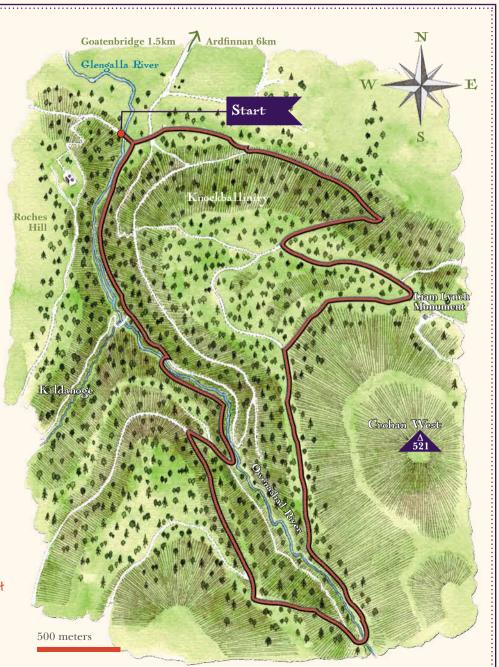
Follow beautiful forestry roadways and travel along the shoulder of Crohan Mountain; walk along the Glengalla River and take in fantastic views of the Knockmealdown Mountains.

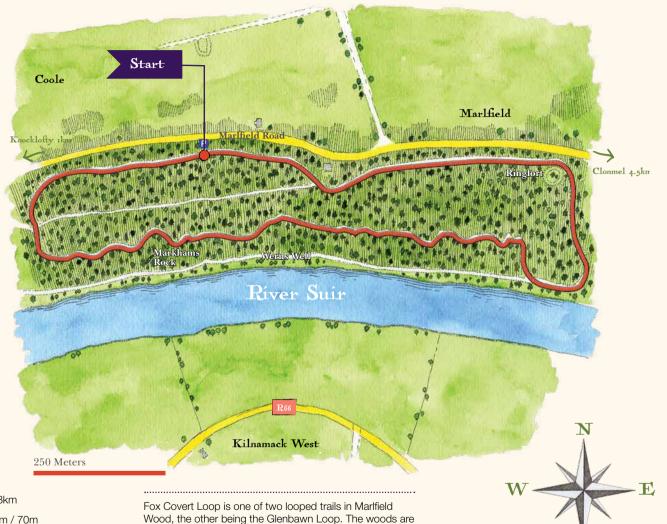
If you are looking to wander off the beaten track and experience the splendour of Tipperary's landscape, this walk is perfect for you. You'll be rewarded with lush green countryside and rolling landscapes.



### Did you know?

This walk is a favourite with the local community. It is enjoyed in all weathers. The Good Friday agreement was signed on the 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the death of Liam Lynch.





Distance: 3km Ascent: 40m / 70m

Walk Type: Looped Walk

Estimated Time: 1 hr - 1 hr 15 mins

Terrain: Woodland Trails

Trailhead / Finish: Clonmel, Co. Tipperary, OS Sheet 74, S536 731

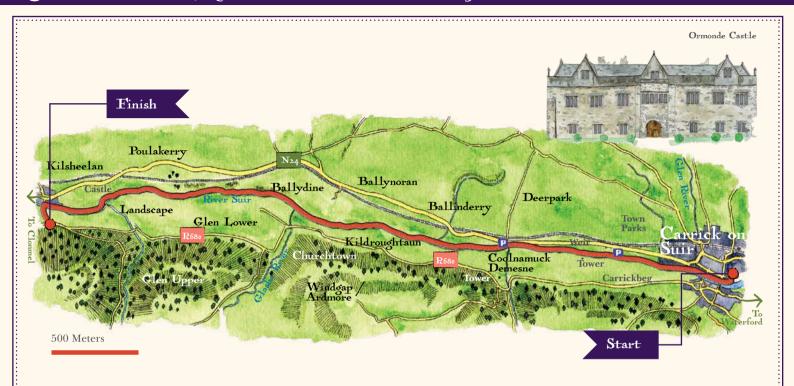
Nearest Town: Clonmel, Co. Tipperary

Wood, the other being the Glenbawn Loop. The woods are teeming with wildlife and diverse plant species, making a very peaceful place for a leisurely walk. The blue arrows will guide you around the woodland and down to a riverbank roadway before turning uphill and ascending to reach a stone boundary wall at a gated entrance.

Follow the woodland trail along the inside of the boundary wall for 1km to return to the trailhead. Be sure to take in the short spur to the Dún Ui Faolain ring fort whilst exploring. Enjoy.

### Did you know?

Glenbawn Wood was once the site of the fort of the O'Faolains, chiefs of the Déisi Clan.



