

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

There are three waymarked trails, all of which start from the Cloghmore car park at the end of the forest drive. The trails vary in length from 1.2 miles to 4.5 miles, and take the visitor to various areas within the forest to enjoy the many magnificent views and beauty of the woodlands.

Rostrevor Forest covers an area of 1700 ha of which 1000 ha are planted with trees. The first Forest Service planting was carried out in 1931, mostly with coniferous species Sitka spruce, Douglas fir and pine.

The forest is home to a variety of wildlife including jay, sparrow hawk, wood pigeon, red and grey squirrel, fox and badger.

Some of the present tree crop has reached maturity and there is an ongoing programme of felling and replanting.

During the replanting, landscaping and wildlife conservation are given a high priority.

Other forests to visit in Co. Down include:

Belvoir Park Forest
Castlewellan Forest Park
Drumkeeragh Forest
Hillsborough Forest
Donard Forest
Tollymore Forest Park

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



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



R O S T R E V O R

Lies on south -western side of the Mourne overlooking Carlingford Lough.
All trails have steep and uneven sections.
Stout footwear is recommended.

1. The Cloghmore car park is 230m above sea level and provides views of the surrounding forest, including an area where the trees were blown over in a severe storm in Feb 1994. The area has since been replanted.

2. The Cloghmore Stone is a 40 tonnes granite boulder which was deposited here at the end of the last ice age some 10,000 years ago. It is a well known landmark in the locality. The views from this point are spectacular.

3. This is another excellent viewpoint with views towards the south west and across Carlingford Lough. It is said that a hermit lived in a cave near this viewpoint.

4. This is the highest point of the forest at 430m above sea level. From here and along this trail there are magnificent panoramic views of the Louth mountains, south Armagh and Drogheda in the distance. The trees planted here are particularly suited to the high elevation and it is one of the highest planted areas in N. Ireland.

FRONT COVER:

The Cloughmore Stone is a large granite rock deposited in its present position during the last Ice Age.

- KEY:**
- Car Parks 
 - Circular Walks 
 - Other Forest Walks 
 - Viewpoints 

5. This oak wood believed to be over 250 years old is a remnant of the old oak woodlands that clothed the lower slopes of the Mourne several centuries ago. Most of these oak woods were cleared during the 18th and 19th centuries for use in boat building. In an effort to preserve and encourage the natural development of the woodland, the area has been declared a National Nature Reserve and more recently an Area of Special Scientific Interest.

6. The Fiddler's Green is a small clearing at the southern edge of the oakwood. It was once a focal point for local entertainment. The Rostrevor annual festival of traditional music derives its title of Fiddler's Green Festival from this site.

