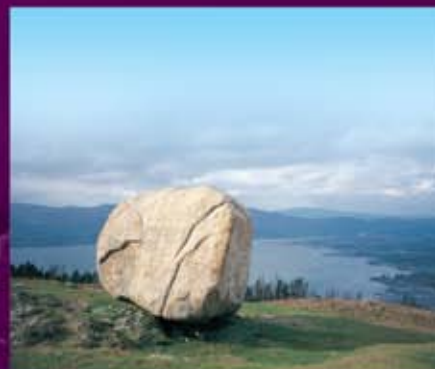


Heritage

The footprint of history surrounds the area with both myth and fact. The landscape reveals many traces of previous millennia dating back as far as 4,000 B.C. With Dolmens, Castles and the rich legacy of St Patrick through to the more recent Craigmore Viaduct, the region offers a unique opportunity to look into an ancient island's past.



Cloughmore Stone

Annadorn Dolmen

Loughinisland

t: Historic Monuments: 028 9054 3034

A slightly displaced capstone covers a rectangular chamber of which three side stones survive.

Directions: 5½ miles south east of Ballynahinch on the north east shore of Loughinisland Lake, within sight of Loughinisland Churches.

Annalong Cornmill & Harbour

Annalong, Co. Down

t: 028 4376 8736

Annalong Harbour is one of Ireland's most picturesque harbours, with its cornmill, built in the early 1800's. It operated until the 1960's, being one of Ulster's last working watermills.

Áras an Chairdinéil Ó Fiaich Heritage Centre

Slate Quarry Road, Cullyhanna

t: 028 3086 8757

Photographs and memorabilia can be found in this centre. You can listen to songs and poems from South Armagh. Research library and archives for students and adults

Monday - Friday: 2pm - 5pm;

Saturday & Sunday: by appointment only

Admission: Adult £3.00; Students / OAP £2.50; children under 11 free

Ardtole Church

Ardglass

t: Historic Monuments: 028 9054 3034

Ruined late medieval Church, probably occupying site of pre-Norman Church. Situated on hilltop overlooking sea and Isle of Man

Directions: ¾ mile North East of Ardglass, east of A2

Audley's Castle*

Strangford

t: Historic Monuments: 028 9054 3034

Small gatehouse type tower house with part of enclosing bawn built in 15th Century.

* Not Open to the public

Directions: 1 mile North West of Strangford town on rocky height overlooking Strangford Lough.

Bagenal's Castle

Castle Street, Newry BT34 2DA

t: 028 3031 3170

e: newrytic@newryandmourne.gov.uk

w: www.bagenalscastle.com

A 16th century fortified house, and adjoining 19th century warehouse has been restored to house Newry & Mourne Museum and Newry Tourist Information Centre.

Opening hours: Monday – Saturday:

10.00am – 4.30pm,

Sunday: 1.30pm – 4.30pm

Admission: Free

Ballynoe Stone Circle

Downpatrick, BT30 6AR

t: Historic Monuments: 028 9054 3034

Megalithic monument near Downpatrick where a 100ft Stone Circle encloses an ellipse of stones and a prehistoric burial mound. Dated to around 2000BC. It is thought Ballynoe was begun in the Stone Age.

Directions: Follow Killough Road in Downpatrick until crossroads at Flying Horse Housing Estate. Turn right for Ballynoe. Signposted down long footpath.

Bloody Bridge

Bloody Bridge is located near Annalong.

Bloody Bridge derives its name from a massacre in 1641 at the instigation of the Irish Chieftain Sir Conn Magennis. This is a popular starting point for walkers wishing to venture into the Mourne. Bloody Bridge is an excellent point from which to take a break and enjoy the views of coastal plains and the majestic Mourne.

Burren Heritage Centre

Burren, Warrenpoint

t: 028 4177 3378

Burren Heritage Centre is where you can experience over 5000 years of history in one building. It was a national school built in 1839, and is situated in the picturesque drumlin area above Carlingford Lough.

Castle Ward

Strangford, BT30 7LS

t: 028 4488 1204 **f:** 028 4488 1729

e: castleward@nationaltrust.org.uk

w: www.nationaltrust.org.uk

Situated in a stunning locale overlooking Strangford Lough, Castle Ward is an intriguing mansion built in two distinct Architectural styles, Classical and Gothic.

Opening times: Grounds: 1 Jan–31 Mar: 10.00am – 4.00pm daily, **1 Apr–30 Sep:** 10.00am–8.00pm daily, **1 Oct – 31 Dec:** 10.00am – 4.00pm daily. House **13 March – 31 October:** 11.00am – 5.00pm daily.

