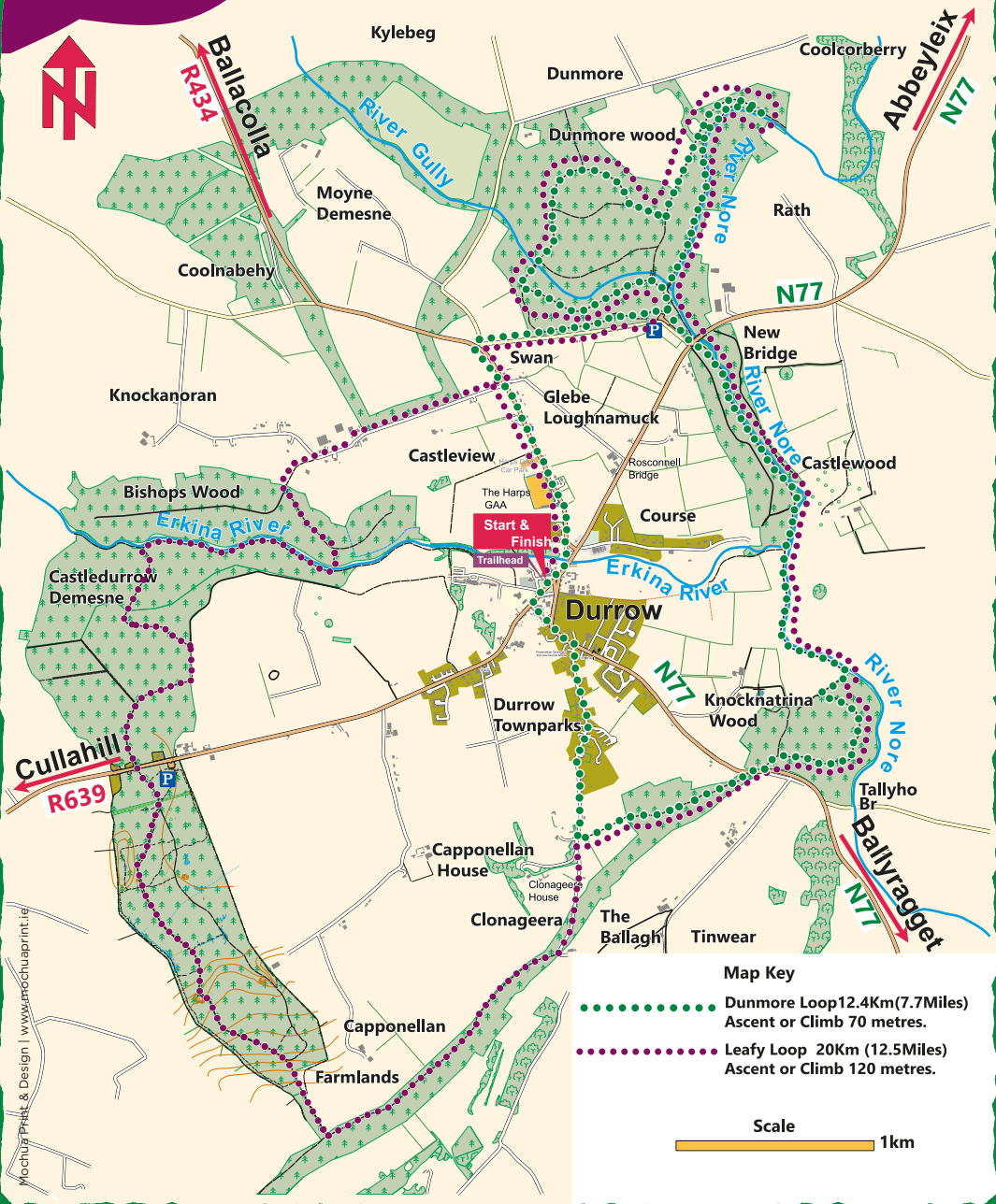




Trailhead 138

Leafy Loop and Dunmore Loop



Directions to Trailhead

The town of Durrow is situated on the N77. The trailhead is located on the village green opposite the gate to Castle Durrow.

Guiding for both Walks

Both the Leafy Loop and Dunmore Loop commence at the Trailhead in the village. From the mapboards follow both the green arrows and purple arrows on the footpath adjacent to the N77 in the direction of Portlaoise/Abbeyleix for approx. 170m. Cross the bridge over the River Erkina and follow the Swan Road (R434) for approx. 1km.

Cross the road and turn right at junction onto minor road L1652, follow the arrows through the stile which brings you into Dunmore Wood. Continue to follow the arrows as the loop meanders through Dunmore Wood adjacent to the River Nore.

Cross the N77 with caution. Continue to follow the arrows for approx. 1km along the bank of the River Nore to reach a metal gated footbridge over the River Erkina. Continue along the bank of the River Nore through some open farmland for approx 2km. The loop turns right, crossing a stile into Knocknatrina Wood. Follow the arrows to cross the N77 and proceed uphill through mature woodland. A green lane takes you back onto a surfaced road where the Loops diverge. The Dunmore loop turns right downhill for 1.5km walk along the roadway back to the village.

The Leafy Loop turns left up the Ballagh Hill and re-enters woodland on the right. Follow the arrows through the woodland to cross the R639 road with caution. Go through the metal

gates and follow the arrows until you reach the Erkina riverbank. Turn right and continue to a metal footbridge where you turn left. Follow the woodland track to join a surfaced road leading to a T-junction on the R434. Turn right and follow road back to trailhead.

These trails may have some climbs and may have an uneven surface where the going is rough underfoot with some obstacles such as protruding roots, rocks etc. The routes are appropriate for people with a moderate level of fitness and some walking experience. Specific outdoor walking footwear and clothing is recommended.

Notice

Part of this property is traversed by the Durrow Leafy Loop walk and it is on private property. Access is available by kind permission of all the landowners on the route. It is understood that persons entering by permission do so with the consent of the landowner and no matter how often they enter, or in what numbers, they do not do so as of right. No amount of expenditure by the partners to this agreement or by private individuals on the route being used will alter this position. Nothing in this notice shall impact or address any pre-existing public rights of way.

Safety Notice

Care is needed while walking on the road section and crossing the main road. Please note sections of the riverbank can be prone to flooding in adverse weather conditions. As the loops cross farmland, no dogs are allowed.

Trail Management: secretary@durrow.ie

Leafy Loop

Distance (km) 20km

Type of route Loop walk

Waymarking signs Purple arrow and one way only

Terrain Public road, country lanes, riverbank, forestry paths and woodland tracks, and steep climb on the Ballagh. Total ascent 120m

Estimated time 4.5 hours to complete the trail for the average user

Trail Grade Moderate

Min Gear Walking boots, waterproofs, fluids, snacks and mobile phone

Dunmore Loop

Distance (km) 12.4km

Type of route Loop walk

Waymarking signs Green arrow and one way only

Terrain Public road, country lanes, riverbank, forestry paths and woodland tracks. Total ascent 70m

Estimated time 3 hours to complete the trail for the average user

Trail Grade Moderate

Min Gear Walking boots, waterproofs, fluids, snacks and mobile phone