

Glens Town & Village Tourist Trails

Murlough Bay

Torr Head

Cushendun

Cushendall

Glenariff Forest Park

Bonamargy

Friary

The Glens of Antrim

From the County Antrim town of Ballycastle to Larne, rugged cliffs stretch north for 40 miles, broken only by 9 deep green glens, each with its own unique character.



Myths & Legends Quest

Throughout the centuries stories have been told of strange goings on in the Glens of Antrim. A local fisherman recently uncovered a book containing a strange ancient language; not knowing what to do with this he hid it somewhere in the Glens of Antrim and locked with a secret code. Your quest is to follow the directions, solve the clues and hopefully uncover the secret code to open this book.

Solving the Trail

One of the answers on the cross will be the final answer. To find out which one you will have to solve the clues in the Trail. The answers are names or numbers you will find as you follow the Trail. The names might be first names, surnames or place names. Solve the clues; answer the questions in the correct order, delete the correct answer from your crosses found on the answer page. Solve all the clues and you will be left with the one answer. You will not be required to enter any private property, or pay any entrance fees in order to solve the mystery.

The directions will lead you from start to finish even if you cannot find an answer. If you do get lost or cannot find the answer, retrace your steps to the last clue you found and try again. You do not need to have a map to solve the Myths & Legends Trail as the clues and directions are detailed enough to ensure that you should never get lost!

Please

- Remember that you are responsible for the safety of yourself and your party whilst on the Trail. Take care and remember that crossing a road safely is more important than finding any clue.
- Respect the privacy and property of others and in particular respect the ancient monuments and memorials that are visited.
- Do not allow children to go ahead and separate from your group.
- Before you begin, agree on an emergency rendezvous point should someone become separated.

The nine glens of Antrim

Armoy

Glentaisie - The glen of taisie of the bright sides

Ballycastle

Glenshe

Glenshesk - The seday alen

Glendun - The glen of the brown river

Glenaan - The glen of the colts foot

Glencorp - The glen of the slaughtered

Glenballyeamon - Edwardstown glen

Glenariff - The fertile glen

Glencloy - The glen of the hedges

Glenarm - The glen of the army

- Trail Locations
- Clue Locations
- Clue Locations
- Driving Route
- Information Points



Waterfoot



Please do not attempt to drive or walk around with the 3D glasses attached to your head, or attempt to cross roads while reading the trail.

Ballycastle Walking

For further information before you travel contact. Ballycastle Tourist Information Centre Tel: 028 20762024 Cushendall Local Information Office Tel: 028 21771180

Trail

Information Centre

(TIC), located on

Mary Street close to

the tennis courts and

public toilets.

The rivers flowing down Glentaisie and Glenshesk unite and are called the Margy which meet the sea at Ballycastle

strand.

following the footpath

towards the harbour area.

xit the TIC and with safety Your start point for in mind cross to the this trail is opposite side of Mary **Ballycastle Tourist** Street, turn right then left

Locate the Myths & Legends information panel found along the way. In what year was Robert the Bruce crowned King of Scotland?

> Exit the play area, turn left, keeping to the left hand side of the street walk towards The Diamond. Turn left and walk to the front entrance of Holy

Congratulations, you have completed the Ballycastle trail. Let's get driving, take the A44 through the town and follow the signs for the Glentaisie Scenic Route.

Trinity Church.

Enter through the church gates. What date is carved on the pediment over the main doorway?

Continue walking until you reach the Industrial Heritage information panel.

How many ships could be berthed in Ballycastle harbour at any one time?

What is the Christian name of the councillor who dedicated this stone?

> Continue walking up Quay Road towards the town centre. Half way up the street identify the memorial garden to your left.

Looking around you along the way you will discover an archway. What surname can be linked to this archway?

Walk towards the bus stop and with safety in mind cross to the opposite side, turn left and continue walking along Quay Road until you arrive at the

Searching the war memorial, find the names linked to motor transport; what surname can be linked to 1st Tanks?

town's War Memorial.

