

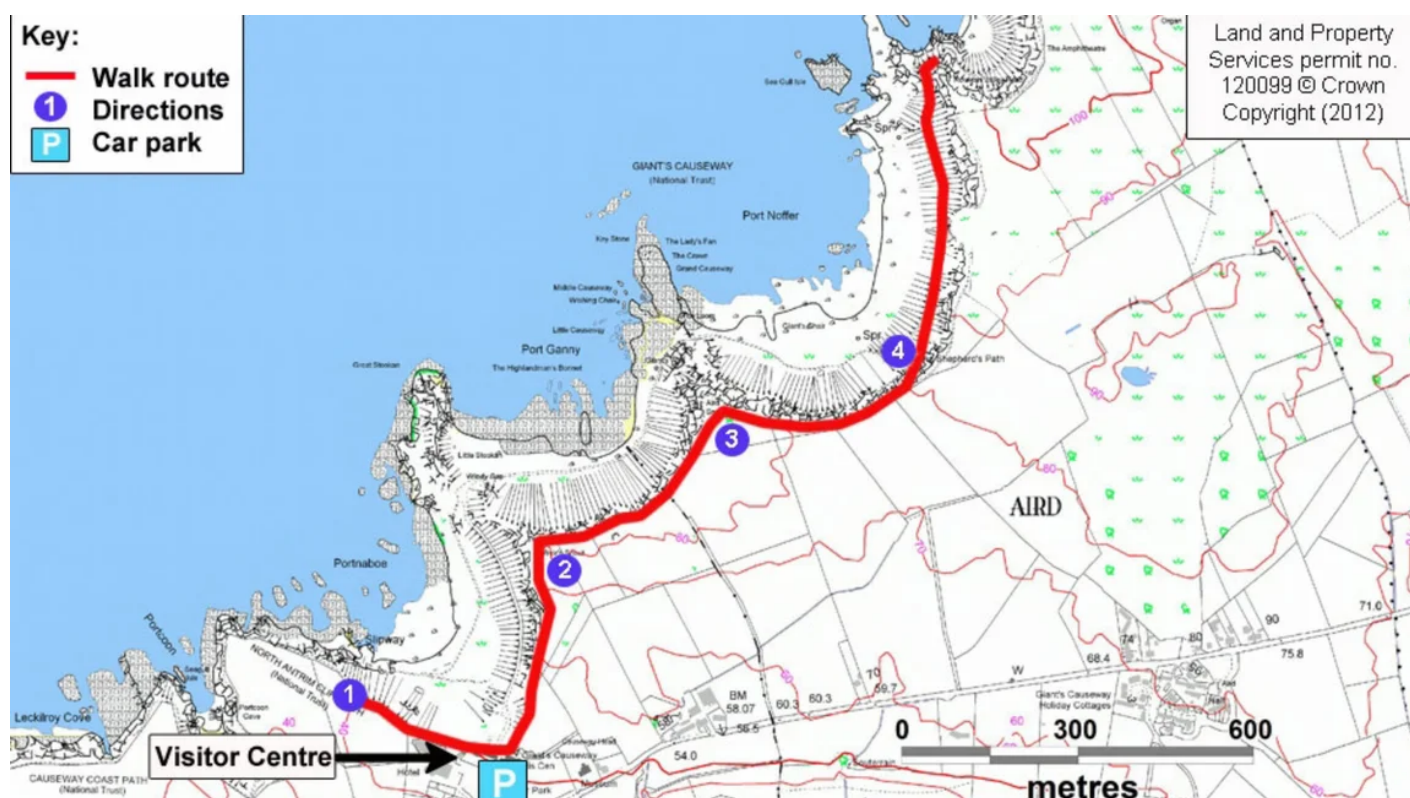
NORTHERN IRELAND

Giant's Causeway Red Trail

Follow the Red Trail at the Giant's Causeway for a bracing clifftop walk with vistas of the world-famous Causeway Coast and North Channel. Look out for the Grand Causeway, the largest of the three outcrops that make up the UNESCO World Heritage Site. Spot wildlife in the surrounding heath and enjoy viewpoints off the beaten track before descending the 162 Shepherd's Steps for your return journey.

! Cliffs, high winds and rock falls

Please be aware of unfenced cliff edges, high winds, steep steps and rock falls. The Grand Causeway rock outcrop is extremely dangerous, particularly in high winds.



Information

Address: Giant's Causeway, 60 Causeway Road, Bushmills

OS map: Discoverer series 4 and 5

Activity: Walking

Moderate: Formal path, uneven in places with steep steps. For further details please see Terrain section.

Dog friendly: Dogs on leads are welcome on the walking trail. Owners are required to clean up after their dog and asked to dispose of waste responsibly.

Full trail: Miles: 2 (km: 3.2)

Short trail: Miles: 0.8 (km: 1.28)

Access: Challenging

Duration: 30 mins - 1 hour 30 mins

Terrain

Formal path, hard core gravel surfaces, uneven in places, single track in places, 162 steep stone steps ('Shepherd's Steps') with handrail, uneven and with various depths.

Total steps: 4

Start point: Car park 1

1. Assume your starting point in front of the Causeway Hotel. Facing the hotel entrance, turn right and walk in the direction of the visitor centre. You'll see the sloping grass roof of the visitor centre. Providing no conservation work is in progress, you can cut across the roof and pick up signs for the Red Trail from the rear. There's a wooden plinth with a map and directions.
2. Continue along the visible path and up a steep hill leading to Weir Snout. Look for the viewfinder to get more information on the views from this point.
3. Following the visible trail from the Weir Snout viewpoint (away from the visitor centre) you'll arrive on top, but inland from the headland known as the Aird. You'll see boulders which act as a deterrent to people walking out on to this headland. This area is spectacular, but extremely dangerous, particularly in high winds. It's not fenced off and we urge visitors to exercise due caution.
4. At this point along the path, you'll come to the top of the Shepherd's Steps. Onwards, the path becomes the Yellow Trail and leads to the Hamilton's Seat, taking in an aerial view of the Amphitheatre. To follow the Red Trail, descend the steps from the clifftop. When you get to the bottom of the steps, you can choose to follow the trail towards the Organ, or turn left and head towards the Grand Causeway, linking to the Blue Trail.

End point: Car park 1

Please be aware of unfenced cliff edges, high winds,
steep steps and rock falls.
