



Scrabo
Tower



Greyabbey



Ballycopeland
Windmill



Kinkistown
Castle

Places to visit in ARDS

For further information and details about events taking place at various sites, contact:

Environment and Heritage Service
Commonwealth House

35 Castle Street

Belfast BT1 1GU

Telephone: (028) 9054 6533

Fax: (028) 9054 6660

Email: ehsinfo@doeni.gov.uk

Visit: www.ehsni.gov.uk



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www.doeni.gov.uk

Our aim is to protect and conserve the natural and built environment and to promote its appreciation for the benefit of present and future generations

Ards

Your guide to Exploring Ards

where to eat out
the best places to go
and where to stay

THE NATIONAL TRUST
MOUNT STEWART



Fascinating eighteenth-century house with nineteenth-century additions, home of Lord Castlereagh. Also well renowned for its magnificent gardens largely created by the wife of the seventh Marquis of Londonderry, with an unrivalled collection of rare and unusual plants, colourful parterres and magnificent formal and informal vistas. The Temple of the Winds, James 'Athenian' Stuart's banqueting hall of 1785, overlooks Strangford Lough. Facilities include Bay Restaurant (fully licensed), National Trust shop and new interpretive area.

Situated on Strangford Lough, 8km South East of Newtownards, 25km South East of Belfast on North side of Belfast - Portaferry road, A20.

Mount Stewart, Newtownards, Co. Down BT22 2AD
Telephone **028 4278 8387** (from NI) **048 4278 8387** (from ROI)
Fax 048 4278 8569 Email umsest@smtp.ntrust.org.uk
www.nationaltrust.org.uk

Contents

5

2 Welcome to the Ards Experience



4 Newtownards and Surrounding Area



8 The Northern Peninsula



12 The Southern Peninsula



16 The Western Loughside

20 Heritage Sites

36 Arts and Crafts

24 Homes and Gardens

38 Eating Out

26 Activities in Ards

44 Where to Stay in Ards

34 Family Fun

52 Map of Ards area



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Welcome to the Ards Experience

Experience Ards and you'll experience it all – whether you're looking for dramatic seascapes and landscapes, the best in leisure or first class attractions, there's never been more on offer to tempt you to this Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty.

Located about 10 miles from Belfast City, the Ards has Strangford Lough at its heart. The water of this largest sea inlet in the British Isles and its internationally renowned wildlife form the focus of the Ards for many visitors. And you have the best of both worlds - the Irish sea stretches from Donaghadee to Portaferry with long stretches of sandy beaches ideal for walking and watersports.

Transport yourself to the past with a visit to the ancient castles and churches or enjoy the wealth of outdoor activities – from golf and fishing to sailing and horseriding. Discover the water and wildlife of Strangford Lough or explore beautiful National Trust properties, such as Mount Stewart, a potential World Heritage Site, or Northern Ireland's only aquarium, Exploris. Or simply sit back and relax in the restaurants and friendly pubs in the towns and villages - including Grace Neill's, holder of the Guinness Book of Records title of the oldest pub in Ireland!

Details of what you can do and where you can go are all in the main body of this guide but here follows some useful information.

Shopping

Newtownards, as the Ards' capital town, is the main shopping district. A weekly market takes place on Saturdays in Conway Square, from where a range of retail outlets, including a number of traditional, family-run department stores, are close at hand. Ards Crafts (housed in the Tourist Information Centre) showcases the work of the local craft industry, while Ards Shopping Centre with lots of familiar high street shops, is located on the outskirts of town and has free car parking. Don't forget to try the other towns and villages, though!

Special Guides

A range of useful publications including Events Guides, Experience Ards (walking, bus, boat and themed tours) and the Creative Peninsula Guide (crafts and fine arts) are available from the two Tourist Information Centres. (See 'Queries or Questions' for contact details)

Travel Information

Airports:

Belfast International Airport

Tel: 028 9442 2888

Belfast City Airport Tel: 028 9093 9093

Rail and Bus:

Translink Information Line

Tel: 028 9066 6630

Newtownards Bus Station

Tel: 028 9181 2391

Car Hire:

Car Hire (Ards) Tel: 028 9187 3245

Taxis:

There is a taxi rank outside the bus station on Regent Street, Newtownards. Also contact the Tourist Information Centre for contact details of taxi companies.

Strangford Lough Ferry Service

Sailings: Every 30 minutes

Strangford – Portaferry:

Departs on the hour and half hour

Portaferry - Strangford: Departs at quarter past and quarter to the hour.

Sailings every day of the year except Christmas Day.

Internet Access

Newtownards:

Ards Development Bureau

Tel: 028 9181 4625

Newtownards Library

Tel: 028 9181 4732

Portaferry:

The Port Tel: 028 4272 9666

Portaferry Library Tel: 028 4272 8194

Comber:

Comber Library Tel: 028 9187 2610

Donaghadee:

Donaghadee Library

Tel: 028 9188 2507

Health

Most town and villages have local health centres, dentists and chemists.

NDA Doctors On Call Tel: 028 9127 5511

The Ulster Hospital is the area's nearest emergency hospital Tel: 028 90484511

Queries or Questions?

If you have any queries or questions, staff in our Tourist Information Centres are there to help.

Call in to, or telephone:

TIC in Newtownards (beside the bus station)

31 Regent Street, Newtownards

Tel: 028 9182 6846

TIC in Portaferry The Stables, Portaferry

Tel: 028 4272 9882

Open April – September or e mail your query to: tourism@ards-council.gov.uk.

Local Information Office

Also information available from the local information office in Pier 36, Donaghadee Tel: 028 9188 4466.

This document is available in alternative formats on request.

pick up ...

Ards Visitor Map

Pick up your
FREE map for
more detailed
information on
getting about
the Borough



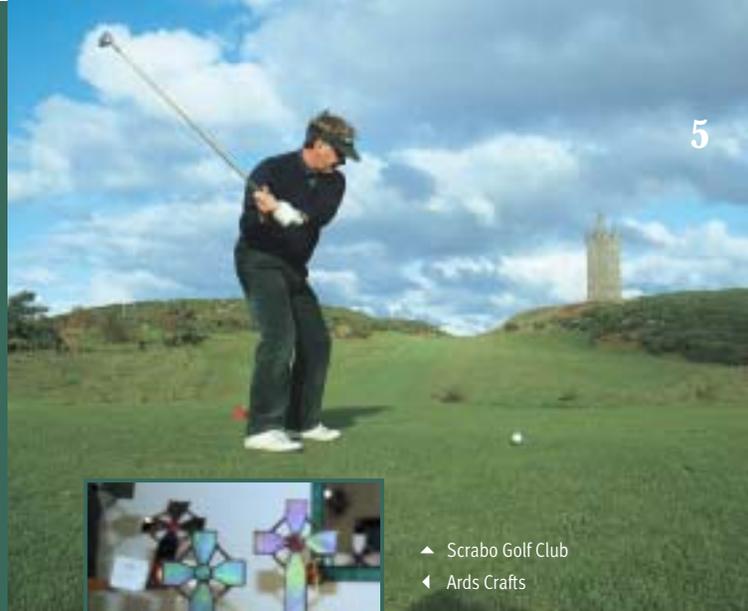
Newtownards and Surrounding Area

Newtownards, the Ards Borough's capital town, is also its heart.

An old market town, it has retained a reputation for good shopping which continues to attract people from far and wide.



◀ Scrabo Tower



- ▲ Scrabo Golf Club
- ◀ Ards Crafts

For local people, first sight of Scrabo means they're home. For visitors, it means

they've reached the Ards Borough and Newtownards. The landmark tower is clearly visible on any approach to the town. It stands on a hill at the centre of Scrabo Country Park, offering panoramic views over Belfast, Strangford Lough and beyond. The Park itself includes the woodlands of Killynether and is also home to one of the more challenging golf courses you'll ever encounter!

The area's main Tourist Information Centre is also nearby in town. As well as being the best source for more information and advice, the Centre is also home to Ards Crafts – a showcase for the work of local craftspeople and where you can choose a gift or treat yourself to anything from ceramics to a woodturned bowl.

Ards is home to more crafts people and artists than anywhere else in Northern Ireland, so it's no surprise to find a shop like Ards Crafts in Newtownards. Nor is it surprising that the town also has a thriving Arts Centre, the focal point for arts in the area.

Just outside the town enjoy a superb exhibition at the Somme Heritage Centre or have some family fun at the Ark Open Farm.

Ards Crafts



A quality retail outlet for local and national craft



An extensive range of creative Ceramics, decorative Pottery, stylish Jewellery, Woodturning, Textiles, Mixed Media and much more.

Gift Wrapping and Customer Ordering service available

OPENING TIMES

Monday-Friday
9.15am-5.00pm

Saturday
9.30am-5.00pm

Ards Crafts, 31 Regent Street
Newtownards BT23 4AD

Tel: 028 9182 6846

Fax: 028 9182 6681

Email ards.crafts@ards-council.gov.uk
www.ards-council.gov.uk



An Ards Borough Council Initiative



A wealth of talent with many designers and artists welcoming visitors to their workshops.

Both of these are close to Whitespots Country Park, home to the Lead Mines and Area of Special Scientific Interest and a popular spot for walkers.

Back in Newtownards town, visitors are well catered for with a range of restaurants and bars offering a variety of food and entertainment.

If you want to see the town from a different perspective then why not try one of the ghost or historical walking tours, bookable at Ards TIC.

Arts & Crafts Itinerary

From Donaghadee to Portaferry and from Comber to Kircubbin, lies a carpet of thriving craft businesses. A selection of work by a large number of these craftspeople is on view and for sale in **Ards Crafts** at 31 Regent Street, Newtownards (inside the Tourist Information Centre). Why not make the Craft Centre a first stop on a tour of some of the local craft studios.

Moving on from Newtownards, stop off at **Breezemount Farm** in Donaghadee to view the Angora goats and a selection of mohair garments made from their wool. Or try some home made jams from the farm.

After a short drive from Donaghadee, you will arrive in Milllisle, the home of the well known pottery – **Eden Pottery**. This pottery is renowned for its spongeware technique, ranging from apples to lemons and the old favourite, the farmyard cockerel. A few miles outside Milllisle in Loughries is **Spring Cottage Crafts**; scented wall-hangings, embroidered cushions, Bunny rose bag holders are just a few of the pieces for sale.

Continue on a scented trail with a final visit to **Castlehill Candles** in Portaferry. Here you can experience the aromas from their extensive selection of scented candles. An end to a thoroughly enjoyable day exploring this wonderful craft industry.

This itinerary is a suggestion only. It is recommended you check all opening days and times before you begin your tour.

◀ Eden Pottery



Experience Ards



Once you have experienced an Ards tour you will be hungry for more!

Themed Tours

Ghost Tours

The Creative Peninsula Tour

Bus Tours of the East and West Peninsula

Historical Walking Tours of Newtownards

Boat Trips of Strangford Lough

1798 Bus Trip

Booking is essential and all tours can be pre-booked through the Tourist Information Centre in Newtownards Tel: 028 9182 6846

Ards
Tourism

the Northern Peninsula

The North, or the 'top end', of the Ards Peninsula offers a bite-size chunk of coast, with beautiful and accessible beaches, traditional small villages, and a wealth of history.

◀ Ballycopeland Windmill



▲ Donaghadee Lighthouse
◀ Grey Abbey

Of course, you can combine the North with the South of the Peninsula to create a round trip taking you from Donaghadee in the North through to Portaferry at the Southern tip and back to Newtownards through Kircubbin and Greyabbey. The choice is all yours!

From Donaghadee on a clear day you can see all the way to Portpatrick in Scotland and the harbour with its impressive lighthouse is a must-see. You can enjoy great views over the Irish Sea during a walk on the seafront or just relax in one of the town's restaurants and bars including [Pier 36](#), the Northern Ireland Tourist Board's Pub of the Year 2004 and [Grace Neill's](#), Ireland's Oldest Pub. If you want to find out more about this pleasant town then why not take one of the guided walking tours. More information from Ards TIC (028 9182 6846). As you would expect in a town by the sea, this is the perfect spot to take a 20 minute boat trip to the [Copeland Islands](#), just 2 miles off the coast, which are a bird and seal watching paradise.

Outside [Millisle](#), you can enjoy the view of or visit Northern Ireland's only working windmill, [Ballycopeland Windmill](#). Following the coast road out of Millisle, you'll reach two traditional small villages, the first is Ballywalter and a few miles further on is Ballyhalbert.

10 Internationally acclaimed Mount Stewart Gardens are ranked among the best in the British Isles.

Moving inland you will find the village of Greyabbey - home to Grey Abbey - the first example of Gothic Architecture in Ireland. The village also has a number of antique and speciality shops as well as giving you the opportunity to stop for coffee.

From Greyabbey, the main road takes you back to Newtownards. However, most visitors find it impossible to do without stopping as the views are spectacular over Strangford Lough and the temptation to explore Mount Stewart House and Gardens is hard to resist.