With safety in mind cross to the opposite side of Quay Road and turn right. Continue walking up the hill to locate your next clue.

THE WEDDING OF TAISIE

Taisie, the daughter of a King of Rathlin, was a great beauty who had gained the attentions of the King of Norway. He sent a contingent of his men to bring her back to be his bride but his demand was refused for Taisie was promised to Congal, heir to the Kingdom of Ireland. When Taisie and Congal's wedding celebrations were in full swing the King of Norway suddenly arrived with his army to capture Taisie

but in the subsequent battle the Norwegian king was killed and his army returned home leaderless and empty handed.



Armoy & Glenshesk

Trail

This glen is peppered with standing stones marking the burial places of saintly men and women and of brave clan leaders killed

in battle.

Start

Your start point for this trail is Main Street Armoy. Park close to the public phone box, located opposite McClafferty's Bar. Locate the public toilets found close by, and walk to them.

Start walking along Main Street into Church Road passing the water pump on your left. Cross over the River Bush using the bridge, stopping at Armoy Presbyterian Church.

On your approach to the Friary, you will discover a grave similar to the grave stone seen on page 22. In front of this grave you will discover the World War I graves; searching these graves, name the ship linked to the date 13th
January 1915.

Enter the ruins of the Friary building and locate the large fireplace; what date can be linked to this fireplace?

Searching the church tower, what year was this church rebuilt? You need to look closely at the tower to find this.

Return to your car and continue driving back to Ballycastle. Follow the signs for Ballycastle Forest, this road will take you to Ballycastle (4.5 miles). Once in Ballycastle, turn right following the A2 to Bonamargy Friary located 600m on your right.

Stop here and park your car.
Walking from the small car park,
follow the path through the golf
course and enter the grounds of
Bonamargy Friary.

Turn back walking towards the village, cross over the bridge and turn right into Riverside Park.

> What distance is it to Ballycastle Forest from Breen Oak Wood?

Locate the monument linked to the Armoy Armada. What surname can be associated with the front wheel of the motorbike?

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For further information before you travel contact.

With your back to this clue, walk forwards until you arrive at the Isle of Man TT circuit. Locate the black directional sign for directions. This is the second course found along the way.

What location can be found at number 12 on the TT circuit?

Following the river walk and keeping the River Bush to your right walk back to the village. At the bridge, walk up the steps and return to your car.

Locate the information panel with reference to the Round Tower. In 1843 what did Getty discover during his excavations here?

Let's start driving. Take the Glenshesk Scenic Route and follow signs for the Round Tower. Stop at the Round Tower and park your car in the car park.

Return to your car, exit the

church car park and turn left

onto the Glenshesk Scenic

Route back to Ballycastle. Stop

at Breen Oak Wood locate the

brown sign, seen our your

right.

THE BLACK NUN

Bonamargy Friary contains important tombs.

The crypt of the McDonnell clan is in the main church,

close to that of their stewards, the McNaughtons. A small rounded cross with a

hole in the centre at the west door marks the grave of Julia McQuillan, a recluse who resided

here in the 1600's, better known as 'The Black Nun'. She was famous for her predictions,

some of which local believers claim to have been fulfilled. There have been many sightings

of a headless figure, reported to be the Black Nun, haunting Bonamargy.

Congratulations you have completed the Armoy and Glenshesk Trail.

Turn to the Torr Head driving Trail for your next adventure.

the heart of the Causeway Coast &



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In times past Torr Head headland was used to identify and record transatlantic shipping and the information was relayed back to Lloyds in London.

Locate the information panel found in the car park.
Where can the passage tomb be found?



What is the name of the fort that belonged to one of the Red Branch warriors?



Start

Turn right on the A2
Cushendall Road, following
the directions on the scenic
route to Murlough Bay. At
Ballyvoy turn left following
Torr Road, keeping an eye on
the road and direction signs
you will arrive at Murlough
Bay viewing point.

