



SUNDAY 26TH SEPTEMBER - FRIDAY 1ST OCTOBER

2021
PROGRAMME



If you enjoy walking, you'll love Walk the Isle of Man! Whether you are a seasoned hiker who knows the Island well, or you are here for the first time to experience our magnificent landscapes and spectacular coastlines, Walk the Isle of Man promises a feast of sights and sounds, experiences and adventures, to treasure forever.

Our 2021 programme contains a superb choice of six walks on Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday and three pop-up walks on Wednesday - covering a mixture of easy, moderate and moderate plus routes - designed to appeal to all levels of walker. Simply select one walk per day. You can scale up as the week goes on, or take some days more leisurely than others. It's entirely up to you.

Each walk will be led by experienced walk leaders. Please note, you will be responsible for bringing your own food and refreshments.

ABOUT US

Walk The Isle of Man is organised by the Island's leading events company, Isle of Man Event Services, together with Go-Mann Adventures, which is run by expert walking guide Dr Andrew Foxon. Andrew is a qualified Isle of Man Tour Guide (Guild of Manx Registered Tour Guides) and a Hill & Moorland Leader (Mountain Training Association) with a background in archaeology & landscape history and a passion for the outdoors. The programme has been put together with the help and support of the Manx Footpaths Conservation Group. The perfect combination for our great selection of walks!

We are supported by an experienced and capable team of Isle of Man-based walk leaders, who know the Island intimately. You'll be in safe and knowledgeable hands throughout.



WELCOME

Arrival: 7.30pm | Sunday 26th September 2021

Your rendezvous will be at The Palace Hotel, on the famous promenade in Douglas, which will be hosting this year's Welcome reception. The hotel, along with the nearby Ascot Hotel and a couple of well-located B&Bs will provide your accommodation throughout the week.

During the introductory reception, you will have the chance to familiarise yourself with the routes and meet your fellow walkers, walk leaders and supporters. Tea, coffee and snacks will be provided.

FAREWELL RECEPTION

7pm | Friday 1st October 2021

Our farewell reception will provide the perfect opportunity to reconvene and reminisce. Don't miss it!

Farewell reception will be at the Palace Hotel and includes a hot buffet. (just what's required after a hard week's walking!)

TO BOOK YOUR PLACE

It couldn't be simpler! All bookings associated with Walk the Isle of Man involving travel, accommodation and activity packages are handled exclusively by the event organisers, Isle of Man Event Services. We take care of everything. Please contact Sally Helwich, Isle of Man Event Services Ltd, 15b The Village Walk, Avondale Road, Onchan, IM3 4EB

Contact Isle of Man Event Services Ltd on **01624 664460** or by email on **info@iomevents.com**

Walk the Isle of Man includes: A choice of quality accommodation, travel from your preferred port or airport, walks on every day, transport card, guides, welcome & farewell sessions, support from event organisers throughout the week.

For further information our range of services, go to: **www.iomevents.com**

WE LOOK FORWARD TO WELCOMING YOU TO WALK THE ISLE OF MAN 2021.

THE ROUTES GENERAL INFORMATION

- Walk the Isle of Man 2021 will take place between Mon 27th September – Friday 1st October. There will be a choice of 6 bookable walks on Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday. On Wednesday 29th September you can choose to spend part of the day sightseeing, have help to design a walk of your own or join one of our three afternoon and early evening pop-up walks ending with venues which provide optional catering and refreshments from fish & chips to pubs!
- All walks must be booked in advance and there will be a maximum number of 21 bookings for each walk. Should the walk you wish to do not be available, we will try to offer other choices.
- How to book: Contact Isle of Man Event Services on 01624 664460 or Email info@iomevents.com
- All walks start and finish using public transport and use the Go-Explore Card which gives free access to Isle of Man buses, steam trains, the Manx Electric Railway (MER) and the Snaefell Mountain Railway (SMR). Travel outwards on the steam train, MER and SMR has been booked. Outward journeys by bus and all return journeys are not booked and options for those journeys will be provided in advance of the event and supplied to your walk leaders and supporters.
- Most of the walks use public transport departure times between 09:00 and 10:40. When departure is before this time, it is noted at the start of the walk description.
- Please meet your walk leaders at the public transport start point for your route in plenty of time for boarding and departure (Lord Street Bus Station, Steam Railway Station, Derby Castle Manx Electric Railway Station).
- Outside the Palace Hotel on Central Promenade, there will be a gathering place for those who would like a local walker to escort them to these public transport start points, if they are unfamiliar. Please ask for the gathering time for your walk if you wish to take advantage of this service.
- Most walks should reach their finishing points before 16:00. In addition to the 3 Wednesday walks, 4 other walks are expected to finish at or after that time. An estimated finish time for each walk is given at the end of each walk description. Allowance should be made for subsequent travel time back to Douglas.
- The Isle of Man has great coastal, countryside, glen and moorland walking. The weather in late September and early October can be very variable! We recommend that you wear walking boots with good ankle support and a good grip, layers of clothing appropriate for an Island with dynamic weather systems and bring waterproofs. Traditional jeans or cotton are not recommended. Walking poles can be a real help on some of the more exposed paths and slopes.
- Please bring your own supplies of food and drink for each day.
- Some walks take place in remote areas where there are no toilet facilities, refreshment facilities or shelters.
- Participating in a walk is at your own risk. If you feel you have not enough information about a walk or what to expect, please ask before booking. Booking for a walk is assumed as consent that you are capable and ready to undertake the walk concerned.
- Please always follow the guidance of the walk leaders and supporters, keep behind

the designated walk leader and in front of the designated back marker. If you wish to leave the walk you must confirm this with the leader or back marker.

