Welcome

Welcome to a new year of exploring with the National Trust and an action packed calendar of fun things to do for all the family. Enjoy walks to take in the views, amazing objects in our collections, treats in the tea-room and special events for all tastes and interests.

National Trust members

During normal opening hours members are entitled to free entry. Additional charges for some events may also apply to members to help raise essential funds for the restoration and upkeep of the special place you are visiting.

Further Information

Details of events are correct at the time of printing. Please note that the information provided in this guide may change without notice. Please check event details before travelling by contacting the relevant place or visiting our website nationaltrust.org.uk

Glorious Gardens in 2016

Some of Northern Ireland’s most beautiful private gardens are open to visitors under the Ulster Gardens Scheme. An exciting mixture of town and country gardens of different sizes and styles of planting are lined up for visitors to enjoy this summer season.

For details of open gardens and gardens by appointment visit ulstergardensscheme.org.uk or to request a leaflet, contact 028 9751 0721.

A mouth-watering year

Northern Ireland’s Year of Food and Drink 2016 is a celebration of everything that makes the produce from this place so good. Thanks to wild coasts, endless green acres and famously fickle weather, Northern Ireland is producing some of the world’s finest and freshest ingredients—from iconic breads to seafood, spirits and meat. There’s no better time to enjoy a true taste of Northern Ireland.

To find out more and to get involved visit tourismni.com/yearoffoodanddrink

Members help keep special places special

You can help take care of everything from open countryside to sweeping coastlines and even majestic staircases. Join the National Trust and your membership will help look after these special places for everyone to enjoy.

Become a National Trust member and you can start getting to know hundreds of special places from just £5.25 a month.

Join today at your favourite place or online at nationaltrust.org.uk

Registered charity number 205846
Go walkabout

We look after 108 miles of Northern Ireland’s coastline and 46 square miles of countryside. So whether it’s an afternoon ramble with the dog, or a hiking adventure with friends, there’s always a special place to explore. Stretch your legs, and your imagination, and enjoy the great outdoors.

Free and easy

If you’re pushing a buggy, or simply want a soothing stroll, there are lots of trails that offer a gentle meander through awe-inspiring landscapes. Or take a long walk through wild coast and countryside, clear the cobwebs and reward yourself with views that lift the soul.

Discover the veteran trees, woodland and riverside walks at The Argory, and marvel at the carpet of winter snowdrops.

Catch the breeze and go fly a kite at Downhill Demesne. Children will also love exploring the natural play trail.

Take the exhilarating rope bridge challenge at Carrick-a-Rede and enjoy fantastic views as far as the eye can see.

Spring is a great time to visit Rowallane Garden and Mount Stewart when the rhododendrons burst into colour.

Looking over Belfast, Divis and the Black Mountain is a haven for those seeking the wild countryside experience.

For an invigorating clifftop walk with unusual views, explore the basalt columns of the Giant’s Causeway.

Pumped up and ready to go

Trees passing by in a blur and the wind in your hair. There’s nothing quite like experiencing the great outdoors on a bike. From gentle parkland trails to thrill rides across rugged terrain, you can find cycle routes to suit you. And with bikes to hire at some of our places, all you need to bring is a sense of adventure.

On the level

Short, easy and mostly flat, our cycle routes for young families are perfect for little ones—or even bigger ones who want a gentler jaunt.

Choose your own speed at Castle Ward. Our cycle trails have special ‘Slow Zones’—ideal for little legs and more time to savour the sweeping views.

Listen out for the drumming of woodpeckers as you rush along the woodland trails at Florence Court.

Go further afield

Castle Ward and Florence Court are also perfect if you want to get on your bike and take a longer, more challenging ride.

Sailing around in boats

Ever canoed down a river? Tasted the salty spray as you kayaked along the coast? There are lots of special places around the country with coastlines, lakes and estuaries just waiting for you to discover.

Discover hidden coves and wildlife close-up on a canoeing trip along the River Blackwater with access points at The Argory.

All aboard

Whether you’re a budding sailor or an ancient mariner, there are plenty of ways to explore the fascinating waterways around you.

Try dipping a toe in the water with one of the beginners’ kayak sessions with Clearsky Adventure at Castle Ward or join one of their more advanced sessions.

Follow the canoe trail on Strangford Lough, where legend has it that there’s an island for every day of the year. You get a bird’s-eye view of the marine life teeming below the surface.

Discover hidden coves and wildlife close-up on a canoeing trip along the River Blackwater with access points at The Argory.

Hire a boat at Crom and explore the islands or have a go at coarse angling and pike fishing.
Run for your life

Running outdoors is great for body and soul—and with hundreds of miles of countryside and coastal paths, there’s sure to be a special place that you can turn into your personal outdoor gym. We have lots of trails where you can keep fit while getting in tune with nature.

With its winding paths and elegant avenue, Castle Coole is a jogger’s dream. Join the friendly parkrun around the estate on Saturday mornings.

Look out for the electric blue flash of a kingfisher or the glimpse of an otter on a gentle run through Minnowburn.

Surrounded by ancient woodland Crom on the shores of Lough Erne is a world away from every day stresses.

Take in the views of Slieve Gallion and the Sperrins as you jog along the woodland trails at Springhill.

Find your own way

If a gentle run isn’t challenging enough, why not try geocaching or orienteering? It’s a great way to test your mind as well as your body.

There are hidden caches at many of our places. Log on to geocaching.com and opencaching.com for details and clues. Just grab your trainers, map and GPS device, and set off into the unknown.

Be a beachcomber

There’s more to our beaches than miles of golden sand. Look closely and you’ll find rare and captivating wildlife all around you.

Rock pools are nature’s lucky dips. At Murlough NNR you can feel a crab scuttle across your hand, or the bristling tentacles of an anemone.

Try some beachcombing along White Park Bay and then enjoy a picnic on this secluded beach.

Spot seals at Strangford Lough, watch the acrobatics of terns and gulls and in the autumn see up to 90% of the global population of light-bellied brent geese.

Take the plunge

The crisp, sea air in your nostrils. The feeling of being swept along by the waves. There’s nothing as exhilarating as swimming in coastal waters.

Take a plunge into the sea at Murlough NNR on the County Down coast. Look out for the common and grey seals hauled out on the rocks.

Paddle in the water at Portstewart Strand where the golden sands and views of the Inishowen headland and Mussenden Temple provide the perfect backdrop.

Runs with a view

Swap a treadmill for a trail in the beautiful outdoors to make your run more memorable. You can’t spot a deer bounding through trees, see inspiring views or breathe in fresh sea air in a gym.