Drive past the Lime Kiln on your left hand side and continue for (0.8miles). Half way down the hill, locate the green information panel. What location can be found fourth to the right from Fair Head?

What bird can be seen flying about here?

Return to your car, drive

back to Torr Road, and turn

left following the directions

to Torr Head viewing point.

What can you spot in the

Road. After a short distance you will see Coolranny Chapel. Park your car on the left hand side.

Drive slowly, taking

great care along Torr

What can be found on the right side of Rathlin Island?

Exit Torr Head viewing area and turn off at the first sign for Cushendun, following the Torr Road to Cushendun for your next clue. On your right you will discover a small layby called Aughnaholle, which overlooks Torr Head, you will discover an information panel here. Park here to find your next clue.

here?

area which also breeds

With safety in mind, cross over the road and enter the church grounds. The church building will hold your next clue.

Searching the painted parts of the church, what date can be found here?

Congratulations you have completed the Torr Head Driving Trail. Explore the area further if you wish before returning to your car.
Continue following the road to Cushendun and park at the harbour.

Barrcach

Sleacht Bharraiagh, Barrach's grave, is the name given to the passage tomb on top of Carnanmore to the west of Torr head. On the summit of Carnanmore to the south west lies another, almost intact, passage tomb with decorated roof-slabs.



Cushendun Village

Trail

Clough William Ellis designed The Square and Maud Cottages in the village centre in 1912. It was built in Cornish style to please

Lord Cushendun's wife. Facti File

Start

Park your car in the large free car park, located close to the small harbour in Cushendun, You will find this at the opposite end of the village before you cross the bridge.

Close by locate the Parish of Cushendun information panel and walk to it. Searching the map, what location can be found directly to the left of Glendun Ward?

12 Searching the panel, who was killed in 1567 during a meeting with the MacDonnells?

Locate the Cushendun information panel found close to the beach entrance,

and walk to it.

Walk towards the shore, turn right following the Bay Road back into Cushendun. Turn right at Maud Cottages and locate the water pump on the green.

> With your back to this clue, walk across the garden through the wooden gate leading into the car park. Close to the public toilet entrance you will discover an information panel.

What is the surname of the famous Welsh architect?

What is the name of the foundry found at the base of the water pump?

> Close by locate another information panel about Cushendun Village. In what year did Lord Cushendun die? ... 10 10

Congratulations you have completed the Cushendun trail. Make your way now to Cushendall via the Glendun and Glenann scenic routes. Exit the car park, turn right following the brown signs for Glendun Scenic Route this will lead you onto Glenann Scenic Route to Cushendall.

> What date can be associated with this building?

Glendun Viaduct

This fine bridge carries William Bald's famous Coast Road towards Ballycastle across the valley of Glendun. One of the three arches spans the River Dun and another the Glendun Road. The bridge completed in 1839 was the work of county surveyor Charles Lanyon, who was only 22 years old when he designed the viaduct. Lanyon later became famous as the architect of many fine buildings including Queens University in Belfast.

Walk towards Main Street in Cushendun village, turn left crossing over the Dun River and locate the statue of the goat.

Identify the surname linked to the sculptor.

For further information before you travel contact.

Ballycastle Tourist Information Centre Tel: 028 20762024 Cushendall Local Information Office Tel: 028 21771180

Continue along the River Walk, keeping the river to your left. Once you arrive at the road, turn left following the path to Church Lane. At the turnstile gate, walk through it and turn right following the path into the grounds of Glenmona Woods.

Locate the information panel entitled Cushendun In what year was the local church finally closed?

Walk around the grounds until you arrive at the front of the house, overlooking the beach.

Turn around, walking back over the bridge and turn left onto Riverside Crescent, follow the sign for the Riverside footpath until you reach the information panel.

What is the source of the River Dun?