- Walk leaders and supporters reserve the right to refuse participation to any walker if, in their opinion, the walker is not safely or suitably attired, or would be unsuited to undertake the walk.
- Walk leaders and supporters have the final discretion to change the route of a walk if they feel it is necessary as a result of weather conditions, road and footpath closures, footpath conditions or other circumstances.
- On public roads, keep to the right (unless safety and the guidance of the walk leaders dictates

otherwise). Do not deviate from way-marked footpaths.

- If you have a relevant medical condition, or carry medication with you, please advise the walk leaders and supporters. This can be done in confidence and is important for your own safety on the walk and for their ability to handle any incident.
- Dogs are not allowed on the walks which are part of this event because of the proximity of livestock and farmland.
- Local walk leaders, supporters, organisers and participants may wish to take photographs during the walks and share these on social media and as part of future publicity for the Isle of Man. If you do not wish your photograph to be taken, please advise the walk leader on each walk.







WALK DESCRIPTIONS AND GRADINGS:



Located in the middle of the Irish Sea, the Isle of Man has considerable variety in its landscape which makes it a real treat for walkers. We have coastal footpaths and trails along 'natural' tracks & footpaths, countryside and glen walks, as well as hill and moorland paths, all influenced by a maritime climate. Some of the routes we use include stretches of farm track, quiet country roads or road walking. The ground we will walk on can be rough and uneven and can change quickly in the course of a single walk.

The walk descriptions below give an idea of where each walk goes, how far it is, how much height is gained along the route, a rough indication of timing, what we may see and what to expect.

The following terms have been used to give a general grading and are supported by each walk description:

-  **Easy:** Flatter or gently rolling landscape. Walking on paths, tracks and quiet country roads with average to good surfaces. Some walking on gentle slopes, sometimes with steps and stiles en route. Suitable for walkers who enjoy a leisurely stroll.
-  **Easy/Moderate:** Varying landscape with more variety and slopes, occasional short demanding slopes. Possible steps, stiles or kissing gates. Sometimes coastal routes or near cliffs. Walked at a relaxed pace with rest opportunities. Suitable for keen walkers who enjoy walking at a leisurely pace.
-  **Moderate:** Varying landscape with variety in paths and slopes. Occasional challenging slopes. Stiles, kissing gates or steps and possible uneven paths in places. Suitable for keen walkers and anyone regularly active.
-  **Moderate Plus:** Challenging walk because of height gained and/or distance covered over rough countryside. Suitable for experienced walkers who are fit and active. Expect possible steep slopes, narrow and uneven paths with stiles and kissing gates.

We offer one **Easy walk**, one **Easy/Moderate** walk, two or three **Moderate** walks and one or two **Moderate Plus** walks on each of the four main walking days (Monday 27th Sept, Tuesday 28th Sept, Thursday 30th Oct, Friday 1st Oct). The three walks starting on the afternoon of Wednesday 29th Sept are **Easy** and **Easy/Moderate**.

NB: Please be aware that most walks begin and finish on public transport. Additional time should be allowed to walk or travel from your accommodation to the public transport start point for your walk and to return to your accommodation after the walk. Please ask for further details or advice if required.

MONDAY 27TH SEPTEMBER

Monday A – Easy

Wobbly Strata and maybe Minkes: Port Soderick to Douglas via Marine Drive

7.5 km/4.5 miles. Height gained 180m/590 feet. About 3 hours walking.

Description: Linear coastal walk along the east coast of the Island on part of the Raad ny Foillan/Way of the Gull long distance coastal footpath, mostly on quiet country roads from Port Soderick to Douglas.

We take the 09:50 steam train from Douglas Railway Station (booked) to Port Soderick Station, then walk through Port Soderick Glen, one of the Island's National Glens, to Port Soderick Bay. After a steep stepped rise out of the bay, we join 'Marine Drive' and walk back to Douglas Head and Douglas on foot along the line of the former tramway exploring Douglas Head as we return on foot to Douglas harbour.

What we may see: Woodland wildlife, coastal sea birds (choughs, gulls, ravens, peregrine falcons), coastal plants, geology, sea mammals if we are lucky (in 2019 there were minke whales!), cliff and coastal views, views over Douglas and Douglas Bay, memorials on Douglas Head.



What to expect: After Port Soderick Glen, the route is mainly on the tarmacked surfaces of Marine Drive with gentle inclines and drops. Multiple steps at Port Soderick. Estimated finish time at Douglas harbour for walk is 13:10.

Monday B – Easy/Moderate

(also available as Thursday B. Extended version to Port Erin available as Tuesday C and Friday C)

Cliffs, Choughs and Chasms: Port St Mary to the Sound

8 km/5 miles. Height gained 180/590 feet. About 4 hours walking.

Description: One of the Island's favourite coastal walks in the

southwest of the Island and rated as one of the best coastal walks around the Irish Sea. Walked by Clare Balding in 'Ramblings'! Explore part of the Raad ny Foillan/Way of the Gull long distance coastal footpath. Linear walk from Port St Mary to the Sound.