Homes and Gardens Itinerary

The tour commences in Ards Tourist Information Centre and Ards Crafts. First stop is at **Mount Stewart House**, on the shores of Strangford Lough. The ancestral home of Lord Castlereagh, Mount Stewart is a fascinating property dating from the 18th Century. It houses works of art collected from all over the world and the Temple of the Winds, an exquisite 18th Century octagonal banqueting hall, is also on the estate. The gardens boast an unrivalled collection of plants and formal settings.

You can then visit **Greyabbey** for lunch and shopping in the village's antiques and craft shops (please check for opening days and times), or visit the 12th Century Abbey. The afternoon continues with a tour of **Grey Abbey House**, (by arrangement only). Possibly one of the most important and beautiful country houses in Ulster, Grey Abbey is set amid splendid gardens and parkland which sweep down to the Abbey ruins.

You can also include a visit to **Ballywalter Park** (must be pre-booked), a marvellous example of an early Victorian country house. Built in the Palazzo style, the house boasts a handsome conservatory and the surrounding gardens contain important examples of plant and tree species.

This itinerary is a suggestion only. It is recommended you check all opening days and times before you begin your tour.

See, Explore & Discover a world under the sea...



WE OPEN DAILY

Monday-Friday 10am-6pm

Saturday 11am-6pm

Sunday 1pm-6pm

(Sept-Easter closes 1 hour earlier)

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www.exploris.org.uk

**Portaferry, County Down
T: 028 4272 8062**

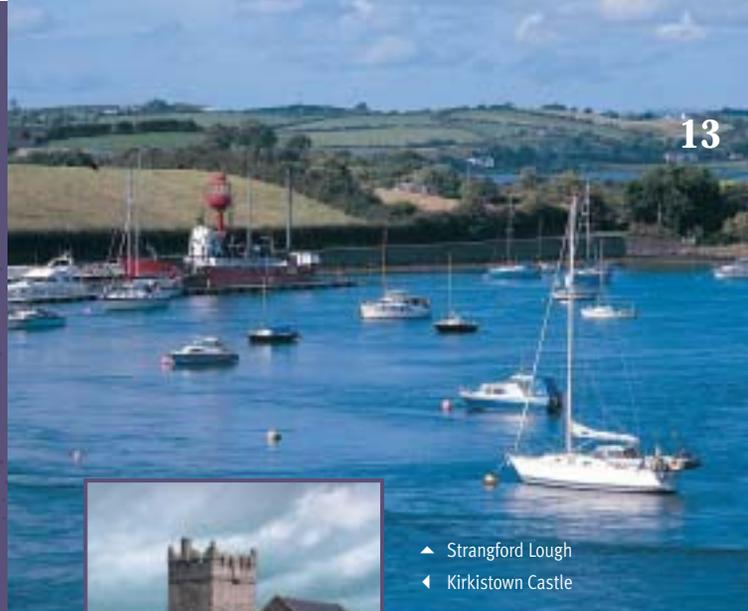
An Ards Borough Council Tourism facility

the Southern Peninsula

Travelling South from Newtownards, down through Greyabbey, you're on the Portaferry Road with perfect views of Strangford Lough and the opportunity to enjoy some of the most spectacular scenery Ards has to offer. First stop is Kircubbin, a village right on the shores of the Lough.



◀ St Cooley's Wells



- ▲ Strangford Lough
- ◀ Kirkistown Castle

A few miles further, when you see Windmill Hill (for breathtaking views right across Strangford Lough take a trip up to the old windmill stump), you've reached the town of Portaferry. A good starting point here is the Tourist Information Centre (open Easter to September). Set in the picturesque surroundings of a refurbished 17th century stable yard. Right next door is the Tower House Portaferry Castle.

With Strangford Lough considered as one of the most important marine sites in Europe, it's no surprise that Portaferry is the location for Northern Ireland's only aquarium and seal sanctuary, Exploris. Here the visitor gets the opportunity to learn more about and interact with a variety of marine species at one of the centre's discovery pools. And if you are lucky you may also get to see some seals rehabilitating in the sanctuary before being released back to the sea.

No surprise either at the number of opportunities to get out on the water. You can take a fully guided boat trip around the Strangford Islands or if you prefer something more challenging then there is always the opportunity for some sea angling, bird and seal watching or even diving. And of course, from Portaferry you can board the Strangford Ferry, used as much to enjoy the

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where the natural
environment is
celebrated and
shared with
visitors.*

views of Strangford Lough,
as it is to make the short 15
minute crossing to the other
side of the Lough.

Signposted from Portaferry
explore the Derry Churches or
St Cooney's Wells (three healing
wells) and further north, you
reach the picturesque National
Trust village of Kearney full of
quaint white washed cottages.

Cloughey village boasts
another historic Tower House,
Kirkistown Castle and
Portavogie further along the
peninsula is the heart of
the peninsula's fishing
industry with sights to
enjoy and restaurants to
experience the 'catch'.

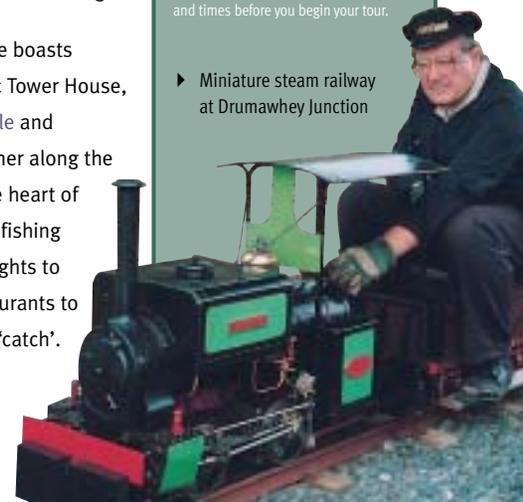
Family Fun Itinerary

After visiting Ards Tourist
Information Centre and Ards
Crafts, you should call in at
**The Ark 'Rare Breeds' Open
Farm** where over fifty species
of rare breeds of sheep, cattle,
pigs and poultry can be seen,
cuddled and fed. You can then
move to **Castle Espie Wildfowl
and Wetlands Centre** outside
Comber, where Ireland's largest
collection of wildfowl can be
found. Or experience a train
ride on the miniature steam
railway at **Drumawhey Junction**.

Following lunch travel down to
Exploris in Portaferry, Northern
Ireland's only aquarium and seal
sanctuary. Here, the rich and
diverse ecosystems of the Irish
Sea are faithfully represented.
Children and adults can actually
hold a starfish, rays and sea
urchins in the Touch Tank, and
come face to face with sharks,
conger eels and octopuses in
the huge Open Sea Tank. An
end to a day packed full of
wonderful memories.

This itinerary is a suggestion only. It is
recommended you check all opening days
and times before you begin your tour.

► Miniature steam railway
at Drumawhey Junction

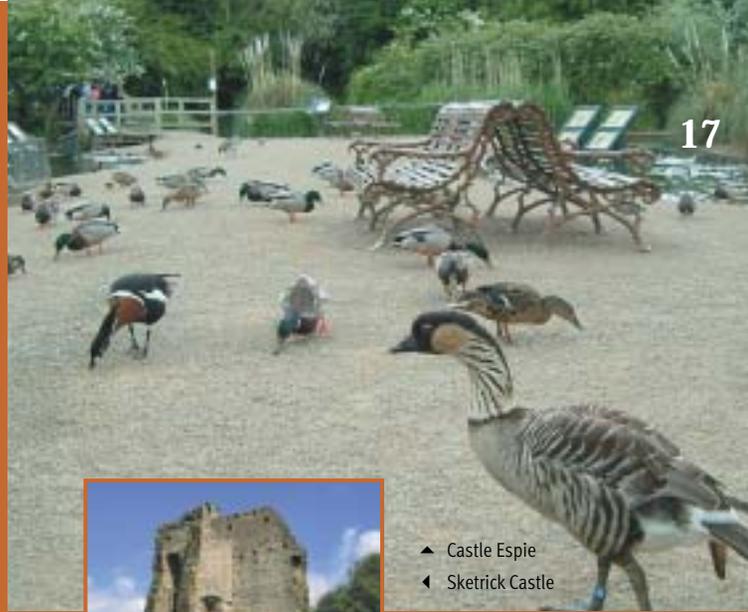


the Western Loughside

Any visitor approaching Newtownards along the final stretch of dual carriageway from Belfast could be forgiven for thinking that the Ards means the Ards Peninsula. There's as much to entice you, however, on the other side of Strangford Lough.



◀ Nendrum Monastery



▲ Castle Espie
◀ Sketrick Castle

Island Hill Nature Reserve offers one of the best vantage points for

birdwatching across the expanse of Strangford Lough. It's an ideal spot for a picnic too and you can ponder the presence of a totem pole while you eat (a welcoming sign to the thousands of Brent geese which fly to Strangford Lough every September from Northern Canada).

If you arrive during low tide – and only then! - follow the path along the edge of the Lough which leads to a causeway from where you can reach the island itself.

Moving on a little further you will discover Comber, a charming little village with many links to the Titanic and now home to a number of speciality arts and crafts shops. Just outside Comber is **Castle Espie**, the Wildfowl and Wetlands Trust centre. It is home to Ireland's largest collection of ducks, geese and swans, giving you a chance to come into close contact with wetlands and their wildlife.

Nendrum Monastery on Mahee Island is the best example in Northern Ireland of a pre-Norman monastic enclosure with buildings.

18 Scrabo Tower is one of Northern Ireland's best known landmarks, with some of the finest views in the country

And approaching Nendrum, it's hard to miss **Mahee Castle**. Built in 1570, it's badly ruined, but worth a visit if only to appreciate it's commanding position over Strangford Lough.

As you continue toward Killinchy, enjoy the views and walk out to **Sketrick Island**.

Back on the 'mainland' enjoy Whiterock before you reach Killinchy village itself. Here there's more water-based activity on offer with a cruising school and boat trips.

► Artifacts from the Somme Centre



Heritage Itinerary

After visiting Ards Tourist Information Centre and Ards Crafts, you can visit **Donaghadee** where you will see one of the most prominent features of the town, the Moat. It is relatively young dating back to 1818 when it was built to house the explosives used in the construction of the harbour, admire this and the Lighthouse as you walk around the town. (Contact Ards TIC for your free Donaghadee guide)

Enjoy a drive through Millisle and catch a glimpse of or call in at Northern Ireland's only working windmill - **Ballycopeland Windmill**.

After this on your way back to Newtownards call in at **Movilla Abbey** where you can view ruins of an old church dating back to the 12th century. Whilst in Newtownards take time out to view the remains of **The Priory** the only example of a Dominican Priory in Northern Ireland (open by arrangement only). Afterwards head out towards Bangor to enjoy the exhibitions at the **Somme Centre**. The recreation of trench warfare is not to be missed.

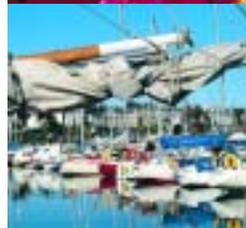
For a perfect end to your day head up to **Scrabo Park** and enjoy spectacular views of the Lough from the Tower itself.

This itinerary is a suggestion only. It is recommended you check all opening days and times before you begin your tour.



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Movilla Abbey

Heritage Sites

Ballycopeland Windmill

MAP REF | A3 | No.31 | Northern Peninsula
Windmill Road, Millisle BT22 2DS
T: 028 9054 3037

T: 028 8186 1413 Site Office
during opening hours

www.nics.gov.uk/ehs/ballycopeland
Northern Ireland's only working windmill, this late 18th century tower mill in use until 1915 is now full restored. The visitor can enjoy a guided tour of the windmill and discover the milling process from corn into flour.

☉ July to August: Monday Closed
Tues, Fri, Sat & Sun 14.00 - 18.00
Wed & Thurs 10.00 - 13.00

Winter months: Open on request.
Please note times may be subject to change. Admission: Free

Copeland Islands

MAP REF | Inset | Northern Peninsula
Contact Quinton Nelson
T: 028 9188 3403

The Copeland Islands just 2¼ miles off the coast, are a bird and seal watching paradise. The Islands are a natural choice of location for The Copeland Bird Observatory, which studies migration and breeding seabirds and provides excellent opportunities for weekend and day bird watching trips. Visits to the Observatory must be pre-booked (for details contact Neville McKee T: 028 9443 3068). However, leisure boat trips to the Islands and opportunities to cruise the Lough for

bird watching, seal watching or sea angling leave from Donaghadee Harbour (Nelson's Boats T: 028 9188 3403. Check availability in advance).

Derry Churches

MAP REF | E4 | No.54 | Southern Peninsula
These ruined churches are situated 1 ½ miles north east of Portaferry on the Tullymally Road, east of the A2 to Cloughey and are signposted from Portaferry. Access is by a gate at the roadside and along a fenced path. There are no signposts at this entrance. Open all year. Admission: Free

Dundonald Old Mill

MAP REF | B1 | No.1 | Newtownards
231 Old Belfast Road,
Dundonald, BT16 0UE
T/F: 028 9048 5030

Site of a 300 year old mill with one of the largest water wheels in Ireland still in place. The building is now home to a coffee house and gift shop. Disabled Access. ☉ Open 7 days a week. Admission: Free

Glastry Nature Reserve

MAP REF | C4 | No.46 | Northern Peninsula
T: 028 4488 1411

From Shore Road in Ballyhalbert turn into High Street and continue for about 1/2mile. The National Trust manages this reserve which has picnic tables and pleasant walks laid out around the lakes.

