

# Discover North Down

Guided tours of North Down on foot and by coach

April - September 2011






Exploring Times!



[northdowntourism.com](http://northdowntourism.com)

Please note these walks are not for organised groups to avail of. If desired these can be arranged separately at a minimal cost, contact for more details.

### Key to table opposite

- Coastal Walks 
- Nature Trails 
- Historical Walking Tours 
- Coach Tours 
- Themed Walking Tours 

# 2011 Tours

Date	Tour	Time	Price	Maximum Number
<b>April</b>				
<b>Sunday 24</b>	Groomsport to Ballyholme Coastal Walk	14:30	£3*	25
<b>Saturday 30</b>	Dawn Chorus, Redburn Country Park	06:00	Free <sup>s</sup>	25
<b>May</b>				
<b>Sunday 1</b>	Hollywood Through the Ages Historical Walk	14:30	£3	25
<b>Saturday 7</b>	Christian Heritage Walk, Bangor	10:30	£3	25
<b>Saturday 28</b>	Ulster Scots Bus Tour of North Down	10:00	£6	TBC
<b>June</b>				
<b>Sunday 12</b>	Crawfordsburn to Bangor Coastal Walk	10:30	£3	25
<b>Saturday 18</b>	Christian Heritage Bus Tour of North Down & Ards	09:30	£10	TBC
<b>Sunday 19</b>	Bangor Through the Ages Historical Walk	14:30	£3	25
<b>Saturday 25</b>	Kids Nature Trail, Castle Park, Bangor	10:30	Free <sup>s</sup>	25
<b>July</b>				
<b>Thursday 14</b>	Bangor Abbey Graveyard Tour	19:00	£3	25
<b>Wednesday 20</b>	Walled Garden & Castle Park Tour	18:30	£3	25
<b>Saturday 23</b>	Kids Beach Comb, Crawfordsburn	10:30	Free <sup>s</sup>	50
<b>Monday 25</b>	Step Back in Time, Bangor	14:30	£4	25
<b>Saturday 30</b>	Ulster Scots Bus Tour of North Down & Ards	09:30	£10	TBC
<b>August</b>				
<b>Sunday 7</b>	Walled Garden & Castle Park Tour	10:30	£3	25
<b>Sunday 14</b>	Hollywood Through the Ages Historical Walk	14:30	£3	25
<b>Thursday 18</b>	Bangor Abbey Graveyard Tour	19:00	£3	25
<b>Monday 22</b>	Step Back in Time, Bangor	14:30	£4	25
<b>Tuesday 23</b>	Christian Heritage Walk, Bangor	14:30	£3	25
<b>Friday 26</b>	Bangor Through the Ages Historical Walk	19:30	£3	25
<b>Saturday 27</b>	Hollywood to Crawfordsburn Coastal Walk	10:30	£3	25
<b>Sunday 28</b>	Bangor to Orlock Coastal Walk	11:30	£3	25
<b>September</b>				
<b>Sunday 11</b>	Kids Nature Trail, Crawfordsburn	14:30	Free <sup>s</sup>	50
<b>Thursday 22</b>	Aspects Festival, Bangor Literary Walk	14:30	£3	20
<b>Sunday 25</b>	Walled Garden & Castle Park Tour	10:30	£3	25

\*Children go free <sup>s</sup>Max. 6 tickets per person

# Discover North Down 2011

Discover North Down's fascinating landscape, history and heritage with our 'off -the-beaten-track' programme of walks and tours.

Our 2011 programme has been designed by local experts and professional Blue Badge Guides to allow you the chance to experience the rich history of North Down.

So come and discover North Down: Bangor, Holywood, Groomsport, Crawfordsburn and Helen's Bay, an area 16 miles long, four miles down and many centuries deep.



## Historical Walking Tours

### Hollywood Through the Ages Guided Walk

Sunday 1st May, 14:30

Sunday 14th August, 14:30

Meeting point: Outside the Maypole Bar, Hollywood

This walk covers the town's colourful past from its first recorded reference in the 7th century through to the town's rich ecclesiastical and educational history



touching on such characters as Robert Sullivan the noted educationalist.