We take the bus from Douglas to Port St Mary (not booked) and walk along the spectacular coastal cliffs and bays round the southwest corner of the Isle of Man past the geological fissures known as the Chasms and by two Iron Age promontory forts to the Sound, overlooking the Calf of Man and Kitterland. A bus is available from the Sound to Port Erin for return to Douglas by steam train (not booked) or bus (not booked). Recommended outward transport times and options for return to

be provided when timetables are confirmed.

What we may see: Coastal wildlife, sea birds, gulls, choughs, ravens, grey seals at the Sound. Geology. Iron Age promontory forts.

What to expect: Mostly natural footpath along the coast and cliff, moorland areas, rocky surfaces. Café and toilets at the Sound. Estimated finish time for walk at the Sound is 14:20.

Monday C - Moderate

The Albert Tower Amble: Ramsey Glens and Albert Tower

9.5 km/6 miles. Height gained 160 m/525 feet. About 3.5 hours walking.

Description: Mainly woodland and upland circular walk on footpaths, starting and finishing in the town of Ramsey.

We take the bus (not booked) to Ramsey and then walk along part of the famous TT course through Parliament Square and parts of Ramsey. We then enjoy some woodland walking which leads into Elfin Glen and to the Albert Tower, stopping en route for panoramic views of the North of the Island. From the Albert Tower, we drop down to the Ballure Reservoir, through woods to the coast at Ramsey Bay where we follow the beach under the Queens Pier (high tide 10:14) and back to Market Place, Ramsey for a beer, ice

cream or cuppa. Options to travel back to Douglas by Manx Electric Railway or bus. Recommended outward transport times and options for return to be provided when timetables are confirmed.

What we may see: Ramsey town, TT course, wooded glens, woodland birds and plants, Albert Tower (built 1848) and views over the north of the Island. Sandy beach and sea birds, Queen's Pier, working and historic harbour.

What to expect: Glen and woodland walks, with a steepish rise near the beginning through Elfin Glen. Starting and finishing on urban roads and a sandy beach. Estimated finish time for the walk at Ramsey 14:10.

Monday D - Moderate

Summit to Sea: Snaefell to Ramsey via Corrans Valley

13 km/8 miles. Height gained 150 m/490 feet. About 5 hours walking.

Description: Linear hill walk over open moorland and tracks in the northeast of the Island, mostly downhill then quiet country roads and footpaths leading down from the northern hills into Ramsey.

We take the 09:40 Manx Electric Railway (booked) from Derby Castle, Douglas to Laxey and change onto the Snaefell Mountain Railway (booked) to the top of Snaefell. We then walk down the side of Snaefell to cross the

Mountain Road TT course and rise onto the slope of Clagh Ouyr, from where we follow the contours and gradually descend through open moorland and rough grazing to a quiet country road. We head north towards Ramsey with views over the northern plain and visit the Albert Tower, commemorating the visit of Prince Albert in 1847 and follow paths and roads into Ramsey for a return to Douglas by bus (not booked) or the Manx Electric Railway (not booked). Options for return transport to be provided when timetables are confirmed.

What we may see: Moorland wildlife, ravens, hen harriers, mining remains, Albert Tower, Ramsey and Ramsey Harbour

What to expect: Open hill and moorland walking, mostly downhill. Estimated finish time for walk at Ramsey 16:00.

Monday E - Moderate

The Battle of Sky Hill: Ramsey to Ramsey via Sky Hill

13 km/8 miles. Height gained 210 m/689 feet. About 4.5 hours walking.

Description: Circular inland glen, plantation and moorland walk, beginning and ending in Ramsey. We take the bus from Douglas to Ramsey (not booked) and then on to Milntown on the outskirts of Ramsey to begin our walk along Glen Auldryn road, before climbing

up through the plantation of Sky Hill. We explore the top perimeter of Sky Hill before walking down onto the Millennium Way and a memorial for the Battle of Sky Hill (1079). Our return to Ramsey takes us behind the golf course and Milntown towards Crossags and Claghbane. A lovely walk with some super views. Return to Douglas by Manx Electric Railway or bus (not booked). Recommended outward transport times and options for return to be provided when timetables are confirmed.

What we may see: Glen and plantation birds and wild plants, extensive views from Sky Hill over the north of the Island to Scotland and Cumbria. Battle of Sky Hill memorial. Milntown House.

What to expect: Quiet country road, plantation paths and tracks steadily uphill and downhill, gentle footpaths. Estimated finish time for walk at Ramsey 14:45.



Monday F – Moderate Plus

Mysterious Tholtans: Snaefell to Ballaugh via Killabrega

**16 km/10 miles. Height gained
210 m/688 feet. About 5.5 hours
walking.**

**NB: Early start! This walk will
require the 08:40 Manx Electric
Railway from Derby Castle,
Douglas.**

Description: A great mix of moorland, plantation and quiet country road walking exploring tholtans (abandoned farmsteads and cottages) as we travel on this linear route through the Island's northwest hills.

We take the 08:40 Manx Electric Railway tram (booked) from Derby Castle, Douglas to Laxey and change to the Snaefell Mountain Railway (booked) to travel the easy way to the top of Snaefell (621 m/ 2034 feet). We then cross

open, rough grazing and moorland down the side of Snaefell to the plantations around Tholt-e-Will Glen and explore the remains of abandoned farmsteads and cottages (tholtans) at Sharragh Vane, Craig Mooar and Killabrega. Crossing over the Druidale Road and a stretch of moorland, we head northwest and downhill through Ballaugh Plantation to a welcome refreshment stop in Ballaugh. Return to Douglas by bus (not booked) via Peel or Ramsey. Recommended options for return to be provided when timetables are confirmed.

