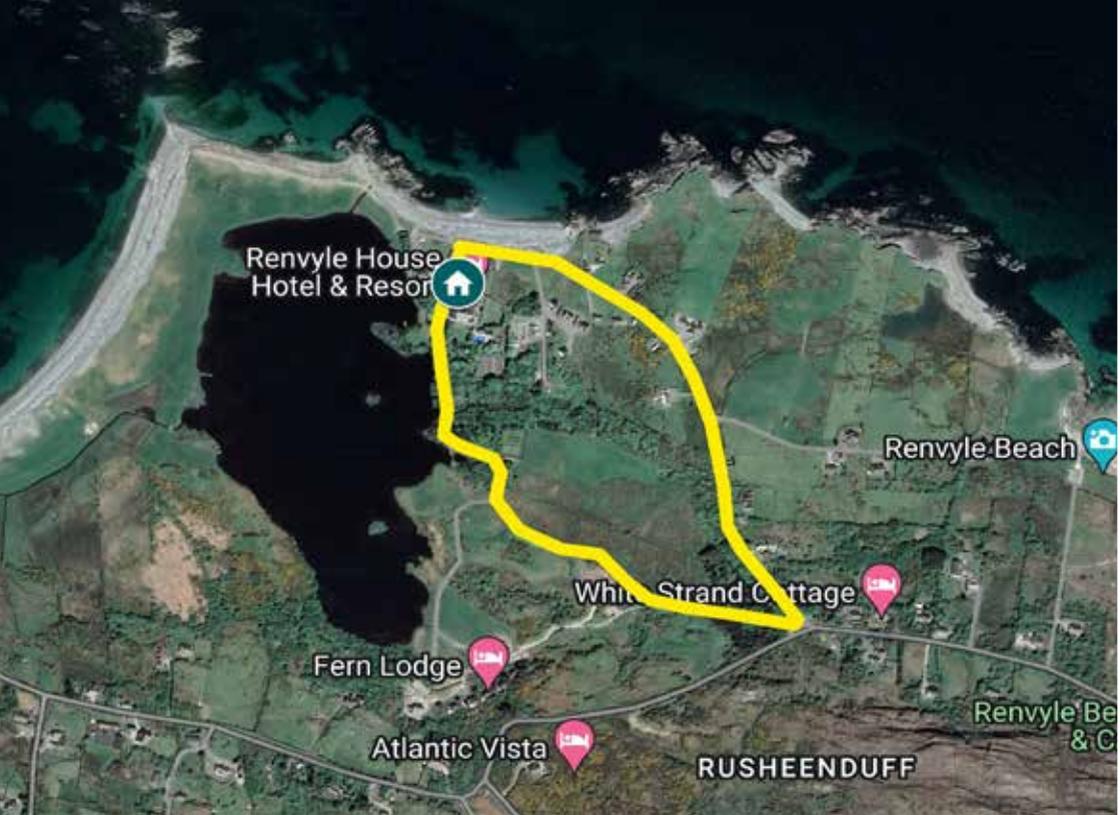
A scenic landscape at sunset. In the foreground, a path made of large, flat, grey stones leads through a valley. The path is flanked by dry, golden-brown grasses and small shrubs. In the background, rolling hills and mountains are visible under a warm, golden sky. The sun is low on the horizon, creating a soft glow and long shadows. The overall mood is peaceful and inviting.

# *Kenvyle Rambles*

A SELECTION OF COUNTRY STROLLS. HILL WALKS AND WALKS IN  
CONNEMARA & ALONG THE WILD ATLANTIC WAY



## RENYLE HOUSE AVENUE LOOPED WALK

Distance: 1.6 km

Time: 15 - 20 minutes

Level: Easy

Route Shape: Looped

An ideal short walk to stretch the legs and breathe in some fresh, sea air. The walk is all on road surface. Starting out, take a left at our front door and walk along the avenue to the front gates. Keep an eye out for pheasant or hares in the main meadow.