Distance: 10 km

Ascent: Gentle, even

Walk Type: Linear Walk

Estimated Time: 2hrs 30 mins - 3hrs

Terrain: Riverside pathways

Trailhead: Pick up the East Munster Way at the front of Ormond Castle, Carrick-On-Suir, Co. Tipperary (Grid: S 404 215 OS map no. 75)

Finish: Kilsheelan, Co. Tipperary (Grid: S 285 232 OS map no. 75)

Nearest Town: Carrick-On-Suir,

Co. Tipperary

Walk Information

Explore part of The Butler Trail, which starts at Ormond Castle in Carrick on Suir. The trail follows the River Suir. as far as the quaint village of Kilsheelin.

Ormond Castle is the only unfortified manor house in Ireland and was built by Thomas 'Black Tom' Butler, 10th Earl of Ormond in 1560 while his cousin. Queen Elizabeth 1 was in power. Many of the Queens favourite symbols and workmanship were included in the manor as a symbol of Tom's allegiance however Queen Elizabeth never came to visit





#### Did you know?

Walk from Ormond Castle (the famous Butler home) in (arrick-on-Suir to Kilsheelan. Relaxing along the River Suir you can use the local bus to bring you back to Carrick-on-Suir.

# Walk Information

Distance: 7km Ascent: 250m

Walk Type: Looped Walk

Estimated Time: 2hrs - 2hrs 30 mins

Terrain: Forestry tracks and riverside

pathways

Trailhead / Finish: Glengarra Bridge,

Cahir, Co. Tipperary

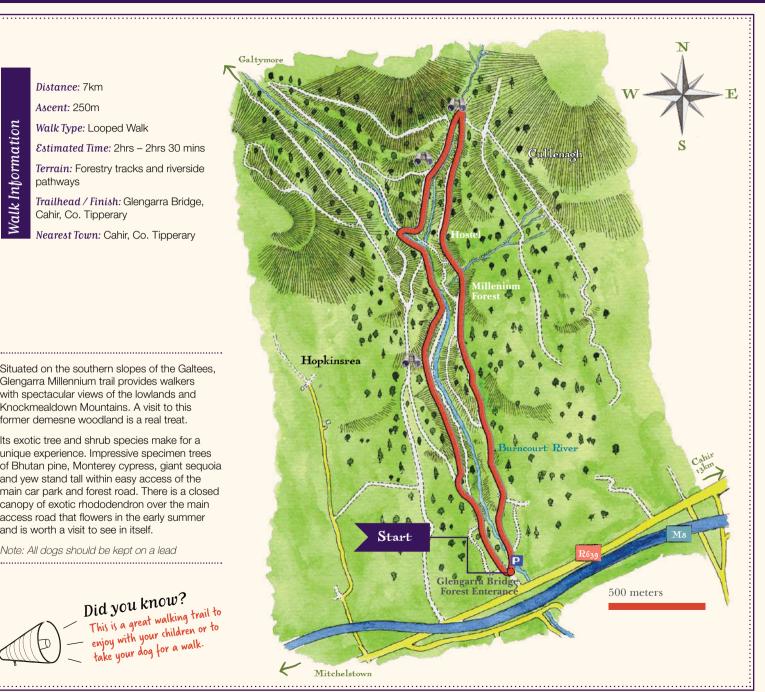
Nearest Town: Cahir, Co. Tipperary

Situated on the southern slopes of the Galtees, Glengarra Millennium trail provides walkers with spectacular views of the lowlands and Knockmealdown Mountains. A visit to this former demesne woodland is a real treat.

Its exotic tree and shrub species make for a unique experience. Impressive specimen trees of Bhutan pine, Monterey cypress, giant sequoia and yew stand tall within easy access of the main car park and forest road. There is a closed canopy of exotic rhododendron over the main access road that flowers in the early summer and is worth a visit to see in itself.

Note: All dogs should be kept on a lead







Distance: 10.5km

Ascent: Gentle, even

Walk Type: Linear walk

Estimated Time: 2hrs - 2hrs 30 mins

Terrain: Quiet country roads and

riverside pathways

Trailhead: The Rock of Cashel, Cashel,

Co. Tipperary

Walk In∮ormation

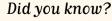
Finish: Bridge in Golden, Golden,

Co. Tipperary

Nearest Town: Cashel, Co. Tipperary

Explore part of the historic Tipperary Heritage Way and see ancient ruins and diverse wildlife along the banks of the River Suir. Archaeological and historical sites are located throughout the route.

Starting at the majestic Rock of Cashel, overlooking the Golden Vale, the trail moves along the riverside pathways in the direction of the village of Golden.