What we may see: Hill and moorland wildlife, ravens, hen harriers, hares, plantations.

What to expect: Hill and moorland walk over rough grazing and moorland, plantation trails and a small amount of quiet country road walking. Steep slopes down and up. Estimated finish time for walk at Ballaugh 15:30.

TUESDAY 28TH SEPTEMBER



Tuesday A - Easy

Babbling Glens: Glen Mona to Cornaa Halt via Ballaglass Glen

**6.5 km/4 miles. Height gained
100 m/328 feet. About 3 hours
walking.**

Description: Linear woodland walk in the northeast of the Island through Glen Mona and Ballaglass Glen on footpaths and quiet country lanes.

We take the 09:40 Manx Electric Railway (booked) from Derby Castle, Douglas to Glen Mona and

follow paths and a quiet country lane through woodland to the coast at Port Cornaa, then head up the other side of the Cornaa Valley to one of the nicest wooded glens in the Island – Ballaglass Glen. On the way, we pass industrial archaeological heritage from mining, milling and manufacturing.

We return to Douglas by the Manx Electric Railway from Cornaa Halt/ Cornaa International! (not booked). Options for return transport to be provided when timetables are confirmed.

What we may see: Rich lane-side verges, woodland wildlife, shingle beach and coastal wildlife at Port Cornaa, 'bellite' explosives works, mills and mining remains, Ballaglass Glen.

What to expect: Gently sloping quiet country lanes and footpaths. Estimated finish time for walk at Cornaa Halt 13:20.



Tuesday B – Easy/Moderate

Victorian Wonders: Groudle Glen

8 km/5 miles. Height gained 60 m/196 feet. About 3.5 hours walking.

Description: Circular walk with a coastal start then through an inland glen, returning to the coast. We take the 10:40 Manx Electric Railway (booked) from Derby Castle, Douglas for a short journey to Groudle and start our walk at the beach. We follow the



riverside through Groudle Glen, one of the Island's National Glens and towards Molly Quirk's Glen, returning by the railway station for the Groudle Glen Railway to the coast, with a possible visit to the sealion cages. Return to Douglas on foot or on the Manx Electric Railway (not booked). Options for return transport to be provided when timetables are confirmed.

What we may see: Shingle beach, wooded glen and woodland wildlife, wetland plants, Groudle Glen Railway.

What to expect: Glen walking on a range of path surfaces. Estimated finish time for walk at Groudle 14:30.



Tuesday C - Moderate

(also available as Friday C. Shorter version stopping at the Sound available as Monday B and Thursday B)

Southern Coastal Splendours: Port St Mary to Port Erin via the Sound

12 km/7.5 miles. Height gained 270 m/886 feet. About 5 hours walking.

Description: One of the Island's favourite linear coastal walks in the southwest of the Island and rated as one of the best coastal walks around the Irish Sea. Walked by Clare Balding in 'Ramblings'! Explore part of the Raad ny Foillan/Way of the Gull long distance coastal footpath. We take the bus from Douglas to Port St Mary (not booked) and walk

along the spectacular coastal cliffs and bays round the southwest corner of the Isle of Man past the geological fissures known as the Chasms and by two Iron Age promontory forts to the Sound, overlooking the Calf of Man and Kitterland, then continue up the west coast to Port Erin Bay and Port Erin. Return by steam train (not booked) or bus (not booked) to Douglas. Recommended outward transport times and options for return to be provided when timetables are confirmed.

What we may see: Coastal wildlife, sea birds, gulls, choughs, ravens, grey seals at the Sound. Geology. Iron Age promontory forts.

What to expect: Mostly natural footpath along the coast and cliff, moorland areas, rocky surfaces. Café and toilets at the Sound. Estimated finish time for walk at Port Erin 15:20.



Tuesday D - Moderate

A Fort, A Lighthouse and a Castle: Ballasalla to Castletown via Langness

13 km/8 miles. Height gained 110 m/360 feet. About 5 hours walking.

Description: Linear coastal and riverside walk in the south of the Island, mostly following part of the Raad ny Foillan/Way of the Gull long distance coastal footpath but also some riverside walking. We take the 09:50 steam train (booked) from Douglas Railway

Station to Ballasalla and then head through the outskirts of the village to reach the coast next to Ronaldsway airport. The route then follows the coast through Derbyhaven, onto the long peninsula of Langness and the little rocky outcrop of St Michael's Isle with its chapel and Civil War fort. We head south on the rugged east side of Langness and back through the bird reserve and ASSI at Sandwick round the bay to Castletown, the Island's former capital. Return to Douglas by bus or steam train (not booked). Options for return transport to be provided when timetables are confirmed.

What we may see: Limestone and volcanic rock, coastal wildlife, sea birds, gulls, choughs, ravens, salt marsh species, ducks, waders, herons, 12th/13th century chapel, Civil War fort, Langness lighthouse, Castle Rushen.

What to expect: Coastal and riverside walking on open ground, footpaths and quiet country roads mainly on the flat. Estimated finish time for walk at Castletown 15:30.