Take a left at our front gates and return to the hotel by the back avenue finishing up along by our pebble shore.



## RENVYLE HOUSE -THE GROUNDS - LOOPED WALK

Distance: 2.2km

Time: 40 minutes

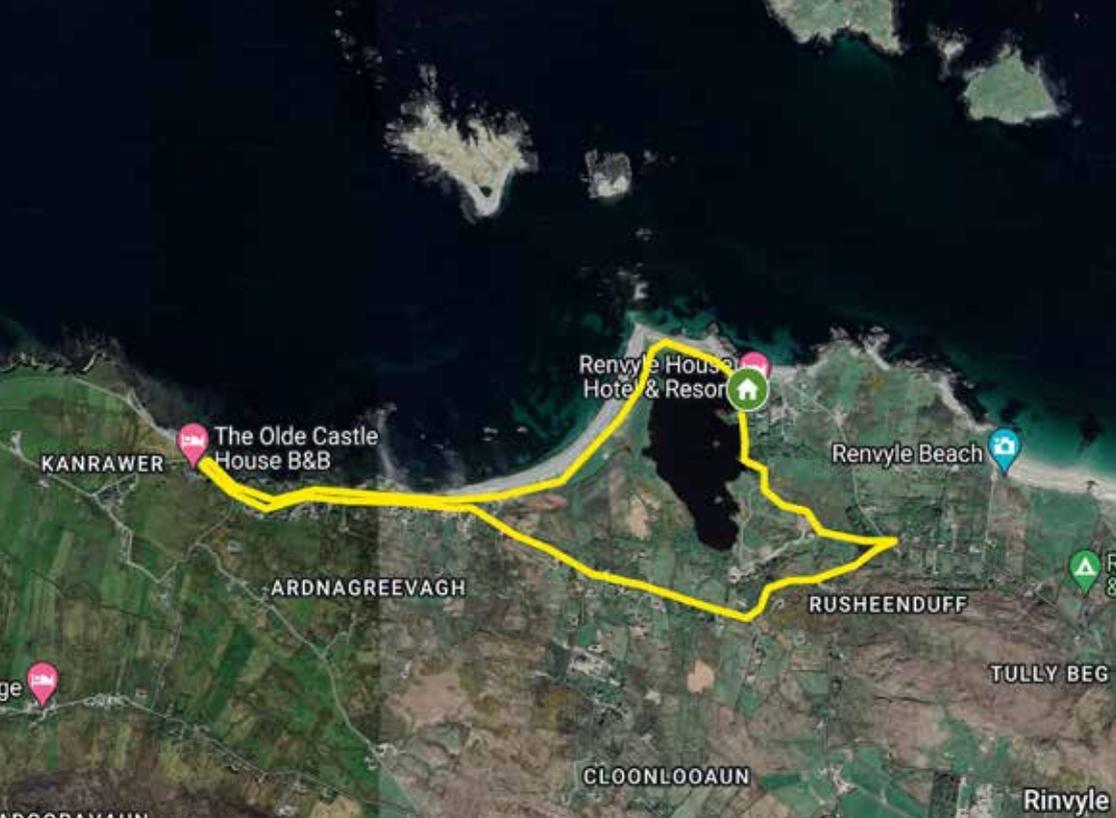
Level: Easy

Route Shape: Looped

The walk surface is on grass, the pebble beach and road and takes in the 1 km of coastline on the grounds of the hotel with beautiful views of the offshore islands and beyond. If you are lucky you might see a pod of dolphins or porpoises.

Start out from the hotel along the coastline along the pebble beach. Before you reach the end of the beach there is a pathway which will bring you towards the lake and a little footbridge for you to cross which will bring you around the south of Rusheeduff lake where you will pass by a Bronze Age stone circle. Keep to the pathway alongside the lake and you will return to a road. Cross the little pedestrian bridge by the Standing Stone and return to the hotel by the main avenue or through the woodland trails.