Admission: Please contact property directly for Admission Rates

Directions: From Downpatrick take A25 to Strangford. Castle Ward is 7 miles from Downpatrick and 1.5 miles from Strangford. Castle Ward is signposted off to left before Strangford Village

Clontygora Court Cairn

Known as the 'King's Ring'. This typical cairn is now a ruin with its original covering completely gone. However it remains easily recognisable and is, along with the Ballymacdermot Cairn, one of the best examples of a court tomb in the North of Ireland.

Opening times: Opened all year round

Admission: Admission free

Clough Castle

Clough, BT30 8RA

t: Historic Monuments: 028 9054 3034

Excellent example of Anglo Norman earthwork castle with mount (motte), stone tower and outer enclosure (bailey), in commanding position at junction of important route.

Directions: From Newcastle take A2 through Dundrum village, continue on approx 3 miles to Clough village. Castle situated on right.

Cloughmore Stone

A huge boulder left over from the glacial period. Legend has it that this 'big stone' located 1000ft above the village of Rostrevor was thrown there by the Irish Giant Finn Mac Cool during a fight with a Scottish Giant. From Cloughmore Stone panoramic views over Carlingford Lough and the ancient oak plantations can be seen.



Craigmore Viaduct



Inch Abbey

Craigmore Viaduct

Construction began in 1849 and the bridge opened to traffic in 1852. The 18arch viaduct sweeps across the valley of the Camlough River, the highest arch being 126ft above the stream below. It still carries the Belfast to Dublin rail link. Can be viewed from the roadside.

Opening times: Open daily all year round
Admission: Free

Creggan Churchyard & Graveyard

Creggan, Crossmaglen
The churchyard is one of the most important and historic properties in Ulster. Among those buried there lie Art Mac Cumhaig, Patrick Mac Aliondain and Seamus Mor Mac Murphy a famous poet and outlaw. The Poet's Trail - Creggan Loop walk starts at the Creggan Parish Church, it is a pleasant venue for an easy walk, which would take roughly 3 hours to complete. A little hamlet surrounds the picturesque Church of Ireland graveyard, which is home to the famous O'Neill family vault.

Opening times: Opened all year round
Admission: Free

Derrymore House

Bessbrook, Newry
t: 028 3083 8361 **w:** www.ntni.org.uk
A National Trust Property, Derrymore House is an elegant thatched cottage that stands amid a picturesque landscape estate less than 2 miles from Newry. The property makes a perfect stopping point between Belfast and Dublin, with scenic walks. This is where the Act of Union was drafted.

Opening times: May - August, Thursday - Saturday: 2.00pm - 5.30pm
Admission: Adult £3.00; Child £1.50

Down Cathedral & St Patrick's Grave

The Mall, English Street, Downpatrick BT30 6AB
t: 028 4461 4922 **f:** 028 4461 4456
e: info@downcathedral.org
w: www.downcathedral.org
A Church of Ireland Cathedral originally a Benedictine Monastery built in 1183. Major restoration in the 1800s, still containing many of the original features. The Cathedral is built on the Hill of Down, one of the holiest Christian sites in Ireland. Its graveyard contains the traditional burial place of St Patrick.

Opening times: Monday - Saturday: 9:30am - 4:30pm, Sunday: 2:00pm - 4:30pm
Admission: Donations for guided tours by prior arrangement
Directions: Continue to the top of Market Street, Downpatrick. Turn left at traffic lights. Turn left again at next set of traffic lights and continue to end of English Street. Down Cathedral is situated at end of street.

Down County Museum

The Mall, English Street, Downpatrick BT30 6AH
t: 028 4461 5218
f: 028 4461 5590
e: mail@downcountymuseum.com
w: www.downcountymuseum.com
Located in restored eighteenth century County Gaol of Down, the museum's exhibitions tell the story of the people of County Down from earliest times to today. Down Through Time, major new fully accessible exhibition, is now open in the Governor's Residence. Featuring hundreds of historic artefacts, documents and photographs, audio-visual displays, gallery audio points, interactive databases and lots of hands-on activities for children, it's a must for all the family. Audio tours of the museum are now available in French, German, Spanish and Irish. There is full wheelchair access, a tactile orientation model of the museum and an audio tour for the visually impaired.

Opening times: All year Monday - Friday: 10:00am - 5:00pm; Saturday and Sunday: 1:00pm - 5:00pm
Admission: Free

Directions: Continue to top of Market Street, Downpatrick. Turn left at next set of traffic lights and continue along English Street. Down County Museum is situated on right.