Tuesday E - Moderate

Winding our Way to Laxey: Snaefell to Laxey via Slieau Lhean

10.5 km/6.5 miles. Height gained 80 m/263 feet. About 4 hours walking.

Description: Downhill linear walk over open moorland in the northeast of the Island, starting at



the Island's highest peak and then on moorland paths and tracks to Laxey village.

We take the 10:10 Manx Electric Railway tram (booked) from Derby Castle, Douglas to Laxey and change to the Snaefell Mountain Railway (booked) to travel the easy way to the top of Snaefell (621 m/2034 feet). We then cross open rough grazing and moorland on tracks down the side of Snaefell to cross the Mountain Road (route of the famous TT motor racing course). After rising up the shoulder near Clagh Ouyr, we take a track which skirts Slieau Lhean and then drops through pastureland to the village of Laxey and time to look at the harbour, the Laxey Visitor Centre or the Great Laxey Wheel. Return to Douglas by bus or Manx Electric Railway. Recommended options for return to be provided when timetables are confirmed.

What we may see: Hill and moorland wildlife, ravens, hen harriers, hares.

What to expect: Mainly hill and moorland walk over rough grazing and moorland, track walking through pastureland. Pavements in Laxey on arrival. Estimated finish time for walk at Laxey 15:30.



Tuesday F - Moderate Plus

Trust us, the views are worth it: Ballafesson to Colby via Cronk ny Arrey Laa

16 km/10 miles. Height gained 570 m/1870 feet. About 6 hours walking.

NB: Early start! This walk will require a bus departing from Douglas between 08:51 (Douglas Promenade) and 09:10 (Lord St).

Description: Mix of hill walking over open moorland and rural footpaths and quiet country roads in the south west of the Island. Linear walk. We take the bus (not booked) to Ballafesson and head onto the hills through Surby, joining a stretch of the Raad ny Foillan/Way of the Gull long distance footpath to rise to the peak of Cronk ny Arrey Laa (437 metres/1434 feet). We take a different route from the summit and head for the Sloc and then a mix of tracks, footpaths and quiet country roads which lead through Ballakilpheric and Colby Glen to Colby. Return to Douglas by bus or steam train. Recommended options for return to be provided when timetables are confirmed.

What we may see: Hill and moorland wildlife, ravens, hen harriers, hares. Extensive views over the south and west of the Island.

What to expect: Partly hill and moorland walk over rough grazing and moorland, then rural tracks and paths through pasture and a final glen walk. Estimated finish time for walk at Colby 16:00.

WEDNESDAY 29TH SEPTEMBER

During the morning and early afternoon you can spend your time sightseeing, visit a historical site, or go for an independent walk before joining one of our pop-up walks below.



Wednesday Supper Walk A - Easy

The Crosby Pub: Crosby to Crosby via the King's Forest

6.5 km/4 miles. Height gained 300 m/984 feet. About 2.5 hours walking.

Description: A circular walk along the old Douglas-Peel railway line, then up into the King's Forest Plantation and back to Crosby with an appetite!

We take the bus from Douglas to Crosby (not booked) and follow the line of the old steam railway westwards from Crosby. Crossing the TT course, we head northwards into King's Forest (Greeba Plantation) and take a circular walk through the plantation returning to Crosby and the Crosby Pub. Return to Douglas by bus (not booked). Recommended options for return to be provided when timetables are confirmed.

What we may see: Inland birds and wildlife, plantations, views over the centre and south of the Island. The Crosby pub is on the TT course.

What to expect: Low level start on an old railway line track, then rising on plantation tracks and back to the village of Crosby. Estimated finish time for walk at Crosby Pub 18:00.



Wednesday Supper Walk B - Easy/Moderate

Fish and chip supper by the sea in Peel: Peel Castle, Peel Hill and back to Peel Promenade

6.5 km/4 miles. Height gained 150 m/492 feet. About 2.5 hours walking.

Description: A circular walk from Peel Castle over Peel Hill and back the easy way to Peel Promenade and time for fish and chips! We take the bus from Douglas to Peel (not booked) – or meet you in Peel beside Peel Castle – to head past Fenella Beach and onto Peel Hill with views over Peel and the west of the Island. We pass Corrin's Tower and then drop down past Knockaloe Farm to the old railway line from Peel to Douglas for a return to Peel Promenade and a range of places to eat and drink. Return to Douglas by bus (not booked). Recommended options for return to be provided when timetables are confirmed.

What we may see: Peel Castle, Peel Hill, Corrin's Tower, coastal and upland birds and plants, Knockaloe Farm and former internment camp, Glenfaba mill, Peel Promenade.

What to expect: Open rising hill paths at the start, returning on quiet country tracks and paths. Estimated finish time for walk at Peel Promenade 18:00.



Wednesday Supper Walk C - Easy

Fish and chip supper on the Prom in Onchan: Douglas Prom via Summerhill Glen and Onchan Head to Port Jack

6.5 km/4 miles. Height gained 100 m/328 feet. About 2.5 hours walking.

Description: For those who want to start and finish in the Douglas and Onchan area and end with fish and chips at Port Jack, Onchan. A circular stroll for those who want to be around the capital!

We start from outside the Palace Hotel, Central Promenade and walk northwards to Summerhill Glen, a lovely themed urban glen. This leads us into Onchan village and short tour of this community before we head for the coast at Port Jack and the Port Jack chippy with great views over Douglas Bay. Stroll back downhill on the coast to Douglas Promenade.