Open all year. Admission: Free

Grey Abbey

MAP REF | C4 | No.42 | Northern Peninsula
9 - 11 Church Street,
Greyabbey BT22 2NQ
T: 028 4278 8585 April - October
During winter months
T: 028 9054 3037
F: 028 9054 3067

Grey Abbey is the first example of Gothic architecture in Ireland, founded in 1193 and is set in beautiful parkland, with a 'Physic Garden' and a visitor's centre. Access is via the visitor centre only.

☉ Summer Centre Opening:
(April to October) Monday Closed
(except Bank Holidays) Tues - Sat
09.00 - 18.00, Sun 13.00 - 18.00
During the winter months and at weekends the Abbey may be opened on request. Admission: Free

Island Hill

MAP REF | C2 | No.78 | Western Loughside
Situated at the end of Ringreevy Road, 3 miles from Newtownards off the Comber Road. Island Hill provides magnificent views of the Lough. Open all year. Admission: Free

Kearney

MAP REF | E4 | No.56 | Southern Peninsula
12 Kearney Village,
Portaferry BT22 1QP
T: 028 427 28041
Or c/o National Trust, Rowallane House, Saintfield, Ballynahinch, Co. Down BT24 7HL
T: 028 9751 0721
www.ntni.org.uk
The National Trust owns and maintains much of the village and provides information on coastal

nature walks. A small interpretative display providing historical information on the village is available. Admission: Free
☉ 12th March - September 2005: daily 10.00 - 18.00. 1st - 9th October: weekends only 13.00 - 16.00

Kiltonga Nature Reserve

MAP REF | B2 | No.5 | Newtownards
Belfast Road, Newtownards
T: 028 9182 4014

A pathway around the lakes allows for closer inspection of the birds. Swans, Mallards, Little Grebe, Moorhens and Coots are always present. Open all year. Admission: Free



Kiltonga Nature Reserve

Kirkistown Castle

MAP REF | E4 | No.49 | Southern Peninsula
T: 028 9054 3037
F: 028 9054 3111

Tower and house built for Roland Savage in 1607. Opened to the public for the first time in 2001. It was built in 1622, with later alterations. Not completely wheelchair accessible - Gravel paths and windy stairs.

☉ July & August: Monday Closed (except Bank Holidays)
Tues, Fri & Sat 10.00 - 13.00
Wed & Thurs 14.00 - 18.00
Sunday Closed - Please note times may be subject to change.

Market Cross

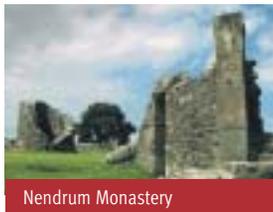
MAP REF | B2 | No.9 | Newtownards
This odd-looking little building was built in 1636, destroyed in 1653 and then replaced in 1666. Its conical roof was probably used as an office or shelter for the town's night watchmen.

Millin Bay Cairn

MAP REF | F4 | No.57 | Southern Peninsula
Situating 2 miles South East of Portaferry, close to the East coast of the peninsula and overlooking Millin Bay. Excavated in 1953 a tomb of at least 15 people was found dating back over 4,000 years. A late Neolithic burial ground, the bones had been apart and stacked in neat order. **Open all year. Admission: Free**

Movilla Abbey

MAP REF | B2 | No.21 | Northern Peninsula
The ruined Church is long and narrow and, built into the north wall, is Northern Ireland's best collection of 13th Century coffin lids with foliate crosses. Access is through the cemetery. **Admission: Free**



Nendrum Monastery

Nendrum Monastery

MAP REF | C3 | No.70 | Western Loughside
Mahee Island, Co. Down
On Site: 028 9754 2547 (April-Sept)
During winter: 028 9054 3037
On Mahee Island, reached by twisting lanes and causeway off the A22 (Kilinchy Road) South of Comber. Nendrum is the best example in Northern Ireland of a pre-Norman monastic enclosure with buildings. The site has now been restored so that the foundations of church, round tower, crafts huts and monks cells can be seen. 🕒 Site open all year. Visitor centre open Easter-Sept: Tues-Sat 09.00-18.00, Sun 13.00-18.00 Oct - April: Sat 10.00-16.00, Sun 14.00-16.00. Times subject to change **Admission: Free**

Portaferry Castle

MAP REF | F4 | No.63 | Southern Peninsula
Overlooking Portaferry Harbour, the Castle is within easy sight of Strangford and Audley Castle across the Lough. This 16th century Tower House was built by the Savage family but now stands as a ruined shell. Access to the castle from Easter to September during 2005 may be limited due to repair work on building.

try this ... for a step back in time

Kearney Village

This picturesque living/working village composed of white washed cottages, lies 4 miles east of Portaferry on the south of the peninsula. The National Trust owns and maintains much of the village and provides information on coastal nature walks. SEE PAGE 21

Scрабо Tower and Killinether Country Park

MAP REF | B2 | No.4 | Newtownards
Environment & Heritage Service, 203A Scрабо Road, Newtownards BT23 4SJ
T: 028 9181 1491
F: 028 9182 0695
E: scrabocp@doeni.gov.uk
www.ehsni.gov.uk
Scрабо Tower - one of Ireland's best-known landmarks. Overlooking Strangford Lough and the whole of North Down, the Tower provides visitors with some of the finest views in the country. There is also an exhibition detailing the history of the building, information on the surrounding countryside as well as a 12 minute audio-visual show. The paths through Killinether Wood and around the disused sandstone quarries all offer the opportunity for quiet countryside enjoyment. Scрабо Country Park is always open to the public. 🕒 Scрабо Tower is open from Easter to September daily except Friday: 10.30 - 18.00 Group visits at other times can be arranged by contacting the Warden. **Admission: Free**

Sketrick Castle

MAP REF | D3 | No.69 | Western Loughside
Sketrick Castle stands on an island site now reached by a causeway on the West coast of Strangford Lough near Whiterock. This large tower house was built in the mid - 15th century. It stood fairly complete until 1896 when it half collapsed in a storm. No access may be gained to the castle but it may be viewed all year.

Somme Heritage Centre

MAP REF | A2 | No.18 | Newtownards
233 Bangor Road, Conlig, Newtownards, BT23 7PH
T: 028 9182 3202
F: 028 9182 3214
E: sommeassociation@dnet.co.uk
www.irishsoldier.org
The centre commemorates Ireland's part in the Battle of the Somme in 1916. The centre operates on a guided tour basis and uses displays and reconstructed trenches with an audio-visual re-creation of the battle. Coffee shop.

🕒 April to June:

Mon-Thurs 10.00-16.00

Saturday 12.00-16.00

July to August:

Mon-Fri 10.00 - 17.00

Sat-Sun 12.00 - 17.00

September:

Mon-Thurs 10.00 - 16.00

Saturday 12.00 - 16.00

Oct to March:

Mon-Thurs 10.00 - 16.00

1st Sat each month 12.00 - 16.00

Christmas: The centre is closed from 22nd December until the second Monday of January.

Easter: The centre has extended opening hours over Easter.

Please note: Last tour is one hour before closing. In exceptional circumstances, the centre will open at other times. Groups of 20 or over – open by arrangement.

Admission:

Adult £3.75; Adult Group (20+) £3.25;

OAP's & Disabled £2.75;

Child £2.75; Family (2+2) £10.00

St. Cooney's Wells

MAP REF | F4 | No.58 | Southern Peninsula
South of Portaferry and towards Ballyquinton Point (signposted) stands the Holy Wells founded in the 7th century by St. Cowey. According to tradition it was here that St. Cowey performed his penitential exercises in the late 7th and 8th centuries. The foundations of a church, a small church, modern altar and three Holy Wells may be found. **Open all year. Admission: Free**



St. Cooney's Wells

The Priory

MAP REF | B2 | No.15 | Newtownards
Environment & Heritage Service
T: 028 9054 3037

The substantial remains of a Dominican (Black) Friary, the only example of its type in Northern Ireland, founded in 1244. Access is on request. Contact the above number in advance to arrange a viewing.

Windmill Hill Viewpoint

MAP REF | F4 | No.62 | Southern Peninsula
Situating on the hill south east of the town below the stump of Portaferry Windmill a lay-by and a viewpoint has been provided. One can enjoy a breathtaking view of Strangford Lough from the mouth of the Lough to Greyabbey with the woods of Castleward, Portaferry Demesnes and the picturesque village of Strangford in front of you.

pick up ...

Experience Ards
Details on a range of specialist tours designed to showcase what the Ards area has to offer





Mount Stewart House and Gardens

Homes & Gardens

Discover the wonders of the world class standard of gardens available in the Ards, renowned for their beauty throughout the year due to the mild climate along the peninsula.

Anna's Garden

MAP REF | D2 | No.74 | Western Loughside
Anna's House, 35 Lisbarnett Road, Lisbane, Comber BT23 6AW
 T/F: 028 9754 1566
 E: anna@annashouse.com
www.annashouse.com

This beautiful country house B&B has its own 2 acre organic garden with wildfowl lake and panoramic views. The garden was chosen to represent Northern Ireland in the BBC series 'Gardening Britain'. Open to non-residents for donation to charity.

Ballywalter Park

MAP REF | C4 | No.44 | Northern Peninsula
Ballywalter Estate Office, Ballywalter Park, Ballywalter, BT22 2PP
 T: 028 4275 8264
 F: 028 4275 8818
 E: info@ballywalterpark.com
www.ballywalterpark.com

Ballywalter Park is a classic example of an early Victorian Country House in the Palazzo style. A handsome conservatory was added to the garden front in 1863. The garden contains important collections of Rhododendrons, trees, plants and roses. **Facilities:** The House and Gardens are open to parties of visitors by appointment (written applications to the Estate Office).

Also "Pick your own" e.g strawberries (June to early August)

Admission: House or Garden £5
 House and Garden £8

Grey Abbey House

MAP REF | C3 | No.41 | Northern Peninsula
Greyabbey

T: 028 4278 8666 or 028 4278 8668

Four hundred years of history for the Montgomery family is represented by Grey Abbey House (with architecture and gardens which make it one of the most important and beautiful country houses in Ulster). Select groups may visit the house and gardens by appointment only.

try this... for nature

Glastry Nature Reserve

Located near the village of Ballyhalbert, this National Trust reserve is home to an abundance of wild flowers and wildlife. There are a number of pleasant walks as well as the opportunity to take a picnic and enjoy the surroundings.

SEE PAGE 20



Mount Stewart House and Gardens

MAP REF | B3 | No.39 | Northern Peninsula
Portaferry Road, Newtownards BT22 2AD
 T: 028 4278 8387
 F: 028 4278 8569
Bay Restaurant: 028 4278 7807
 E: mountstewart@nationaltrust.org.uk
www.nationaltrust.org.uk

Mount Stewart is a fascinating 18th century house with 19th century additions, now owned and managed by the National Trust. It was the ancestral home of Lord Castlereagh, and today many of his possessions can be viewed in the house. The internationally famous gardens that surround the house include almost every style of gardening and support an incomparable plant collection. The particularly mild climate of the area has allowed many tender plants to be grown especially those from Australia and the Southern Hemisphere. In addition to these extensive gardens there are walks throughout the demesne, around the lake and to the "Temple of the Winds", a banqueting hall built in 1785. The National Trust offer guided tours of the house and a gift shop and restaurant are available.

🕒 Lakeside Garden & Walks

Open all year 10am - sunset

🕒 Formal Gardens

March: 10.00 - 16.00

Weekends & Public/Bank Holidays

April: 10.00 - 18.00 Daily

May to Sept: 10.00 - 20.00 Daily

Oct: 10.00 - 18.00 Daily

November to February: Closed

🕒 House

March 13-14, 17, 20-21, 25-30:
 12.00 - 18.00

April: Weekends 12.00 - 18.00

May to June: Weekends 12.00 - 18.00

Weekdays except Tuesday 13.00 - 18.00

July to Aug: 12.00 - 18.00 Daily

September: 12.00 - 18.00 Daily

except Tuesday

October: Weekends only 12.00 - 18.00

November to February: Closed

🕒 Temple of the Winds

April - October: 14.00 - 17.00 Sundays

Admission:

House Tour & Gardens

Adult £5.45; Child £2.70;

Family £13.60; Group £4.80

Garden only

Adult £4.40; Child £2.30;

Family £11.10; Group £4.10

Disabled Access & Facilities:

Disabled access and facilities available - please contact Mount Stewart for details.





Cherry Tree Riding Centre and Livery Yard

Activities in Ards

Best advice when planning to visit or book an activity is always to check opening times and availability in advance. For example, outside the spring and summer season, opening times can vary and while golf clubs welcome visitors, often on Saturdays priority will go to club members' competitions.

Bird Watching

Birds can be viewed from various access points around Strangford Lough. eg. terns, grebes, shoveler, mallard, wigeon, shelduck, brent geese, oyster catcher, plovers, heron, curlew, redshank, turnstones etc.

Visit www.strangfordlough.org or contact Leisure Services Department at Ards Borough Council
T: 028 9182 4018.

