



Walk 2 - Coastal Mining Trail - about 1½h - circular walk

Follow the Walk 1 but continue eastwards after the bridge.

There is a mining tub on the right followed by the Geological Garden with Ogham Stone solar alignment (see information panels). The three-storey building once was mine manager's house. Follow the road round by the stark remains of dressing yards on the left where the crushing of the ore took place.

>The Ogham Stone

Bear right at cross roads and up-hill to the Slip. Have a little detour down to the right to view mine openings on cliff and copper staining. Back on the road pass the copper storage yard and then up-hill with the main abandoned mineshafts at Knockmahon (Knock = hill over) on the right and continue past the railway ramp.

The ruins of Tankardstown Engine Houses and chimney come in sight uphill on the left with the railway cutting on the right. This was used to bring the ore down to the dressing yards.

The highlight of this walk will be the visit to the engine house complex. Information boards explain the entire process there. The landscaped surroundings with their coastal vistas are a feature in themselves.

From here one can return the same way, with spectacular coast views as far as Mine Head to the west. Or, following the coast road and taking first left one proceeds along a typical quiet meandering country road to a cross roads. First left again and down a valley, past another engine house, Tankardstown North, and Bonivy mine on the left and back to Bunmahon enjoying the fine coastal views (photo below).



>Tankardstown Engine Houses



> Tranamore



Walk 3 - Cliff top - short walk

Turning left from the car park; follow the untarred road straight up the hill along the top of the cliffs. Five minutes walk brings one above the spectacular Tranamore (inappropriately, "Beach of the cattle"). On the right are complex volcanic features and on left old red sandstone. Immediately below a sea stack stands on the beach. Tracks lead to the beach and along the tops of the cliffs around. Be very careful!

Cover photo: The cliffs at Tankardstown

Photo credits: Des Cowman (Tankardstown), Richard Cutbill (Tranamoe), Michael O'Meara (Fauheen church), Sophie Prêteseille (cover, ogham stone and geological garden).



The Copper Coast Geopark County Waterford, Ireland Trail card - Bunmahon

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a story captured in stone



> Fauheen church



Bunmahon walks begin at the beach car park.

➤ Walk 1 - Inland Trail - about 1h - circular walk

Starting at the car park one sees across the road the facades of the miners' cottages Eastwards across the River Mahon that gives its name to Bunmahon (*Bun* = end of). The bridge here replaced what is reputed to be the first reinforced concrete bridge in Ireland, built in 1906. Stop at local Titanic memorial and go left here to Church of Ireland (Geopark Centre and Bistro from 2008). The terrace of houses on the right was where mine-management lived.

Take the first left uphill about 1km to an open mine shaft (sometimes overgrown) and a further kilometre to narrow road to right and down this to bottom of valley. Before crossing the stream, the scant remains of a medieval Cistercian monastery lie on the right and ahead and the tiny Fauheen church with its interesting graveyard.

Continue uphill on the other side of the valley onto a tarred road and turn right. Enjoy fine views of Bunmahon Bay as one proceeds downhill.

At the Catholic Church, which was a miners' Temperance Hall, one can turn right to starting point at Church of Ireland or straight and right to village. Going that way allows a visit to the Geological Garden and a rest on the Copper Coast table and seats...



> Rocks in the geological garden