What we may see: Beach wildlife, Summerhill Glen, Onchan village, Port Jack and views over Douglas bay.

What to expect: Mostly on urban pavements with paths through Summerhill Glen. Estimated finish time for walk at Port Jack 18:30.

THURSDAY 30TH SEPTEMBER

Thursday A - Easy

Volcanoes and Vikings:
Castletown circular via
Scarlett Head

**8 km/5 miles. Height gained
50 m/164 feet. About 3.5 hours
walking.**

Description: An exploration of coastal geology and archaeology in a 'Volcanoes and Vikings' circular walk in the southeast of the Island.

We take the 09:50 Steam Railway from Douglas Railway Station (booked) to Castletown Station and then walk along a stretch of the Silverburn to medieval Castle Rushen and Castletown Bay. As we head west onto Scarlett Head, we move from limestone rocks to ones of volcanic origin and round a headland with WWII defences, Iron Age and early Christian sites and the place where stone for some of the steps in St Paul's Cathedral were quarried. At Chapel Hill, Balladoole we see the sites of a bronze age burial, an Iron Age fort, an early Christian chapel and a Viking ship burial, before returning to Castletown past the 'witches mill'. Return to Douglas by bus (not booked) or steam train (not booked). Options for return to be provided when timetables are confirmed.



What we may see: A wealth of geology, archaeology, coastal and limestone plants and birdlife.

What to expect: Coastal track, stiles, footpath and open fields with one stretch of quiet country road. Estimated finish time for walk at Castletown 14:15.

Thursday B - Easy/Moderate

*(also available as Monday B.
Extended version to Port Erin
available as Tuesday C and
Friday C)*

Cliffs, Choughs and
Chasms: Port St Mary to
the Sound

**8 km/5 miles. Height gained
180/590 feet. About 4 hours
walking.**

Description: One of the Island's favourite linear coastal walks in the southwest of the Island and rated as one of the best coastal walks around the Irish Sea. Walked by Clare Balding in 'Ramblings'! Explore part of the Raad ny Foillan/Way of the Gull long distance coastal footpath.

We take the bus from Douglas to Port St Mary (not booked) and walk along the spectacular coastal cliffs and bays round the southwest corner of the Isle of Man, past the geological fissures known as the Chasms and by two Iron Age promontory forts to the Sound, overlooking the Calf of Man and Kitterland. A bus is available from the Sound to Port Erin for return by steam train (not booked) or bus (not booked) to Douglas. Recommended outward transport times and options for return to



be provided when timetables are confirmed.

What we may see: Coastal wildlife, sea birds, gulls, choughs, ravens, grey seals at the Sound. Geology. Iron Age promontory forts.

What to expect: Mostly natural footpath along the coast and cliff, moorland areas, rocky surfaces. Café and toilets at the Sound. Estimated finish time for walk at the Sound 14:20.

Thursday C - Moderate

King of the Mountain: Crosby to Crosby via Greeba Mountain

13 km/8 miles. Height gained 470 m/ 1542 feet. About 4.5 hours walking.

Description: Circular moorland and plantation walk in the centre of the Island.

We take the bus from Douglas to Crosby (not booked) and follow a stretch north of the Millennium Way long distance footpath, then head up onto open moorland to reach the summits of Slieau Roy (479 m/1572 feet) and Greeba Mountain (422 m/1384 feet). From these heights, we drop down through plantation (the King's Forest) and return past St Trinian's medieval chapel to Crosby for a return to Douglas by bus (not booked). Recommended outward transport times and options for return to be provided when timetables are confirmed.

What we may see: Open country with farmland, moorland and plantation. Views from Slieau Roy and Greeba Mountain. Moorland wildlife and local folklore for Greeba Mountain and St Trinian's Chapel.

What to expect: Some road walking but mainly hill paths

with a steep ascent and descent. Estimated finish time for walk at Crosby 15:00.

Thursday D - Moderate

West Coast Wonders: Peel – Knockaloe – Glen Maye – Peel Hill

13.5 km/8.5 miles. Height gained 420 m/1378 feet. About 5 hours walking.

Description: A great mix of inland and coastal walking in the west of the Island on this circular walk beginning and finishing in Peel, the main harbour on the west coast.

We take the bus (not booked) to Peel Harbour then follow the quayside and old railway line before heading to Knockaloe (the site of a massive WWI internment camp) and Holy Trinity Church, Patrick. We head up a quiet

country lane and join upland tracks, which lead to the lovely national glen of Glen Maye and its spectacular waterfall. Our route then joins the Raad ny Foillan/Way of the Gull long distance coastal footpath, for our return to Peel past the 'Happy Hikers' memorial, the top of Peel Hill, Peel Castle and Peel harbour, for a return to Douglas by bus (not booked). Recommended outward transport times and options for return to be provided when timetables are confirmed.

What we may see: Coastal, riverside and inland wildlife, WWI internment heritage, church, waterfall, mining remains, 19th century tower, Peel Castle and harbour

What to expect: Riverside, inland, glen and coastal walk on footpaths and quiet country tracks. Two steeper rises. Estimated finish time for walk at Peel 15:20.



Thursday E - Moderate

Where's Wallaby?: Wildlife Park to Ballaugh via Ballaugh Curragh

13 km/8 miles. Height gained 100 m/328 feet. About 4.5 hours walking.

