

## F o r e s t T r a i l s

All trails start within the Forest at the Donard Bridge information board. To reach this Bridge enter Donard Park via the main entrance off the Bryansford Road and proceed through the Park following the Glen River until you reach Donard Bridge.

Choose the trail you wish to walk from the map on display and follow the corresponding coloured way markers.

There are four way marked trails. All trails follow a circular route returning to Donard Bridge apart from the Glen River Trail which brings you up to the open mountain above the forest.

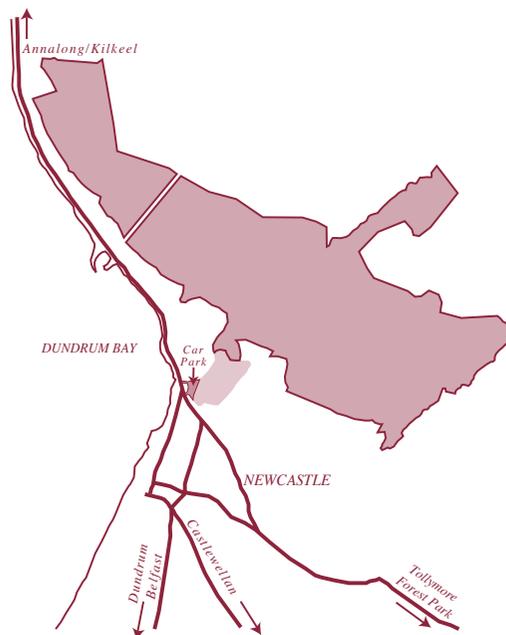
All trails involve sections of steep uphill climbs and descents over rough and uneven ground and should be attempted only by the physically active with appropriate walking boots.

Take note of hazard warning notices along the Glen River.

Other forests to visit in Co. Down include:

Belvoir Park Forest  
Castlewellan Forest Park  
Drumkeeragh Forest  
Hillsborough Forest  
Rostrevor Forest  
Tollymore Forest Park

## H o w t o g e t t h e r e



Enquiries to: Forest Office  
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[www.forestserviceni.gov.uk](http://www.forestserviceni.gov.uk)



FS 3K 10/98 IMP

## F O R E S T W A L K S I N C o u n t y D o w n



## **D O N A R D F O R E S T**

Lies at the foot of the Mourne.  
Moderate to difficult walking, all trails  
have steep and uneven sections.



1. Donard Bridge, built 1835, sits astride the Glen River. Upstream of the Bridge are an array of picturesque cascades and waterfalls fringed by broadleaved woodland.