Downpatrick and County Down Railway: See Family Fun section.

Drumena Cashel

Castlewellan, BT33 0PY
t: Historic Monuments: 028 9054 3034
Good example of a small stone built farmstead enclosure or cashel of the early Christian period.

Directions: 2 miles south west of Castlewellan, close to by-road off A25 to Rathfriland (signposted.)

Dundrum Castle

Dundrum, BT33 0NF
t: Historic Monuments: 028 9054 3034
A key castle in the Anglo-Norman conquest of Ulster in the late 12th century, on site of pre-Norman stronghold. Guide available.

Opening times: April - September, Tuesday - Saturday: 10:00am - 7:00pm, Sunday: 2:00pm - 7:00pm. 1 October - 31 March: Saturday & Sunday only. Saturday: 10:00am - 4:00pm & Sunday: 2:00pm - 4:00pm.

Admission: Free
Directions: Take A2 out of Newcastle, 4 miles to Dundrum village, turn left up School Hill in middle of village, take first right

Greencastle Castle

Greencastle, Killeel
t: 028 3031 3170
The castle was built in the 13th century and was maintained as an occupied fortress for 350 years. During that time, it was attacked, sacked and repaired several times so that the building you see today is a mixture of 13th - 16th century structures.
Opening times: Open July & August
Admission: Charges vary

Inch Abbey

Downpatrick, BT30 9AT
t: Historic Monuments: 028 9054 3034
Most of this substantial Cistercian Abbey is now in ruins, but the east end of the church, with its early English lancet windows, chapter house and refectory remains as witness to its great days of piety.
Opening hours: Daily
Admission: Free
Directions: Take A7 towards Crossgar turn left at Inch Abbey Road following signpost for Inch Abbey. Reach by lane on left. Car Park available.

James Martin Memorial Stone

The Square, Crossgar, Co. Down
t: 028 4461 0800 **f:** 028 4461 0801
w: www.downdc.gov.uk
Sir James Martin who hailed from Crossgar was born on 11 September 1893 and died on 5 January 1981 was awarded an OBE in 1950 and a CBE in 1957 for his services to Engineering. He is famous as the inventor of the Ejector Seat and Escape System for aircrafts. This three-foot stone has been erected in his memory. The Memorial stone is maintained by Down District Council.
Directions: From Downpatrick take A7 and drive through Crossgar until you come to a crossroads, before pedestrian lights. Turn right, drive up into The Square. From Belfast, on A7 follow signs from Downpatrick. Take first left after pedestrian lights drive up into The Square

Jordan's Castle

Ardglass.
t: Historic Monuments: 028 9054 3034
This ruined 15th century tower house is one of several in Ardglass, underlining the town's historic importance to the life of the district. Children under the age of sixteen must be accompanied by an adult.
Opening times: Open part of Summer Season only - July & August: Closed on Sundays & Mondays. Open Tuesday, Friday & Saturday: 10:00am - 1:00pm. Wednesday & Thursday: 2:00pm - 6:00pm
Admission: Free
Directions: Between Kildare and Quay Street. Entrance from Quay Street, Ardglass.

Kilbroney Old Graveyard

Rostrevor

The graveyard contains the remains of the 12th century church of St Bronach and St Bronach's well, over which a shrine was built in 1936. There also can be found the grave of Giant Murphy who at 8ft 1inch was the tallest man in the world in his day.

Opening times: Open daily all year round

Admission: Free

Kilclief Castle

Kilclief, Strangford

t: Historic Monuments: 028 9054 3034

Reputedly built by John Sely, Bishop of Down, between 1413 and 1441. Townhouse of gatehouse type with entrance defended between two projections.

Opening times: Open part of Summer Season only – July & August: Closed on Mondays. Open Tuesday, Friday, Saturday & Sundays: 2:00pm – 6:00pm. Open

Wednesday & Thursday: 10:00am – 1:00pm

Admission: Free. Children under the age of sixteen must be accompanied by an adult

Directions: 2½ miles south of Strangford on A2

Kilfeaghan Dolmen

The dolmen, a Neolithic portal tomb approximately 5000 years old, is well worth seeing because of the massive capstone, which is estimated to weigh 35tons. The capstone is believed to be one of the biggest in Ireland. Excavations carried out at the turn of the century unearthed various bones and pottery.

Killevy Churches

Killevy is the site of one of Ireland's most important early convents founded by St Moninne in the 5th Century. Although plundered by the Vikings in 923 A.D monastic life continued and the site was occupied by the Augustinian Nuns until 1542. The large tree lined graveyard is still in use today.

