

# Colin Glen Forest Park

There are four waymarked trails within the forest park. The trails begin at the carpark beside the Visitor Centre.

## Points of interest

Enjoy panoramic views of Belfast, including Parliament Buildings, Harland and Wolff and the Mourne Mountains in County Down.

The old mill is a building just outside the park boundary, which was once the home of linen milling in the area.

The Weir Bridge is the point where water was once dammed to power the linen mill.

The Gamekeeper's Bridge is where tolls were once collected to allow people to cross the river.

Every Saturday the *parkrun* event takes place. This is a lapped, marked trail for runners and walkers.

## Tom of the Tae End Walk

1.25 miles, 2.0 km, circular

Follow the green waymarkers and this route takes you alongside the red suspension bridge and to an old mill just beyond the park's boundaries. This was once the home of linen milling in the area. Continue straight ahead and follow the path as it veers left and continues through the glen. From here, take the steps to the Gamekeeper's Bridge. At the bridge, turn back and follow the path to the left. Keep the Colin River to your left as you walk back down the glen. Return using the outward route if you wish to avoid the steps.

## Gruffalo trail

0.6 miles, 1.0 km, circular

The characters from the much loved children's book, *The Gruffalo*, have been brought to life along this trail. From the carpark, go through the Gruffalo Archway. Follow the main path past the 'SkyTrek' high ropes adventure course and alongside the red suspension bridge. The Colin River is on your right. From here, you can follow in the footsteps of the mouse as you encounter the silly old fox, the owl, the snake and the Gruffalo himself. Come back by the same route.

## Englishfown Walk

2.2 miles, 3.5 km, circular

Follow the yellow waymarkers and this route continues along the river to the top of the glen. From here, cross over the Weir Bridge and follow the path down the glen on the other side of the Colin River. Follow this path down the glen to the Gamekeeper's Bridge. Cross over the bridge and follow the path to the bottom of the glen.

## Ballycullo Walk

2.8 miles, 4.5 km, circular

Follow the blue waymarkers from the carpark as the path continues up the glen. Keep the Colin River to your right. Cross over the Gamekeeper's Bridge. Follow the path as it climbs up the glen. Keep the Colin River on your left. Continue straight past the Weir Bridge and cross the second bridge over the river, keeping left. This bridge is called the Tri Bridge. From here, follow the path downhill, as it leaves the river and veers to the right. You will cross the reclaimed landfill site, passing the big lake. Follow the path through the woodland to the carpark.

## Hannahstown Walk

4.0 miles, 6.5 km, circular

Follow the Ballycullo route (blue) for much of the early walk. Continue along the edge of the river. At the top of the glen, follow the path under the stone bridge and continue until the path meets the road. From here, cross over the road into the Upper Glen. Take the steps on the right. At the top, continue along the earthen path until you reach a wooden footbridge. From here, retrace your way back down the steps and across the road, below the bridge. Continue until you reach the Tri Bridge. Cross the bridge over Colin River. Keep the river to your right until you reach the Weir Bridge. Follow the path as it leaves the river and continues downhill. Take the steps and continue to follow the path. It skirts around the landfill site at the edge of the glen and passes the wildlife pond. Continue following this path downhill as it re-joins the river and back to the carpark.