Description: Linear walk exploring the Ballaugh Curraghs: a RAMSAR convention wetland area and home to red-necked wallabies living wild. For those that like a bit of a view, there's a hillfort thrown in as well!

We take the bus from Douglas to the Wildlife Park (not booked), then follow the line of the old Northern Manx Railway eastwards to Sulby to climb Cronk Sumark/Primrose Hill, a hillfort with great views over the north of the Island. Using quiet country roads, we head for Ballaugh Curragh, a unique wetland environment on the Isle of Man, recognised as being of international importance. Boardwalk trails lead through this extraordinary landscape and our route provides the opportunity to look for red-necked wallabies who now live wild in this area. We walk to Ballaugh for a return to Douglas. Options for return transport to be provided when timetables are confirmed.

What we may see: Wetland plants, birds and animals, red-necked wallabies, hillfort and views over the north of the Island.

What to expect: Mostly on flat ground on quiet country roads, tracks and boardwalks, with one steep rise to the top of Cronk Sumark. Estimated finish time for walk at Ballaugh 15:00.



Thursday F - Moderate Plus

Coast to Coast: Kirk Michael to Laxey

17.5 km/11 miles. Height gained 660 m/2165 feet. About 7 hours walking.

NB: Early start! This walk will require a bus departing from

Douglas Lord St B at 08:02.

Description: A great treat for those who like moorland and hill walking, this linear route goes over some of the northern hills from the northwest coast at Kirk Michael to the east coast at Laxey.

We take the bus from Douglas to the Kirk Michael (not booked) and head for the beach to begin our walk at sea level. Passing through Kirk Michael, we follow the Baltic Road to the top of Slieau Curn and then to Druidale and down to Sulby Reservoir. Our next stretch takes us to the Bungalow (on the famous TT course) and then into the Laxey Glen via Agneash village to Laxey village and the beach on the Island's east coast. Return to Laxey village for bus or Manx Electric Railway to Douglas. Options for return transport to be provided when timetables are confirmed. (Option to reduce length of route by taking the Snaefell Mountain Railway from the Bungalow to Laxey, or by stopping in Laxey without heading for Laxey Bay.

What we may see: Coastal wildlife at the beginning and end, but mainly moorland birds and plants for most of the route – ravens, hen harriers, kestrels. Snaefell Mountain Railway. Mining heritage at Snaefell mine, Agneash and Laxey. Laxey harbour.

What to expect: Mostly hill and moorland walking on footpaths and tracks, with some quiet country road and track walking. Estimated finish time for walk at Laxey 16:10.

FRIDAY 1ST OCTOBER

Friday A - Easy

Roll Down the Barrel: St John's to Peel Hill via Tynwald Hill

**9.5 km/6 miles. Height gained
180 m/590 feet. About 4 hours
walking.**

Description: Inland low-level linear walk in the west of the Island, leading to the west coast and to Peel and Peel Castle over Peel Hill.

We take the bus (not booked) from Douglas to St John's and have time to explore the Royal Chapel of St John's and Tynwald Hill – the Norse outdoor assembly site used for over a thousand years. We follow the line of the old railway track and river westwards and then gradually rise up the slope of Peel Hill with views over the Island from Corrin's tower and Peel Hill, before descending to Peel Castle and Peel itself with its harbour, promenade, Cathedral and museums. Return to Douglas by bus (not booked). Recommended outward transport times and options for return to be provided when timetables are confirmed.

What we may see: St John's and Tynwald historic sites, riverside and wetland wildlife, mill, hill and coastal wildlife, grey seals near Peel Castle, Corrin's Tower, Peel



Castle, Peel harbour, Cathedral and museums.

What to expect: Easy initial walking on flat route of former railway, then gradual rise onto Peel Hill on moorland footpaths and drop to Peel harbour. Estimated finish time for walk at Peel 14:15.

Friday B – Easy/Moderate

Echoes of a Mining Past: Laxey to Laxey via Agneash

**8 km/5 miles. Height gained
260 m/853 feet. About 3.5 hours
walking.**

Description: Explore the rich

mining and farming landscape on quiet country roads and footpaths around Laxey in the east of the Island on this circular walk, with views to the hills and over Laxey Bay.

We take the 10:10 Manx Electric Railway (booked) from Derby Castle, Douglas to Laxey and then walk by the river past the Great Laxey Wheel (the largest working waterwheel in the world) and the industrial archaeology of lead and zinc mining. The steep country road leads to Agneash village and more mining heritage and then over open fields and quiet country tracks to the two Neolithic chambered tombs of King Orry's Grave. We then walk down to Laxey

Harbour and Laxey Bay and up by the river, back to Laxey Station. Return to Douglas by bus (not booked) or Manx Electric Railway (not booked). Options for return transport to be provided when timetables are confirmed.

What we may see: Industrial archaeology, mining heritage, Neolithic chambered tombs, woodland wildlife, inland and coastal views.

What to expect: Most of the route is on quiet country roads and tracks. Two steepish rises. Estimated finish time for walk at Laxey 14:30.

Friday C - Moderate

(also available as Tuesday C. Shorter version stopping at the Sound available as Monday B and Thursday B)

Southern Coastal Splendours: Port St Mary to Port Erin via the Sound

12 km/7.5 miles. Height gained 270 m/886 feet. About 5 hours walking.