On the Western Shore

- 1 Island Hill (Comber)
- 2 Castle Espie (Comber)
- 3 Reagh Island (beside Mahee Island)
- 4 Whiterock

On the Eastern shore

- 5 Car Park (Floodgates) Newtownards
- 6 Maltings (Mountstewart Road)
- 7 Barr's Bay car park (Mountstewart Road)
- 8 Gas Works (Mountstewart Road)
- 9 Greyabbey

Cruising and Sea Fishing Des Rogers

MAP REF | F4 | No.61 | Southern Peninsula
200a Shore Road, Portaferry
T: 028 4272 8297
F: 028 4272 9621
M: 07880 915 571
E: des.rogers1@btopenworld.com
Pleasure cruises and fishing trips into the Irish Sea or Strangford Lough can be arranged. Prices on request.

John Murray (JNR)

MAP REF | F4 | No.59 | Southern Peninsula
6 The Strand, Portaferry
T: 028 4272 8414
Angling groups catered for from Portaferry and Strangford. Trips from May - September (available on request) from Portaferry or Strangford, for bird and seal watching. Contact for further details.



Nelson's Boats

MAP REF | A4 | No.30 | Northern Peninsula
146 Killaughy Road, Donaghadee
T: 028 9188 3403
M: 07811 230215
E: Quinton@nelsonsboats.co.uk
www.nelsonsboats.co.uk
Contact: Quinton Nelson
50 Seat passenger launch "The Brothers". Available for pleasure cruises from June to September with regular daily trips in July and August. Fishing trips throughout the year from Donaghadee Harbour. All tackle provided.



Nelson's Boats

Cycling Hire Mike the Bike Cycle Hire (Also Kayak Hire)

MAP REF | B2 | No.14 | Newtownards
53 Frances Street,
Newtownards BT23 7DX
T/F: 028 9181 1311
E: kayaksatmikethebike@yahoo.com
Contact: Gary Harkness
🕒 9.30am - 5.30pm
Mountain bikes for hire: £12 per day.

Diving DV Diving

MAP REF | B3 | No.36 | Northern Peninsula
138 Mountstewart Road,
Newtownards, Co. Down BT22 2ES
T/F: 028 9146 4671 dive centre
E: info@dvdiving.co.uk

www.dvdiving.co.uk
BSAC and PADI registered diving centre offering a complete range of diving qualification courses or diving breaks

Norsemaid Sea Enterprises Ltd

MAP REF | B3 | No.40 | Northern Peninsula
152 Portaferry Road, Newtownards,
Co. Down BT22 2AJ
T: 028 9181 2081
F: 028 9182 0635
E: salutay@btopenworld.com
www.salutay.com
MV Salutay live aboard diving vessel available to charter for sub aqua holidays and cruising.

Fishing Ballygrangee Trout Fishery

MAP REF | B3 | No.35 | Northern Peninsula
Mountstewart Road, Carrowdore
T: 028 4275 8765
Fishery: 028 4278 8883
M: 07714 956775

Bridgewater Fishery

MAP REF | A3 | No.25 | Northern Peninsula
93 Windmill Road, Donaghadee
T: 028 9188 3348 / 028 9188 3900

Carrickmannon Fishery

MAP REF | D1 | No.72 | Western Loughside
130 Station Road, Saintfield BT24 7EL
T: 028 9751 0654
F: 028 9751 9754
M: 07787 853903
E: carrickmannon@btconnect.com
www.carrickmannon.co.uk

Hazelwood Fishery

MAP REF | C1 | No.75 | Western Loughside
Magherascouse Road,
Ballygowan Co.Down
M: 077 9944 4257
E: hazelwood.2000@ntlworld.com

Donaghadee Golf Club



Welcomes Visitors

18 Hole part links/part parkland course with beautiful seaviews overlooking the Copeland Islands out towards the Scottish coastline

Situated six miles south of Bangor on the main A2 coastroad
Excellent Clubhouse with full bar facilities and award winning caterer

General Office: 028 9188 3624 Bar: 028 9188 8697
Professional: 028 9188 2392 Restaurant: 028 9188 2519

Ards Leisure Centre
William Street
Newtownards
Tel: 9181 2837

Comber Leisure Centre
Castle Street, Comber
Tel: 9187 4350

Kiltonga Leisure Centre
Belfast Road
Newtownards
Tel: 9181 8511



Visiting Ards

& feel like some exercise?

... then visit the local leisure centres

Swimming • Harpers Fitness • Sauna
Jacuzzi • Steam Room
Badminton • Squash • Tennis
Childrens Soft Play & more!

Bring this Guide & get reduced rate on activities.

Applies to non-members only.
Terms and Conditions apply.



try this... for views and walks

Scрабо Tower and Killynether Country Park

Scрабо Tower - one of Ireland's best known landmarks. Overlooking Strangford Lough, the Tower provides visitors with some of the finest views in the country. The paths through Killynether Wood offer the opportunity for quiet countryside enjoyment.

SEE PAGE 22



Lough Cowey Game Fishery

MAP REF | E4 | No.53 | Southern Peninsula
Lough Cowey Road, Portaferry
T: 028 4272 9019
E: info@loughcowey.co.uk
www.loughcowey.co.uk

Movilla Trout Fishery

MAP REF | B3 | No.22 | Northern Peninsula
155c Movilla Road,
Newtownards BT23 8RL
T: 028 9181 3334
E: TrevorWest2002@aol.com

Polehill Carp Fishery

MAP REF | A3 | No.23 | Northern Peninsula
Loughries Road,
Newtownards BT23 6AW
T: 028 9145 4983
M: 07718 313 793
E: info@polehillfisheries.co.uk or enquiries@polehillfisheries.co.uk
www.polehillfisheries.co.uk

Flying Helicopter Flights and Hire

MAP REF | B2 | No.11 | Newtownards
T: 028 9182 0028
Contact: Philip Robinson

Ulster Flying Club

MAP REF | B2 | No.11 | Newtownards
Ards Airport on the Portaferry Road
T: 028 9181 3327
F: 028 9181 4575
E: ulsterflyingclub@btinternet.com
www.ulsterflyingclub.co.uk
Trial Flights: 4 seater plane ie. pilot plus 3 passengers - 30mins £70; 45mins £100; 60mins £130.

Ulster Microlights

MAP REF | B2 | No.11 | Newtownards
Newtownards Aerodrome,
Portaferry Road, Newtownards
T: 028 9181 3327
M: 07710 538349
E: g.snoddon@ntlworld.com
www.g.l.craig.btinternet.co.uk/umc.htm
Based at Ulster Flying Club. 90 acre airfield, all levels of skill catered for, from beginner to full private pilots licence. All visitors made welcome.

Golf Ardminnan Golf Club

MAP REF | E4 | No.52 | Southern Peninsula
15 Ardminnan Road,
Portaferry BT22 1QJ
T: 028 4277 1321
M: 07860 771321
E: info@ardminnan.com
9 hole parkland course situated in an area of outstanding natural beauty along the coast.



Ardminnan Golf Club

Bradshaws Brae Driving Range

MAP REF | B2 | No.2 | Newtownards
115 Belfast Road,
Newtownards BT23 4TS
T: 028 9181 3484
Contact: Raymond Shannon
Driving range and 9 hole pitch & putt. Golf lessons available.

Donaghadee Golf Club

MAP REF | A3 | No.28 | Northern Peninsula
84 Warren Road, Donaghadee
T: 028 9188 3624
F: 028 9188 8891
E: deegolf@freenet.co.uk
18 hole, part links, part parkland. Interesting and well-maintained championship course with spectacular views over Irish Sea to Scottish coast.

Kirkistown Castle Golf Club

MAP REF | E4 | No.50 | Southern Peninsula
142 Main Road, Cloughy BT22 1JA
T: 028 4277 1233
F: 028 4277 1699
E: kirkistown@supanet.com
www.links golfkirkistown.com
This fine old links course was designed by the legendary course architect Jim Braid.

Mahee Island Golf Club

MAP REF | C3 | No.71 | Western Loughside
14 Mahee Island, Comber BT23 6EP
T: 028 9754 1234
9 hole parkland course set on an island in Strangford Lough offering enjoyable golf with magnificent scenery.

Scрабо Golf Club

MAP REF | B2 | No.3 | Newtownards
233 Scрабо Road,
Newtownards BT23 4SL
T: 028 9181 2355
F: 028 9182 2919
E: billscrabogc@btconnect.com
www.scrabo-golf-club.org
The 18-hole course winds its way around Scрабо Hill and Tower, one of County Down's well known landmarks.



Scрабо Golf Club

try this... for bird watching**Island Hill**

Located off the main Newtownards to Comber Road, a path leads you along the edge of the Lough to a causeway (accessible only at low tide) leading to the island. Island Hill provides magnificent views of Strangford Lough. SEE PAGE 21 + 26

**Horse Riding
Ardminnan Equestrian Centre**

MAP REF | E4 | No.51 | Southern Peninsula
15A Ardminnan Road, Portaferry
T: 07792 370163
E: info@ardminnan.com

Belvedere Equestrian Centre

MAP REF | A3 | No.27 | Northern Peninsula
47a High Bangor Road,
Donaghadee BT21 0PB
T: 028 9188 8249

**Cherry Tree Riding Centre
and Livery Yard**

MAP REF | E5 | No.55 | Southern Peninsula
Cherry Tree Cottage,
Newcastle Road, Kearney
T: 028 4272 9639

Gransha Equestrian Centre

MAP REF | A2 | No.20 | Northern Peninsula
10 Kerr's Road, At Six Road Ends,
Bangor BT19 7QD
T/F: 028 9181 3313
M: 07855 462614
E: granshariding@utvinternet.com

**Language Centre
Ards Language &
Leisure Centre**

MAP REF | C4 | No.45 | Northern Peninsula
14 Blackabbey Road, Ballywalter,
Newtownards BT22 2RD
T: 028 4275 8408
F: 028 4275 8408
E: ardslanguage@yahoo.co.uk

**Leisure Centres
Ards Leisure Centre**

MAP REF | B2 | No.10 | Newtownards
William Street,
Newtownards BT23 4EJ
T: 028 9181 2837
F: 028 9182 0807
E: ards-lc@ards-council.gov.uk
☎ Mon, Wed & Fri 09.00 - 22.00
Tues & Thur 07.30 - 22.00
Saturday 09.00 - 18.00
Sunday 13.00 - 18.00

pick up...

The Ards
Events Guide
Contact Ards TIC
for your FREE
comprehensive
guide to events
in the Borough

**Comber Leisure Centre**

MAP REF | C1 | No.77 | Western Loughside
Enler Recreation Park,
Castle Street, Comber BT23 5SJ
T: 028 9187 4350
E: comber-lc@ards-council.gov.uk
☎ Mon- Fri 09.00 - 22.00
Saturday 09.00 - 18.00
Sunday 13.00 - 18.00

Kiltonga Leisure Centre

MAP REF | B2 | No.6 | Newtownards
36A Belfast Road,
Newtownards BT23 4TT
T: 028 9181 8511
E: kiltonga-lc@ards-council.gov.uk
☎ Mon - Fri 09.00 - 22.00 except
Wednesday 07.30 - 22.00
Saturday 09.00 - 18.00
Sunday 13.00 - 18.00

**Marinas
Portaferry Marina**

MAP REF | F4 | No.67 | Newtownards
Berths for up to 30 boats.
Marina Office, Barholm
11 The Strand, Portaferry BT22 1PF
Contact: Berthing Master
T: 028 4272 9598
F: 028 4272 9784
M: 0770 3209 780

Motorsport**Kirkistown Racing Circuit**

MAP REF | D4 | No.48 | Southern Peninsula
130 Rubane Road, Kircubbin
T: 028 4277 1325
F: 028 4277 1894
E: richard.young@btconnect.com

**Quad Biking
Fastrack Farm**

MAP REF | C4 | No.43 | Northern Peninsula
133 Greyabbey Road,
Ballywalter BT22 2NY
T: 028 4275 7301
15, 20 & 30 minute quad biking
for age 6 +.
☎ Monday - Saturday 9am - 6pm
Prices: 6-12 year olds with 50cc:
15 mins-£5; 20 mins-£7;
30 mins-£10. 13+ year olds with
70/100cc: 15 mins-£8;
20 mins-£10; 30 mins- £14

Castle Hill Candles

The Castle Yard
Castle Street, Portaferry,
County Down BT22 1NZ
Tel: 028 4272 9864
Fax: 028 4272 9272
Email: sales@castlehillcandles.com
Website: www.castlehillcandles.com
Opening Hours:
Mon - Sat 10.00am to 5.00pm
Sun 12.00am to 5.00pm

**The Ark Open Farm**

Domestic Animals of all kinds,
Cattle, Sheep, Pigs, Waterfowl,
Poultry, Llamas, Red Deer,
Goats, Ponies and Donkeys.