## COASTAL LOOPED WALK TO RENVYLE CASTLE

Distance: 5.5 km

Time: 50 minutes - 1 hour

Level: Easy

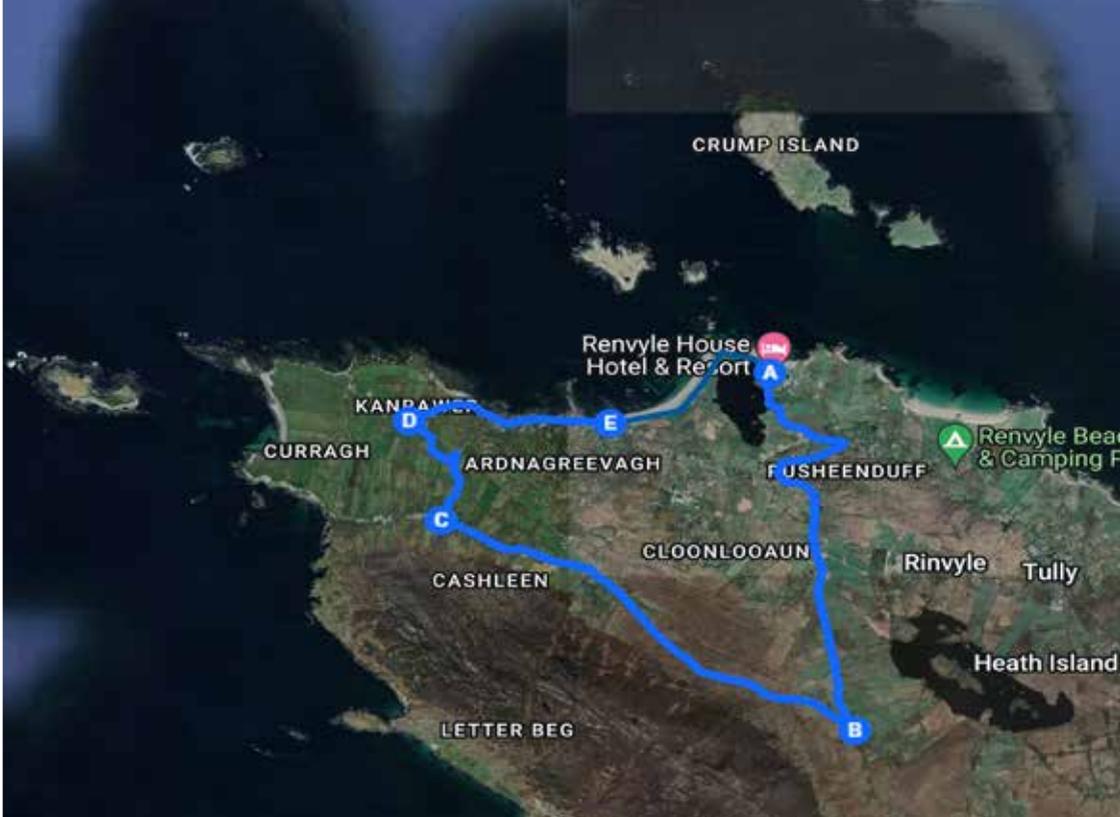
Route Shape: Looped

The walk surface is on grass, the pebble beach and road.

This walk takes in the 1 km of coastline on the grounds of the hotel with beautiful views of Inisbofin and Inis Turk and beyond, keep an eye out to sea in case you see any dolphins or porpoises. Start from the hotel along the coastline along the pebble beach towards the Castle ruin, take care walking along the uneven surface. Renvyle Castle is also known as O'Flaherty's Castle and is situated in the Kanrawer Townland on the Renvyle peninsula. The legendary Irish pirate queen Grace O'Malley (Granuaile Ni Mhaille) made the castle her home away from the sea when she married Donal O'Flaherty in about 1546.

At the castle ruin you can return to the hotel by the public road, take care and keep in to the sides of the road as there is local passing traffic.





