

NORTHERN IRELAND

Crom wildlife walk

Take a walk on the wild side at Crom. Wander through this important nature reserve with its tranquil landscape of islands, woodland and historic ruins.



Information

Address: Upper Lough Erne, Newtownbutler, County Fermanagh, BT92 8AP

OS map: NI Discoverer 27

Activity: Walking

Easy: The grass and woodland pathways are free of slopes with reasonably smooth and level surfaces, but can be muddy. For further information visit the section marked Terrain.

Dog friendly: Dogs on leads are welcome. Please clean up after your dog, using the dog waste bins provided.

Full trail: Miles: 3.5 (km: 5.6)

Duration: 1 hour 10 mins

Terrain

The grass and woodland pathways are free of slopes with reasonably smooth and level surfaces, but can be muddy. There are other waymarked paths offering shorter walks.

Total steps: 6

Start point: Crom visitor centre, OSNI grid ref: H3707923938

1. Start at the visitor centre to discover more about the wildlife at Crom. It's in an old stone estate yard overlooking Upper Lough Erne. Its barns are a roosting site for bats, with seven different species inhabiting this area. Look at the walls to see the little holes that act as their doorways. Turn left as you leave the yard and walk along the old carriageway towards Crom Castle for a short while before turning left again through a gate into the parkland.
2. Follow the path to the Old Castle. Here you'll encounter one of the oldest yew trees in Ireland. Estimates of its age vary between 400 and 1,000 years. Be careful not to stand on its roots as they're quite delicate.
3. Continue along the loughside, past a pretty boathouse, before crossing the White Bridge onto Inisherik Island.
4. Make a little loop of the island, passing a walled garden.
5. Cross back over the bridge and turn left, taking a path through trees with Upper Lough Erne on your left and the grounds of Crom Castle to your right.
6. Reach the castle's main drive and continue walking until a path breaks off to your right near the small inland Lough Nalughoge. Continue on to return to the visitor centre and car park.

End point: Crom visitor centre, OSNI grid ref: H3707923938