Outdoor & Indoor
Play Areas- Excellent
Fun for all the Family

Open All Year Round
Mon - Sat 10am - 6pm
Sun 2pm - 6pm

The Ark Open Farm 296 Bangor Road Newtownards Tel. 028 9182 0445

Sailing Kircubbin Sailing Club

MAP REF | C4 | No.47 | Southern Peninsula
67 Shore Road, Nuns Quarter,
Kircubbin BT22 2RP
T: 028 4273 8422

Newtownards Sailing Club

MAP REF | B3 | No.37 | Northern Peninsula
161 Portaferry Road, Newtownards
T: 028 9181 3426
www.newtownardssailingclub.co.uk



Newtownards Sailing Club

Portaferry Sailing Club

MAP REF | F4 | No.60 | Southern Peninsula
38- 40 Shore Road, Portaferry BT22 1JZ
T: 028 4272 8770
E: mellidi@supanet.com

Strangford Lough Yacht Club

MAP REF | D3 | No.68 | Western Loughside
2 Whiterock Bay, Killinchy,
Newtownards BT23 6QA
T: 028 9754 1883
F: 028 9754 1331
E: slyc@nireland.com
www.strangford-lough-yacht-club.com

Shooting Carrowdore and District Shooting Recreational Club

MAP REF | B3 | No.34 | Northern Peninsula
240 Abbey Road, Carrowdore
T: 028 4275 8962
F: 028 4275 7239
E: roy@magowanr.fsnet.co.uk

Hollow Farm Shooting Ground Ltd

MAP REF | C1 | No.73 | Western Loughside
35 Drumhirk Road, Comber BT23 5SA
T: 028 9752 8381
F: 028 9752 8643
E: hollowfarm@aol.com

Walking Ards Tours (Bus & Walking Tours)

MAP REF | B2 | 2 | Newtownards
Contact:
Ards Tourist Information Centre,
31 Regent Street, Newtownards
T: 028 9182 6846
F: 028 9182 6681

E: tourism@ards-council.gov.uk
Why not book on one of the themed or historical tours? Full programme available. For further tours for groups or interested individuals contact the tour guide directly – Paul Whitla, 182 Circular Road, Newtownards, T: 028 9181 1184.

Whitespots Country Park

MAP REF | A2 | No.17 | Newtownards
Home to the Lead Mines it has been designated as an Area of Special Scientific Interest (ASSI). Aside from the mines themselves, the Park is a popular spot for walkers.

Contact: Ards TIC

T: 028 9182 6846
For suggested routes throughout the Borough.



Bradshaws Brae Golf Centre

115 Belfast Road,
Newtownards
Tel:- 028 91 813484

- 18 Bay Floodlit Driving Range
- Lessons available
- PGA Pros
- Group bookings welcome
- 9 hole Pitch and Putt course
- Explanar Centre - Golf teaching aid used by PGA Pros across the world (ring for details)

Eden Pottery



218 Abbey Road, Millisle BT22 2DH

Tel/Fax: 028 9186 2300

Email: eden.pottery@virgin.net

Website: www.kingdomsofdown.com/edenpottery

Contact: Heather & Philip Walton

Welcome to Eden Pottery Centre where you will find our colourful pottery on sale in our spacious shop and cafe. Be inspired in our rural surroundings and decorate your own pot in our 'be creative' studio set within the exciting surroundings of a busy working pottery. Let our friendly staff help you transform and personalise our pottery into a piece all your own design. Make great gifts, have a party or just unwind. We have designed a wide range of sponge print patterns that take the worry out of decorating, making it easy and fun to produce great results.

Directions: One mile outside the village of Carrowdore heading towards the Millisle coast.

Opening Times: Monday – Saturday 9am – 5pm.



Exploris

Family Fun

The Ark 'Rare Breeds' Open Farm

MAP REF | A2 | No.19 | Newtownards
296 Bangor Road,
Newtownards BT23 7PH
T/F: 028 9182 0445
E: ark.farm@hotmail.com
www.thearkopenfarm.co.uk

This centre specialises in rare and endangered species of domestic animals, and set in forty acres of unspoilt countryside, it is truly worth a visit. Extensive outdoor adventure play area to suit all ages and an indoor small animal barn and play area. Picnic sites and cottage tearoom available.

🕒 **March to September:** Mon - Sat 10.00 - 18.00, Sun 14.00 - 18.00
Oct to February: Mon - Sat 10.00 - 16.00, Sun 14.00 - 16.00
Admission: Adults £3.20; Family (2 adults + 3 children) £11.50; OAP's/Children £2.60.

try this ... for a touch of history

St Cooney's Wells

South of Portaferry towards Ballyquinton Point stands the Holy Wells founded in the 7th century by St Cowey. The foundations of a church, a small church, modern altar and three Holy Wells with reputed healing powers can be found. SEE PAGE 23



Castle Espie

Wildfowl & Wetlands Trust Centre
MAP REF | C2 | No.76 | Western Loughside
78 Ballydrain Road, Killinchy Road,
Comber BT23 6EA
T: 028 9187 4146
F: 028 9187 3857
E: castleespie@wvt.org.uk
www.wvt.org.uk

Nenes, White-faced Whistling Ducks and Whooper Swans are just some of the wildfowl that visitors will encounter at The Wildfowl and Wetlands Trust's Centre at Castle Espie. In addition to Ireland's largest collection of wildfowl, many of which are so tame, they will feed from your hand, facilities include wildfowl and woodland walks, hides, sustainable garden, interpretation and seasonal activity trails, coffee shop, art gallery, gift shop, children's play area & picnic sites.

🕒 **Jan & Feb & Nov & Dec:** Mon-Fri 11.00-16.00. Sat & Sun 11.00-16.30

Mar - June and Sept & Oct:

Mon-Fri 10.30 - 17.00

Sat & Sun 11.00 - 17.30

July & Aug: Mon-Fri 10.30 - 17.30

Sat & Sun 11.00 - 17.30

The centre is closed Christmas Eve and Christmas Day. Opening at other times is negotiable with groups and special events.

Admission: Adult £4.60; Children £2.75; OAP's/Concession £3.70; Family Ticket (2 adults & 3 children) £11.95; Additional children £2.75. Admission Free for WWT members. Education programme provided by prior booking.

Drumawhey Junction

Belfast & Co. Down
Miniature Railway Society Ltd.
MAP REF | A3 | No.24 | Northern Peninsula

The miniature railway is situated on Upper Gransha Road (near Four Road Ends) Donaghadee.

T: 028 9188 2013 or 028 9066 5794

The society has a 7 $\frac{1}{4}$ gauge passenger carrying miniature railway of 1.5km in length. Tunnel, bridges, extensive car park, picnic tables and toilets on site. Covered platform. Steam, diesel, petrol and battery locomotives. Coach suitable for a passenger using a wheel chair.

🕒 1st and 3rd Sundays of the month from Easter to the end of September. All Sundays and Wednesdays during the summer school holidays. Open the majority of public and bank holidays and special seasonal dates please phone to confirm times. On operating days open: 13.00 - 17.00

Admission: Adult £2.00,
Child £1.50 per ride

Exploris

The Northern Ireland Aquarium
MAP REF | E4 | No.65 | Southern Peninsula

The Rope Walk, Castle Street,
Portaferry, Co. Down, BT22 1NZ
T: 028 4272 8062

F: 028 4272 8396
E: info@exploris.org.uk
www.exploris.org.uk

A visit to Exploris enables the visitors to view and learn about the marine species that are indigenous to Strangford Lough and the coastline of the island. The Open

Sea Tank, the largest tank in the aquarium, contains animal of the open sea such as sharks, conger eels and rays. Discovery Pool demonstrations, run at regular intervals throughout the day. The Seal Sanctuary affords the visitor the opportunity to view the process of rehabilitation of rescued seal pups from their arrival through to full health when they are re-introduced to the wild. If particularly interested in seeing seals the public should ring ahead to ensure there are seals at Exploris at the time of their visit.

🕒 **April to August:** Mon - Fri 10.00 - 18.00, Sat 11.00 - 18.00
Sun 13.00 - 18.00
Sept to March: Mon - Fri 10.00 - 17.00, Sat 11.00 - 17.00
Sun 13.00 - 17.00
Admission: Adult £6.20; Child/ Concession £3.60; Family £17.50 (2 adults & 4 children); Under 4's Free

Movieland Cinema

MAP REF | B2 | No.8 | Newtownards
near Ards Shopping Centre,
Newtownards
Film details: 028 9182 1000

pick up ...

Ards from Top to Toe
For a full list of our tourism services ask for your FREE copy of Top to Toe



Arts and Crafts

Ards Art Centre and Town Hall

MAP REF | B2 | No.12 | Newtownards
 Conway Square, Newtownards BT23 4DB
 T: 028 9181 0803
 F: 028 9182 3131
 E: arts@ards-council.gov.uk
 www.ards-council.gov.uk
 Two galleries regularly exhibit work by local and national artists in this 1770 former Georgian house and the Centre's performance programme covers everything from theatre to contemporary and classical music. The Centre's flagship annual event is the Ards International Guitar Festival (held each October). Euro accepted.
 ☺ Mon-Fri 09.00 - 16.30
 Saturday 10.00 - 16.00

Ards Crafts

MAP REF | B2 | No.13 | Newtownards
 31 Regent Street,
 Newtownards BT23 4AD
 T: 028 9182 6846
 F: 028 9182 6681
 E: ards.crafts@ards-council.gov.uk
 www.ards-council.gov.uk
 www.kingdomsofdown.com
 Ards Crafts is situated within the Ards Tourist Information Centre, beside the Ulsterbus Station. The contemporary interior provides the perfect platform for local and national traditional and modern crafts. Inside you will find an extensive range of creative Ceramics, decorative Pottery, stylish Jewellery, Woodturning, Textiles, Mixed Media and much more.
 ☺ Mon-Fri 09.15 - 17.00
 Saturday 09.30 - 17.00
 Closed Sunday and Christmas Day

Avalon Guitars

MAP REF | B2 | No.7 | Newtownards
 Glenford Industrial Estate,
 8 Glenford Way, Newtownards
 T: 028 9182 0542
 F: 028 9182 0650
 E: info@avalonguitars.com
 www.avalonguitars.com
 Famous clients include Eric Clapton, The Edge and Van Morrison. Visitors are very welcome for a guided tour which takes in each stage of the production, showing the transformation of raw timber into an exquisite blend of woods and shapes and sounds. Tours and factory shop available: Monday to Friday 08.00 - 16.30. No admission charge. Ring in advance to arrange a tour of the factory. Euro accepted.

Breezemount Farm

Angora Goat Farm
 MAP REF | A3 | No.26 | Northern Peninsula
 49 High Bangor Road,
 Donaghadee BT21 0PB
 T/F: 028 9188 8125
 E: breezemount.farm@btinternet.com
 www.breezemountfarm.com
 Visits can be prearranged to view the top quality Angora Goats and the chance to purchase beautiful mohair knitwear produced on this farm. Stock is also available at our shop in Castle Yard.
 ☺ As it is a working farm, there are no specific opening hours. It is recommended that visitors ring before visiting.
 Admission: FREE

Castle Hill Candles

MAP REF | E4 | No.64 | Southern Peninsula
 Castle Yard, Portaferry
 T: 028 4272 9864
 F: 028 4272 9272
 E: pat@castlehillcandles.com
 www.castlehillcandles.com
 Visitors will be able to dip and make their own candles, and visitors will be available to make wax moulds of their hands in various colours. Candle making demonstrations can be arranged if prior notice is given. There is also a craft and coffee shop on the premises.
 ☺ Monday - Saturday 10.00 - 17.00
 Sunday 12.00 - 17.00

pick up ...

The Creative Peninsula
 Access the wealth of arts & crafts in the Borough.
 Contact Ards TIC for your FREE copy.



Eden Pottery

MAP REF | A4 | No.32 | Northern Peninsula
 218 Abbey Road, Millisle BT22 2DH
 T/F: 028 9186 2300
 In the Eden Pottery Centre you will find colourful pottery on sale in our spacious shop and café. Be inspired in the rural surroundings and decorate your own pot in their 'Be Creative' Studio set within the existing surroundings of a busy working pottery. Make great gifts, have a party or just unwind. There is a wide range of sponge print patterns to take the worry out of decorating, making it easy and fun to produce great results.
 ☺ Monday - Saturday 09.00 - 17.00

Seaside Ceramics

MAP REF | A4 | No.29 | Northern Peninsula
 14 High Street, Donaghadee BT21 0AA
 T: 028 9188 3344
 E: bettyboopni@hotmail.com
 Paint your own pottery studio. An opportunity to relax and take part in an activity suitable for all ages. Pick your own piece, paint it in your own unique design, we will then glaze it and fire it.
 ☺ Sunday 13.00 - 17.00
 Mon-Tues & Thurs-Sat 10.00 - 18.00
 Wednesday 10.00 - 22.00

Spring Cottage Crafts

MAP REF | B3 | No.38 | Northern Peninsula
 10 Ballyhaft Road, Ballyblack,
 Newtownards BT22 2AW
 T/F: 028 9181 6624
 M: 07980 95 2411
 Customers are invited to enjoy ongoing demonstrations as they absorb the aromas and pleasant surroundings. Items available for purchase. Euro accepted. ☺ Monday, Wednesday and Friday 10.30 - 16.00

The Wool Shop

MAP REF | B2 | No.16 | Newtownards
 24 Frances Street, Newtownards
 T: 028 9181 7378
 Craft classes available throughout the year including Card Making, Patchwork and Quilt Making. For specific class times and to make a booking please contact the shop directly.
 Booking essential.

