

GLENARIFF WATERFALLS NATURE RESERVE

Deep within the rocky gorges of the river the moist humid microclimate supports a wide range of mosses, liverworts and ferns. Because of the richness and diversity of these plants part of the Glenariff Glen has been designated as a National Nature Reserve.

The timber walkway that winds through the glen and alongside the river gorge, was first built about 100 years ago, and has been carefully reconstructed and repaired to provide a spectacular walk, rivalled by few others.



GENERAL INFORMATION

Opening Hours: The Forest Park is open every day of the year from 10.00am until sunset.

Admission: Charges are displayed at the entrance to the Park.

Services: Caravanning and Camping Sites.
Picnic and Barbecue areas.
Glenariff Tea House.
Way-marked Trails.
Horse riding routes.
Guided Tours (bookable by organised groups).
Special events (arranged by permit).
Disabled facilities.

If you have any special needs arising from a disability, Forest Service will be happy to assist, where we can.

For further information and bookings contact:

The Forester in Charge, Recreation East
6 Forest Road, Garvagh, BT51 5EF.
Post code for SatNav Glenariff BT44 0QX.
Telephone: 028 2955 6000
www.nidirect.gov.uk/forests



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GLENARIFF FOREST PARK




FOREST SERVICE

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Glenariff Forest Park is situated amid the world famous Glens of Antrim, an area to which tourists have been coming for over a century. Glenariff, the Queen of the Glens, is considered by many people to be the most beautiful of the nine Antrim Glens.

The Park, now including the former Parkmore Forest, covers an area of 1185 ha of which 900 ha have been planted with trees. The remainder consists of several small lakes, recreation areas and open space left for landscape and conservation reasons.

Bisecting the Park are two small but beautiful rivers; the Inver and the Glenariff, containing spectacular waterfalls, tranquil pools and stretches of fast flowing water tumbling through rocky steep-sided gorges.

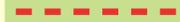
The soil over most of the forest is of low fertility being mainly peat over basalt. Along the river glens the relatively more fertile clays support a greater variety of plants and better tree growth. The main tree species is Sitka spruce, a North American conifer, but Douglas fir, Japanese larch, Lodgepole pine and Norway spruce are also grown. Along the Inver and Glenariff rivers there are some beautiful areas of broadleaved woodland mostly Oak and Beech.

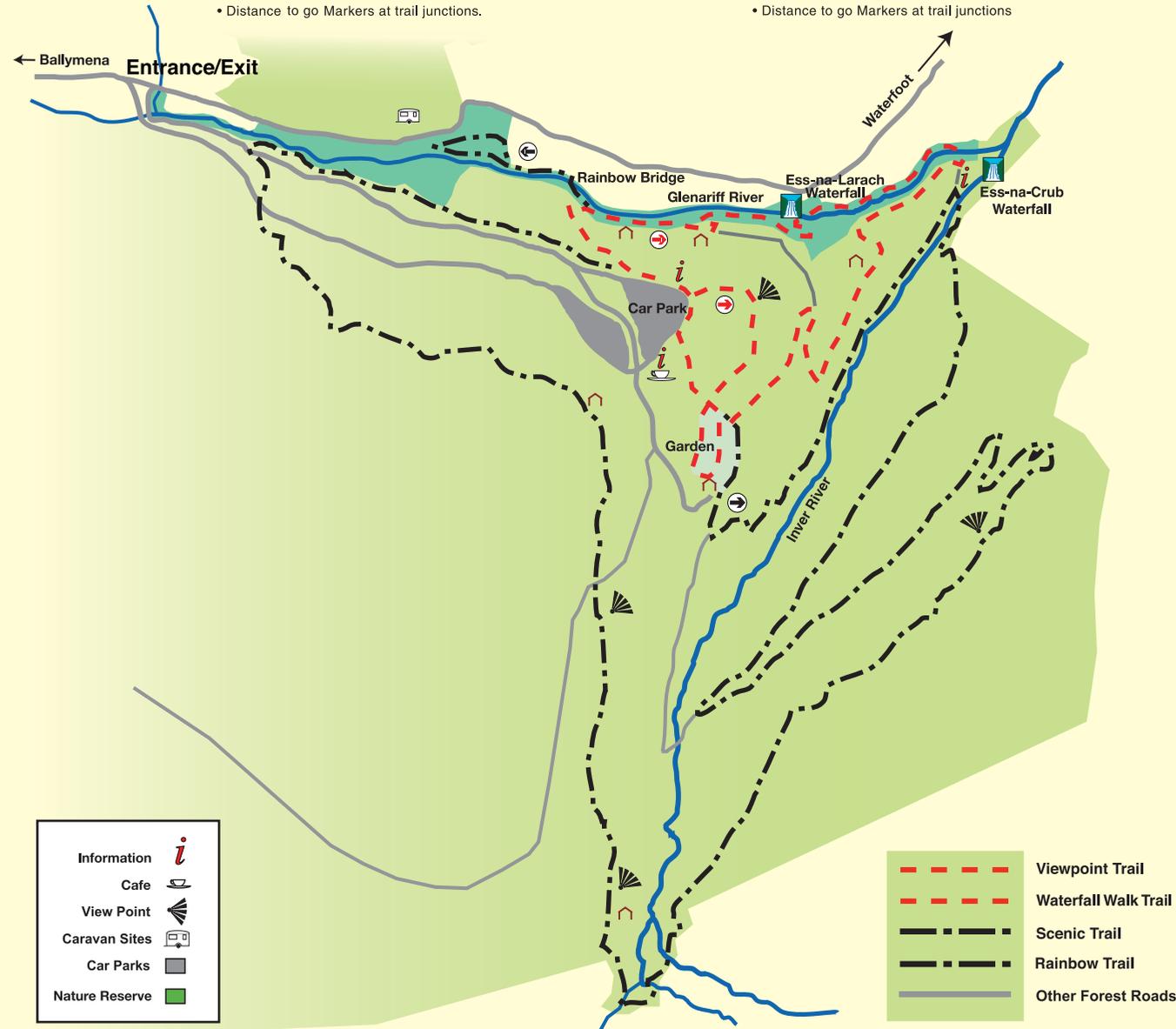
The diversity of topography, woodland and habitats found within Glenariff Forest Park provide, for the visitor, an area of superb natural beauty in which to walk, enjoy the tranquillity and admire the spectacular views.



