



Countryside

Tollymore Forest Park

If you want to escape the hustle and bustle of life why not visit our many woodlands and gardens. Reconnect with nature as you follow streams and forest paths that often open out into spectacular views. Explore what our gardens have to offer, take on an extensive trail or simply relax in tranquil settings.



Ballymoyer Forest

Once the demesne of the Synnott family, a wealthy family of linen merchants this wooded glen was one of the first properties to be donated to the National Trust. The Castle no longer stands but the wood offers pleasant meandering woodland trails through this pretty glen.

Carrickatuke Forest & Viewpoint

Believed to be the mythical home of King Lir, Carrickatuke Mountain is now covered with dense coniferous forestry plantations. A well signposted viewpoint offers a superb perspective of the South Armagh landscape. The adjoining Fews Forest, another coniferous plantation is ideal for a leisurely stroll, walks along the trails or just merely the scenery.

Castle Ward

Near Strangford
t: 028 4488 1204 **f:** 028 4488 1729
e: castleward@nationaltrust.org.uk
w: www.nationaltrust.org.uk
 Within this beautiful 820 acre walled estate you will find woodland walks, an exotic sunken garden and paths that open onto the tranquil shores of Strangford Lough.
Opening hours: Grounds: 1 Jan–31 Mar: 10am–4pm daily, **1 Apr–30 Sep:** 10am–8pm daily, **1 Oct–31 Dec:** 10am–4pm daily
Admission: Please contact property directly for Admission Rates
Directions: From Downpatrick take A25 to Strangford. Castle Ward is 7 miles from Downpatrick and is 1.5 miles from Strangford. Castle Ward is signposted off to the left before Strangford Village.

Castlewellan Forest Park

East District Forest Office
 Castlewellan Forest Park
 Castlewellan, BT31 9BU
t: 028 4377 8664 **f:** 028 4377 1762
e: customer.forests@nationaltrust.gov.uk
w: www.forests@nationaltrust.gov.uk
 Way marked trails around the lake and forest, plus a fascinating arboretum. Castlewellan Peace Maze is a must to visit.
Opening hours: 10am – Dusk

Admission: Car: £4, Minibus: £10, Coach: £25, Motorcycle: £2, Annual Permits – Car: £35, over 60's concessionary rate £17.50, Minibus: £70. (Prices Subject to review)
Directions: From Newcastle take A50 to Castlewellan. At roundabout turn right to top of hill, turn left following signpost into forest park.

Daisy Hill Wood

Daisy Hill Gardens, Newry
 Daisy Hill Wood is a main feature on the hill above Newry and most people would know the site from its history as a plant nursery for 100 years from 1890 to 1990. The wood has native trees and woodland flowers but also quite a few exotic species that used to be grown in the nursery. The main access is less than 700m from the main street of Newry and the path follows the old estate paths that contours the site and forms a circular route. Given the history and accessibility of the site, it plays a key role as a community woodland.

Delamont Country Park

Mullagh, Killyleagh
t: 028 4482 8333 **f:** 028 4482 8333
e: delamont.park@downdc.gov.uk
w: www.delamontcountrypark.com
 This stunning and beautiful 200 acre Country Park renowned for its favourable, dry, warm climate offers: Woodland & Countryside Walks 1km – 7km on the shores of Strangford Lough, an Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty. Stunning views across the Lough to the Mourne Mountains. Open areas for family picnics, BBQ and games. Irelands only fresh-air gym, free to use and accessible to all. 5★ Award winning Caravan & Camping Site. Outdoor Adventure Playground. Ride on Miniature Railway 1km long – Thomas the Tank look-a-like. Strangford Stone – tallest megalith in Ireland. Heronry, largest in Northern Ireland & Bird Hide. BBQ area & Room for hire. Horse Riding by Permit. Mobility Scooters available. Events throughout the year. Childrens Events throughout July and August. Access to Strangford Lough Canoe Trails.
Opening times: 365 days Dawn – Dusk
Admission: Car: £4, Motorcycles £2,

Minibus: £10 - £15 **Coach:** £30, Season Ticket available from Downpatrick & Newcastle Tourist Information Centres.
Directions: Delamont is located on the A22 Downpatrick to Comber Road. 5 Minutes from Downpatrick.