## COUNTRY ROADS TOWARDS RENVYLE POINT

Distance: 10 km

Time: 2 hours

Level: Easy

Route Shape: Looped

Depart the gates at Renvyle House and take a right. At the next triangular junction, take the left up the hill. Near Tully Mountain (aka Letterhill) a road joins from the right about 3km on. Turn right onto this road, and you will now be heading westward along a nice quiet valley with Tully Mountain on your left.

Soon after, you descend to a T-junction with a little bridge, keep left here, and go along a narrow little road with quite a few houses. When you come to the next T-junction with a stream coming down from the left, your route is right (north) towards the sea, but you can detour straight ahead (west) and return to this T-junction.

The road heading north winds a few times taking you past the ruins of the church of the Seven Sisters and brings you to Renvyle Castle on your left, and you can look around here. The route home is simply along the sea, moving onto the pebble beach and back to Renvyle House Hotel around the lake. The attraction of this walk is a nice mix of things to see, in a ramble that has no difficulties really.





## DIAMOND HILL IN THE CONNEMARA NATIONAL PARK

Distance: 9km

Time: 2 hours

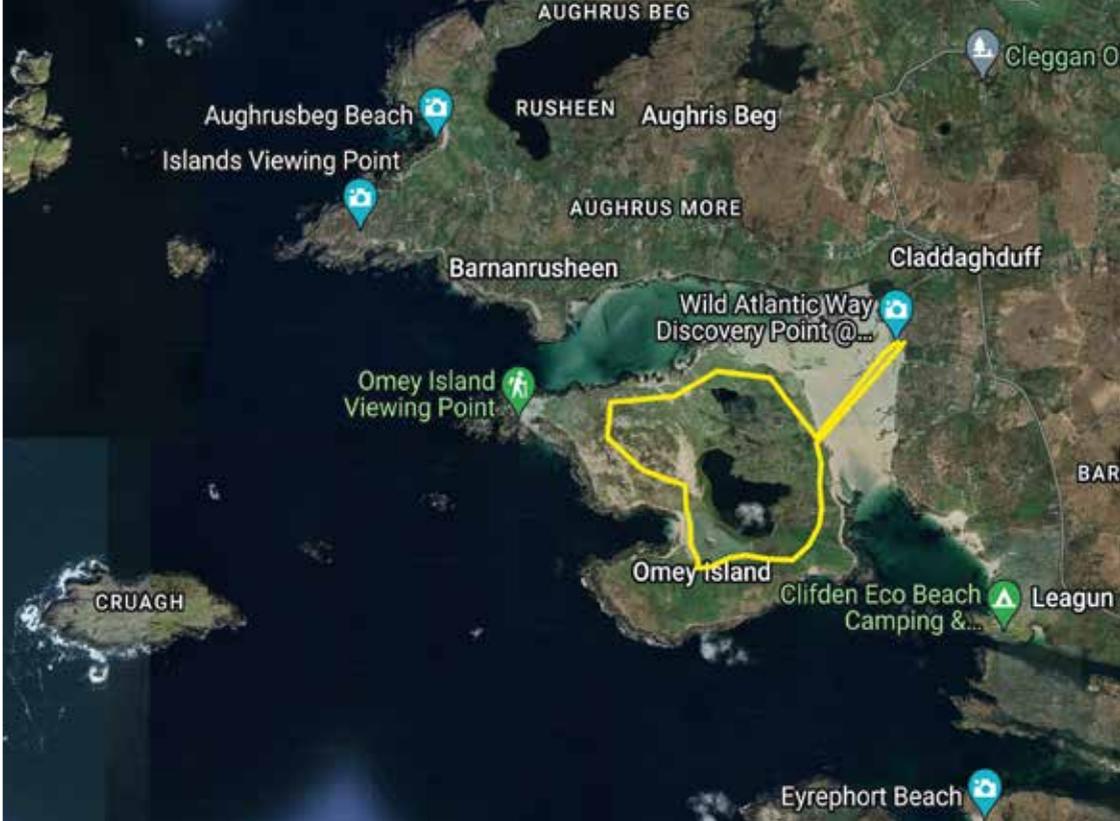
Level: Easy-Medium

Route Shape: Looped