FOREST TRAILS

- Black Trails** 
- Steps, gullies, fences, streams, boulders
 - Severe gradients
 - Generally undefined edges
 - Overhanging branches
 - All types of terrain
 - Some Rest Areas at irregular intervals
 - Way-finding Markers at trail junctions
 - Distance to go Markers at trail junctions.

- Red Trails** 
- Steps, gullies, tree roots
 - Moderate gradient (1:4)
 - Generally undefined edges
 - Overhanging branches
 - Broken surface material
 - Some Rest Areas at irregular intervals
 - Way-finding Markers at trail junctions
 - Distance to go Markers at trail junctions



- Information** 
- Cafe** 
- View Point** 
- Caravan Sites** 
- Car Parks** 
- Nature Reserve** 

-  Viewpoint Trail 
-  Waterfall Walk Trail 
-  Scenic Trail 
-  Rainbow Trail 
-  Other Forest Roads

WAY-MARKED TRAILS

Four way-marked trails of varying length wind through the forest leading you into some of the Forest Park's most beautiful wooded and scenic areas.

Viewpoint Trail (1 km / 0.5 mls)



From the viewpoint on the trail you can look down the Glen to the sea in the distance. The walk then takes you past the café and back to the car park via the ornamental gardens.

Waterfall Walk Trail (3 km / 2 mls)



This path features the waterfalls and National Nature Reserve.

There are stairways, pathways cut into the near vertical sides of the gorge, and boardwalks on stilts in the river. It is a spectacular walk.

Scenic Trail (8.9 km / 5.5 mls)



The trail takes you down the Inver River gorge, nearly to the Ess-na-Crub Waterfall. Once you cross the river, you begin a long and winding climb from about 60 metres elevation to 260 metres over about 1.1km. Once you have done this climb there are very fine views over the Glen and across the sea as far as the Mull of Kintyre.

There are further walking opportunities that link to Glenariff. The Glenravel Environmental Improvement Association has set up a circular 15km walk through the forest out onto the Garron Plateau at Dungonnell Dam and down into Cargan village before returning via Binvore into the north-western part of Glenariff www.antrim.net/glenravel.

The Moyle Way is one of the Waymarked Walks initiated by the N.I. Countryside Access and Activities Network, and runs for 30km between Ballycastle & Glenariff www.countryside recreation.com.

Rainbow Trail (0.6 km / 0.4 mls)



This is an optional detour on the Waterfall Walk. It includes crossing the Rainbow Bridge.