

WALK 20



TERRAIN



Gravel dust pathways, steps.

NEAREST TOWN



Castlerock

FACILITIES



Near-by lay-by parking; Facilities in Castlerock.

OS MAP REF Sheet 4

GRID REF C 761 354

GRADE



EASY / MEDIUM

DISTANCE



0.6 Miles (1KM)
& 1.2 Miles (2KM)
options.

DOGS



Allowed

DURATION



0.5 - 1 hour
(Approx)

CAUTION



Working forest environment.

Downhill Forest

STARTING POINT

Main forest entrance on Mussenden Rd, Downhill.

ROUTE DESCRIPTION

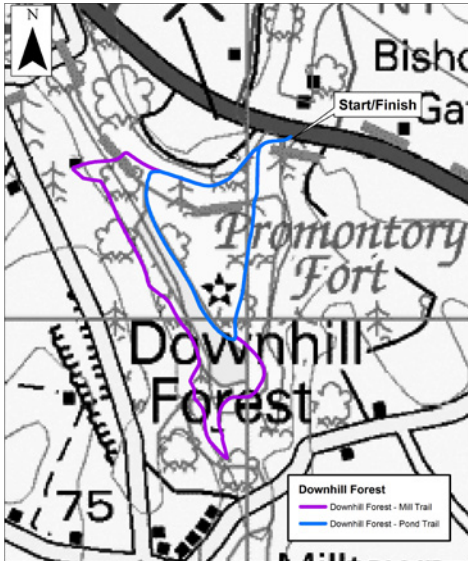
Downhill Forest is a small mixed woodland of 83 hectares just inland from the North Coast of Northern Ireland, near Castlerock. The Forest was originally part of the estate of Frederick Harvey, the 4th Earl of Bristol and Bishop of Derry, which included Downhill Castle, now maintained by The National Trust.

A walk through Downhill Forest will allow you to view one of Northern Ireland's fattest Sitka spruce (in 1962 the girth was approximately 6m), an Early Christian Promontory Fort and an old water powered sawmill with its lade running round the small lake in the middle of this woodland.

The lake was originally designed as a fish pond, a number of Mallard ducks have taken up residence. Both the way-marked walks pass by this elongated pond.

There are two way-marked paths in the forest; one is just over a kilometre long while the other is two kilometres in length. The Ulster Way/North Sperrins Way also runs through part of the forest. The North West Orienteering Club have also created a permanent orienteering course in the forest.

These walks are situated in a working forest environment and may be subject to diversion and closure from time to time.



POINTS OF INTEREST

- Home to one of Ireland's fattest Sitka Spruce trees.

***Please refer to the relevant os map.**

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