Park your car in the car park at the entrance of the Connemara National Park. There is no entry charge for walking the Diamond. Follow the path and walk towards the main buildings of the Park, past the children's playground and you are on track to walk Diamond Hill. There are two main looped walks which are clearly marked along the way. The lower looped walk is about 3 kilometres and takes about 35-40 minutes. This is suitable to families with young children as prams can be taken on it, it's also ideal for those short of time but who want to take in some of the lovely views and interesting flora and fauna within the park.

The upper loop walk (including the lower loop) is 9 kilometres in total and the pathway is well maintained. Comfortable walking shoes or runners are advised. It gets steeper at the top with some shale but generally it is easy to navigate. The commanding views of Connemara from the top are worth the 1 hour climb.

*If it's a particularly windy day, avoid going to the very top as it is dangerous.*



## OMEY ISLAND WALK

Distance: 8km    Time: 2.5 hours    Level: Moderate    Route Shape: Looped

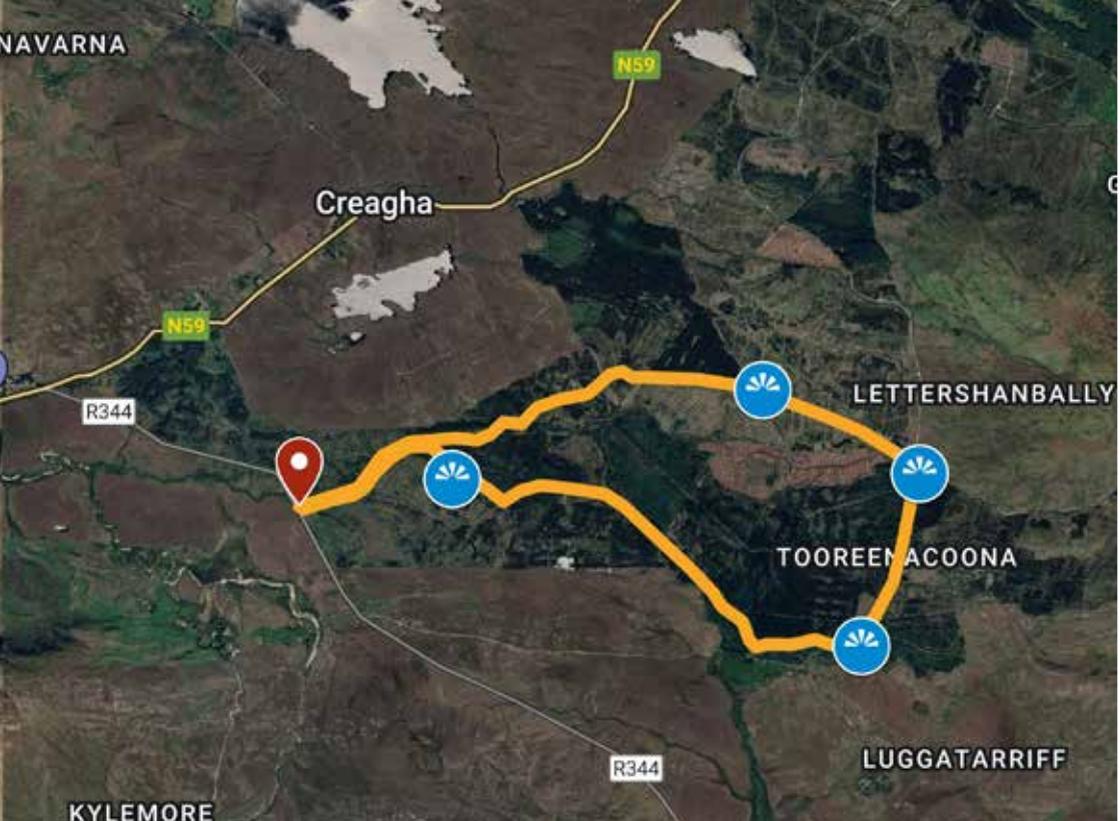
*To get to the start of the walk travel towards Clifden on the N59. At 14km, turn right onto R379 signs for Cleggan. Drive through the village of Cleggan an onto Claddaghduff, take a right at the church to Omey Strand where you can park your car.*

Omey is a tidal island it can be accessed by walking across; **2 hours before low tide to 2 hours after low tide** giving you a maximum of 4 hours to explore the island including your return to the mainland.

