

The Bogie Line was a funicular railway. A cable attached to a pair of bogies (the iron trucks) on rails moved them up and down the one-in-three incline, the weight of the loaded descending bogie helping pull the empty bogie up.

The original Bogie Line was built by John Lynn in 1824 to carry dressed granite from a new quarry at Millstone Mountain to King Street. At the time of Newcastle's pier, one observer noted in 1840, 'other places are carrying off our trade'. As part of a general series of improvements in the area, the new North Pier was completed a decade later. This allowed 'stone' ships to berth safely while the granite transported down the Bogie Line was unloaded.

## Reaching for the top

## The Bogie Line



The "plug and feathers" technique was developed to speed up production. Single blow of a hammer wanted to split. Each wood). The stone men took pride in their work, with skills and techniques being passed down from father to son. A good stone man knew where was best to split the stone simply by looking at the grain in and around the Moynes today and this includes the ruins of smithies. A smithy was (a bit like the grain of as the "rede" of the stone be inserted along the line that the stone man into the stone. A row of these plugs would hole that had been cut (feathers) in a circular thin pieces of hard steel (plug) in between two or a small wedge of iron involved the insertion to speed up production. This traditional skill

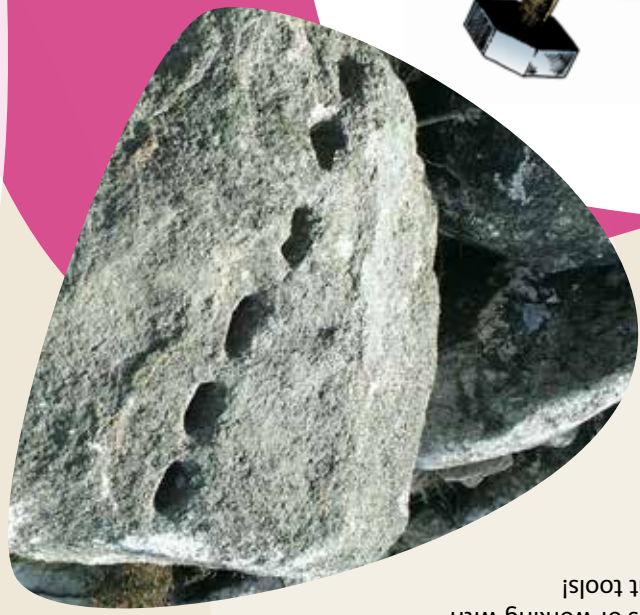
## Traditional Skills



a building that provided shelter to the stone men uncommon to see a stone man with only one eye – one of the perils of working with blunt tools! granite. Each smithy had a furnace, bellows, tools and anvil and each man was responsible for sharpening his own tools, which was an essential part of the job. Rumour has it that it wasn't



uncommon to see a stone man with only one eye – one of the perils of working with blunt tools!



## Leave No Trace

- 1 Plan ahead and prepare
  - 2 Be considerate of others
  - 3 Respect farm animals and wildlife
  - 4 Travel and camp on durable ground
  - 5 Leave what you find
  - 6 Dispose of waste properly
  - 7 Minimise the effects of fire
- Practising a Leave No Trace ethic is very simple: Make it hard for others to see or hear you and LEAVE NO TRACE of your visit!



For more information visit: [leavenotraceireland.org](http://leavenotraceireland.org)

Extensive parking is available at Donard Car Park, with limited spaces available at Newcastle Harbour. Please do not park on King Street as the road is narrow and will cause traffic congestion for residents.

## Car Parking

Newcastle is located approximately 45 minutes from Belfast and approximately 1.5 hours from Dublin.

## How to get to Newcastle



Toilets are available at the following locations:

- Donard Car Park
- Newcastle Centre
- South Promenade

## Toilets

Routes-and-Timetables/ [www.translink.co.uk/](http://www.translink.co.uk/)

## Bus Services

For information on bus services to and from the area please contact Translink:



## Mourne Mountains & Ring of Gullion

For further information on general touring, accommodation, short breaks and activity breaks please contact one of the following Visitor Information Centres or visit our website.

**Newry Visitor Information Centre**  
Bagenal's Castle  
Castle Street, Newry BT34 2BY  
T: 028 3031 3170  
[www.visitnewryandmourne.com](http://www.visitnewryandmourne.com)

**Kilkeel Visitor Information Centre**  
Nautilus Centre  
Rooney Road, Kilkeel BT34 4AG  
T: 028 4176 2525  
[www.visitkilkeel.com](http://www.visitkilkeel.com)

Email [info@visitmournemountains.co.uk](mailto:info@visitmournemountains.co.uk)

**Newcastle Visitor Information Centre**  
10-14 Central Promenade  
Newcastle BT33 0AA  
T: 028 4372 2222  
[www.downdc.gov.uk](http://www.downdc.gov.uk)

**Banbridge Visitor Information Centre**  
The Old Town Hall  
1 Scarva Street, Banbridge BT32 3DA  
T: 028 4062 0232  
[www.banbridge.com](http://www.banbridge.com)

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Thanks must go to Ernie Wilson for providing us with imagery for this leaflet.