Legend associates the Rock of (ashel with St. Patrick, but the name comes from (aiseal, meaning "stone fort," and the hill was originally the residence of the kings of Munster.





250 meters

Distance: 6km Ascent: 230m / 310m Urlingford 6km Walk Type: Looped Walk Walk Information Estimated Time: 1hr 30mins - 2hrs Terrain: Forestry tracks, woodland trails and country roads Trailhead / Finish: Hogan's Pub, Grangecastle Grange, Co. Tipperary Nearest Town: Glengoole (New Birmingham), Co. Tipperary Ringfort Mound Grange Crag Loop is renowned for its Castle 2 beautiful views, bringing walkers along forestry pathways and past the historic Victorian 'Ice-House'. Grange As the trail ascends, you can look down on the magnificent ruins of Kilcooley Abbey and take in amazing views of the surrounding countryside as far west as the Devil's Bit Mountains and Keeper Hill. Grangehill Did you know? Featuring a Victorian Ice House and Wellington Monument with views of Kilcooley Abbey and across the entire county. This path is a must.

Distance: 8km Ascent: 150m

Walk Type: Looped Walk

Estimated Time: 2hrs 30 mins - 3 hrs

Terrain: Minor roads, old laneways

and fields

Walk Information

Trailhead / Finish: Upperchurch Village,

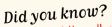
Co. Tipperary

Nearest Town: Upperchurch Village,

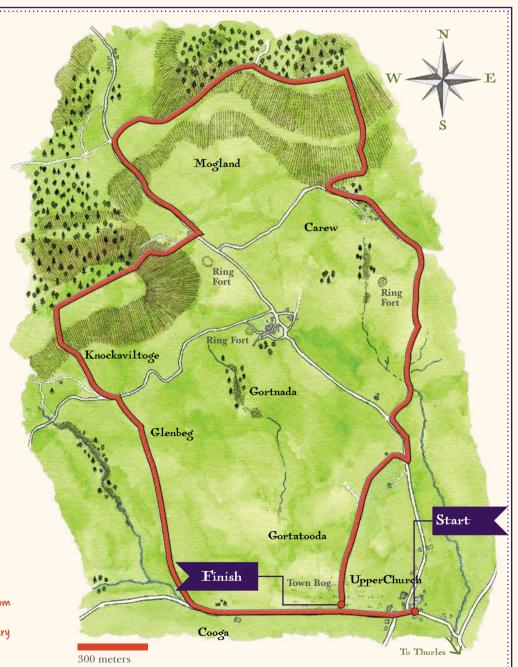
Co. Tipperary

Located in the village of Upperchurch near Thurles, this looped trail passes along quiet country roads and forestry boundaries. It has beautiful views of the Comeragh, Knockmealdowns, Galtees, Slievenamon and Devil's Bit Mountains.

Watch out for the remains of a fulacht fia on your right (a mound of soil with a slight depression at its centre which acted as a cooking pit in the Bronze age) as you move along the forestry boundary.



The name of the walk comes from a Robin Hood figure, Eamonn, who roamed the hills of Tipperary in the 17<sup>th</sup>/18<sup>th</sup> century.





Walk Information

Distance: 5km

Ascent: 14m

Walk Type: Looped Walk

Estimated Time: 1hr 20mins

Terrain: Country Roads, woodlands, riverbanks and farmland pathways

Trailhead / Finish: Monroe Church, Inch, Co. Tipperary

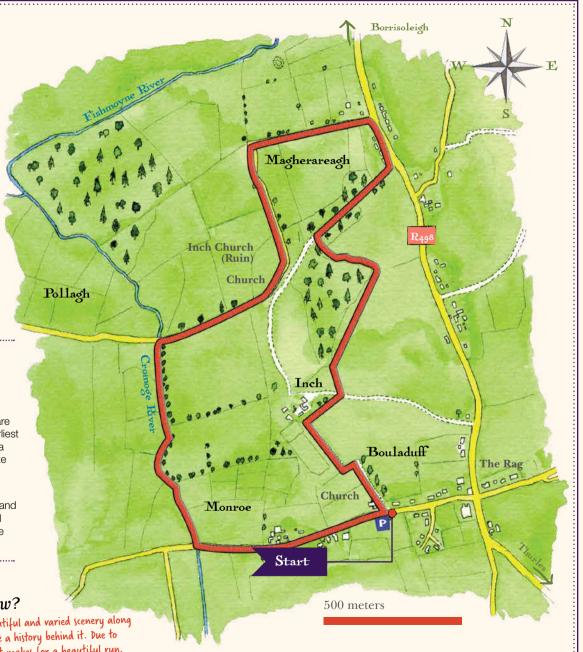
Nearest Town: Inch & Thurles, Co. Tipperary

The Inch Loop walk takes you along pleasant country roads, riverbanks, farmland pathways and woodlands. Walkers will traverse the historical heartlands of Monroe. Inch and Magherareagh. Along the route there are no fewer than five church sites, the earliest of which dates to the 6th century and a fine example of an Anglo Norman Motte beside the ruins of Inch Church.