When you reach Omey follow the coastline around to the right, taking the route along the beach not inland. You'll come to a sand path above the shoreline which leads northwards. You'll traverse two beaches and look for a point where the fence line turns inland at the back of the second beach. This will lead to the ruins of Teampal Feichin, a medieval granite church dedicated to St. Feichin.

Head back to the beach and proceed to follow the shore where you'll reach the island's northwest corner and you will see another small tidal island to the west named 'Crugh Island'. Cross the beach, taking the road passing two mobile homes and veer left, past the lake and returning back to Omey Strand.





## LETTERSHANBALLY WALK

Distance: 8.5km

Time: 2½ hours

Level: Easy

Route Shape: Looped

*You will need to drive from Renvyle House to the top of the Inagh Valley, passing Letterfrack and Kylemore, taking a right after the Kylemore Service Station. The beginning of the walk is 2km on the left hand side of this road where this is an area for parking.*

The Coillte Lettershanbally looped walking trail caters for all abilities and is part of the Coillte range of walks, and as such, much of the walk involves a trail through young forest, blanket bog, and rocky outcrops. There is also a pleasant boardwalk that meanders through the picturesque area near the hills for about a kilometre.

It is a looped trail of 8.2km (2½ hours) easy level with red markers and is suitable for families and small children. It is generally a flat trail with some undulations. Surfaces may be a little rough in places with some short steeper sections.

Most of the walk goes through the forest and takes in a small bit of the Western Way trail.



## LOUGH INAGH - THE WESTERN WAY

Distance: 16 km

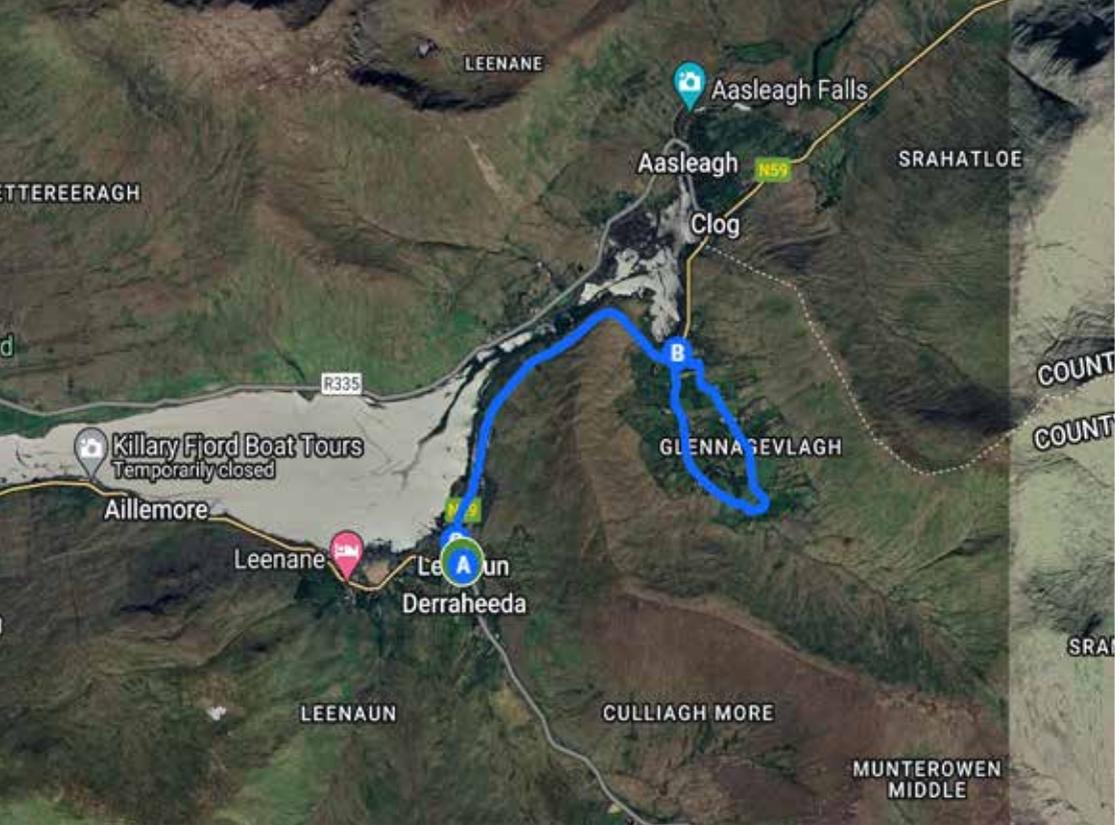
Level: Easy (may be muddy in patches)

