

Walks

Lakeside Walk

Grade Easy -3.9 km (2.4 miles) -1 hour 10 mins

This relatively flat trail leads around Castlewellan Lake, a natural lake extended by the Annesley family early in the 19th century. With excellent views across the lake and of the surrounding woodland the trail passes close to the Ice House and the iconic Castle built in 1856.

Cypress Pond Walk

Grade Moderate – 4.9 km (3.1 miles) – 1 hour 35 mins

After reaching the end of the Lake, this trail begins to climb, winding its way through mature trees. Walkers are rewarded on reaching the top with the tranquil view of the Cypress Pond. The trail then descends through the trees back to the lake shore.

Moorish Tower Walk

Grade Moderate – 5.1 km (3.2 miles) – 1 hour 40 mins

After reaching the end of the Lake, this trail begins to climb, winding steeply uphill. A narrow track leads to the Moorish Tower, originally designed as a 'tea house', which provides a fine vista over the Lake and surrounding mountains. A steep descent leads back to the lake shore.

Annesley Garden Walk

Grade Easy – 1.6 km (1 mile) – 35 mins

Leading gently uphill, this walk takes in the famous Annesley Garden and the National Arboretum. Walkers can then choose to take the shorter route back or further explore the Park by continuing uphill to circle the Duck Pond and Mitchell's Lake before returning on the wide, even path back down the hill to the lake shore.

Including Mitchell's Lake

Grade Moderate – 3.6 km (2.3 miles) – 1 hour 10 mins

Slievenaslat Walk

Grade Strenuous – 4.3 km (2.7 miles) – 1 hour 35 mins

The most strenuous walk in the Park, this trail is rocky in places with numerous steps both up and down. As such, it is suitable for those with a higher level of fitness and stamina. After a steep climb take a well deserved rest at the summit of Slievenaslat and enjoy the panoramic views of the Mourne Mountains and the drumlin landscape of Co. Down before commencing your descent.

Newcastle Way (see dashed line)

This two day walk covers 45 km (28 miles) starting and finishing in Newcastle with highlights including Dundrum Village and Castlewellan and Tollymore Forest Parks. See **WalkNI.com** for more information.

Forest Ranger Reception Hut Mountain Bike Trailhead 🖙 Caravan Site ₩ Mountain Bike Crossing Car Parks Walk Trailhead Viewpoint Slipway Animal Wood Grange Courtyard including: Mourne Forests Office Cafe **Activity Centre** 🛞 Heritage

Most people in good health including those with limited mobility and baby buggies. 4 SURFACE TYPE Sealed surfaces such as asphalt or compacted stone. Even and consistent throughout.

GRADIENT

Relatively flat.

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SUITABLE FOR Most people in good health. Accessible with some baby buggies. SURFACE TYPE Sealed surface i.e. compacted stone. Relatively flat but may include some short steep climbs and descents.

SUITABLE FOR A good standard of fitness can help. **SURFACE TYPE** Variable but stable surface, may be slightly

uneven and include loose material. and roots. Includes some steep climbs and descents.

SUITABLE FOR

Higher level of fitness and stamina.

SURFACE TYPE

Extremely variable and uneven including large loose material including rocks

Includes long steep climbs and descents.

Things to remember...

These trails are situated in a working forest environment and may be subject to temporary diversion and closure. In such circumstances, please ensure that all safety signage is complied with. All Forest Service NI woodlands are sustainably managed and certified against standards that demonstrate good environmental, social and economic principles.

Please watch out for vehicles on the forest roads and other visitors on foot, bike and horse.

Many of the trails within Castlewellan Forest Park are multi-use, however some trails are designated for specific activities. Please adhere to signage on the ground.