Go barefoot along the sandy beach at Portstewart Strand. Then race to the top of the sand dunes and take in the views.

Stretch those calf muscles on your way up Slieve Donard. The sweeping view from the top is an inspiring sight.

Make the most of the coast

Tasting the salty ocean on a wild swim, or catching a wave that flings you skywards, our coastline is a place of discovery, thrills and adventure. And there’s something for everyone to get active. Why not dive in today?
**Wildlife magic**

The fleeting flash of a marsh fritillary butterfly or a kingfisher. The low drone of bees working a wildflower meadow. The elegant silhouette of a fallow deer feeding at dusk. All kinds of wonderful wildlife grace the special places we look after.

**All aflutter**

In early summer the colourful flowers of wildflower meadows attract a wealth of insects from butterflies to hoverflies and bees. So it couldn’t be easier to catch a glimpse of these delicate, dancing creatures.

**Murlough NNR and Portstewart Strand**
are brimming with butterflies and moths. Look out for some beauties like the marsh fritillary, common blue, meadow brown and dark green fritillary.

**Cast a net across the flowering meadows at Rowallane Garden** to find some interesting and colourful insects.

Watch butterflies in a colourful summer meadow at Castle Coole, and discover the wildlife that lives in and around Lough Coole.

**Mammals and birds**

Ancient and semi-natural woodlands are amongst our richest habitats providing a home for a myriad of birds and mammals including roosting areas for bats and home for rare species like red squirrels and pine martens.

Explore the ancient oak trees and look out for red squirrels and bats at Crom, Florence Court and Mount Stewart.

Listen to the dawn chorus in our woodlands at Minnowburn, Mount Stewart and The Argory.

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**50 things to do before you’re 11¾**

It’s time to go wild! We want kids to get messy, mucky, soggy. We want them to build a den out of twigs, run around in the rain, scrape their knees exploring a cave, plunge their hands into a gloopy rock pool. That’s why we’ve come up with 50 things to do before you’re 11¾.

**Hit the dirt**

Put the family’s washing machine to the test. Here are our favourite ways to get really, really dirty outdoors.

**Build a cozy den**

Make your own little hide-away. Gather some branches and twigs from the woods and let your imagination go wild.

**Run around in the rain**

Never mind if it’s raining outside, put some wellies on and go puddle-jumping!

**Hunt for bugs**

Crawl through the mud and track down a beetle, or hold a wriggling worm in your hand.

**Climb a tree**

With so many trees around, how do you know which one to climb? Find one with strong branches you can reach from the ground.

**Discover what’s in a pond or river**

Take your net and go dipping in the river. Remember to return any mini beasts that you find back to the water.

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**Go outdoors, keep track online**

After a day exploring the great outdoors, kids can keep track of their adventures on our 50 Things app and website. They can unlock games, earn badges and collect secret rewards. And, of course, find out even more ways to go outside and get stuck into nature.

Pick up a 50 things to do scrapbook when you visit our special places—and tick off as many wild activities as you can.

Download the app and discover even more wild things to do at nationaltrust.org.uk/50things

We want kids to have fun, but we also want them to play safe, so we recommend all these activities are supervised by an adult.
A treasure chest of history

We look after one of the world’s largest and most significant holdings of fine art and heritage objects. Many of these items were commissioned, acquired and accumulated by country house owners over many centuries, as contemporary furnishings and as dazzling displays. Not all places are grand treasure houses—many are small with deep personal associations, offering you the chance to uncover a broad spectrum of social, political, scientific and industrial histories.

Every object tells a story

• Discover the dazzling silver display at Mount Stewart, just one of the new collections in this remarkable house, along with a wealth of sculpture, one of the largest collections of family portraits by Sir Thomas Lawrence, and many newly decorated rooms.

• See where Edith, Lady Londonderry sat at her desk surrounded by family photos and loved mementos. With red telephone to hand she corresponded with plant hunters, artists, writers, friends and relatives. Here, Edith also wrote her books and researched her planting plans for the garden.

• Enjoy new rooms opening at Mount Stewart at different times of the year and join special tours revealing the family history.

Feast your eyes

Whether you’re in the mood for a gentle stroll through a beautiful home before indulging in tea and cake in one of our tea-rooms, or looking for in-depth knowledge about our many and varied collections, a visit to one of our houses is a must. From delicate costume at Springhill, to sumptuous Regency furniture at Castle Coole, the collections open an intriguing door into the past.

Browse our online collections

Find out more about the thousands of items in our houses across Northern Ireland, England and Wales at nationaltrustcollections.org.uk
Our places, our collections

Most houses can be visited on a guided tour, led by one of our knowledgeable and friendly guiding staff. While at Mount Stewart you can visit at your own pace with room guides on hand to offer more information about the house and family.

Hezlett House offers a completely different visit: intimate, sometimes tiny rooms, give a real feel for what life was like in this intriguing thatched farm house.

Meet the Kodiak Bear in the hall at Castle Ward and hear about the extraordinary Mary Ward. In the 1850s Mary was a woman way ahead of her time, writing books on the Wonders of the Microscope and studying comets and nebulae—she could have been the Professor Brian Cox of her day.

Something for everyone

Discover great art and collections and explore historic places in our care. From a massive masterpiece by Stubbs, to an Ancient Greek grave marker, from the jacket worn during the sinking of The Birkenhead to a stunning silk court mantua dress—there is no shortage of choice.

The Argory’s splendidly crowded rooms impress with their rich furnishings: polished brass, crimson velvets and damasks, dark mahogany and gilt picture frames, all give the impression of solid comfort and an appreciation of fine things. Top it all by hearing the organ played on musical open days.

Set in the Fermanagh hills, Florence Court is the house that everyone wants to live in: beautiful plasterwork, gracious, cosy rooms and a wealth of history. Explore the extensive basement and yards with their servants’ rooms, kitchen and laundry.

The Argory, Kitchen

Hezlett House, Kitchen

Our places on the silver screen

From costume dramas to fantasy and fairy tales, the historic houses and stunning landscapes we look after have provided backdrops to some unforgettable moments on the silver screen.

Follow in the footsteps of the stars

The BBC One comedy, *Blandings*, is based on the celebrated stories of PG Wodehouse and the majority of filming took place at Crom with a number of days at *Florence Court*.

*Castle Coole*, the elegant neo-classical mansion set in magnificent parkland, became a sumptuous film set for the Apocalypse Films Company movie adaptation of August Strindberg’s classic play, *Miss Julie*.