## Mourne Mountains & Ring of Gullion

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## THE GRANITE TRAIL

## THE GRANITE TRAIL

Newcastle, County Down

The Bogie Line trail, which has a 1:3 incline, was developed in 2005 and was further extended in 2014 to link the quarries at Drinneevan, Millstone and Thomas's Mountain. This involved the development of the Drinneevan and Donard loops, which are intersected by the Bogie Line. This extended

trail includes a section of new path which has been developed, offering users the experience of a mountain trail at a relatively low level. The combination of forest roads and new trail offers the walker a varied and interesting walking experience.

Along the route of the Trail there are stunning

views out over Newcastle town and harbour and the Trail offers a diversity of natural habitats over a relatively short distance. Additionally there are artefacts relating to the quarrying of granite in Newcastle and information panels explaining more about the route.

## Flora & Fauna

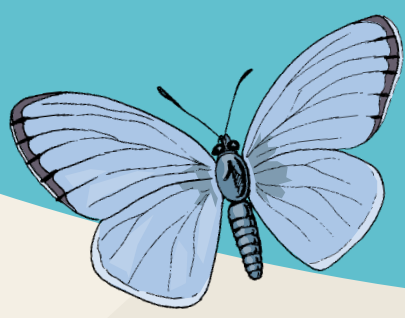
The Granite Trail offers a widely differing natural habitat, stretching from the coast to open moorland (through coniferous forest and mature woodland). Watch out for the following along the route:

### Flora

- Bracken
- Holly
- Heathers – Ling, bell or cross-leaved heath
- Yellow whin
- Bog asphodel

### Fauna

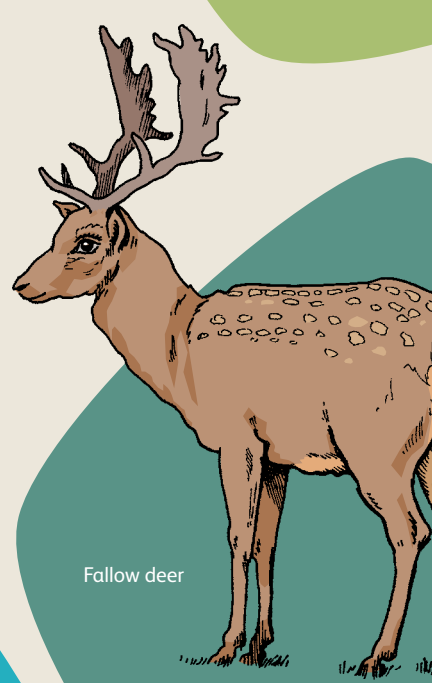
- Fallow deer
- Robins
- Wrens
- Red squirrels
- Blackbirds
- Chaffinches
- Green hairstreak butterflies
- Silver washed fritillary butterflies
- Holly Blue butterflies



Holly Blue butterfly



Wren



Fallow deer



# THE GRANITE TRAIL

Newcastle, County Down

## Did you know?

Over time, the granite in the 6x6" square setts used to cobble streets in Industrial Britain became polished as a result of the metal horse shoes. When this happened, the sett was rotated to expose a surface that was less slippery underfoot.

## Did you know?

A Bogie truck once de-railed and hurtled down the hill, into the harbour, killing 2 goats on the way!

## Did you know?

Granite is made up of crystals or minerals – the glassy crystals are quartz, the white or cream ones are feldspar and the black ones are a type of mica known as biotite.

## Terrain

Walkers are advised that this trail includes steep inclines, stiles, uneven and muddy sections and tree roots within a mountain environment. Appropriate footwear and clothing should be worn.

## Be aware

The trail includes quarries with loose spoil, old workings and unprotected drops. It is recommended that visitors keep to the trail.

The assistance of the National Trust, the Annesley Estate and the National Trust is acknowledged in the development of this Trail. The Trail has been developed under licence with the aforementioned landowners. Use of the Trail is by permission only. The Trail may close from time to time to facilitate forestry and other essential operations such as quarrying at Thomas's Mountain. Please treat the Trail with care.

## If you want to explore more...

- There is a Mourne Granite display in the Annalong Cornmill.
- A short film on the Granite Trail is available on [www.youtube.com/user/mournelive](https://www.youtube.com/user/mournelive)
- "The Mourne Granite Story" App is available on the App Store and Google Play.

## Did you know?

Mourne Granite can be found in a number of famous locations:

- Hans Christian Anderson statue in Central Park, New York
- Parliament Buildings, Stormont
- "Silence" Water Feature, Connaught Hotel, London
- 911 British Memorial Garden