Approximate tour length: 1½ hours.

Tickets £3 (Limited to 25 persons)

### Christian Heritage Walking Tour

Saturday 7th May, 10:30

Tuesday 23rd August, 14:30

Meeting point: Bangor Abbey

This tour visits sites including Bangor Abbey, St Comgall's Roman Catholic Church, First Bangor Presbyterian Church and the North Down Museum that houses various interesting artefacts including a life-size reconstruction of a monk's cell.

Approximate tour length: 2 hours.

Tickets £3 (Limited to 25 persons)



### Bangor Through the Ages

Sunday 19th June, 14:30

Friday 26th August, 19:30

Meeting point: Tower House, Bangor Tourist Information Centre, Quay Street, Bangor.

Beginning at Tower House on the Bangor seafront you will visit historical points of interest throughout the town.



Approximate tour length: 1½ - 2 hours.

Tickets £3 (Limited to 25 persons)

## **Bangor Abbey Graveyard Walk**

Thursday 14th July 19:00

Thursday 18th August 19:00

Meeting point: Bangor Abbey



Discover some of the graveyard's most famous graves and memorials, including a memorial to John Simpson, surgeon on the Titanic and the graves of Archibald Wilson, hanged after the 1798 rebellion and W.G. Lyttle, author of 'Betsy Gray' the popular novel about the rebellion.

Approximate tour length: 1 hour (tea / coffee served at tour end).

Tickets £3 (All proceeds go to the Friends of Bangor Abbey, Limited to 25 persons)



## Themed Walking Tours

### Step Back in Time

Monday 25th July, 14:30

Monday 22nd August, 14:30

Meeting point: North Down Museum

Discover what life as a Victorian servant was like and get a glimpse into the history of the Ward Family who built Bangor



Castle in 1852. The tour also stops of at the Bangor Castle Walled Garden and the Castle Garden Restaurant for afternoon tea.

Tickets £4 (Limited to 25 persons)

### Aspects Festival, Bangor Literary Walk

Thursday 22nd September, 14.30

Meeting point: North Down Museum



Join the Aspects Irish Literature Festival Director Emeritus, Kenneth Irvine on this walking tour that celebrates the rich and eclectic literary heritage of Bangor.

Charlotte Bingham, Lord Dufferin, Colin Bateman, Frederick Forsythe, Derek Mahon and Michael Longley are among the famous names whose work is celebrated.

Tickets £3 (Limited to 20 persons)

## Coach Tours

### North Down & Ards Christian Heritage Bus Tour

Saturday 18th June

Meeting point: The bus tour has two pickup points, the first being the Ards Borough Council Offices at 9.30am and then Bangor's North Down Museum at 10am. (Return approx 3pm)



This tour offers an insight into the importance played by North Down and Newtownards in the growth and spread of Christianity throughout Europe.

The tour begins with the North Down Museum's collection of artifacts from Bangor's first monastic settlements and then moves on to Bangor Abbey and graveyard where you will stop for a coffee break before continuing to Newtownards and the Cistercian, Grey Abbey founded in 1193 by Affreca.

After a lunch break the tour travels to Nendrum Monastery on Mahee Island in Strangford Lough, one of the finest surviving examples of an early Christian Monastery in Ireland founded in the 5th century.

The tour will return to Newtownards at approx 2.45pm and Bangor at 3pm.

Refreshments are not included in the cost of the tour. A coffee break will be available at the Bangor Abbey stop and time will be given for lunch en route to Nendrum. Approximate tour length: 5 hours

Tickets £10

### Ulster Scots Bus Tour of North Down – The James Hamilton 1606 Trail

Saturday 28th May 10:00

Meeting Point: North Down Museum, Bangor, (Return approx 1pm)

The tour begins at North Down Museum where you will discover the Borough's Ulster Scots heritage and view artifacts including the impressive Raven maps.