Time: 4 hours

Route Shape: Looped

Start out from the Lough Inagh Lodge, walk left towards Recess and when you reach the little car park at the end of the wood turn left up the hill signed 'Mamean'. As you approach towering Cnoc na hUilleann, you reach a Western Way sign and you leave the road to follow this sharp left, heading generally Northwest on the grassy way. The way is mostly obvious, and there are a few gates and a few WW wooden posts to reassure you. You simply go along the valley with Binn Briochain and its quartzite ridges high above your right shoulder. There are lovely views back down the valley and across left to the Gleninagh, (Gleann Eidhneach, the Ivy Glen) flanked by Ben Baun and Ben Dubh.

Beware of some final mucky patches just before the Way reaches a stony little road, which brings you down to a bridge across a babbling river. Here the Western Way goes right, into a wood, but you stay on the little road as it goes down past a homestead to another secluded bridge. The next part of your route is very scenic, crossing westward along the top of the valley. Then the narrow road drops gently to bring you to the main valley road where there are good views over towards Kylemore Lough. Your way home is to turn down left along the valley road, here Lough Inagh awaits, now about an hour's walk away.



## LEENANE WALK

Distance: 2.5km

Time: 1 hour

Level: Easy

Route Shape: Looped

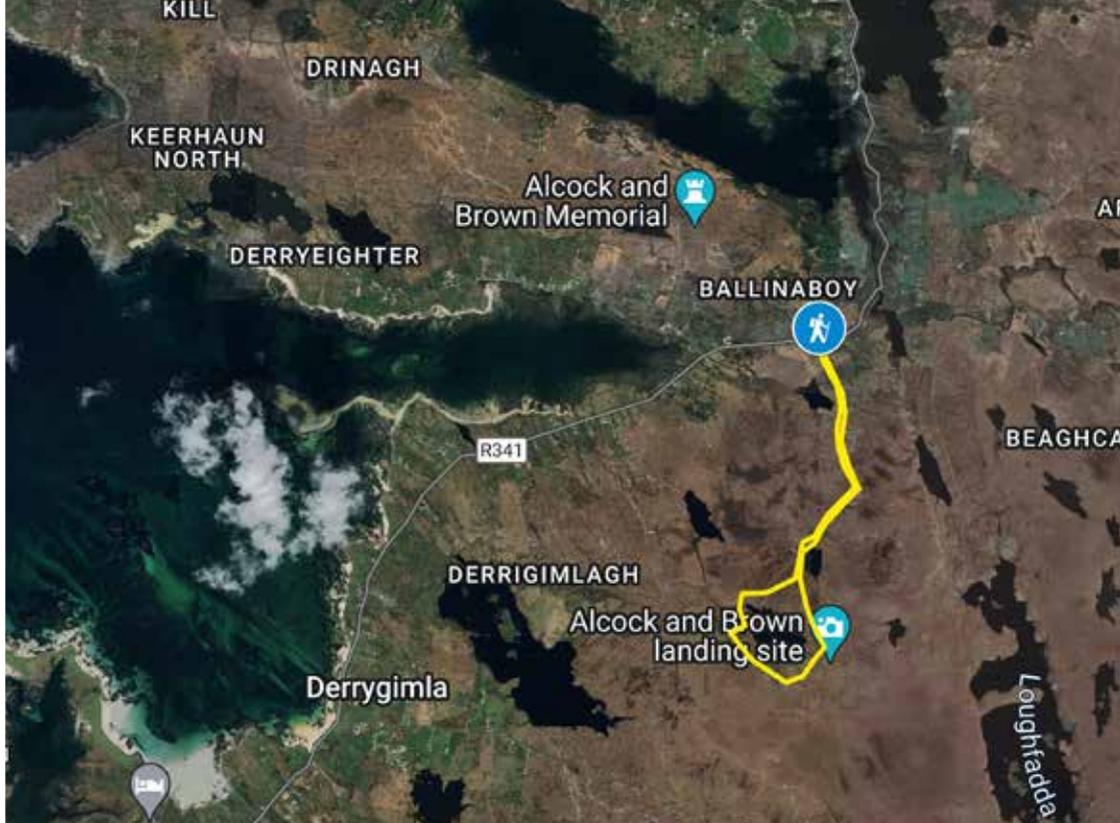
This walk begins in Leenane village walking on the Westport road and past Leenane Cultural Centre.

The parallel patterns seen on some of the steepest slopes of Bengorm are faint traces of old cultivation ridges. It is a long time since these were used, some dating to the time of the Great Famine of the 1840's. The way descends towards the Glenagevla River. Cross the bridge before turning right. Follow the road into a sheltered valley. On the left is Binn Garbh or the Rough Summit (called the Devil's Mother on most maps).

