

The Copper Coast Geopark County Waterford, Ireland

Trail card - Dunhill



> The obelisk

> Walk 3 - Reisk and Ballymoate (cont.)

Return to the road, turn right and walk on about a kilometre straight past a T-junction. A private road on the right leads to a passage grave. Continuing along the road, Reisk medieval church ruin is shortly after a junction left up a short laneway on right. It has some interesting headstones with vernacular art passion symbols.

> Passion symbols on headstone at Reisk medieval church



> Back to the road turn left and then shortly right at the earlier junction, for a meandering walk off the beaten track. Note on the left a shrine to Sean O'Rourke. Further on to the right is a conical hill (possibly a Norman Motte) and beyond a huge standing-stone (function unknown). On further one can visit Ballymoat gardens. Stride out now and keep going left. The old ruin on the left was once a dance hall. At the crossroads again turn left. You are a half hour's pleasant walk from Dunhill.

Cover photo: Dunhill Castle

Photo credits: Des Cowman (Reisk church headstone), Keith Fitzgerald (cover), John Galloway (Ballinageeragh dolmen, the Obelisk), Sophie Préteselle (Annestown beach, wetland project).



> Annestown beach

> Walk 3 - Reisk and Ballymoate - about 10 km

Take the Tramore road going east from the village. At the bridge one can see wetlands and waterworks on both sides. Keep going uphill about a kilometre, past the G.A.A. (Hurling and Gaelic football) sports field and the D.F.B.A. Enterprise Centre. Take the second lane to the right and after about 200 meters, peering over a ditch left one can find a double banked ring-fort, the overgrown remnants of an Iron Age defended farm.

For Further Information

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a story captured in stone

> Walk 1 - Dolmens - about 3km

Walk up the hill past the side of Harneys' pub and after the school turn left. After about a kilometre there is a lane to the right. A short walk to the end and, in the field to the right stands Ballinageeragh Dolmen, from the late Stone Age. Return to the public road and continuing walk to the "T"- junction, turning left and then left again for a pleasant walk back to Dunhill. As you approach the village look out for the broken dolmen in a field to the right.