Kilbroney Park

Shore Road, Rostrevor
t: 028 417 38134
e: kilbroneypark@newryandmourn.gov.uk
 The forest drive leads to a car park from where walkers have the opportunity to climb to 'Cloughmore' the big stone, a 30ton erratic, which sits at approx 1000ft above Rostrevor. Geologists explain its presence here as having being deposited during the ice age. Local Folklore claims it was thrown here by Finn Mac Cool during a fight with a Scottish Giant. During the same battle, the Scottish Giant allegedly tore out a handful of earth and flung it back at Finn, which missed. The earth landed in the sea and became the Isle of Man while the divot he made, filled up with water and became Lough Neagh. Rostrevor Oak wood is a relic of a much larger forest. The woodland contains Oak, Ash, Sycamore, Hazel to name but a few. There are lots of ferns and flowers like wild Garlic, primroses and bluebells. It is home to Jays and Squirrels and it hosts a number of rare plants like wood avens and hard shield fern.
Opening times: Access all year.
Admission: Free

Murlough National Nature Reserve

Dundrum, Co Down
t: 028 4375 1467
f: 028 4375 1467
e: murlough@nationaltrust.org.uk
w: www.nationaltrust.org.uk
 Murlough is fantastic walking country and a haven for bird watchers. A network of paths and boardwalks enables you to discover this amazing nature reserve
Opening hours: Access all year.
Facilities Open: 13 March – 28 March: 10am–6pm w/ends & BH/PH, 3
April–31 May: 10am–6pm w/ends & BH/PH,
2 Apr–11 Apr: 1–6pm daily (Easter),
1 Jun–31 Aug: 10am–6pm daily,



Kilbroney Park



Castle Ward

Countryside

4-26 Sept: 10am-6pm w/ends only

Admission: Please contact property directly for Admission Rates

Directions: From Newcastle, take A24 towards Dundrum. Murlough is signposted on right before the Twelve Arches.

Quoile Countryside Centre

5 Quay Road, Downpatrick, BT30 7JB

t: 028 4461 5520 **f:** 028 4461 3280

w: www.ni-nvironment.gov.uk/quoile

The Countryside Centre is an attractive stone cottage with a wildflower garden. The centre features displays on the wildlife and history of the area.

Opening times: Easter to 30th September:

Monday to Sunday 10.00am - 6.00pm.

1st October to Easter: Sundays 12 noon - 4.00pm

Admission: Free

Directions: From Downpatrick take A25 to Strangford. Turn Left following signposts for Quoile Countryside Centre.

Rowallane Garden

Saintfield

t: 028 9751 0131

f: 028 9751 1242

e: rowallane@nationaltrust.org.uk

w: www.nationaltrust.org.uk

Rowallane is an enchanting 52 Acre garden with many trees, plants and shrubs introduced from other parts of the world.

Opening times: 2 Jan-28 Feb: 10am-4pm

daily, **1 Mar -30 Apr:** 10am-6pm daily,

1 May -31 Aug: 10am-8pm daily,

1 Sep -31 Oct: 10am-6pm daily,

1 Nov - 31 Dec: 10am-4pm daily.

Closed 25 & 26 Dec & 1st Jan

Admission: Please contact property directly for Admission Rates

Directions: On Main A7 Road, entrance to Rowallane Gardens is on the left hand side when you enter Saintfield.

Slieve Gullion Forest Park

89 Dromintee Road, Newry

t: 028 3755 2154

Opening times: Open all year round

Admission: Free

Slieve Gullion Forest Park covers an area of some 1000 hectares (2500 acres), and offers spectacular views of the surrounding countryside. The Courtyard is the starting point for a 10km scenic drive around the forest park with its wonderful views.

Strangford Lough Wildlife Centre

Castleward Estate, Strangford

t: 028 4488 1204

f: 028 4488 1729

e: strangford@nationaltrust.org.uk

w: www.nationaltrust.org.uk

Located within Castle Ward Estate, the Wildlife Centre provides information on marine, plant life and birdlife off Strangford Lough.

Opening times: 2 Apr-11 Apr: 12 Noon-5pm (Easter), 17 Apr-30 June: 12 Noon-5pm w/ends only, 1 July-31 Aug: 12 Noon-5pm Fri, Sat, Sun, Mon, 1st-26th Sep: 12 Noon-5pm w/ends only

Admission: Please contact property directly for Admission Rates

Directions: Located within Castle Ward Estate, on A25, 7 miles from Downpatrick and 1.5 miles from Strangford.

Tollymore Forest Park

Newcastle

t: 028 4372 2428

f: 028 4377 1762

e: customer.forests-service@dardni.gov.uk

w: www.forests-service-ni.gov.uk

One of Northern Ireland's largest and most attractive forest parks.

Opening times: 10am - Dusk

Admission: Car £4, Minibus £10, Coach £25,

Motorcycle £2, Season Permit - Car £35,

Over 60's Car Permit £17.50, Pedestrian

Entrance from Bryansford Village: Adult £2,

Child £0.50 (Prices subject to review).

Directions: From Newcastle take the Bryansford Road. Tollymore is on the left before Bryansford Village.

Seaforde Gardens and Tropical Butterfly House

See Family Fun section

Seaforde Gardens and Tropical Butterfly House

