

Start your own fairy tale

Oakfield Glen, cared for by the Woodland Trust, was once a countryman's residence, built in 1805 and decorated with fine gardens and exotic plantings. The big house was unfortunately demolished in the 1950s but some interesting specimen trees, including a coast redwood, remain. Other reminders of days gone by include an old ice house, which has been uncovered and restored to its former glory.

Walkers will also come across a charming burn which bisects this long linear site, while two new stone bridges echo the remains of a much older one, built in Victorian times.



The mature woodland and exotic trees have been enhanced with the planting of native saplings. Together young and old provide a much-needed habitat for wildlife, including bullfinches, sparrowhawks and singing wrens, with visiting willow warblers and chiffchaffs.

Springtime visitors receive a colourful greeting from the bluebells, wild garlic and wood sorrel that carpet the woodland floor.



Unique sculptures, designed by Alan Cargo and Eleanor Wheeler, will guide you on your woodland adventure. Keep an eye open for ten mystical Púca creatures, no doubt hiding in the treetops. In Irish folklore, the Púca are said to be the most mischievous of all the fairies in Ireland.

Bashfordsland Wood

The well-used paths connect Oakfield Glen to neighbouring Bashfordsland Wood, owned by Carrickfergus Borough Council. Together, the two woods offer an hour's leisurely stroll.

Here you will find wildlife-ponds, wildflowers, and thousands of recently planted native trees – over 20,000 in total. The trees already tower over the tallest of walkers and attract precious wildlife, including sparrowhawks and buzzards.

New strategically placed sculptures in the shape of leaves will meet you on your journey. The steel sculptures were created by artist Kevin Killen, with input from Oakfield Primary School.



search for **Oakfield Glen** at woodlandtrust.org.uk

A place for exercise

For the more energetic, there's an orienteering trail. Run, jog or take things at your own pace. Find out how to get started and download the map at www.carrickfergus.org/orienteering. A green gym, designed to inspire you to exercise outdoors, completes a refreshing woodland experience.



Getting there

Oakfield Glen and Bashfordsland Wood are on the western edge of Carrickfergus between Marshallstown Road and Prince Andrew Way. There are several entrances, which are marked on the site map overleaf.

For details of public transport, telephone Translink on **028 9066 6630**.



Carrickfergus Borough Council, Museum & Civic Centre,
11 Antrim Street, Carrickfergus, County Antrim, BT38 7DG
www.carrickfergus.org/parks

The Woodland Trust, Grantham, Lincolnshire NG31 6LL.

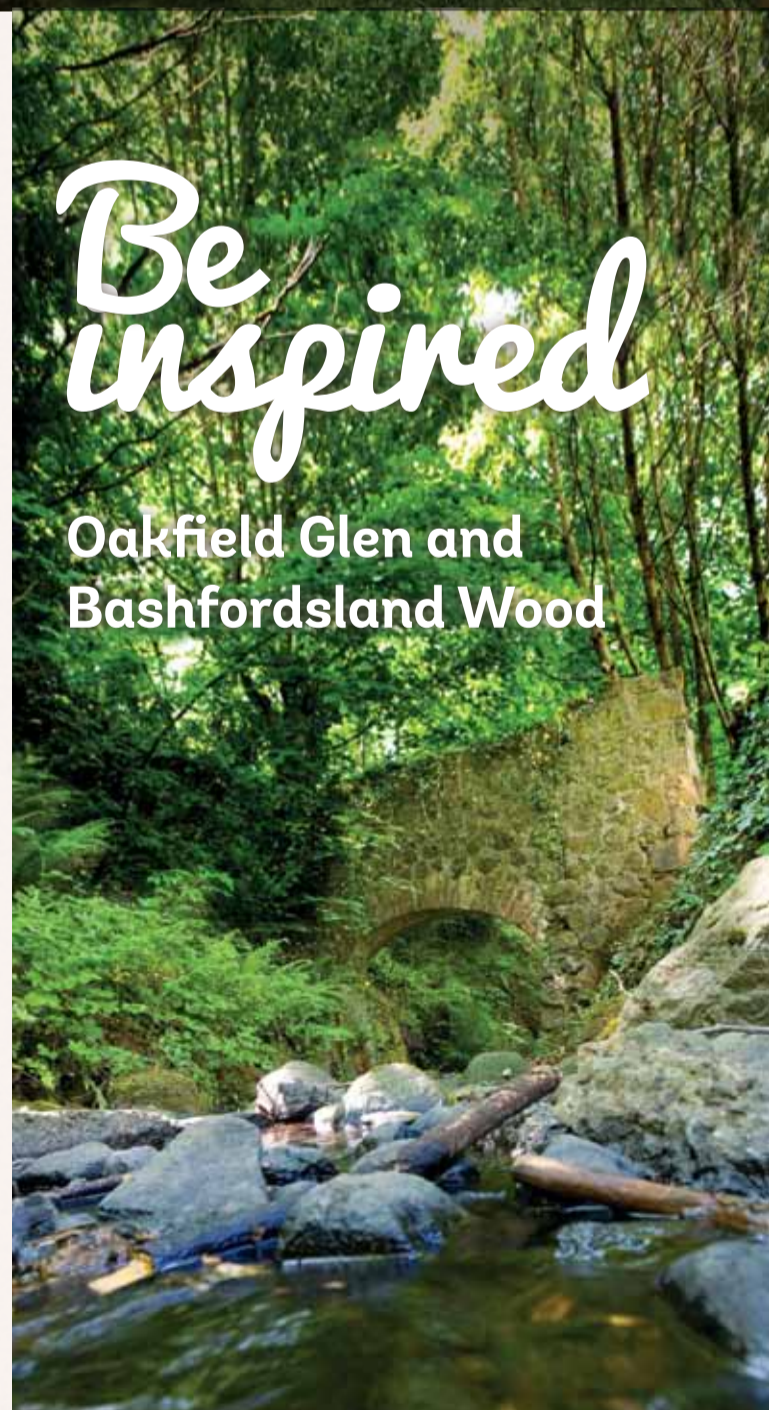
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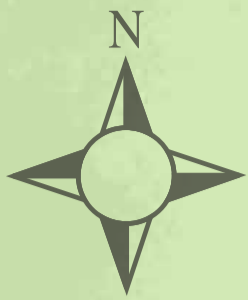
Be inspired

Oakfield Glen and Bashfordsland Wood



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- Information
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- Stream
- Victorian stone bridge
- The Ice House
- Púca sculptures
- Green gym
- Oakfield Glen
- Bashfordsland Wood
- Car parking area
- Pond

Oakfield Glen and Bashfordsland Wood

Do you share our passion for trees?

Help us protect native woodland and its wildlife at woodlandtrust.org.uk/join or call 0800 026 9650

Carrickfergus