Description: One of the Island's favourite linear coastal walks in the southwest of the Island and rated as one of the best coastal walks around the Irish Sea. Walked by Clare Balding in 'Ramblings'! Explore part of the Raad ny Foillan/Way of the Gull long distance coastal footpath.

We take the bus from Douglas to Port St Mary (not booked) and walk



along the spectacular coastal cliffs and bays round the southwest corner of the Isle of Man, past the geological fissures known as the Chasms and by two Iron Age promontory forts to the Sound, overlooking the Calf of Man and Kitterland, then continue up the west coast to Port Erin Bay and Port Erin. Return by steam train (not booked) or bus (not booked) to Douglas. Recommended outward transport times and options for return to be provided when timetables are confirmed.

What we may see: Coastal wildlife, sea birds, gulls, choughs, ravens, grey seals at the Sound. Geology. Iron Age promontory forts.

What to expect: Mostly natural footpath along the coast and cliff, moorland areas, rocky surfaces. Café and toilets at the Sound. Estimated finish time for walk at Port Erin 15:20.

Friday D - Moderate

Moor Glens: Dhoon Glen to Glen Mona via Ballaragh

13.5 km/8.5 miles. Height gained 320 m/1050 feet. About 5 hours walking.

Description: A mainly moorland linear walk in the east of the Island with great views on a clear day.

We take the 10:10 Manx Electric Railway from Douglas to Dhoon Glen (booked) and then follow part of the quiet Ballaragh Road and quiet country tracks to rise up onto moorland heading westwards onto The Dreem, Slieau Ruy and Slieau Lhean. We then head into the Cornaa Valley and take another track leading eastwards into Glen Mona and the opportunity for refreshments (fingers crossed!) before a return to Douglas by bus or Manx Electric Railway (not booked). Recommended outward transport times and options for return to be provided when timetables are confirmed.



What we may see: Manx Electric Railway, hill and moorland plants and birds, ravens, hen harriers, great views over to Cumbria and towards Snaefell, the Cornaa valley, North Barrule and the northern hills.

What to expect: Mostly on moorland paths and tracks with some quiet country roads at the start. Steadily rise uphill and steady downhill for arrival to Glen Mona. Estimated finish time for walk at Glen Mona 16:00.

Friday E – Moderate Plus

Across the Roof of the North: Snaefell to Ramsey via North Barrule

12 km/7.5 miles. Height gained 400 m/1312 feet. About 4.5 hours walking.

NB: Early start! This walk will require the 08:40 Manx Electric Railway from Derby Castle, Douglas.

Description: Linear hill walk over open moorland in the northeast of the Island, taking in the Island's highest peaks along a rounded ridge.

We take the 08:40 Manx Electric Railway tram (booked) from Derby Castle, Douglas to Laxey and change to the Snaefell Mountain Railway (booked) to travel the easy way to the top of Snaefell (621 m/2034 feet). We then cross open rough grazing and moorland on tracks down the side of Snaefell to cross the Mountain Road (route of the famous TT motor racing course) and then up Clagh Ouyr and on to (North) Barrule along a rounded ridge. If the weather allows, we shall be able to see not only the Northern Plain and hills, but also the 'Seven Kingdoms' – Ireland, Scotland, England, Wales, Mann, Heaven and the Sea! We head down (North) Barrule to Ballure Plantation and Reservoir and to our finishing point in Ramsey, the largest town in the north of the Island and return



to Douglas by bus (not booked) or the Manx Electric Railway (not booked). Options for return transport to be provided when timetables are confirmed.

What we may see: Hill and moorland wildlife, ravens, hen harriers, hares.

What to expect: Mainly hill and moorland walk over rough grazing and moorland, steep slopes down and up and walk along an exposed but rounded ridge. Estimated finish time for walk at Ramsey 14:30.

Friday F – Moderate Plus

Northwest Nice Spots: Ballaugh to Kirk Michael via Slieau Curn/Glen Dhoo

13 km/8 miles. Height gained 330m/1082 feet. About 5 hours walking.

Description: Up through the glen and over the hills is the story of this linear route exploring Glen Dhoo, Slieau Curn and then

heading to Kirk Michael, all in the northwest of the Island.

We take the bus from Douglas to Ballaugh (not booked) and then follow the Ballaugh Glen Road south and into the lovely Glen Dhoo. Rising onto slopes of Slieau Curn, we walk over open hill and moorland until we join the Baltic Road which leads westwards from the hills to Kirk Michael. Return to Douglas from Kirk Michael by bus. Recommended outward transport times and options for return to be provided when timetables are confirmed.

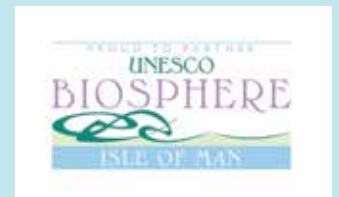
What we may see: Glen and moorland wildlife, ravens, tholtans (abandoned farmsteads and cottages), great views over the west of the Island and over Scotland and Ireland.

What to expect: Glen walking on quiet country roads, tracks and footpaths. Steepish rise to Slieau Curn and open moorland and steady downhill route to Kirk Michael. Estimated finish time for walk at Kirk Michael 14:30.



**LEAVE ONLY FOOTPRINTS,
TAKE ONLY MEMORIES**

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