*Miss Julie* at Castle Coole

Universal Pictures production of *Dracula Year Zero* was filmed at various Northern Ireland locations including *Mount Stewart*, *Divis* and the *Black Mountain* and the *Giant’s Causeway*. The storyline is based on the original Bram Stoker novel.

The 19th century period drama, *December Bride*, is set in Northern Ireland and filming locations included Island Taggart on *Strangford Lough*.

Cast Castle Ward, Portstewart Strand, Carrick-a-Rede, Downhill Demesne and Cushenden were host to some of the cast and crew for HBO *Game of Thrones*. The series follows the dynastic struggles of rival clans who fight for supremacy and the Iron Throne.

*Mount Stewart* and *Castle Ward* feature in *The Frankenstein Chronicles*. A thrilling remake of the Frankenstein story as a crime drama for ITV.

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The 19th century period drama, *December Bride*, is set in Northern Ireland and filming locations included Island Taggart on *Strangford Lough*.
From guided walks and boat trips, music and craft fairs to children's events and wildlife spotting, we've a fantastic array of activities for everyone. It's time to start planning fun days out for all the family.

**Mount Stewart**
5 March
**Car Boot Sale**
Come along and sell your unwanted items or browse around the many stalls and pick up a few treasures. Traders can arrive from 7am for set up. 9am-2:30pm
Car £5, Van £10, Trailer £15

**Fermanagh Places**
5–6 March
**Free Open Weekend**
Visit Florence Court, Castle Coole or Crom free of charge this weekend and get a taste of what these fantastic places have to offer.
No Charge Donations Welcome

**Castle Ward**
6 March
**Mother's Day—Historical Cream Tea**
Treat that special lady in your life to a delightful cream tea in the exclusive Strangford Suite in Castle Ward House this Mother's Day. Relax and enjoy the homemade treats while we bring the stories of the house alive.
Booking Essential
Contact 028 4488 1204
2pm, 4pm
Adult £16 (includes estate admission) Member Adult £8

**The Argory**
6 March
**Mother's Day Afternoon Tea**
Give Mum a special treat this Mother's Day at The Argory. Enjoy delicate finger sandwiches, Victoria sponge, homemade scones and other traditional delights.
Booking Essential
Contact 028 4278 8387
Afternoon tea sittings: 1pm, 2.30pm, 4pm
Adult £5, Van £10, Trailer £15
Child £3 (includes estate admission) Member Adult £15 Child £7.50

**National Trust Northern Ireland**
12 March
**Free Open Day**
Enjoy free admission at a number of National Trust places today. Come and meet our staff and volunteers, and learn more about the amazing places we look after. Excludes Fermanagh places (Fermanagh free weekend 3–6 March).
For further details visit www.nationaltrust.org.uk/ni
No Charge Donations Welcome

**Giant's Causeway**
12–13 March
**Saint Patrick's Day Festival**
Celebrate all things Irish at the Giant's Causeway Visitor Centre and the Causeway Hotel. Find the leprechauns on the treasure trail and enjoy face painting and balloon modelling.
11am–4pm
Normal Admission Members Free

**Castle Ward**
17 March
**Saint Patrick's Day Walk**
Join us on our annual walk through Saint Patrick’s country. Organised jointly by Down District Council and the Lecale Rambler, the route includes a mixture of quiet country roads and green lanes. The event is free and a wee dram of whiskey (or tea/coffee) is provided at our refreshment point. Due to livestock this walk is not suitable for dogs.
For further information contact Downpatrick Tourist Information Centre on 028 4461 2233 or email downpatrick.vic@downdc.gov.uk
Registration 10–10.30am
Walk starts 10.45am

**Castle Ward**
17 March
**Saint Patrick's Day—Myths and Legends Family Treasure Hunt**
People have told tales for a thousand years about the mischievous leprechauns and fairies of Ireland. In this fun family treasure hunt you will enjoy plenty of laughs, challenges and even some local folklore. Can you catch the leprechaun with his crock of gold and win some prizes? Suitable for age 4 years plus. Weather dependant.
Booking Essential
Contact Clearsky Adventure Centre on 028 4372 3933 or email fun@clearsky-adventure.com
11am–1pm, 2–4pm

**Castle Ward**
17 March
**Rhododendron Ramble and Roast**
Head of Gardens, Neil Porteous, followed by a rustic meal in the Mount Stewart Tea-Rooms. Suitable waterproof clothing and sturdy footwear essential.
Booking Essential
Contact 028 4278 8387
11.30am–2.30pm
Adult £15 Child £8
Member Adult £15 Child £8

**Mount Stewart**
20 March
**Rhododendron Ramble and Roast**
Tour the rhododendrons at Mount Stewart with Head of Gardens, Neil Porteous, followed by a rustic meal in the Mount Stewart Tea-Rooms. Suitable waterproof clothing and sturdy footwear essential.
Booking Essential
Contact 028 4278 8387
11.30am–2.30pm
Adult £15 Child £8
Member Adult £15 Child £8

**Spring Book Fair**
19–20 March
**The Argory**
Browse through hundreds of second hand books and stock up on all your essential reads. There's something for everyone with live music and children's activities on Sunday. Donations of unwanted books, CDs and DVDs are welcome prior to the event.
12noon–5pm
Normal Admission Members Free
We’re teaming up with Cadbury for adventurous Easter Egg Hunts.

**Springhill**
21 March - 3 April
**Easter Egg Hunt**
Join our fantastic Cadbury Easter Egg Hunt around Springhill house and grounds throughout the Easter holidays. Enjoy some eggstra fun on Easter Sunday and Monday with face painting, games and other children’s activities.
Egg Hunt £1 per child.
12noon–5pm
Normal Admission Members Free

**The Argyll**
21 March - 3 April
**Easter Egg Hunt**
Solve the clues to help find the Cadbury’s chocolate prize on our Easter Egg Hunt, throughout the Easter holidays. Enjoy some eggstra fun on Easter Monday and Tuesday with face painting, games and other children’s activities.
Egg Hunt £1 per child.
12noon–5pm
Normal Admission Members Free

**Rowallane Garden**
24 March - 3 April
**Easter Egg Decorating**
Come along each day to the Rowallane café and take part in our decorating egg-stravaganza.
11am–2.30pm
Normal Admission Members Free