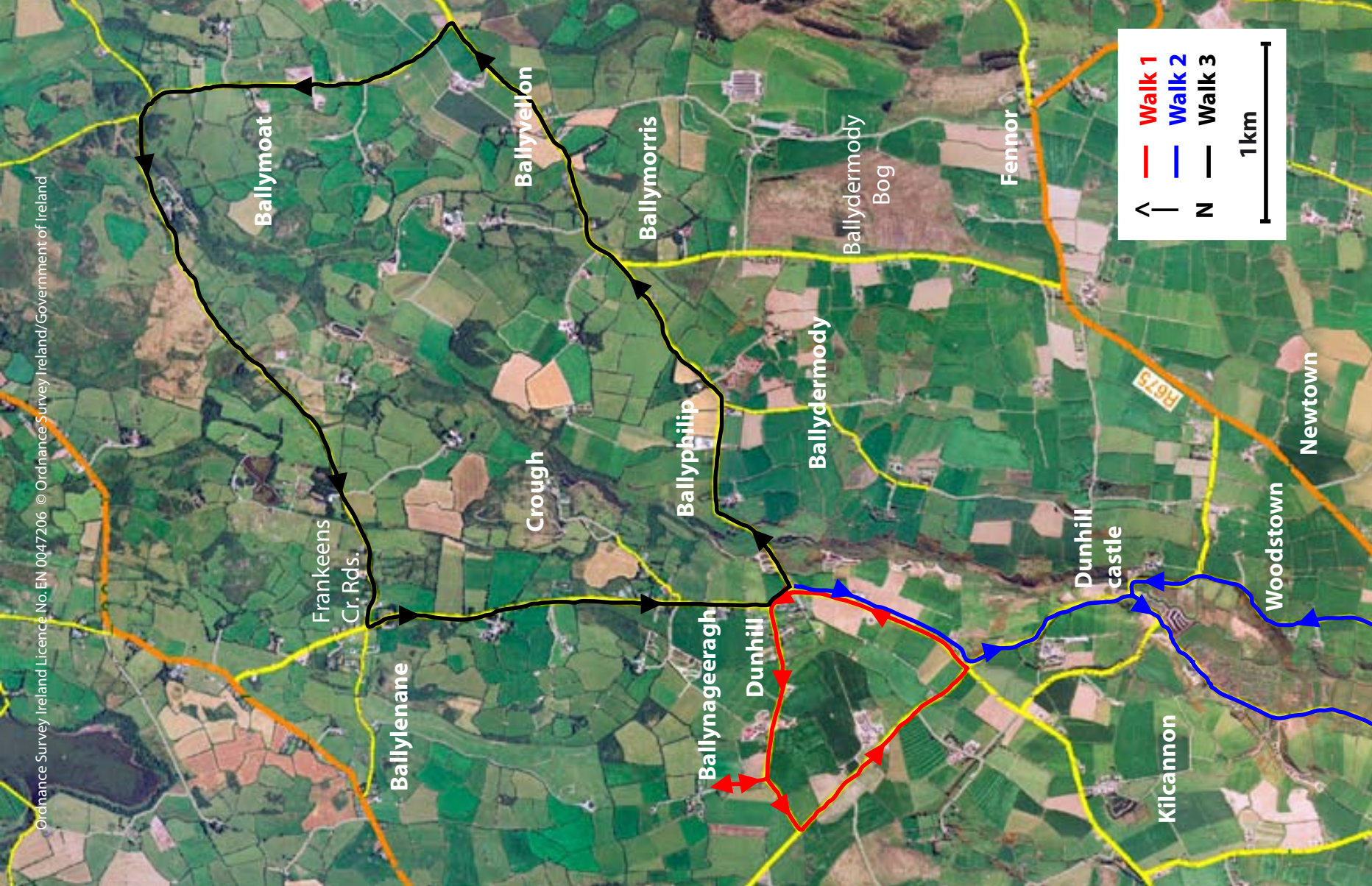


> Ballinageeragh dolmen

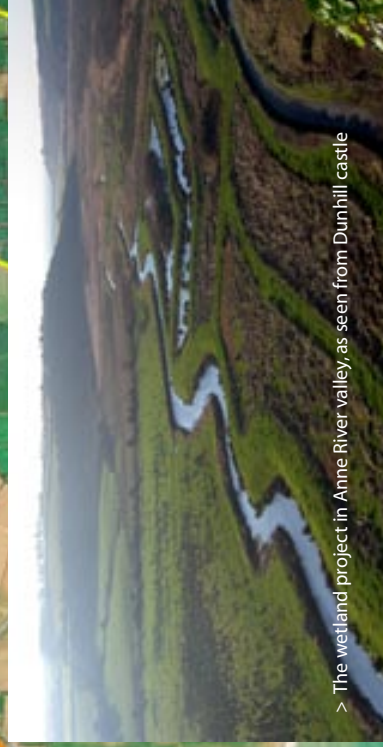
> Walk 2 - Dunhill Castle and Anne River - about 7km

Set off with the church to the right. This was built in 1884 though the belfry dates back to an older church in 1820. Walking on past the farm buildings on to the left stands a 4000 year old Stone Age burial place (Dunhill Dolmen). The capstone on this dolmen weighs about 30 tons and seems to have been too heavy or the support stones underneath. Walking up and over the top of the hill, turn left at the crossroads to descend to the valley of the Anne River. Dunhill Castle looms on the right and is in community ownership. It is accessible by steps from the valley floor and information boards outline its history as well as interpreting the present spectacular ruin.

The castle area affords a panorama along the valley while below lie the reed-beds and ponds of a "wet-lands" project which insures that any seepage from the farms above is filtered before flowing into the Anne River. A short walk left from the top of the steps leads to the remains of the medieval church. Like the castle it was deliberately destroyed but the stairs within the original tower lie diagonally, miraculously intact.



↑ N
 — Walk 1
 — Walk 2
 — Walk 3
 1km



> The wetland project in Anne River valley, as seen from Dunhill castle