

Walk 1. Glencree

(1km – 25 minutes)



The walk starts at the Armoury Café at the Glencree Centre. From the door of the Armoury Café, turn right and walk down to the front lawn.

On the front lawn are several commemorative seats and trees including one planted by Prince Charles. Standing above the lawn is the original, fully restored, Military Barracks building. Proceed to the main gate beside which is St. Kevins Church. This church (1870) is a fine example of 19th century Wicklow granite stone church. The church has been tastefully restored and inside there is a distinct aura of peace and tranquillity. On leaving the church enter the small graveyard through a gate in the railings immediately on the left. In the centre of the graveyard are a number of modern graves with some nicely decorated headstones. In the top left-hand corner are the graves of the Oblate clergy and boys who died at Glencree.

Exit the graveyard by the gate, turn left up the Main Avenue and then right through a gate in the railing. A flight of steps leads down to the Glencree River and a nice Lourdes Grotto built by the Oblates beside the river. From the Grotto cross the Glencree River via the footbridge and ascend to the roadway by a narrow track. At the roadway, turn left and for your own safety walk on the right-hand side of the road facing oncoming traffic to the nearby German Military Cemetery. On exiting the cemetery, turn right and then, after 150 metres, turn left back into the Glencree Centre. The granite fronted two storey house on the right hand side of the road was originally the Commanding Officer's House, later a Youth Hostel and now a private residence.