**Mount Stewart**
25–28 March
**Easter Egg Hunt**
Bring the children to Mount Stewart this Easter to take part in our popular Cadbury Easter Egg Hunt. Follow the clues around the Lake Walk and return to collect your chocolate prize.
Egg Hunt £1 per child.
12noon–4pm
Normal Admission Members Free

**Wellbrook Beetling Mill**
25–28 March
**Easter Egg Hunt**
Follow the clues along the wooded glen, crack the code and unlock the Cadbury’s chocolate prize.
Egg Hunt £1 per child.
2–5pm
Normal Admission Members Free

**Ardress House**
25–30 March
**Easter Egg Hunt**
The Easter Bunny has made a trail around the farmyard and gardens at Ardress House. Follow the clues to unlock the Cadbury’s surprise. Enjoy some eggstra Easter fun on Easter Sunday with face painting, games and other children’s activities.
Egg Hunt £1 per child.
1–6pm
Normal Admission Members Free

**Castle Ward**
25 March - 3 April
**Easter at the Barn**
Join us for lots of Easter fun with children’s craft activities, table top games, kiddies ride-on tractors, sandpit and farmyard trail. Bring along a picnic, visit the farmyard animals and relax by the shores of Strangford Lough.
12noon–4pm
Normal Admission Members Free

**Murlough NNR**
26 March
**Easter Egg Hunt**
Come along for some Easter fun as you follow the clues on the Cadbury Easter Egg Hunt over the sand dunes and beach to discover the chocolate treasure. Egg Hunt £1 per child.
Booking Essential
Contact 028 4375 1467 or email murlough@nationaltrust.org.uk
2–3pm
Normal Admission Members Free

**Mount Stewart**
26 March
**Spring Walk**
Enjoy a three mile walk through the rolling countryside of the demesne and enjoy the wealth of wildlife, history and stunning landscape of this unique estate. Suitable for age 8 years plus with accompanying adult. Stout walking boots required. Well behaved dogs on leads only.
Booking Essential
Contact 028 4278 8387
10am–1pm
Normal Admission Members Free

**Downhill Demesne and Hezlett House**
27–29 March
**Easter Egg Hunt**
Fun for all the family as you follow the trail around the historic Downhill Demesne. Hunt for clues to crack the code and unlock the Cadbury’s chocolate surprise in our Easter Egg Hunt. Meet at Lion’s Gate.
Egg Hunt £1 per child.
12noon–4pm
Normal Admission Members Free

**Florence Court**
26–27 March
**Easter Treasure Hunt**
Enjoy some Easter fun as you follow the trail around the grounds to find the chocolate treasure in our Cadbury Easter Egg Hunt.
Egg Hunt £1 per child.
11am–4pm
Normal Admission Members Free

**Crom**
26–28 March
**Easter Treasure Hunt**
Join us for some Easter fun as you follow the trail around the grounds to find the chocolate treasure in our Cadbury Easter Egg Hunt.
Egg Hunt £1 per child.
11am–4pm
Normal Admission Members Free

**Castle Coole**
26–28 March
**Easter Fair**
Our Easter fun continues with the annual Easter Fair with plenty for everyone to enjoy. Search for Cadbury’s chocolate prizes throughout the day, browse local craft and food stalls and take a horse and carriage ride (weather dependant). The annual Mega Easter Hunt will be taking place at 3pm on both days.
Cadbury Easter Egg Hunt £1 per child.
Mega Easter Hunt £1 per child.
12noon–6pm
Normal Admission Members Free

**Easter Monday Family Fun Day**
Easter fun for all the family with Cadbury Easter Egg Hunts, music and much more.
Egg Hunt £1 per child.
11am–5pm
Normal Admission Members Free

**Crom**
28 March
**Cruise the Lough**
See a different side to Crom estate from the water as you take a cruise around the lough in Crom’s 100 year old traditional craft. Weather dependant.
Booking Essential
Contact 028 6773 8118
1–5pm
Adult £4 Child £2
Member Adult £4 Child £2

**Florence Court**
28 March
**Easter Monday Family Fun Day**
Easter fun for all the family with Cadbury Easter Egg Hunts, music and much more.
Egg Hunt £1 per child.
11am–5pm
Normal Admission Members Free

**Rowallane Garden**
29 March
**Easter Chick Hunt**
Hop along for a family fun day out exploring the nooks and crannies around the beautiful garden while following the clues in the Cadbury Easter Egg Hunt to win a chocolate prize. Fun for everyone.
Egg Hunt £1 per child.
10.30am–3pm
Normal Admission Members Free
Enjoy World Heritage Day at the Giant’s Causeway

The Argory
April (Thursday to Sunday only)
Daffodil Danders
It’s a sure sign that spring has arrived when the bright yellow heads of daffodils appear at The Argory. Enjoy a self guided walk and finish off with a cuppa in the Courtyard Coffee Shop.
12noon–3pm
Normal Admission  Members Free

Springhill
April (Saturday and Sunday only)
Daffodil Danders
Spring has sprung and so have our daffodils. Take a self-guided walk through Springhill grounds in the company of countless colourful daffodils.
12noon–3pm
Normal Admission  Members Free

Mount Stewart
2 April
Car Boot Sale
Come along and sell your unwanted items or browse around the many stalls and pick up a few treasures. Traders can arrive from 7am for set up.
9am–12noon
Car £5, Van £10, Trailer £15

The Argory
9 April
Good Food Market
In celebration of Northern Ireland’s Year of Food and Drink, come along to taste and buy a range of locally sourced produce. The once bustling Courtyard at The Argory will come alive with cookery demonstrations, music and country activities. Food and drink vendor enquiries contact 028 8778 9014.
11am–4pm
Normal Admission  Members Free

Mount Stewart
9 April
Good Food Market

Carrick-a-Rede
9–10 April
Fishery Open Weekend
Cross the bridge and see inside the old fisherman’s cottage on Carrick-a-Rede island. Hear all about the history of salmon fishing and enjoy stunning coastal views.
1–4pm
Normal Admission  Members Free

Murlough NNR
10 April
Spring into Action for the Beach Clean
Help us give Murlough National Nature Reserve a spring clean, ready to start a new season. Suitable clothing and footwear essential. Meet at main car park.
Booking Essential
Contact 028 4375 1467
10.30am–12.30pm

Castle Ward
10, 24 April
Historical Afternoon Tea
Have you ever wondered what it would be like to live in a house like Castle Ward? This wonderful event brings to life some of the stories in the fascinating history of the estate. Listen to the tales while you enjoy delicious homemade treats in the exclusive Strangford Suite.
Booking Essential
Contact 028 4488 1204
2pm, 4pm
Adult £16 (includes estate admission)
Member Adult £8