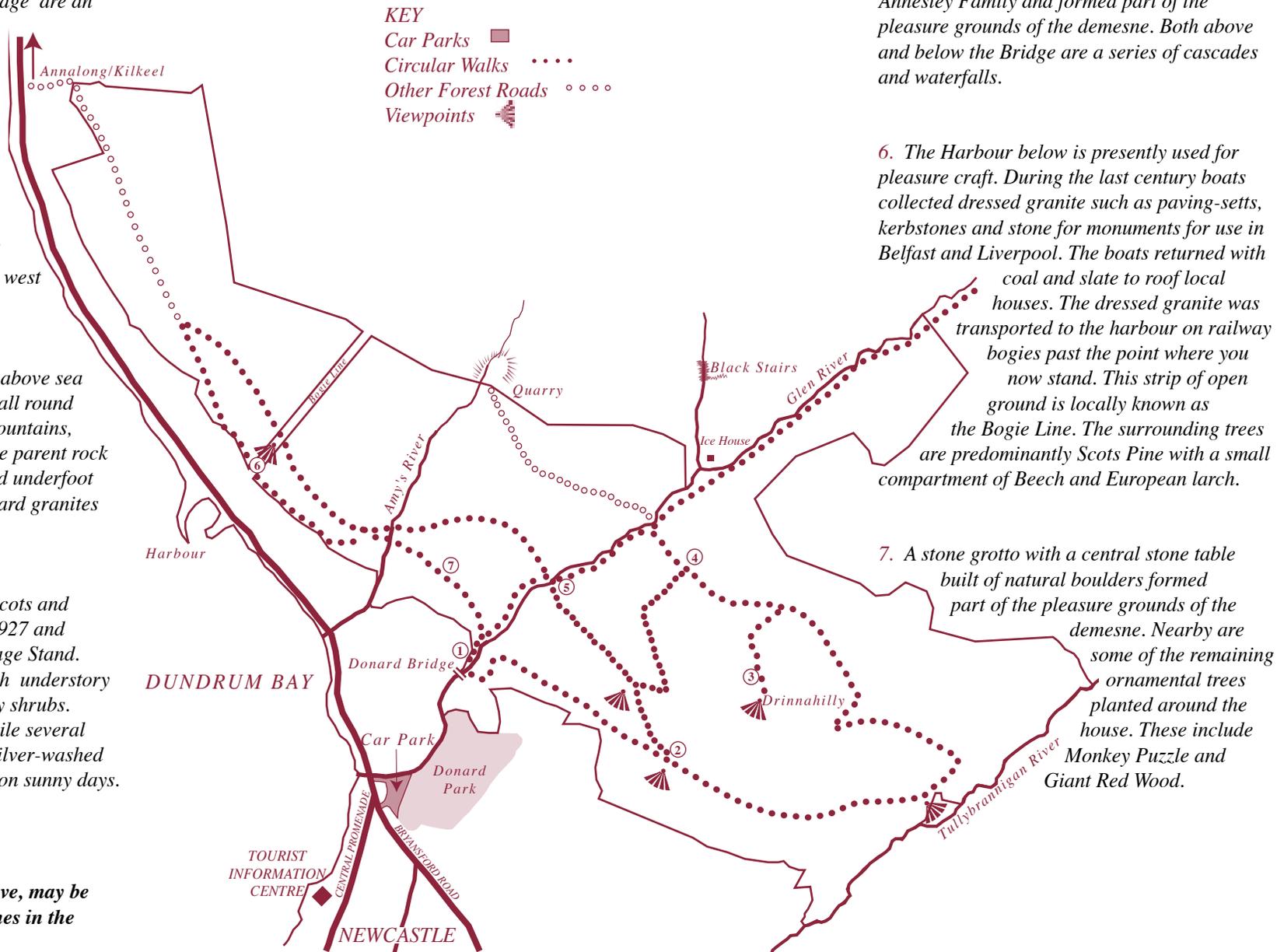
2. This viewpoint affords a spectacular panorama over the surrounding coastal plains and drumlins. It includes Newcastle and District, Dundrum Bay and St John's Point and to the north west Slieve Croob.

3. Drinnahilly is at 247 metres above sea level and provides an excellent all round viewpoint of the surrounding mountains, forest and agricultural land. The parent rock of soft Silurian shales is exposed underfoot and is quite different from the hard granites further up the mountain.

4. This very fine woodland of Scots and Corsican Pine was planted in 1927 and has been designated as a Heritage Stand. Beneath the tree canopy is a rich understory of herbaceous plants and woody shrubs. Common song birds abound while several uncommon butterflies such as silver-washed fritillary and grayling are seen on sunny days.

**FRONT COVER:**

*Crossbills, although quite elusive, may be observed feeding from pine cones in the forest.*



5. The Glen River Bridge was built by the Annesley Family and formed part of the pleasure grounds of the demesne. Both above and below the Bridge are a series of cascades and waterfalls.

6. The Harbour below is presently used for pleasure craft. During the last century boats collected dressed granite such as paving-sets, kerbstones and stone for monuments for use in Belfast and Liverpool. The boats returned with coal and slate to roof local houses. The dressed granite was transported to the harbour on railway bogies past the point where you now stand. This strip of open ground is locally known as the Bogie Line. The surrounding trees are predominantly Scots Pine with a small compartment of Beech and European larch.

7. A stone grotto with a central stone table built of natural boulders formed part of the pleasure grounds of the demesne. Nearby are some of the remaining ornamental trees planted around the house. These include Monkey Puzzle and Giant Red Wood.