As you reach the turn in the road you will see the entire valley is protected by a ridge running unbroken from Binn Garbh around to Letterbrickaun. This feature is typical of a glacial valley, scoured and scraped and deepened by the moving ice sheet, which had its origin at the head of the valley under the ridge. The road heads back along the river, through the village of Glanagevla (Gleann na nGeimhleach), or the valley of the prisoners.

Ahead we again see Bengorm with the Sheeffry Hills behind and to the east. You will soon return to the bridge which was crossed earlier and, turning left, begin to retrace our steps towards Leenane.





## DERRIGIMLAGH WALK

Distance: 5km    Time: 1 hour    Level: Easy    Route Shape: Looped

*A 30 minute drive from Renvyle House to Derrigimlagh: GPS Coordinates on Google Maps 53°27'40.7"N 10°01'24.4"W*

Uncover two significant events of 20th century history here at Derrigimlagh Bog. Follow the pathway and you will find engaging points along the way with interesting history.

Along this walk you will see a white aeroplane wing-shaped memorial to Alcock and Brown, who crash landed, uninjured, into Derrigimlagh Bog in 1919 at the end of the first non-stop flight across the Atlantic.

Onwards you will then pass the scattered remnants of the world's first permanent trans-Atlantic radio station, built by Marconi more than a century ago and burned to the ground during the Irish War of Independence. At its peak it employed several hundred people, transmitting world news across the ocean.

Derrigimlagh is a wonderful example of a European wetland environments as it has a blanket bog (peatlands) providing a rich biodiversity of species. The site also has archaeology, dating back over 6,000 years.



**When walking, please respect the countryside and....**

Wear comfortable, appropriate shoes and bring some rainwear.

Inform someone where you are going and an approximate time of return.

Bring back all your own rubbish.

Take care of the flora and fauna in the area.

Please respect the land, the fencing and the walls in this area as these belong to somebody.

**Thank you and have a safe and lovely walk.**

This booklet is for guideline information only.

Information may have changed since this publication



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