Rowallane Garden
16–17 April
Tea Blending
To celebrate Northern Ireland’s Year of Food and Drink drop into the Rowallane cafe for an insight into natural tea blending. Each session last 30 minutes.
11am, 2pm
Normal Admission  Members Free

Giant’s Causeway
17 April
World Heritage Day
Thirty years ago the Giant’s Causeway was designated as Northern Ireland’s first World Heritage Site by UNESCO. Join a guided walk from one end of our World Heritage Site to the other, plant wildflowers, enjoy crafts, face painting and music with an international flavour.
11am–4pm
Normal Admission  Members Free

Mount Stewart
17 April
Pet Nose Day
This award-winning charity event returns as part of Pet Month and celebrates our four legged friends. Bring along your dog and be entertained by agility and training demonstrations.
11am–5pm
Normal Admission  Members Free

Castle Coole
21 April–1 May
Castle Coole Gallery
Exhibition. Visitors will have the opportunity to admire and purchase wonderful pieces of art from renowned artists.
11am–5pm
Normal Admission  Members Free

The Argory
24 April
Afternoon Tea
Enjoy a delightful afternoon tea; finger sandwiches, Victoria sponge, homemade scones and other seasonal delights.
Booking Essential
Contact 028 8778 4753
Afternoon tea sittings: 1pm, 2.30pm, 4pm
Adult £20 (includes estate admission)
Child £10 (includes estate admission)
Member Adult £15  Child £7.50

Take the four peaks challenge on Divis and the Black Mountain

Divis and the Black Mountain
24 April
Four Peaks Challenge
If you enjoy the great outdoors, then don’t miss this opportunity to join our Ranger for a guided walk across the peaks of the Black Hill, Black Mountain, Divis Mountain and Armstrong’s Hill. Suitable for age 12 years plus. All children must be accompanied by an adult. Suitable clothing and footwear essential. Bring a warm flask and light snack.
Registration at The Barn.
Booking Essential
Contact 028 9082 5434
10am–4pm
Adult £3  Member Adult £3

Mount Stewart
24 April
Jazz in the Gardens
Bring your picnic and settle down on the lawn with your family and friends to enjoy an afternoon of jazz in the beautiful gardens at Mount Stewart. Sorry no BBQ’s.
2–4.30pm
Normal Admission  Members Free

Castle Coole
30 April
Paws in the Park
Dogs are always welcome at Castle Coole but especially today. Join our dog walk, enter your pooch in our pet dog show and pick up some behaviour techniques and grooming tips.
12noon–3pm
Normal Admission  Members Free

Florence Court
24 April
Music at the Summer House
Join us for an afternoon of music at the restored summer house. Bring a picnic and enjoy the views of the Pleasure Ground and across to Benaughlin Mountain.
2–4pm
Normal Admission  Members Free

Enjoy World Heritage Day at the Giant’s Causeway.
Strangford Lough
30 April
Chapel Island Guided Walk
A fascinating walk from Greyabbey across the sand flats to nearby Chapel Island with our Ranger. You will discover some of the area’s remarkable archaeological features and an abundance of wildlife that make Strangford Lough so special. Wellingtons recommended. Bring a packed lunch. Not suitable for dogs.
Meet at Greyabbey car park, Portaferry Road.
Booking Essential
Contact 028 4278 8387
12.30–3.30pm
Adult £4 Child £1
Member Adult £4 Child £1

The Argyll
30 April
Vintage Rally
Hundreds of vintage vehicles will descend upon The Argyll as we host our famous vintage vehicle rally. A must-see event for all vehicle enthusiasts.
12noon–5pm
Normal Admission Members Free

Mount Stewart
1 May
Dawn Chorus Walk
Enjoy the delights of the spring dawn chorus and learn all about bird song with our Ranger, followed by a hearty breakfast. Suitable for age 8 years plus with accompanying adult. Not suitable for dogs.
Meet at the Lookout, Mount Stewart.
Booking Essential
Contact 028 4278 8387
5–8am
Adult £8 Child £5
Member Adult £8 Child £5

Apple Blossom Day
2 May
Set in the middle of our rich apple-growing county, Ardress House will be celebrating the apple blossom with apple treats and fun for all the family. There will be orchard tours, local ciders and apple produce on sale, and an apple trail for the kids.
1–6pm
Normal Admission Members Free

Castle Ward
2 May
50 Things—Go Wild at Castle Ward
To celebrate ’50 things to do before you’re 11 ¾’ we’re going wild about wildlife. Drop into the Barn and get crafty or maybe explore the estate and try to find some of the geocaches. How many things can you tick off your list?
12noon–4pm
Normal Admission Members Free

Crom
2 May
Cruise the Lough
See a different side to Crom estate from the water as you cruise around the lough in Crom’s 100 year old traditional craft. Weather dependant.
Booking Essential
Contact 028 6773 8118
1–5pm
Adult £4 Child £2
Member Adult £4 Child £2

Downhill Demesne and Hezlett House
7 May
Behind the Scenes—Bluebell Walks
Come along for an afternoon stroll around the Bishop’s Gate gardens and glen to see the bluebells in full bloom. Join the estate Ranger who will highlight the latest developments around the wider demesne and show off the hidden gems in the gardens.
Meet at Bishop’s Gate.
2–4pm
Normal Admission Members Free

Mount Stewart
7 May
Car Boot Sale
Come along and sell your unwanted items or browse around the many stalls and pick up a few treasures. Traders can arrive from 7am for set up.
9am–12noon
Car £5, Van £10, Trailer £15
Traders can arrive from 7am for set up.
Meet at the Lookout, Mount Stewart.