- Discovery Glass
Comber





Grace Neill's
Ireland's Oldest Pub

Eating Out

From award winning restaurants to cosy cafes and handy takeaways, Ards has a choice to suit all tastes and all budgets for eating out. This guide lists places to eat, giving addresses and telephone numbers. Most will serve food during the day and in the evenings, but it is always worth checking for exact opening days and times.

These symbols are used throughout the eating guide:

- licensed establishments
- customers are welcome to bring wine
- meals served during the day
- meals served during the evening

And as a general guide to the type of food served, each entry will be marked with one or more of these symbols:

- Modern Cuisine
- Pub Grub
- Chinese
- Indian
- Mexican

Comber Mayflower

MAP REF | Western Loughside
47 Castle Street, Comber
T: 028 9187 3254

McBride's on the Square

MAP REF | Western Loughside
1-3 The Square, Comber
T: 028 9187 1744

Old Schoolhouse Inn

MAP REF | Western Loughside
100 Ballydrain Road, Comber
T: 028 9754 1182
 Closed on Mondays

The Raj

MAP REF | Western Loughside
46 Mill Street, Comber
T: 028 9187 0870

Tourist Trophy Bistro

MAP REF | Western Loughside
101 - 103 Mill Street, Comber
T: 028 9187 4554

Donaghadee Grace Neill's Bar & Grill

MAP REF | Northern Peninsula
33 High Street, Donaghadee
T: 028 9188 4595

No evening meals on Mondays

Moat Inn

MAP REF | Northern Peninsula
102 Moat Street, Donaghadee
T: 028 9188 3297

Ocean Drive

MAP REF | Northern Peninsula
31 The Parade, Donaghadee
T: 028 9188 8282

Meals served Wed - Sun only

Pier 36

MAP REF | Northern Peninsula
36 The Parade, Donaghadee
T: 028 9188 4466



Pier 36 'NITB Pub of the Year'

Robins Nest

MAP REF | Northern Peninsula
14 New Street, Donaghadee
T: 028 9188 3177

Meals served during the evening
Wednesdays and Thursdays

Greyabbey New White Satin

MAP REF | Northern Peninsula
23 Main Street, Greyabbey
T: 028 4278 8070

Killinichy Balloo House

MAP REF | Western Loughside
1 Comber Road, Killinichy
T: 028 9754 1210

Daft Eddy's

MAP REF | Western Loughside
Skestrick Island, Whiterock
T: 028 9754 1615



Lisbarnett House

Lisbarnett House

MAP REF | Western Loughside
181 Killinichy Road, Lisbane
T: 028 9754 1589

Kircubbin Finnegan's Bar

MAP REF | Southern Peninsula
1 Cooks Brae, Kircubbin
T: 028 4273 8282/4273 9034

Paul Arthurs

MAP REF | Southern Peninsula
66 Main Street, Kircubbin
T: 028 4273 8192

Meals served during the day only
on Sunday. Closed on Mondays

The Saltwater Brig

MAP REF | Southern Peninsula
43 Roweagh Road, Kircubbin
T/F: 028 4273 8435

Newtownards Chan's Chinese

MAP REF | Newtownards
10 High Street, Newtownards
T: 028 9182 1787
☺ ☹ ☹ ☹

Eastern Tandoori

MAP REF | Newtownards
16 Castle Street, Newtownards
T: 028 9181 9541
☹ 🐾

Foon Yee

MAP REF | Newtownards
38 Regent Street, Newtownards
T: 028 9181 4346
☹

Ganges

MAP REF | Newtownards
69 Court Street, Newtownards
T: 028 9181 1426
☹ 🐾

Huntsman

MAP REF | Newtownards
10 Castle Street, Newtownards
T: 028 9181 3073
☹ ☹ ☹ ☹

JD Wetherspoons - The Spirit Merchant

MAP REF | Newtownards
54-56 Regent Street, Newtownards
T: 028 9182 4270
☹ ☹ ☹ ☹

Knotts of Newtownards

MAP REF | Newtownards
49 High Street, Newtownards
T: 028 9181 9098
☹

Le Winters (Strangford Arms Hotel)

MAP REF | Newtownards
92 Church Street, Newtownards
T: 028 9181 4141
☹ ☹ ☹ ☹

Nixx Wine & Sports Bar

MAP REF | Newtownards
1-3 Court Square, Newtownards
T: 028 9182 3353 / 028 9182 3356
☹ ☹ ☹ ☹ ☹

Old Cross Inn

MAP REF | Newtownards
4 Castle Place, Newtownards
T: 028 9182 0212
☹ ☹ ☹ ☹

Peking Garden

MAP REF | Newtownards
17 Castle Street, Newtownards
T: 028 9181 2203
☹ ☹

Roma's

MAP REF | Newtownards
4 Regent Street, Newtownards
T: 028 9181 2841
☹ ☹ ☹ ☹ ☹ ☹



Roma's

Southside Café & Restaurant

MAP REF | Newtownards
23 High Street, Newtownards
T/F: 028 9181 2616
☹ ☹ ☹ ☹ ☹

The Bay Restaurant

MAP REF | Northern Peninsula
Mount Stewart, Newtownards
T: 028 4278 8387
☹ ☹ ☹ ☹ ☹ Can be booked for functions and corporate hospitality.

Treasure House Chinese Restaurant

MAP REF | Newtownards
8 Court Street, Newtownards
T: 028 9181 5332
☹ ☹ ☹ ☹ ☹



Whiskey Hawe

MAP REF | Newtownards
47 South Street, Newtownards
T: 028 9182 1444
☹ ☹ ☹ ☹

Portaferry Portaferry Hotel

MAP REF | Southern Peninsula
10 The Strand, Portaferry
T: 028 4272 8231
☹ ☹ ☹ ☹ ☹

The Narrows

MAP REF | Southern Peninsula
8 Shore Road, Portaferry
T: 028 4272 8148
☹ ☹ ☹ ☹ ☹

The White Satin

MAP REF | Southern Peninsula
Castle Street, Portaferry
T: 028 4272 9000
☹

Portavogie The Quays

MAP REF | Southern Peninsula
81 New Harbour Road, Portavogie
T: 028 4277 2225
☹ ☹ ☹ ☹ ☹ Closed Tuesdays

Wongs Royale

MAP REF | Southern Peninsula
64 New Harbour Road, Portavogie
T: 028 4277 2511/2512
☹ ☹ ☹ ☹ ☹



Wongs Royale

Grace Neill's

33 High Street
Donaghadee
BT21 0AH

T: 028 9188 4595
F: 028 9188 9631

email:
info@graceneills.com

website:
www.graceneills.com

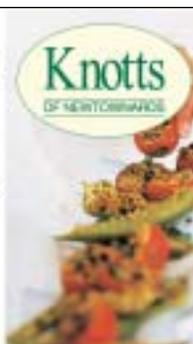
Established in 1611, Grace Neill's, is the oldest bar in Ireland. The Chef/Patron Neil Savage looks forward to welcoming you to sample the pub's many charms, to dine in our award winning restaurant or to enjoy a relaxing drink in our library bar and sample the best of Irish hospitality.

Opening hours: Bar Mon-Thurs 11.30am-11pm, Fri & Sat 11.30am-1am and Sun Noon-9pm.
Restaurant Lunch Mon-Sat Noon-2.30pm, Sunday lunch 12.30pm & 2.30pm sittings
Evening Meals Tues-Thurs 5.30pm-9pm Fri & Sat 6pm-9.30pm

One of the original buildings of Newtownards, the restaurant, bakery and coffee shop is family owned and was established twenty years ago. We have a renowned reputation for our home bakery, especially our fruit loaves and cakes.

Fresh local produce from land and sea is served daily in the restaurant complemented with our selection of traditional and modern desserts.

49 High Street Newtownards BT23 7HS
T: 028 9181 9098



Great reasons to visit
The Spirit Merchant, Newtownards.

club @ wetherspoon



£5.49
tuesday 5-10pm



£3.49
thursday 5-11.30pm



£4.49
sunday all day to 9.30pm



Shepherd's pie & peas



Chicken breast, nuggets, chips & peas

Kids' Menu

Choose any children's
main meal and a drink*

£2.29

See menu for full details. *From a selected range.

Kids welcome until 9pm every day.

NEW!

Plasma screens

showing the latest **music** videos.

**Late licence Friday and
Saturday until 1am.**

wetherspoon

The Spirit Merchant
54-56 Regent Street, Newtownards
Tel: 028 9182 4270

We monitor the presence of nuts in all of our products; however, we cannot guarantee that any there are free from traces of nuts. Please note that some of these products contain alcohol. Prices and products subject to change. Subject to availability. Participating freshhouses. Photography is for guidance only.

Grey Abbey House

Greyabbey

Telephone: 028 4278 8666 Fax: 028 4278 8652

www.kingdomsofdown.com/greyabbey

Contact: Daphne Montgomery

Grey Abbey House, set in its fine park, was built in 1760. It is the third house to be built on the present site, overlooking Strangford Lough, where the Montgomery family have lived for the past four hundred years. Its architecture, history and setting make it one of the most important and beautiful country houses in Ulster.

The gardens comprise herbaceous and shrub rose borders, a woodland garden with an interesting collection of southern hemisphere, especially Chilean, plants, a vegetable garden and orchards.



FACILITIES: The house with its hall with unusual cantilevered, dividing staircase, dining room, middle drawing room, gothic drawing room, library, gardens and orchard. Interested groups are welcome to visit by prior arrangement. Meals can also be arranged.

DUNDONALD OLD MILL



231 Old Belfast Road,
Dundonald, Belfast BT16 1UE
Coffee House 028 9048 5030
& Gift Shop 028 9048 4682



Dundonald Old Mill, of historic interest as a former linen and flour mill, with one of the largest water wheels in Ireland, now houses a family run Coffee House and Gift Shop. Customers return on a regular basis to this lovely 300 year old building to experience the unique ambience created by the exposed timber beams, wooden floors and stone walls, enhanced by the recently completed décor. The ground floor, the building and offers unusual and attractive. It is a delight to browse selection of pottery, candles, books, jewellery, towels, kitchen accessories, and children's items. The luxurious range of toiletries and fragrance by Crabtree & Evelyn is also available. Friendly staff welcome the customer to enjoy the speciality coffees, teas and the excellent food which is made on the premises each day using fresh produce from the local farm shop. Home-baked scones, traybakes, cakes and sweets are available, together with a fine selection of special lunchtime dishes and light snacks.



OPEN 7 DAYS EXCELLENT CAR PARKING FACILITIES DISABLED ACCESS



Portaferry Harbour

Where to stay in Ards

Hotels

Strangford Arms Hotel ***

MAP REF | B2 | No.2 | Newtownards

92 Church Street,
Newtownards BT23 4AL

T: 028 9181 4141 F: 028 9181 1010

E: info@strangfordhotel.co.uk

www.strangfordhotel.co.uk

B&B £25.00 - £34.50 pps

£40.00 - £59.00 sgl

The Portaferry Hotel ***

MAP REF | F4 | No.45 | Southern Peninsula

10 The Strand, Portaferry BT22 IPE

T: 028 4272 8231 F: 028 4272 8999

E: info@portaferryhotel.com

www.portaferryhotel.com

£47.50 pps; £65.00 sgl

Guest House

Ardmore House **

MAP REF | B4 | No.32 | Northern Peninsula

35 Main Street, Ballywalter,

Newtownards BT22 2PQ

T/F: 028 4275 8262

£21.50 pps; £25.00 sgl

Licensed Guest Houses

The Narrows ***

MAP REF | F4 | No.44 | Southern Peninsula

8 Shore Road, Portaferry BT22 1JY

T: 028 4272 8148 F: 028 4272 8105

E: reservations@narrows.co.uk

www.narrows.co.uk

£45.00 pps; £70.00 sgl

The Old Schoolhouse Inn ***

MAP REF | C2 | No.58 | Western Loughside

Castle Espie, 100 Ballydrain Road,

Comber, Newtownards BT23 6EA

T: 028 9754 1182 F: 028 9754 2583

E: info@theoldschoolhouseinn.com

www.theoldschoolhouseinn.com

B&B from £45.00 sgl

£32.50 pps twin/double

Wong's Royale Liscensed Guesthouse **

MAP REF | D5 | No.36 | Southern Peninsula

64 New Harbour Road,

Portavogie BT22 1EB

T: 028 4277 2511 / 4277 2512

www.kingdomsofdown.com/

wongsroyaleguesthouse

£25.00 pps; £35.00 sgl

Bed & Breakfast

Adair's

MAP REF | E4 | No.43 | Southern Peninsula

22 The Square, Portaferry BT22 1LW

T: 028 4272 8412

www.kingdomsofdown.com/adairs

£17.00 pps; £18.00 pps with en suite

Anna's House

MAP REF | D2 | No.53 | Western Loughside

Tullynagee, 35 Lisbarnett Road,

Comber BT23 6AW

T/F: 028 9754 1566

E: anna@annashouse.com

www.annashouse.com

2 double rooms both shower en suite

1 twin en suite (shower & bath)