Did you Know -

On your return trip back to Ballycastle you will come across the Vanishing Lake. Lying just a few miles from Ballycastle on the A2, Loughareema is surrounded by unspoiled, uninhabited, heather covered hills. It would appear as just a normal lough but if you care to go away for a while upon your return you find it has completely vanished.



Cushendall Walking

Trail

Cushendall lies close to where the River Dall flows into Cushendall Bay. The name derives from an Irish meaning (Foot of the Dall)

Start

Your trail starts at Layde Church in Cushendall. Once in Cushendall follow the signs to Layde Church, park your car and follow the path into the grounds of the church. Ensure you secure your car before entering the church grounds.

Locate the holed stone inside the grounds of Layde Church. What month can be seen clearly on the stone?

Fact File

Locate the information panel close to the exit. What can be found at Layde Church which is regarded as having mystical healing powers?

Find the Layde Church

information sign, located at

the front entrance to the

church. What is the

surname of the last clergy

who served the church?

Turn left and with safety in mind walk towards the beach.

Locate the Cliff path plaque. Who donated this?

> Locate the information panel with reference to Cushendall.

Tiveragh

Tiveragh known locally as 'the fairy hill' is said to be inhabited by both good and bad fairies. According to local folklore, the fairies, or 'wee folk' from time to time make an appearance around the hill. It is also said that the bad fairies have been known to lure the unsuspecting visitor to the hill using the fairy music never to be heard of again!

For further information before you travel contact. Ballycastle Tourist Information Centre Tel: 028 20762024 Cushendall Local Information Office Tel: 028 21771 180

Return to your car. Follow the road back into Cushendall, turn right at Curfew Tower on High Street, at the top of the hill, turn right into Cottage Wood.

What hill is locally known as

the Fairy Hill?

Locate the flora and fauna Information Panel, what plant is widely known for its medicinal qualities?

> Locate the village history information panel, found close by. What is the name of the tower found in the centre of the village?

Facing the clue, turn left following the path through Cottage Wood. Keeping to the left make your way down the steps and continue walking until you exit Cottage Wood on Shore Road.

Looking beyond the information panel you will see another panel higher up, using your navigation skills make your way to this.

When did Layde Church stop being a Parish Church?

> Congratulations you have successfully completed the first Cushendall trail. The second part of this trail starts here, ensure you secure your car before starting.

The ruins of Layde Church are one of the oldest and most important historical sites in the Glens.



Cushendall Walking

Trail

Prior to the development of the Coast Road, access to and from Cushendall was often easier by

sea than inland over the Antrim Plateau.

Locate the information panel

with reference to Cushendall

Beach. Who bought the village

of Cushendall in the early

1800's?

Start

Your trail starts at Cushendall Beach and you will finish this trail in the village. What was the occupation of James McDonnell?

Congratulations you have successfully completed the the door way.

Cushendall trail. Close by is
Cushendall's LIO, there you
can find out more
information on the local area.
To return to your car, walk
towards Curfew Tower, turn
left, walk up the hill and on
your right you will discover
Cottage Wood. Leave
Cushendall via the B14
Glenballyeamon Scenic Route

to Glenariff Forest Park

For further information before you travel contact.
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Keeping the sea to your left, walk to the opposite end of the promenade. Locate another information panel to find your next clue.

What field sport is one of the oldest in Europe?

With safety in mind, cross to the opposite side and locate the Local Information Office (LIO).

Identify the sporting mural; counting the numbers on the back of the jerseys will reveal another clue.

Continue to the opposite end of the car park, opposite the library you will discover a large mural.

What is Cushendall's most notable building?

In what year did Cushendall have street lighting?

Continue walking, crossing over the small foot bridge and walk to Dalriada Park. Turn right and walk to the end of the road, turn right on Coast Road and walk to the next bridge crossing the River Dall. With safety in mind, cross to the opposite side, turn left into the small car park.