Downhill Demesne
8 May
Behind the Scenes—Bluebell Walks
Come along for an afternoon stroll around the Bishop’s Gate gardens and glen to see the bluebells in full bloom. Join the estate Ranger who will highlight the latest developments around the wider demesne and show off the hidden gems in the gardens.
Meet at Bishop’s Gate.
2–4pm
Normal Admission Members Free

Mount Stewart
2 May
Spring Plant Fair
A wonderful opportunity to purchase plants from a range of specialist plant stalls, as well as from Rosallane Garden.
11am–4pm
Normal Admission Members Free

Rowallane Garden
30 April–1 May
Spring Plant Fair
A wonderful opportunity to purchase plants from a range of specialist plant stalls, as well as from Rowallane Garden.
11am–4pm
Normal Admission Members Free

Mount Stewart
1 May
Spring Walk
Enjoy the delights of the spring dawn chorus and learn all about bird song with our Ranger, followed by a hearty breakfast. Suitable for age 8 years plus with accompanying adult. Not suitable for dogs.
Meet at the Lookout, Mount Stewart.
Booking Essential
Contact 028 4278 8387
5–8am
Adult £8 Child £5
Member Adult £8 Child £5

Ardress House
2 May
Apple Blossom Day
Set in the middle of our rich apple-growing county, Ardress House will be celebrating the apple blossom with apple treats and fun for all the family. There will be orchard tours, local ciders and apple produce on sale, and an apple trail for the kids.
1–6pm
Normal Admission Members Free

Mount Stewart
7 May
Car Boot Sale
Come along and sell your unwanted items or browse around the many stalls and pick up a few treasures. Traders can arrive from 7am for set up.
9am–12noon
Car £5, Van £10, Trailer £15
Stroll through carpets of bluebells at Downhill Demesne and Minnowburn

Murlough NNR
8 May
Spring Walk
Take a stroll with one of our knowledgeable Rangers to discover the sights and sounds of Murlough in spring. Learn about this fascinating site which dates back over 6,000 years. Meet at main car park.
Booking Essential
Contact 028 4375 1467
or email murlough@nationaltrust.org.uk
12.30–2.30pm
Normal Admission Members Free

Murlough NNR
8 May
Spring Walk
Take a stroll with one of our knowledgeable Rangers to discover the sights and sounds of Murlough in spring. Learn about this fascinating site which dates back over 6,000 years. Meet at main car park.
Booking Essential
Contact 028 4375 1467
or email murlough@nationaltrust.org.uk
12.30–2.30pm
Normal Admission Members Free

Castle Coole
13 May
Candlelit Tour
Experience the sights and sounds of Castle Coole as you never have before as part of Museums’ Night. After a candlelit walk through the upstairs and basement rooms enjoy some tasty bites from the Lincoln Cathedral range in the basement kitchen.
Booking Essential
Contact 028 6632 2690
7.30pm
Adult £10 Member Adult £10

Minnowburn
14 May
Minnowburn Dander
Join our Ranger for a walk around the picturesque Minnowburn area. Learn about the wildlife, botany and history of this outstanding location.
Meet at Minnowburn car park.
11am–12.30pm
No Charge Donations Welcome
Strangford Lough
21 May
Saint Brendan Sea Safari
A treat for all the family as we take a scenic voyage on Strangford Lough to view seals, seabirds and other wildlife at this internationally important marine site. Meet at Portaferry.
Booking Essential
Contact 028 4278 8387
10.30am-1pm
Adult £15  Child £5  Family £35
Member Adult £15  Child £5  Family £35

Rowallane Garden
28 May
Soap Making Masterclass
What is soap and how does it work? Learn how to make your own soap by the cold processed method. Class will involve weighing and sourcing ingredients, calculations and method. We will make soap using herbs from the garden to give an unusual twist.
Price includes coffee/tea, tuition and materials.
Booking Essential
Contact 028 9751 0131
10am-1pm
Adult £25  Member Adult £25

Florence Court
29 May
Country Fair
Enjoy our annual Country Fair with dog shows, rare breeds, live music, craft stalls and much more. It's an event not to be missed.
12noon–5pm
Normal Admission  Members Free

Mount Stewart
29 May
Jazz in the Gardens
Bring your picnic and settle down on the lawn with your family and friends to enjoy an afternoon of jazz in the beautiful gardens at Mount Stewart.
Sorry no BBQ’s.
2–4.30pm
Normal Admission  Members Free

The Argory
29 May
Afternoon Tea
Enjoy a delightful afternoon tea; finger sandwiches, Victoria sponge, homemade scones and other seasonal delights.
Booking Essential
Contact 028 8778 4753
Afternoon tea sittings: 1pm, 2.30pm, 4pm
Adult £20 (includes estate admission)
Child £10 (includes estate admission)
Member Adult £15  Child £7.50

Castle Ward
30 May
50 Things—Get Crafty at the Barn
Come along and get all arty at Castle Ward as we continue the ‘50 things’ theme. Create some wonderful wild art, make mud pies and generally just get creative.
12noon–4pm
Normal Admission  Members Free

Crom
30 May
Cruse the Lough
See a different side to Crom estate from the water as you cruise around the lough in Crom's 100 year old traditional craft, Weather dependant.
Booking Essential
Contact 028 6773 8118
1–5pm
Adult £4  Child £2
Member Adult £4  Child £2

The Argory
4 June
Good Food Market
In celebration of Northern Ireland's Year of Food and Drink, come along to taste and buy a range of locally sourced produce. The once bustling Courtyard at The Argory will come alive with cookery demonstrations, music and country activities. Food and drink vendor enquries contact 028 8778 9014.
11am–4pm
Normal Admission  Members Free

Mount Stewart
4 June
Car Boot Sale
Come along and sell your unwanted items or browse around the many stalls and pick up a few treasures. Traders can arrive from 7am for set up.
9am–12noon
Car £5, Van £10, Trailer £15

Murlough NNR
4 June
Get Stuck In at Murlough
The Rangers at Murlough work extremely hard at conserving this precious and delicate habitat for wildlife. Come along and discover what it takes to manage the nature reserve and help them with a day's essential habitat management. Physical work involved. Suitable clothing and footwear essential. Meet at main car park.
Booking Essential
Contact 028 4375 1467
or email murlough@nationaltrust.org.uk
2–4.30pm

Springhill
4 June
Mid Ulster Vintage Rally
Enjoy the largest vintage vehicle rally in Mid Ulster. Hundreds of vehicles and items of machinery on display with fun for all the family. Hosted by the Mid Ulster Vintage Vehicles Club.
12noon–5pm
Adult £5  Child £2
Member Adult £5  Child £2

Florence Court
5 June
Scenic Forest Trek
Join our Head Ranger for a scenic 9km trail in Florence Court forest. At the highest viewpoint enjoy panoramic views of Fermanagh and Lough Erne, the fourth largest lake in Ireland.
11am–1pm
Normal Admission  Members Free
Carrick-a-Rede
11–12 June
Fishery Open Weekend
Cross the bridge and see inside the old fisherman’s cottage on Carrick-a-Rede island. Hear all about the history of salmon fishing and enjoy stunning coastal views.
1–4pm
Normal Admission  Members Free

