

Walk No. 1



Trailhead	Rathmullan Pier Car Park, Rathmullan
Services	Rathmullan Village
Distance / Time	5.6km / 1hr 30 min - 2hrs
Ascent / Descent	124m / 120m
Difficulty	Moderate - To suit average levels of fitness
Terrain	Footpath and Public roads
Theme of Trail	Town and Country walk
Start / Finish Point	Rathmullan Pier Car Park, Rathmullan
Minimum Gear	Outdoor shoes, raingear, fluid, mobile phone
Map / Grid Ref	OS Discovery Sheet 2 / C 299 277

DIRECTIONS TO TRAILHEAD

Rathmullan Village is situated in North Donegal on the Fanad peninsula, on the western shore of Lough Swilly, circa 23km NW of and 30 mins drive from Letterkenny via Ramelton. As you enter Rathmullan, keep to the shore on Main Street until you have reached the car park beside the beach and the pier. Rathmullan is a place of national historic importance from which the 'Flight of the Earls' took place in 1607.

This walk takes you in a clockwise direction along the shores of Lough Swilly, looking over to Inch Island and Fahan on the Inishowen Peninsula, before climbing the 'Long Hill' and returning into town via the 'Red Brae' with its wide views south of Ramelton and beyond. Look out for Wild fowl and birds on the Swilly.

WALK DIRECTION **Please take care on these trafficked public roads**

A-B. Exiting the car park turning **left** (south) past the Putting Green. Travel along the Shore Road passing the Beachcomber Bar on your **left**, and the ruins of The Abbey on your **right**. Cross the road with caution here and continue along the footpath until it ends in ca. 250m. Now you have reached point **B** where you will return to on your journey back into the village.

B-C. Cross again onto the seaward side of the road before the footpath starts again on the landside. Follow the path until you reach the junction with the L5452 where you **turn right**.

C-D. Follow this minor road for ca. **1.7km** to the top of the 'Long Hill' to reach the T-junction with the signpost for St. Catherine's Church.

D-B. **Turn sharp right** at the junction, following the road as it takes you back towards the Swilly and descends down the 'Red Brae' with its fantastic views. After another gentle climb, the trail takes you past St Joseph's National School and then St Columb's Church, both on your left. After a further ca.100m take the left turn at the T-junction leaving you back on the R247.

B-A. Now follow the Shore Road for ca. 600m back to the car park and the Trail head where you started from.



For more information on the area and Donegal walking trails please see: www.rathmullan.ie
www.irishtrails.ie - www.letswalkdonegal.com - www.discoverireland.ie/things-to-do - www.coillte.ie



In case of Emergency call 999 or 112

For comments and suggestions about the trail please contact: Rathmullan The Way Forward Group, rathmullanthewayforward@gmail.com - phone 085 8860505 or Inga Bock, Rural Recreation Officer, ibock@dldc.org - phone 087 9318077