Locate the information panel at the side of the river. What can often be seen along the River Dall?

Curfew Tower

One of the best-loved buildings in Cushendall, the Curfew Tower, was built by the eccentric Francis Turnly 'as a place of confinement for idlers and rioters'. It takes it's name from a bell it housed until the 1940's, which sounded a curfew at 9pm, the time respectable people were expected to be indoors!

Fact File

The Antrim Coast Road

When the Antrim Coast Road was completed in 1842, its commissioners were upset that the £37,140 cost was £12,000 over budget! Today it seems a small price to pay for one of the world's most scenic routes. The Coast Road now forms part of the Causeway Coastal Route.



Causeway Coast & Glens

Glenariff Driving

Trail

Glenariff'Queen of the Glens' this is the largest and most beautiful of the nine glens and was scooped out by ice to form a glacial u-shaped valley. Fred File

our start point for the this trail is Glenariff Forest Park Drive into the forest from the A45 Glenariff Road, park in the pay and display car oark before looking for your clues. If you do not wish to pay for parking, the first three clue answers can be found on our website. If the isitors centre is closed, you can get the information from the digital screens in the car park or from the tourist information centres

Continue driving towards Carnlough,

after 1 mile on your right you will

discover the small car park at

Ardclinis Graveyard. Turn right and

park your car.

Locate the information panel opposite the pay and display machine. What is the name of the bridge that goes over the Glenariff River?

Walk to the opposite end of the car park and locate the electronic information panel. If this is not working, you can find the answers in the exhibition centre.

> Locate the information panel. Name the mountain you see in front of you.

Locate the information panel found close by. What is a Crozier?

> Go into the gravevard, locate the grave with the date 1783. What is the Christian name of the person laid to rest here?

For further information before you travel contact. Ballycastle Tourist Information Centre Tel: 028 20762024 Cushendall Local Information Office Tel: 028 21771180

Searching the screens discover what was found in Newton Crommelin in 1843?

ocate the exhibition centre and walk to it. What sort of farming system was used on the hill tops?

Return to your car. Exit the car park and turn left following the Garron Road towards Carnlough. Along the way you will see the white arch on your left, just past it pull into the small layby on vour left.

> Locate the building with all the information panels attached to the windows. Name one of the two fastest clippers to sail the world.

Before you return to your car, don't forget that Glenariff has many spectacular walks that you can enjoy. Refreshments available in the Tea Rooms or Laragh Lodge Restaurant. Exit the forest park and turn right following the A43 into Waterfoot. Locate the free parking area close to the beach and park your car.

> Locate the information pane linked to History & Heritage. What is Red Bay Castle also known as?

Using your powers of observation, reveal when Nan Murray was buried in Kilmore Graveyard?

> Walk out of the car park towards the village, turn right on Garron Road and walk to the centre of the village.

How many kilometres is it to Navan?

THE WATERSHEE

Usually appearing as either a female fairy or a beautiful woman, the Watershee lures weary travellers into bogs and lakes with her sweet singing, only to drown them and devour their unfortunate souls. Only the wearing of a cross or saying a prayer will protect human beings from her dark and evil ways.

Congratulations you have completed the Glenariff Driving Trail, return to your car, turn right on the A2 Garron Road and drive to Carnlough.



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Feet File

For further information before you travel contact. Larne Tourist information Centre Tel: 028 2826 0088

Trail

Archaeological excavations at Bay Farm have uncovered evidence of Neolithic occupation (around 4000 B.C.)

Turn left then left again following the path back towards the archway; along Where did the SS Peridot the way locate the information board about Carnlough.

What is the name of the guarry found on the path to Cranny Falls?



Start

Your start point for the Glencloy Trail is the car park located behind the Spar shop as you enter Carnlough Village from the north.

Walk towards the harbour and with safety in mind cross to the opposite side of the road. Locate the small stone building associated with Paddy the heroic pigeon. ,2

Searching the tower, what

surname can be linked to

the opening of this church?