Castle Ward
11–12 June
Book Fair
‘A book is a dream which you hold in your hand’ and this event is guaranteed to make all book lovers dreams come true. Browse through thousands of quality used books and CDs for a great bargain, stroll down to the barn for book themed crafts and much more. Book donations are welcome prior to event. To arrange collection of large quantities of books please call 028 4488 1204.
11am–5pm
Normal Admission  Members Free

Mussenden Temple
17–18 June
Midsummer Concert
Enjoy an evening of music with Craig Ogden on guitar in the unique surroundings of Mussenden Temple. Complimentary buffet supper is included. Concert organised by the North Coast Association.
Booking Essential
Contact 028 7083 6396
2–4pm
Adult £2  Child £1
Member Adult £2  Child £1

Portstewart Strand
18 June
Orchid Walk
Our amazing sand dune system is host to a range of orchids, including bee and pyramidal orchids, which can be seen growing in their natural habitat. The whole family will enjoy this trip across the sand dunes with our Ranger to explain the range of floral habitats.
Booking Essential
Contact 028 7083 6396
2–4pm
Adult £2  Child £1
Member Adult £2  Child £1

Springhill
18–19 June
Garden Fête
Garden Fête
A great opportunity to stock up on all your shrubs and plants, herbs and other specimens native to Springhill. Take a look at our community allotments, enjoy a tour of Springhill Gardens and get some gardening tips from our Rangers. Children can have a go in our ‘Plant it, grow it, eat it’ workshop.
11am–4pm
Normal Admission  Members Free

Giant’s Causeway
19 June
Mid-Summer Solstice Walk
Join us on an early morning summer walk, followed by a hearty breakfast in the Causeway Hotel.
Booking Essential
Contact 028 2073 3419
6.30–9am
Adult £7  Child £7
Member Adult £7  Child £7

Mount Stewart
19 June
Father’s Day at Mount Stewart
Take the whole family to Mount Stewart for this popular day out. The Vintage Car Display returns to the front of the house.
11am–5pm
Normal Admission  Members Free

Springhill
20–21 June
Summer Solstice Full Moon Paddle Power
Take in the beautiful surroundings while paddling on Strangford Lough by moonlight. A truly unique experience. Learn kayaking skills and have fun under the watchful eye of our expert instructors. Weather dependant. Suitable for age 18 years plus.
Booking Essential
Contact Clearsky Adventure Centre on 028 4732 3933 or email fun@clearsky-adventure.com
8.30–10.30pm

The Argory
26 June
Afternoon Tea
Enjoy a delightful afternoon tea; finger sandwiches, Victoria sponge, homemade scones and other seasonal delights.
Booking Essential
Contact 028 8778 4753
Afternoon tea sittings: 1pm, 2.30pm, 4pm
Adult £20 (includes estate admission)  Child £10 (includes estate admission)
Member Adult £15  Child £7.50

Mount Stewart
26 June
Jazz in the Gardens
Bring your picnic and settle down on the lawn with your family and friends to enjoy an afternoon jazz session. Sorry no BBQ’s.
2–4.30pm
Normal Admission  Members Free

Springhill
July Summer Sundays
Join us every Sunday in July for laid back tunes and relaxation. Chill in the Courtyard while the kids are entertained and feast on our summer BBQ.
1–4pm
Normal Admission  Members Free
Rowallane Garden
2–3 July
Yogurt Popsicles Show
To celebrate Northern Ireland’s Year of Food and Drink join our cook to make healthy treats for everyone, using summer fruits and local dairy produce. Each demo lasts approx 30 minutes.
11am, 2pm
Normal Admission  Members Free

Crom
3 July
Outdoor Adventures
Enjoy a fun-filled afternoon of outdoor activities celebrating the beauty of nature and wildlife at Crom. Take part in craft activities, bug hunts, woodland trails and more.
1–5pm
Normal Admission  Members Free

Mount Stewart
3, 6 July
Woodland Warriors
An action packed day of adventure while learning how to survive in the woodlands. We will build shelters and bonfires as we find out more about our native wildlife and plants. This is a drop off activity for young people aged 11–14 years.
Booking Essential
Contact 028 4278 8387
10am–4pm
£20 per participant

Portstewart Strand
8 July
Go Wild with the Rangers
A morning of fun and adventure with our Rangers. We will help you to complete some of your ‘50 things to do before you’re 11¾’. We will build shelters and bonfires as we find out more about our native wildlife and plants.
Booking Essential
Contact 028 2073 3419
10am–12noon
No Charge  Donations Welcome

Strangford Lough
9 July
Butterfly Walk
A walk along unspoilt tracks and across hidden stiles at Ballyquintin Farm on the lower Ards Peninsula with our Ranger. This ramble will be packed with beautiful scenery, tales and wildlife. Suitable for age 8 years plus with accompanying adult. Not suitable for dogs.
Meeting at Ballyquintin Farm car park.
Booking Essential
Contact 028 4278 7769
11am–1pm
No Charge  Donations Welcome

Crom
11 July
Music by the Lake
Join us for a relaxing evening and listen to local musicians by the shores of Lough Erne.
Booking Essential
Contact 028 6773 8118
7–10pm
£20 per participant

Mount Stewart
13 July
Music in the Drying Green
Join us for a relaxing evening and listen to local musicians by the shores of Lough Erne.
Contact 028 2073 3419
10am–4pm
No Charge  Donations Welcome

Mount Stewart
17 July
Music in the Drying Green
Join us for a relaxing evening and listen to local musicians by the shores of Lough Erne.
Contact 028 2073 3419
10am–4pm
No Charge  Donations Welcome

Castle Ward
2 July
Pirates Picnic
We are back from sailing the seven seas for another fun filled day at Castle Ward. Captain Ward is looking for some swashbucklers to join him as he makes you ‘Walk the Plank’. Come in pirate costume and prepare to seek and find his hidden treasure. With pirate crafts, live music and scrub the decks with Skinny Jim, ‘Shiver me Timbers’.
1–5pm
Normal Admission  Members Free

Castle Ward
3 July
Butterfly Walk
A walk along unspoilt tracks and across hidden stiles at Ballyquintin Farm on the lower Ards Peninsula with our Ranger. This ramble will be packed with beautiful scenery, tales and wildlife. Suitable for age 8 years plus with accompanying adult. Not suitable for dogs.
Meeting at Ballyquintin Farm car park.
Booking Essential
Contact 028 4278 7769
11am–1pm
No Charge  Donations Welcome