£30.00 - £40.00 pps; £35.00 sgl

Ballycastle House

MAP REF | B3 | No.17 | Northern Peninsula

20 Mountstewart Road,

Newtownards BT22 2AL

T/F: 028 4278 8357

E: ballycastle@breathemail.net

www.ballycastle.com

B&B £25.00 pps; £30.00 sgl

Ballygraffan House

MAP REF | C2 | No.59 | Western Loughside

102 Killinchy Road, Comber BT23 5NE

T: 028 9187 0622

E: simpson.cochrane@virgin.net

B&B en suite £28.00 pps; £33.00 sgl

twin/double £25.00 pps; £28.00 sgl

Ballynester House (5 AA Red Diamonds)

MAP REF | C4 | No.28 | Northern Peninsula

1A Cardy Road (off Mount Stewart

Road), Greyabbey BT22 2LS

T: 028 4278 8386 F: 028 4278 8986

E: geraldine.bailie@virgin.net

www.ballynesterhouse.com

B&B £25.00 pps; £30.00 sgl

Barnageeha

MAP REF | D2 | No.55 | Western Loughside

90 Armillan Road, Killinchy BT23 6QN

T: 028 9754 1011

www.kingdomsofdown.com/barnageeha

B&B from £30 pps twin/double; £35 sgl

Beech Hill Country House

(5 AA Red Diamonds 2002/2003)

MAP REF | A1 | No.5 | Newtownards

23 Ballymoney Road, Craigantlet,

Newtownards, Co. Down BT23 4TG

T/F: 028 9042 5892

E: info@beech-hill.net

www.beech-hill.net

B&B £32.50 pps; £45.00 sgl

Donaghadee B&B

MAP REF | A4 | No.10 | Northern Peninsula

52 Northfield Road,

Donaghadee BT21 0BD

T: 028 9188 2204

E: joaniebennett@hotmail.com

B&B £22.50 pppn

Drumcree House

MAP REF | B3 | No.16 | Northern Peninsula

18A Ballyblack Road East,

Newtownards BT22 2AB

T: 028 9186 2198

E: benforde@

drumcreehouse.freeserve.co.uk

www.kingdomsofdown.com/

drumcreehouse

B&B £25.00 twin/double; £30.00 sgl

Edenvale Country House

(5 AA Red Diamonds)

MAP REF | B3 | No.14 | Northern Peninsula

130 Portaferry Road,

Newtownards BT22 2AH

T: 028 9181 4881 F: 028 9182 6192

M: 07798 741 790

E: edenvalehouse@hotmail.com

www.edenvalehouse.com

B&B £32.50 pps twin/double; £45 sgl

STRANGFORD ARMS HOTEL

Telephone

+44 (0)28 9181 4141

92 Church Street, Newtownards
County Down BT23 4AL

Fax: +44 (0)28 9181 1010

Email: info@strangfordhotel.co.uk

www.strangfordhotel.co.uk



LeWinters
HOTEL, BAR & RESTAURANT
"AWARD WINNING FOOD"

Ernsdale

MAP REF | B3 | No.20 | Northern Peninsula
120 Mountstewart Road, Carrowdore,
Newtownards BT22 2ES
T/F: 028 9186 1208
M: 07790 119 278
www.kingdomsofdown.com/ernsdale
£22.00 double/twin; £25.00 sgl

Fiddlers Green

MAP REF | E4 | No.41 | Southern Peninsula
10-14 Church Street, Portaferry
T: 028 4272 8393 F: 028 4272 8136
www.fiddlersgreenportaferry.com
£25.00 pps; £30.00 sgl
1 twin: **£22.00 pps; £27.00 sgl**

Five Firs House

MAP REF | A3 | No.7 | Northern Peninsula
12 Murdocks Lane, Cottown,
Bangor BT19 7QQ
T/F: 028 9145 9839
E: info@fivefirs.co.uk
www.fivefirs.co.uk
B&B £27.50 pps; £55 sgl

Herdstown House

MAP REF | A3 | No.9 | Northern Peninsula
9 Hogstown Road, Donaghadee BT21 ONL
T/F: 028 9188 3773
M: 07958 483 904
www.kingdomsofdown.com/
herdstownhouse
B&B £23.00 pps; £25 sgl

Knockmoyle House

MAP REF | E4 | No.40 | Southern Peninsula
12F Ardminnan Road,
Portaferry BT22 1QH
T: 028 4277 1868 M: 07752 429 972
B&B en suite £22.00 pps; £25 sgl



Portaferry Ferry

Lake View

MAP REF | A3 | No.11 | Northern Peninsula
92A Windmill Road,
Donaghadee BT21 ONQ
T: 028 9188 3900
£20.00 pps; £27.50 sgl

Lough Cowey Lodge

MAP REF | E4 | No.38 | Southern Peninsula
9 Lough Cowey Road,
Portaferry BT22 1PJ
T: 028 4272 8263 M: 07703 221 623

www.kingdomsofdown.com/
loughcoweylodge

B&B £20.00 pps; £25 sgl (Only open
during school holidays and weekends)

Mervue

MAP REF | C4 | No.31 | Northern Peninsula
28 Portaferry Road, Greyabbey BT22 2RX
T: 028 4278 8619
E: herondf@yahoo.co.uk
www.kingdomsofdown.com/mervue
£25.00

Pinecroft Country House

MAP REF | A3 | No.12 | Northern Peninsula
180 Moss Road, Millisle BT22 2DX
T: 028 9186 1410
£25.00 pps

Quarry House

MAP REF | C4 | No.26 | Northern Peninsula
14 Ballywalter Road, Greyabbey BT22 2RE
T/F: 028 4278 8552
E: tbriggs@bushinternet.com
£23.00 pps; £25.50 sgl

Rockhaven

MAP REF | A2 | No.4 | Newtownards
79 Mountain Road,
Newtownards BT23 4UL
T: 028 9182 3987
E: rockhaven-79@lycos.com
www.kingdomsofdown.com/rockhaven
B&B £25.00 pps; £30.00 sgl

Seaspray

MAP REF | B4 | No.13 | Northern Peninsula
221 Ballywalter Road, Millisle BT22 2LY
T: 028 9186 2389
E: seaspray@bsfire.com
B&B £23.00 pps; £30.00 sgl

Trasnagh House

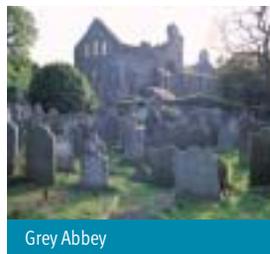
MAP REF | C4 | No.29 | Northern Peninsula
23 Ballybryan Road, Greyabbey BT22 2RB
T: 028 4278 8111
E: trasnagh.house@hotmail.com
£23.00 pps; £30.00 sgl

Trench Farm

MAP REF | C2 | No.61 | Western Loughside
35 Ringcreevy Road, Comber BT23 5JR
T/F: 028 9187 2558
www.kingdomsofdown.com/trenchfarm
B&B from £20.00

Woodview

MAP REF | C3 | No.23 | Northern Peninsula
8 Ballywalter Road, Greyabbey BT22 2PD
T: 028 4278 8242
www.kingdomsofdown.com/woodview
From **£20.00 pps**
Discount for 2 nights or more



Grey Abbey

Self Catering**Abbey Lodge ****

MAP REF | C3 | No.21 | Northern Peninsula
1A Cardy Road, Greyabbey BT22 2LS
T: 028 4278 8386 F: 028 4278 8986
E: geraldine.bailie@virgin.net
www.ballynesterhouse.com
2 twin bedrooms.
No en suite. 4 bedspaces.
High Season: **£290**
(July-September, Christmas & Easter)
Mid Season: **£260** (October, March-June)
Low Season: **£210** (November-February)

Anchor Cottage **

MAP REF | F4 | No.47 | Southern Peninsula
3 Steel Dickson Avenue,
Portaferry BT22 1LE
T: 028 4272 9726
1 double, 1 twin (bunks),
sofa bed in sitting room
From **£150 - £250 per week**

Ballyboghilbo Cottage **

MAP REF | C3 | No.24 | Northern Peninsula
8A Ballywalter Road, Greyabbey,
Newtownards BT22 2DP
T: 028 4278 8242
www.kingdomsofdown.com/
ballyboghilbocottage
1 double en suite, 1 sofa bed in lounge
From **£175 - £250 per week**



Hazel's House

Superb 4 star self catering accommodation
along Portaferry sea front.

Situated between Portaferry Hotel and The Narrows and a
short stroll from the ferry terminal. Accommodation sleeps
six: two double rooms, one with en suite and a twin room
with a separate W/C shower room. Fully equipped kitchen
with open lounge and dining area. This excellent
accommodation has everything you need for
that well earned break.

Telephone 028 9187 0703
or 07813 173 567 for bookings
Email: bookings@hazelwoodglen.co.uk

Ballymorran Cottages****

MAP REF | D3 | No.50 | Western Loughside
50 Ballymorran Road, Killinchy BT23 6UD
T: 028 9754 1308
E: heather@ballymorrancottages.co.uk
www.ballymorrancottages.co.uk
Boat Cottage: sleeps 5
£370 April - Sept; £270 Oct - Mar
Shell Cottage: sleeps 7
£370 April - Sept; £270 Oct - Mar

Ballystockart Farm Cottages ****

MAP REF | B1 | No.62 | Western Loughside
17 - 21 Hillhead Road,
Dundonald BT16 1XD
T: 028 9187 2682 M: 07929 340 078
E: bfcottages@btopenworld.com
www.bfcottages.com
2 bedrooms (1 double & 1 twin)
£220 - £300 per week

Ballywalter Gate Lodge ****

MAP REF | C4 | No.34 | Northern Peninsula
Springvale Road, Ballywalter Park,
Ballywalter BT22 2PE
T: 028 4275 8264 F: 028 4275 8818
E: eng@dunleath-estates.co.uk
www.ballywalterpark.com
2 bedrooms (1 twin, 1 double)
£225 - £395 per week

Barnwell Farm Cottages ****

MAP REF | C4 | No.30 | Southern Peninsula
8 Ballybryan Road, Greyabbey BT22 2RB
T: 028 4278 8488
E: info@barnwellfarmcottages.co.uk
www.barnwellfarmcottages.co.uk
7 cottages: sleep 2x3, 2x4, 2x5 and 7
From **£212 - £485 depending on cottage**

Barr Hall Barns ****

MAP REF | F4 | No.49 | Southern Peninsula
31 Barr Hall Road, Portaferry BT22 1RQ
T: 028 4272 9895 F: 028 4272 8053
www.barrhallbarns.com
Barn sleeps 6, cottage sleeps 4 and
loft sleeps 2. Prices from **£150 - £400**

Beech Cottage ****

MAP REF | B3 | No.18 | Northern Peninsula
20 Mount Stewart Road,
Newtownards BT22 2AL
T/F: 028 4278 8357
E: ballycastlehouse@breathmail.net
www.ballycastle.com
2 bedrooms (double en suite and
family en suite)
£280 per week Low (Oct - Feb)
from £300 per week Mid (April - May)
£350 per week High (May - Sept)

Belfor ***

MAP REF | B1 | No.1 | Newtownards
9 Old Mill Mews, Dundonald BT16 1WD
T/F: 028 9048 2153
E: riataylor89@btinternet.com
5 bedspaces. £325 - £375 per week

Boleyhill Farm Cottages ****

MAP REF | C4 | No.25 | Northern Peninsula
10 Cardy Road, Greyabbey BT22 2LS
T: 028 4278 8737
E: info@boleyhillfarm.com
www.boleyhillfarm.com
3 cottages, sleeping 2 - 5 people
£230 - £395 per week

Castle Espie Cottages ***

MAP REF | C2 | No.57 | Western Loughside
11 Ballylignhorn Road, Castle Espie,
Comber BT23 5SX
T: 028 9187 3011 F: 028 9182 0946
E: castleespie@virgin.net
www.kingdomsofdown.com/
castleespiecottages
2 Cottages, each sleeps 4 - 6 people
Price per cottage per week:
Low Season - £240; Mid Season - £260
High Season - £280. Open all year

Cunningburn Cottages ****

MAP REF | B3 | No.15 | Newtownards
12A Cunningburn Road,
Newtownards BT22 2AN
T/F: 028 9181 2828
E: granary@fjordlands.org
www.cunningburncottages.com
1 x one bedroom:
£220 Low; £275 Mid; £295 High
3 x two bedrooms:
£245 Low; £295 Mid; £395 High



The Ark Open Farm, Newtownards

try this... for a view

Windmill Hill Viewpoint

On the hill south east of Portaferry, a
breathtaking view of Strangford Lough
can be enjoyed. From the mouth of
the Lough to Greyabbey with the
woods of Castleward, Portaferry
Demesnes and the
picturesque village
of Strangford in front
of you. SEE PAGE 23

**Harbour View ******

MAP REF | D5 | No.37 | Southern Peninsula
97 Harbour Road, Portavogie, Co.Down
Premises T: 028 4277 2248
Contact T: 028 3885 1586
2 triple (family) rooms, 1 twin ensuite,
8 bedspaces. £350 per week June - Sept
£200 per week Oct - May