With safety in mind cross over Bay Road and turn right, locate the front entrance to the chapel and walk to it.

break up?

What can be seen off ou shores?

Follow the path remaining

on the left past the

Londonderry Arms Hotel; you

will discover the Carnlough

information panel after a short walk along the coastal path.

High above you will discover the plaque about the railway & harbour. Uncover the name associated with the completion of this project.

Walk towards the archway, turn left and walk up the steps. Where was the limestone crushed?

Walk down the steps either side of the archway, continue to the southern side.

Locate the information panel with reference to railway path. What do six wagons make?

Turn around and walk back to Bay Road and turn left walking back towards the bridge. With safety in mind cross over Marine Road and walk to the top of the archway and locate the second information panel.

Congratulations, you have completed the Carnlough trail. Hopefully you successfully solved the clues; now make your way to Glenarm to solve your final trail.

Fairy Fiddlers

This glen has produced its fair share of skilled fiddle players, and in the past, when flax was grown in abundance, the fiddlers would be key entertainers at the flax harvest celebrations. Those with exceptional skills and knowledge of rare and beautiful tunes were said to have learned these from the fairies, known to be fine musicians.

Ask about belief in fairies and you may receive a cautious or shy response. Fairies are feared, and it is safer to refer to them less directly, using terms such as 'the little folk'.

Did you Know \

The North Antrim Coast Road runs between Ballycastle and Larne, built in 1842. Originally called the Grand Military Way it was built in light of strategic lessons learnt by government after the 1798 rebellion.





trail is the public car park, situated close to the beach and public toilets in Glenarm.

What family name has been associated with Glenarm since the 1600's?

Turn right into Castle Street, remaining on the left hand side.

Coastal Route information panel found close to the toilets, and walk to it. .

A house on the street was built in 1830, but by whom?

Continue walking, crossing over the footbridge to the Barbican gates of Glenarm Castle.

> 12 Identify the name of the wife of Sir Randal McDonnell.

Congratulations you have completed the Glenarm trail. To return to the start point cross over the bridge, turn left on Toberwine Street then left again over the Glenarm River using the bridge to go back to the

start point.

Madman's Window

About one mile south from Glenarm on the Coast Road is a large rock with an opening at the top. It is referred to as the 'Madman's Window'. The name goes back nearly two centuries ago, to the time when a young girl was drowned in Glenarm Bay. Her sweetheart was so deeply moved by her death that he lost his sanity.

For further information before you travel contact. Larne Tourist information Centre Tel: 028 2826 0088

With caution, walk towards the shoreline and turn right crossing, over the footbridge into the harbour area. Locate the Harbour Master's office, and walk to it.

What can be linked to the

11:30am service?

Locate the information panel close to the Harbour Master's office. What location can be found 20km from the Mull of Kintyre? ...

With your back to the harbour, walk towards the stone Roman Catholic church with the bell, located on New Road. Locate the small building found to the rear of the church.

What was the former use of this building? Searching the windows will aid you.

Turn right and continue walking along New Road then turn left into Toberwine Street. Cross over to the right side and locate the Baptist church at the top of the Toberwine Street.

Each day he would sit at the rock, gazing through the hole or 'window,' waiting for his girlfriend to return from the waters to him.









Ballycastle TIC
Sheskburn House, 7 Mary Street,
Ballycastle, Co.Antrim, BT54 6QH
T: +44 (028) 2076 2024
E: tourism@moyle-council.org
www.moyle-council.org/tourism



Larne TIC, Narrow Gauge Road, Larne, Co Antrim, BT40 1XB, T: +44 (0)28 2826 0088 F: +44 (0)28 2826 0088 E: larnetourism@btconnect.com www.larne.gov.uk



Cushendall Local Information Office 25 Mill St, Cushendall, County Antrim, BT44 ORR T: +44 (0)28 2177 1180



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