

WALKING AREA GUIDE

SAINT PATRICK'S WAY

Walk 132km from Armagh to Downpatrick on Ireland's pilgrim trail — through the Mourne Mountains, along ancient paths, earning your Pilgrim Certificate at Down Cathedral.

TOURS	DURATION	DISTANCE	GRADE
3	6 to 9	57 to 149	Moderate
self-guided	days	km on foot	4 to 30 km a day

FAMILY-RUN SINCE 2012

Cliff & Louise, Dundalk, Co. Louth

We walk our routes. We answer the phone.

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One trail, three ways to walk it

Saint Patrick's Way crosses three distinct landscapes. The first section moves through County Armagh's drumlin country — gentle green hills, hedgerow-lined lanes, and quiet farmland that feels untouched by time.



HOW FAR EACH TOUR GOES

Walking km only · every tour adds an arrival and a departure day

TOUR	START · FINISH	GRADE	WALK DAYS	TOTAL	AVG PER DAY
6 days	Hilltown → Downpatrick	Moderate	3	**57.2 km**	19.1 km
6 days	Armagh → Hilltown	Moderate	4	**87.6 km**	21.9 km
9 days	Armagh → Downpatrick	Moderate	8	**149.2 km**	18.7 km

LANDMARKS ON THE WAY

Armagh City
The ecclesiastical capital of Ireland and the start of the…

The Mourne Mountains & Slieve Donard
The dramatic crux of the Way.

Down Cathedral & St Patrick's Grave
The journey's end, on Cathedral Hill in Downpatrick, where…

Newry Canal Towpath
The meditative heart of the early trail — a flat, traffic-free…

Murlough National Nature Reserve
Ireland's first nature reserve — a 6,000-year-old sand…



WHY WALK HERE

The cultural depth of Saint Patrick's Way is extraordinary

The landscape

Saint Patrick's Way crosses three distinct landscapes. The first section moves through County Armagh's drumlin country — gentle green hills, hedgerow-lined lanes, and quiet farmland that feels untouched by time.

History & culture

Begin at the Navan Centre & Fort — the ancient capital of Ulster, a site of myth and archaeology dating back 3,000 years. Armagh itself is Ireland's ecclesiastical capital, with two cathedrals (one Catholic, one Church of Ireland) both named after St Patrick. The Georgian Mall and the…

Who it suits

Saint Patrick's Way appeals to pilgrims, heritage walkers, mountain lovers, and anyone who wants something more meaningful than just another hiking route. If you've walked the Camino de Santiago and want another pilgrim trail, this is Ireland's answer.

Is Saint Patrick's Way for you?

GENTLE — MODERATE — CHALLENGING

Graded **Moderate**

4 to 30	9 to 521	3 to 8
km a day	m climb a day	walking days

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Terrain

Saint Patrick's Way is a moderate trail with one genuinely challenging section. The Armagh-to-Scarva and Scarva-to-Newry stages are on country lanes and canal towpath — straightforward walking with some ascent. Newry to Rostrevor involves…

When to go

J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
8°	9°	10°	12°	15°	18°	20°	19°	17°	14°	10°	8°
62	52	51	55	57	64	61	73	63	78	83	72

°C average daytime high — rain, mm a month

- **Best months.** April to October is the walking season, with May, June, and September the ideal months. The Mournes can be misty and cool even in summer — layers and waterproofs
- **Season.** Tours start between 15 April and 15 October.
- **Weather.** Mild all season, 12 to 20°C by day. Expect some rain on any trip and pack a good waterproof.

Met Éireann 1991–2020 averages, Dublin Airport, the nearest long-term station.

Three walking holidays in Saint Patrick's Way

The further you go, the quieter the trail gets. Prices are per person sharing and include B&B, luggage transfers, route notes and our app.

6 DAYS

Cross the Mournes and finish at Saint Patrick's grave.

Hilltown - Downpatrick · 3 walking days · 57.2 km

FROM **€755** per person

6 DAYS

Pilgrim trail through canal country to the Mourne foothills.

Armagh - Hilltown · 4 walking days · 87.6 km

FROM **€755** per person

9 DAYS

The complete pilgrim trail — one stage per day, finishing at Saint Patrick's grave.

Armagh - Downpatrick · 8 walking days · 149.2 km

LONGEST

FROM **€1,195** per person

● Overnight village ● Where the tour ends Single travellers welcome, a…



Every tour includes

- ✓ En-suite B&B rooms, chosen…
- ✓ Full Irish breakfast every morning
- ✓ Daily luggage transfer
- ✓ Route notes and our GPS app
- ✓ Pre-departure pack
- ✓ 24/7 emergency support

Not sure which?

Tell us your fitness and your dates. We have walked these trails and will say honestly which version fits.

+353 42 932 3396

1
Choose your route
Pick a tour and your dates. We check availability.

2
We plan everything
B&Bs, transfers, route notes, app. A pack arrives before you travel.

3
You walk
At your own pace, with a daypack. We are a phone call away.

4
Bags waiting at your door
Your main bag moves while you walk and is there at the next B&B.

GETTING THERE & PRACTICAL

Getting there: Armagh is approximately 1 hour from Belfast, 2 hours from Dublin. Regular bus services from both cities. Downpatrick is 30 minutes from Belfast by car.

Currency: Northern Ireland uses British Pounds (£). Some establishments near the border also accept Euros.

UK entry (ETA): The trail is entirely within the UK. Since 2025 most non-UK and non-Irish visitors need a UK Electronic Travel Authorisation (ETA, about £16), applied for online before travel. Irish passport holders are exempt.

Terrain: Mixed — canal towpath, country lanes, mountain paths, and coastal trails. Proper walking boots essential for the Mourne…

WHERE YOU'LL STAY



Accommodation along Saint Patrick's Way is in family-run guesthouses and B&Bs, chosen for their warmth, comfort, and connection to the communities along the route. Armagh offers city guesthouses and boutique options. Scarva and Rostrevor have characterful village B&Bs. Newcastle is a seaside resort with a wider range. Downpatrick has heritage guesthouses near the…

Ready to walk Saint Patrick's Way?

See live availability, full daily itineraries and current rates on our website, or ask us anything first. A deposit holds your dates; the balance is due before you travel.

Scan to see dates

Check dates and book

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