The surrounding area is full of wildlife, particularly along the Cromogue River and around Toberfelim woodlands. The trail goes by Inch House and returns via the old chapel walk to Monroe Church.



This trail has beautiful and varied scenery along the way with quite a history behind it. Due to it's even terrain, it makes for a beautiful run.



# Walk Information

Distance: 5km

Ascent: 200m / 430m

Walk Type: Looped Walk

Estimated Time: 1 hr 30 mins - 2 hrs

Terrain: Sandy laneways, forestry tracks

and hillside paths

Trailhead / Finish: Devil's Bit Car Park, Barnane, Templemore, Co. Tipperary

Nearest Town: Templemore,

Co. Tipperary

A wonderful 5km loop that utilises forestry tracks and hillside paths to provide a pleasant walking trail with views of Lough Derg and Slievenamon and distant views of the Comeragh and Knockmealdown Mountains. Although the loop does not ascend the summit, walkers have the option of taking a short spur to the top if they want to see views of the eight surrounding counties.

From your starting point the trail ascends a stony lane by a field and then reaches a forestry area, where you will encounter the Rock Tower. As you pass through a forestry road, you can enjoy spectacular views of the Galtee Mountains. As the trail ascends gently uphill and across open countryside, it rewards walkers with stunning views of Lough Derg and the Slieve Blooms while to the south you can take in the lush vales of Tipperary. Descend by following the track to rejoin the purple arrows and retrace your steps downhill to your starting point.

Did you know?

Legend has it that the Devil bit a chunk of rock out of the mountains (Devil's Bit) during an epic battle with St. Patrick. After the battle the
Devil spat out the rock and it landed in (ashel (The Rock of (ashel).



Distance: 2.5km

Ascent: 30m

Walk Type: Looped Walk

Estimated Time: 50mins - 1hr

Terrain: Woodland trail

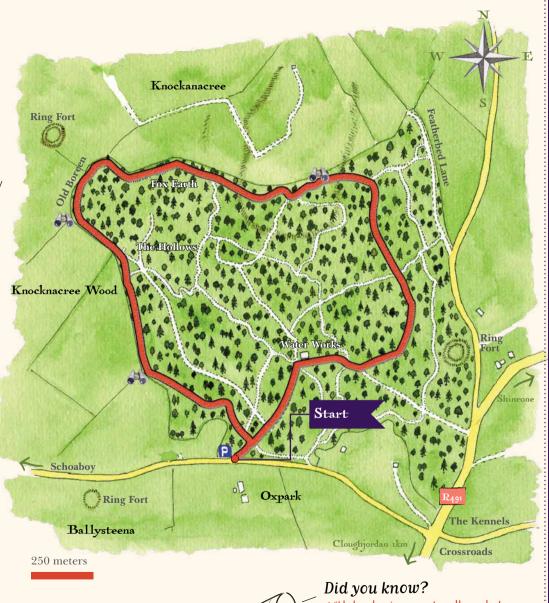
Trailhead / Finish: Knockanacree Woods, Cloughjordan, Co. Tipperary

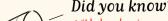
Nearest Town: Cloughjordan,

Co. Tipperary

Knockanacree Woods covers 41 hectares (a little over a 100 acres) of land. It is teeming with wildlife, from sparrowhawks and red squirrel to foxes and badgers. The trail is particularly beautiful in springtime with the blossoming of bluebells and wild garlic.

The dominant tree species covering the trail is beech, hence the trail's namesake; they crowd together to create an amazingly beautiful cathedral-like impression.





Wild strawberries grow along the central paths during the summer months, alongside the yellow creeping St. John's Wort.

### The beauty to be found on the trails



#### For further copies of this booklet

Tipperary Tourism
Ballingarrane House,
Cahir Road, Clonmel, Co. Tipperary
tourism@tipperarycoco.ie
0761 06 5000

#### **Local Walking Guides**

Cathal McNicholas www.climbireland.ie, walkinireland@live.ie. 086 3399193

Michael Moroney aherlowwalks@gmail.com, 087 9267948

The Celtic Bed & Breakfast, www.thecelticconnexion.com, 087 6677370

www.tipperary.com www.discoverloughderg.ie www.munstervales.com



Lough Derg