The tour continues to Groomsport, the departure point for the Eagle Wing ship, Holywood, Clandeboye and Cultra.

The tour concludes at Bangor Abbey before returning to the North Down Museum.

Approximate tour length: 3 hours 45 minutes.

Tickets £6

## **North Down & Ards Ulster Scots Bus Tour**

Saturday 30th July

Meeting point: The bus tour has two pickup points, the first being the Ards Borough Council Offices at 9.30am and then Bangor's North Down Museum at 10am.  
(Return approx 3pm)

The tour takes in Newtownards and North Down, the birthplace of Ulster Scots. Its coastline, Abbeys and monuments tell the tale of the region's deep connection with Scotland and the Ulster Scots story,



from the settlements of Hamilton and Montgomery in 1606 to the Rebellion in 1798.

Tickets £10



## Nature Trails

### **Dawn Chorus, Redburn Country Park**

Saturday 30th April, 06:00

Meeting point: Redburn Country Park, Car Park

Join well-known bird expert Dot Blakely who will teach you to recognise the songs of the dawn chorus. The tour will also take in the history of Redburn Country Park including its time as the private zoo of the Dunville family of distillers.

Approximate tour length: 3 hours.  
Walking boots needed.

Tickets Free (Limited to 25 persons)



### **Castle Park Family Nature Trail**

In Conjunction with the Woodland Trust

Saturday 25th June 10:30

Meeting point: North Down Museum, Bangor



Join this interactive nature trail led by Patrick Cregg from the Woodland Trust and well-known bird expert Dot Blakely, where you will learn all about the natural habitat and bird life that exist in the Castle Park grounds.

Approximate tour length: 2 hours and cover around 2 miles of Castle Park, finishing at the North Down Museum.

Tickets Free (Limited to 25 persons)

### **Bangor Castle Walled Garden & Castle Park Tour**

Wednesday 20th July, 18:30

Sunday 7th August, 10:30

Sunday 25th September, 10:30

Meeting point: North Down Museum, Bangor

The Bangor Castle Walled Garden was never open to the public when it was built in the 1840s. North Down Borough Council restored the beautiful Garden and



officially opened it as a visitor attraction 2009. This tour gives an insight into the garden and its history and includes a Question & Answer session.

Approximate tour length: 1½ hours.

Tickets £3 (Limited to 25 persons)

### **Crawfordsburn Beach Comb**

**Saturday 23rd July, 10:30**

**Meeting point: Education Centre,  
Crawfordsburn Country Park**



With beach art, games, seaside exploration, shelter building and rock pooling for “creatures from the deep”,

the beach comb is sure to keep the kids entertained.

Approximate tour length: 2 hours

Tickets Free (Kids will be split into two age groups, 6 and under and 7 plus. Each group is limited to approximately 25)

### **Crawfordsburn Family Nature Trail**

**Sunday 11th September, 14:30**

**Meeting point: Education Centre,  
Crawfordsburn Country Park**



Enjoy a guided woodland walk filled with fun activities such as scavenger hunts, shelter building, bird watching and finding the mini-beasts that live in the woods.

Approximate tour length: 2 hours

Tickets Free (Kids will be split into two age groups, 6 and under and 7 plus. Each group limited to approximately 25)

# Coastal Walks

## Groomsport to Ballyholme Coastal Path Walk

Sunday 24th April, 14:30

Meeting point: Cockle Row Cottages,  
Groomsport



Beginning at the Cockle Row Cottages in Groomsport you will walk along the coastal path to Bangor whilst learning all about the history of the area.

Approximate tour length: 1-1½ hours.

Tickets £3 (Limited to 25 persons)

## Crawfordsburn to Bangor Coastal Path Walk

Sunday 12th June, 10:30

Meeting point: Education Centre  
Reception

Exploring part of the Country Park and the North Down coastal path the walk gives you a chance to learn about the local landscape and its wildlife.

Approximate tour length: 1½-2 hours.