Hazel House ****

MAP REF | F4 | No.48 | Southern Peninsula
5 The Strand, Portaferry BT22 1PE
T: 028 9187 0703 F: 028 9187 0592
1 double en suite, 1 double, 1 twin
Prices per week: High Season - £500
Mid Season - £395; Low Season - £295

Inisharoon ***

MAP REF | F4 | No.46 | Southern Peninsula
7 Steel Dickson Avenue,
Portaferry BT22 1LE
T: 028 4272 8512
1 twin (bunks), 1 double
Prices per week: High Season - £250
Mid Season - £175; Low Season - £150

Karibuni ****

MAP REF | C4 | No.33 | Northern Peninsula
1A Strand Park, Ballywalter BT22 2PW
T/F: 028 4275 7466
M: 077816 754 741
E: hewarnock@supanet.com
www.kingdomsofdown.com
2 bedrooms (1 twin, 1 double)
Per week: High Season - £300
Low Season - £280
Weekend (2 nights): High Season - £150
Low Season - £100

Lough Cowey Villa ****

MAP REF | E4 | No.39 | Southern Peninsula
9 Lough Cowey Road, Portaferry BT22 1PJ
T: 028 4272 8263 M: 07703 221 623
www.kingdomsofdown.com/
LoughCoweyvilla
2 twin bedrooms
From £300 - £350 per week

Pine Lodge ***

MAP REF | C4 | No.35 | Northern Peninsula
1B Ballyhemlin Road,
Kircubbin BT22 2QY
T: 028 4273 9122
E: demproperties@hotmail.com
www.pinelodge.org
1 double bedroom en suite. £230 - £325

Rocklin ***

MAP REF | D2 | No.54 | Western Loughside
5 Braddock Reach, Whiterock Bay,
Killinchy BT23 6PY
T/F: 028 4482 8901
E: rocklin@fs.mail.net
www.kingdomsofdown.com/rocklin
1 double, 2 twin. Per week: Sept-Mar
£300; Apr-Jun £350; Jul-Aug £400

Sunnyside Cottages * - ******

MAP REF | A3 | No.8 | Northern Peninsula
7 Murdocks Lane, Bangor
T: 028 9147 7723
E: eh@sunnysidecottages.co.uk
4 cottages ranging from 3* to 5*
sleeping 2-6 people. From £225 - £425

The Barn ****

MAP REF | D1 | No.52 | Western Loughside
88C Saintfield Road, Killinchy BT23 6RW
T: 028 9754 2399 F: 028 9754 2469
E: beers@ballymacashen.freemove.co.uk
www.ballymacashen.freemove.co.uk
1 twin, 1 double - 4 bedspaces
£175 - £235

The Colonels Lodge ***

MAP REF | A2 | No.6 | Newtownards
23 Ballymoney Road, Craigantlet,
Newtownards, Co. Down BT23 4TG
T/F: 028 9042 5892
E: info@beech-hill.net
www.beech-hill.net
1 double en suite, 1 twin en suite
£280 - £380 per week

The Flat ***

MAP REF | B3 | No.19 | Northern Peninsula
138 Mount Stewart Road,
Newtownards BT22 2ES
T: 028 9186 2696
www.kingdomsofdown.com
The Flat sleeps a maximum of 4 people
£225 - £275 per week

The Gate Lodge Comber ***

MAP REF | C1 | No.60 | Western Loughside
49 Old Ballygowan Road, Comber,
Newtownards BT23 5NP
T: 028 9187 2201 F: 028 9187 4307
E: holidayslets@andrewslincoln.co.uk
Accommodates 4-6 people
£210 - £280 per week

The Hide **

MAP REF | C3 | No.22 | Northern Peninsula
120 Main Street, Greyabbey BT22 2NG
T: 028 4278 8766 M: 07759 830 165
E: b.gwynne@btopenworld.com
www.thepotager.net
1 double room upstairs - sleeps 2
£180 - £250 per week

The Old Barn ***

MAP REF | D2 | No.51 | Western Peninsula
60 Thornyhill Road, Killinchy BT23 6SQ
T: 028 9754 2141
E: info@theoldbarnireland.com
www.theoldbarnireland.com
1 double & single, 1 double & pull out
couch. £220 - £290 per week

The Potager ***

MAP REF | C4 | No.27 | Northern Peninsula
118 Main Street, Greyabbey BT22 2NG
T: 028 4278 8766 M: 07759 830165
E: b.gwynne@btopenworld.com
www.thepotager.net
Sleeps 3-5 people. £210 - £280

Tullymakill Cottage ****

(Hazelwood Glen Holiday Village)
MAP REF | C2 | No.56 | Western Loughside
20 The Straits, Lisbane,
Killinchy BT23 5PG
T: 028 9187 0703
2 double, 1 twin bedroom - sleeps 4-6
£295 - £500 per week

Ye Olde Veterinary ***

MAP REF | B2 | No.3 | Newtownards
116 Movilla Road,
Newtownards BT23 8RJ
T: 028 9181 1866
1 twin en suite, 2 bedspaces
(cot or small bed to make family room)
£240 All Year



Ards Arts Centre, Newtownards

Hostel**Barholm**

MAP REF | E4 | No.42 | Southern Peninsula
11 The Strand, Portaferry BT22 1PF
T: 028 4272 9598 F: 028 4272 9784
E: barholm.portaferry@virgin.net
www.barholmportaferry.co.uk
13 bedrooms, 45 bed spaces
From £13 pp. Breakfast £3.75 pp

CARAVAN PARKS

All Parks are registered Ards Borough Council Environmental Services Department (028 9182 4000). Seasons stated relates to Licence issued by Council.

Key to caravan sites:

- ★ British Graded Parks Scheme
- ★ Owner-occupied caravans
- 🚐 8 Static caravans for hire available
- 🚐 8 Touring caravan/motorhome pitches available. (Owner-occupied caravans may also be present at this park)
- ▲ 8 Tent pitches available

Key to facilities:

- 🚿 Washing & Shower facilities
- 🧺 Laundry services
- 🚿 Sink & hot water for washing
- 👶 Childrens play area
- 🏖️ Direct access to beach
- € Euro Accepted
- 🎾 Tennis court
- ⚽ Football pitch

Ballyhalbert

Ballyhalbert Holiday Park

MAP REF | C4 | No.1 | Southern Peninsula
96 Shore Road, Ballyhalbert BT22 1BJ
T: 028 4275 7777 / 4275 7555
F: 028 4275 7666 / 4275 7444
E: enquiries@ballyhalbert-holidays.com
🚐 🚐 10 - £10 hook up
Facilities: 🚿 🧺 🏖️ ▲ €

Ballywalter

Ballyferris Holiday Park ***

MAP REF | B4 | No.E | Northern Peninsula
211 Whitechurch Road,
Ballywalter BT22 2LA
T: 028 4275 8244 (Manager)
Proprietor: Sandycove Holiday Homes Ltd
T: 028 4275 8200 F: 028 4275 8079
E: info@sandycove.co.uk
www.sandycove.co.uk
*** 🚐 🚐 3 Facilities: ▲

Ganaway Caravan Park ***

MAP REF | B4 | No.D | Northern Peninsula
10 Ganaway Road, Ballywalter BT22 1BG
T: 028 4275 8422
Contact: Sandycove Holiday Homes Ltd
🚐 8 Facilities: ▲

Rockmore Caravan Park

MAP REF | B4 | No.H | Northern Peninsula
69 Whitechurch Road,
Ballywalter BT22 2JZ
T/F: 028 9186 1428
Contact: HJ Warnock, 6 Ballydoonan Road,
Carrowdore, Newtownards BT22 2HE
🚐 🚐 10 - £8 per night inc. hook up
Facilities: ▲

Rosebank Caravan Park

MAP REF | B4 | No.G | Northern Peninsula
201 Whitechurch Road,
Ballywalter BT22 2JZ
T: 028 4275 8211 (E | J Hopes)
E: whopes.fsnet.co.uk
🚐 4 🚐 5 Facilities: 🚿 🧺 🏖️ ▲

Sandycove Holiday Park ***

MAP REF | B4 | No.F | Northern Peninsula
191 Whitechurch Road,
Ballywalter BT22 2JZ
T: 028 4275 8062 (Manager)
Proprietor: Sandycove Holiday Homes Ltd
T: 028 4275 8200 F: 028 4275 8079
www.sandycove.co.uk
Booking essential through Park
Manager on mobile 07801 228 814
*** 🚐 🚐 38 - £13 overnight
Facilities: 🚿 ▲ 🏖️ 🎾

Cloughey

Kirkistown Caravan Park

MAP REF | E4 | No.K | Southern Peninsula
55 Main Road, Cloughey BT22 1JB
T: 028 4277 1183
F: 028 4277 2053
🚐 🚐 62 - £9.50 overnight plus £2
for hook up & other facilities
▲ 12 - from £6.50 including all facilities

Ringbuoy Caravan Park

MAP REF | D4 | No.J | Southern Peninsula
73A Main Road, Cloughey BT22 1JD
T: 028 4277 1418
M: 07979 314 795 (Manager: Fred Irwin)
🚐 🚐 8 - £6 overnight, £1.50 hook up
▲ 10 - £6 Facilities: 🚿 🧺

Millisle

Ballywhiskin Caravan & Camping Park ***

MAP REF | C4 | No.O | Northern Peninsula
216 Ballywalter Road, Millisle BT22 2LY
T: 028 9186 2262 (Roy & Hilda Butler)
E: admin@ballywhiskincaravanandcamping.com
www.ballywhiskincaravanandcamping.com
*** 🚐 🚐 17 ▲ 10 Facilities: ▲
🏖️ 🎾 🚿 🧺 Showers/Laundry small
charge. Overnight £10, £1 awning, Tent
from £8, Trailer Tent £10. Open all year.

Seaview Caravan Park

MAP REF | A4 | No.A | Northern Peninsula
1 Donaghadee Road, Millisle BT22 2BY
T: 028 9186 1248 (Mr David Caldwell)
🚐 🚐 8 - Prices available on request

Walker's Caravan Park *

MAP REF | B4 | No.B | Northern Peninsula
88 Ballywalter Road, Millisle BT22 2HS
M: 07811 684020 (Stephen Smyth)
* 🚐

try this... for tranquility

Nendrum Monastery

On Mahee Island, off the A22 south of Comber, Nendrum is the best example in Northern Ireland of a pre Norman monastic enclosure with buildings. Abandoned in the 15th Century, the site has now been restored so that the foundations of a church, round tower, crafts huts and monks cells can be seen. SEE PAGE 22



Woodlands Caravan Park

MAP REF | B4 | No.C | Northern Peninsula
24 Drummfad Road, Ballyhaslin,
Millisle BT22 2JQ
T: 029 9186 2349
Contact address: 19 Ashford Drive,
Bangor, Co. Down BT19 6DA
T: 028 9147 2118
🚐 🚐 4 - £7.50 per night, £1 hook up
▲ 2 - £6

Portaferry

Exploris Touring Caravan Park

MAP REF | E4 | No.N | Southern Peninsula
The Ropewalk, Castle Street,
Portaferry BT22 1NZ
T: 028 4272 8610 / 4272 8062
F: 028 4272 8396
Contact: Send care of Exploris Aquarium
🚐 12 - £10 overnight inc. hook up and
awning. Open April - September.
Facilities: 🚿 🧺

Silver Bay Caravan Park

MAP REF | E5 | No.L | Southern Peninsula
15 Ardminnan Road, Portaferry BT22 1QJ
T: 028 4277 1321 (Mr & Mrs Gowan)
E: info@ardminnan.com
Caravanners may use the adjoining 9
hole golf course, bar and restaurant.
🚐 / ▲ 10 - £12 overnight, £2 awning
Facilities: ▲

Tara Caravan Park

MAP REF | F4 | No.M | Southern Peninsula
4 Ballyquintin Road, Tara,
Portaferry BT22 1RF
T: 028 4272 8459 (Mr Hugh Keating)
🚐 3 Prices available on request
Available from Easter - September
Facilities: ▲ 6-8 berth, electricity, gas,
flush toilet etc. Bedding not supplied.

BARHOLM

Budget Self-catering
Accommodation

11 The Strand
Portaferry BT22 1PF



Telephone: 028 4272 9598 Fax: 028 4272 9784
E-mail: barholm.portaferry@virgin.net
www.barholmportaferry.co.uk

BARHOLM, a Victorian house, which overlooks Strangford Lough and offers views second to none, a more tranquil setting cannot be imagined. It offers accommodation, some with en suite facilities, for up to 50 people, suitable for single, couples, families and groups as well as conference facilities that can seat up to 50. The Lough is divisible all year round, and we have a compressor on site for air fills. We are fully equipped for self-catering but catering is available on request. The conservatory/dining room is attached to the kitchen and allows you to enjoy the panoramic views of the Lough and food at the same time. BARHOLM is located directly opposite the ferry terminal and only 200yds from the town centre and marina. Portaferry offers visitors beautiful walks, Exploris Aquarium and pubs with traditional Irish music.

Prices from £13.00 per person.