Opening times: Open daily all year round

Admission: Free

Killyleagh Castle

Killyleagh, BT30 9QA

t: 028 4482 8261

e: polly@killyleaghcastle.plus.com

A riot of turrets and battlements rise like a fairytale vision above Killyleagh as this amazing Loire-style chateau completely dominates the small village. Killyleagh Castle is a private family home.

Opening times: By arrangement

Admission: Dependant on size of party.

Directions: From Downpatrick follow A22 to Killyleagh. One-way system in operation. You can drive up to Castle via Plantation Lane or Fredrick Street and down Hill Street only.

Kilnasaggart Stone

Thought to be Ireland's oldest Christian monument. Kilnasaggart marks the site of an early Christian cemetery; it was thought that a church was probably located nearby.

Opening times: Opened all year round

Admission: Free

Loughinisland Churches

t: Historic Monuments: 028 9054 3034

Interesting group of three ruined churches in graveyard beside lake, ranging in date from 13th to 17th Centuries.

Directions: 4 miles west of Downpatrick on island in Lough, reached by causeway.

Maghera Church & Round Tower

Dundrum.

t: Historic Monuments: 028 9054 3034

Ruined round tower marks site of important early monastery, founded in 6th Century by St. Donard.

Directions: From Newcastle take A50 to Castlewellan, turn right at Burrendale Hotel on to Corrigs Road. Signposted beside Church of Ireland Parish Church.

Mound of Down

Mount Crescent, Downpatrick, BT30 6AF

t: Historic Monuments: 028 9054 3034

The Norman, John de Courcy, built a castle in the stronghold of Macdunlevy. Giant earthwork beside the River Quoile.

Opening times: Open all year round.

Directions: Follow signs to English Street, Downpatrick. Turn into Mount Crescent and the Mound is situated at the back of Down County Museum.

Narrow Water Keep

Warrenpoint

Originally built in 1212 by Hugh DeLacey, Earl of Ulster, as a guard to watch over Carlingford Lough.

Opening times: The Keep is open during the summer months

Newry Heritage Trail

The Heritage Trail takes you through the many attractions of the city. The long trail lasts about 1hour 45minutes and the short trail approximately 45minutes. Ideally you should spend a day wandering through Newry and visiting the many shops, restaurants and public houses along the way. Pick up the Heritage Trail at Newry TIC and explore the history and heritage of Newry.

Newry Town Hall

Bank Parade, Newry

t: 028 3026 4780

Designed by William Batt and constructed in 1893. It was one of the last works of the old Newry Town Commissioners whose

crest dated 1891 can still be seen on the bridge. The style of the building is broadly classical. Reputed rivalry, between Counties Armagh and Down, over its location led to the Town Hall being built on a three arched bridge astride the Clanrye River, the county boundary. On the bridge is the Russian Trophy, a 19th century cannon captured during the Crimean War. This was given to the town in recognition of the men from Newry who volunteered to fight in the war. The Russian Eagle can be seen on the barrel of the gun.

Quoile Castle

Downpatrick, BT30 7JB

t: Historic Monuments: 028 9054 3034

Built on the banks of the Quoile for local notable Captain West at the end of the 16th Century.

Directions: Take Strangford Road from Downpatrick. Take first left at Quoile Pondage Centre (*signposted*.)

Ross Monument

Shore Road, Rostrevor

t: 028 417 52256

This monument was erected in 1826 to honour Major General Robert Ross who fought in both Europe and in America wars of independence. It was also to celebrate a victory over the American forces at Bladensburg. The monument has been restored in 2008.

Admission: Free

Saul Church

Downpatrick, BT30 6PE

t: 028 4461 3011

This replica of St Patrick's first church in Ireland is 2 miles outside Downpatrick. Close by on the crest of Slieve Patrick is a statue of St Patrick. Bronze panels illustrate scenes from the life of Ireland's Patron Saint.

Opening times: 9:00am – 5:00pm daily.

Admission: Free

Directions: From Downpatrick follow A25 to Strangford. Turn right onto Mearne Road. At crossroads turn right following signpost for Saul Church.

Slieve Patrick

Saul, BT30 7JG

On a hill overlooking the villages of Saul and Raholp stands a giant statue of Saint Patrick, overlooking the place where he landed on his return to Ireland, the land of his mission and the place of his burial. The statue was erected in 1932 to commemorate the 1500th anniversary of his return as bishop to convert the Irish to Christianity.

Opening times: Daily. On the first Sunday in June, there is a pilgrimage to an open air mass.