Tickets £3 (Limited to 25 persons)



## Hollywood to Crawfordsburn Coastal Path Walk

Saturday 27th August, 10:30

Meeting point: Redburn Square,  
Hollywood (opposite Hollywood train  
station)

Led by a Blue Badge Guide the walk will follow the coastal path from Hollywood to Crawfordsburn and cover the history of the area.

Approximate tour length: 1½-2 hours.

Tickets £3 (Limited to 25 persons)



## **Bangor to Orlock Coastal Path Walk**

Sunday 28th August, 11:30

Meeting point: Tower House, Bangor  
Tourist Information Centre, Quay  
Street, Bangor.

Led by a Blue Badge Guide the walk follows the coastal path to the National Trust Reserve at Ballymacormick Point and then on to the Cockle Row Cottages at Groomsport, where there will be a short comfort break before you continue on to Orlock Point.

Approximate tour length: 2½ hours.

Tickets £3 (Limited to 25 persons)





For more information visit [www.northdowntourism.com](http://www.northdowntourism.com) or call **028 9127 0069**

# Booking Your Tour

- All tours and walks are on a ticket only basis.
- Tickets can be purchased through Bangor Tourist Information Centre, 34 Quay Street, Bangor, BT20 5ED  
T: 0289127 0069 or North Down Museum where stated.
- All major credit and debit cards (except AMEX) are accepted.
- Tickets can be posted (50p administrative fee applies) or collected from Bangor Tourist Information Centre.
- A maximum of six tickets can be purchased by one person.
- Free walks cannot be block-booked by organised groups or companies.
- Tickets are non-refundable unless the walk or tour is cancelled by the organiser.
- All refunds will be made by cheque for cash and cheque payments and by card for debit or credit card payments.
- North Down Tourism reserve the right to amend or cancel an event. All walks and tours may be subject to change.
- All participants will be contacted by phone or email, where possible, to advise of any cancellation.
- Participants must be able to produce their ticket on request.

## For further information please contact:

Bangor Tourist Information Centre  
34 Quay Street  
Bangor  
BT20 5ED  
T: 028 9182 6846  
E: [tic@northdown.gov.uk](mailto:tic@northdown.gov.uk)  
[www.northdowntourism.com](http://www.northdowntourism.com)

### Open hours:

Jan-April & Sept-Dec

Mon, Tue, Thur, Fri 9am-5pm

Wed 10am-5pm, Sat 10am-4pm, Sun

Closed

May-Aug

Mon, Tue, Thur, Fri 9am-5pm

Wed 10am-5pm, Sat 10am-5pm, Sun 1pm-5pm

## Clothing / Footwear

Please take note of the length of tours and the terrain they cover to ensure you prepare accordingly. For coastal walks warm clothing is advisable.

## Access

Most walks and tours are suitable for all with a basic fitness level. Some however may cover some uneven ground or steep hills and inclines which would cause a problem for those with mobility issues. If you have any specific needs or may require assistance please contact staff at Bangor Tourist Information Centre,  
T: 028 9127 0069  
E: [tic@northdown.gov.uk](mailto:tic@northdown.gov.uk)  
to see if your needs can be facilitated.

All information is correct at time of going to print.

For more information visit [www.northdowntourism.com](http://www.northdowntourism.com) or call **028 9127 0069**

# Bangor Tourist Information Centre

34 Quay Street, Bangor, Co. Down  
Northern Ireland BT20 5ED

Bangor's Tourist Information Centre is located in the 17th Century Tower House overlooking Northern Ireland's largest Marina. It is a well-preserved reminder of Bangor's seafaring history and, as the oldest building in Ireland in continuous public use, has served as a family home, a Customs House and Hot Sea Water Baths. Our well-trained and friendly staff look forward to dealing with any enquiries you may have.



Visitor Information

For information and bookings contact: **Bangor Tourist Information Centre**  
Tel: +44 (0) 28 9127 0069 Fax: +44 (0) 28 9127 4466  
E-mail: [tic@northdown.gov.uk](mailto:tic@northdown.gov.uk) Website: [www.northdowntourism.com](http://www.northdowntourism.com)

