



Trailhead	Grand Gates to Castlemorris Woods, Aghaviller, Co Kilkenny
Services	Knocktopher (8km)
Dist/Time	6km / 1hr- 1hr30mins
Ascent	30m
Difficulty	Easy
Terrain	Forestry road, grasslands, minor roadways
To Suit	All levels of fitness
Minimum Gear	Trekking shoes and fluid

Directions to Trailhead

Starting in Kilkenny City take the M9 Motorway south in the direction of Waterford. Take the exit marked "Knocktopher" and proceed in the direction of Newmarket. After 3km take a right turn onto the R701 and proceed 1km. The trailhead is on the right hand side of the road and the entrance to the wood is on the left hand side. [Note: The trailhead is signposted from Knocktopher.]

Walks Directions

A-B. Starting from the **car park opposite the Grand Gates**, enter Castlemorris Woods and pass the Gate Lodge to reach a metal stile. Cross the stile to join a forestry road and follow the red (and green and purple) arrows. The green and purple arrows are for other loops. Follow the forest road for over 1km reach an **archway** through which stone outbuildings (which were part of the courtyard of Castlemorris House) are visible. The shorter green loop turns left here – you turn right following the red (and purple) arrows.

B-C. The loop now takes you around Castlemorris House and, after approximately 1km, joins a **minor public road** where the purple loop turns right – but you turn left following the red arrow.

C-D. After only 500m along the surfaced road you reach a **3-way junction** where you rejoin the purple loop and veers left.

D-E. After approximately 200m both loops (red and purple) turn left and enter **Castlemorris Wood** by way of a metal barrier. At this point you are just short of Aghaviller Church and Round Tower – 200m along the surfaced road. If you decide to visit the site, remember to return to this junction.

E-F. Only 500m along this final section of the loop you rejoin the green loop as it comes in from the left. Another 500m takes you to a crossroads of forest tracks where you turn left onto a narrow track.

F-A. Follow this winding track to emerge on a forestry road only 200m from the trailhead. Turn right and enjoy the short trek back!

Scan* the QR code opposite with your smartphone (iphone etc) and it will link to the Trail Kilkenny App. Download the app for a free interactive guide to the best walking, cycling, food and craft trails in Kilkenny *free QR reader apps can be downloaded from the app store by searching for "QR reader"



www.discoverireland.ie/walking





Trailhead 33

Loop 33b

Castlemorris Wood – Holly Loop

10m
Easy
Forestry roads

- A Car park
- B Minor road
- C 3-way junction
- D Castlemorris Wood