Directions: From Downpatrick follow A25



The Cathedral of St Patrick & St. Colman



St Patrick's Grave

Heritage

to Strangford. Turn right onto Mearne Road continue forward onto the St Patrick's Road, the entrance to Slieve Patrick is located on the right hand side of the road just past St Patrick's Primary School, Saul.

St. John's Point Church

Killough

t: Historic Monuments :028 9054 3034
Excellent example of an early Christian Church near the sea and lighthouse.

Opening times: Open all year

St Patrick's Church of Ireland

Stream Street, Newry

The first Protestant Church to be built after the Reformation in Ireland it commands a panoramic view of the city below. The earliest part of the building was built by Sir Nicholas Bagenal in 1578. The church was almost destroyed in 1641 and was not fully restored until 1866. It is one of the oldest churches in Ireland still used for worship. Dean Jonathan Swift is said to have preached in this church during his visits to Newry.

St. Tassach's Church

Raholp, Downpatrick, BT30 7JR

t: Historic Monuments: 028 9054 3034
Here lie the ruins of a church. One of the earliest Christian buildings in Ireland associated with St. Tassach, who administered the last communion rites to the dying St Patrick on 17 March 461.

Directions: Access is from the Bannaghan Road.

Strangford Castle

Strangford.

t: Historic Monuments: 028 9054 3034

Simple 16th Century tower-house with drop hole at roof level to defend the door.

Directions: Near Strangford Harbour

Struell Wells

Downpatrick, BT30 6RL

t: Historic Monuments: 028 9054 3034

Strongly associated with St Patrick but no documented history until 1306.

Remarkable group of healing wells and bath-houses in secluded rocky valley.

Directions: 1½ miles east of Downpatrick on the Ardglass Road. Turn left beyond Downshire Hospital into Struell Wells Road. Continue for ½ mile. Wells on right.

The Cathedral of St Patrick & St. Colman

Hill Street, Newry

t: 028 3026 7524

The most commanding building in Hill Street. Built in 1829 of local granite to a cost of £8,000, it was the first Catholic Cathedral opened after the granting of Catholic Emancipation. The tower and transept were added in 1888 and the nave extended in 1904. The interior marble work and mosaics took 5 years to complete.

Opening times: Daily: 8.30am - 5.00pm

The Coronation Stone

Bridal Loanan, Warrenpoint

The stone of destiny or coronation stone of the Magennis clan is preserved on its original site. Legend tells how the Magennis clan and all of the sub-clans, who owed allegiance to 'The Magennis', would fill the surrounding countryside while the Chieftain of the clan was inaugurated by placing his foot and staff of power into slots in the stone.

Opening times: Open daily all year round

Admission: Free

The Mourn Wall

It took over 18 years to complete the granite wall. Started in 1904, it was not completed until 1922. The wall is 22 miles in length and at places 8ft high and 3ft

wide. Many walkers in the Mourne use the wall as a marker. The wall begins and ends at the Silent Valley Reservoir.

The Saint Patrick Centre

53a Market Street, Downpatrick, BT30 6LZ

t: 028 4461 9000 **f:** 028 4461 9111

e: director@saintpatrickcentre.com

w: www.saintpatrickcentre.com

Situated below Patrick's reputed burial site, this interactive exhibition includes a virtual helicopter ride entitled "In St. Patricius's Footsteps" presents an authentic view of the Saint through his own words. The centre's excellent facilities include an Art Gallery, Craft Shop, Restaurant, Conference facilities, Tourist Information Centre and Education programme

Opening hours: October – March:

Monday – Saturday: 10am – 5pm.

St Patrick's Day: 9:30am – 7pm.

April, May & September: Monday – Saturday:

9:00am – 5:30pm **Sunday:** 1pm – 5pm.

June – August: Monday – Saturday: 9:30am

– 6pm **Sunday:** 10am – 6pm. *Please note that last admission is 1½ Hours before closing.*

Admission: Adult: £4.95, Child: £2.55,

Concession: £3.35, **Students:** £3.35,

Family: £11.75. **Group rates:** Adult Groups:

£3.30, **Concession, Student & Senior**

Citizens: £2.70, **Education Group:** £3.50.

Directions: Situated off Market Street, Downpatrick.

Ti Chulainn

Mullaghbane

t: 028 3088 8828

Ti Chulainn Cultural Activity Centre is set in the heart of the Ring of Gullion. The area is steeped in history. Lying on the historical boundary between Ulster and Leinster, this traditional meeting place of people has kept its long traditions of music, song, dance, Irish language, folklore and history.

Opening times: Please call for opening times

Castle Ward



Bagenals Castle