Cushendun
15 July
Go Wild with the Rangers
Join our Rangers for a morning of fun and adventure. We will help you to complete some of your ‘50 things to do before you’re 11¾’. We will build shelters and bonfires as we find out more about our native wildlife and plants.
Booking Essential
Contact 028 2073 3419
10am–12noon
No Charge  Donations Welcome

Castle Coole
17 July
Music in the Drying Green
Join us for a relaxing evening and listen to local musicians by the shores of Lough Erne.
Contact 028 2073 3419
10am–4pm
No Charge  Donations Welcome

Murlough NNR
18–22 July
50 Things — A Week on the Wildside
Murlough goes wild this week with plenty of activities for children to take part in. Learn all about butterflies, build sandcastles and go on an archaeological dig. A great way to get some of your ‘50 things’ completed.
Booking Essential
Contact 028 4375 1467
or email murlough@nationaltrust.org.uk
2–3pm
Normal Admission Members Free

Mount Stewart
20 July
Bug Detectives
Join in as we get out our magnifying glasses and discover a whole world of bugs and beasties... just where could those little critters be hiding? This is a drop off activity for children aged 5–11 years.
Booking Essential
Contact 028 4278 8387
1.30–3.30pm
£7.50 per participant

Florence Court
23 July
Pop up Camping
Join us for an overnight camping experience on the front lawn at Florence Court. A campfire with entertainment and an estate walk is included.
Booking Essential
Contact 028 6634 8249
Check in time 6pm
Two person tent £30

Mount Stewart
23 July
Summer Garden Walk
The gardens at Mount Stewart were recently described as one of the Top Ten Gardens in the World and they look stunning at this time of year. Enjoy a guided tour of the gardens with our gardening experts. Take home some seasonal delights.
Booking Essential
Contact 028 4278 8387
10am–12noon
No Charge Donations Welcome

Murlough NNR
24 July
Beautiful Butterflies
Learn about the management and conservation of Murlough’s amazing range of butterflies and moths. Over 620 species of these wonderful creatures have been recorded at Murlough making it one of the most important sites in the British Isles. Weather dependant.
Meet at main car park.
Booking Essential
Contact 028 4375 1467
or email murlough@nationaltrust.org.uk
10am–12noon
Normal Admission Members Free

Carrick-a-Rede
29 July
Go Wild with the Rangers
Join our Rangers for a morning of fun and adventure. We will help you to complete some of your ‘50 things to do before you’re 11 ¾’.
Booking Essential
Contact 028 2073 3419
10am–12noon
No Charge Donations Welcome

Castle Ward
31 July
Summer Jazz Series
The summer is here and that can only mean one thing—the annual Jazz Sunday series starts. Get your toes tapping as you relax while listening to the sounds of jazz as it fills the air. A perfect way to spend a Sunday afternoon.
2.30–5pm
Normal Admission Members Free

Mount Stewart
31 July
Wildlife Trackers
Explore the many habitats to be found around the grounds of Mount Stewart. Through games and interactive activities, learn tracking skills and how to look for tell-tale signs of wildlife. If we are lucky you may even spot some red squirrels.
This is a drop off activity for children aged 5–11 years.
Booking Essential
Contact 028 4278 8387
1.30–3.30pm
£7.50 per participant

Mount Stewart
23 July
Butterfly Safari
Great for kids—it’s the season of butterflies and moths. Do you know what a Cinnabar moth looks like? Join our Rangers on the hunt to catch and identify the butterflies and moths. Murlough’s amazing range of butterflies and moths.
Booking Essential
Contact 028 4375 1467
10am–3pm
donations welcome

The Argory
31 July
Afternoon Tea
Enjoy a delightful afternoon tea; finger sandwiches, Victoria sponge, homemade scones and other seasonal delights.
Booking Essential
Contact 028 8778 4753
Afternoon tea sittings: 1pm, 2.30pm, 4pm
Adult £20 (includes estate admission)
Child £10 (includes estate admission)
Member Adult £15 Child £7.50

Springhill
August Summer Sundays
Join us every Sunday in August for laid back tunes and relaxation. Chill in the Laundry Yard while the kids are entertained and soak up the atmosphere of Springhill.
1–4pm
Normal Admission Members Free

The Argory
August Lazy Sundays
Come and join us every Sunday in August for laid back tunes and relaxation. Chill in the Courtyard while the kids are entertained and feast on our summer BBQ.
1–4pm
Normal Admission Members Free

Castle Ward
1–5 August and 8–12 August
Kids Summer Adventure Camp
Activities galore for a fun-filled and exciting week designed to entertain the kids this summer. Archery, rock hopping, canoeing, climbing and more. Single day attendance also possible. Suitable for age 8–15 years. Free bus service from Newcastle, Downpatrick and Strangford.
Booking Essential
Contact Clearsky Adventure Centre on 028 4372 3933 or email fun@clearsky-adventure.com
10am–4pm
Relax and listen to laid back tunes at Castle Ward, Mount Stewart, Springhill and The Argory.
Castle Ward
1–31 August
Sculpture Trail
To celebrate National Craft Month, Castle Ward’s very own craftsmen will be displaying some of their creations for you to enjoy. Make your way along Laurel Walk from the Stableyard and enjoy some of the beautiful pieces of artwork. Don’t forget to look out for surprises hidden amongst the trees or hanging overhead.
11am–4.30pm
Normal Admission   Members Free

Ardress House
5 August
Go Batty
Help identify all eight of Northern Ireland’s bat species that live at Ardress House and make some batty crafts to take home. 7.30–10pm
Normal Admission   Members Free

White Park Bay
5 August
Go Wild with the Rangers
A morning of fun and adventure with our Rangers. We will help you to complete some of your ‘50 things to do before you’re 11½’. Booking Essential
Contact 028 2073 3419
10am–12noon
No Charge   Donations Welcome

Crom
6 August
Music by the Lake
Join us for a relaxing evening and listen to local musicians by the shores of Lough Erne. Join our Rangers for a morning of fun and adventure. We will help you to complete some of your ‘50 things to do before you’re 11½’. Booking Essential
Contact 029 6773 8118
7–10pm
Adult £10   Member Adult £10

Discover a world of bugs and beasties at Mount Stewart

Mount Stewart
6 August
Car Boot Sale
Come along and sell your unwanted items or browse around the many stalls and pick up a few treasures. Traders can arrive from 7am for set up. 9am–12noon
Car £5, Van £10, Trailer £15

Castle Ward
7, 14, 21, 28 August
Summer Jazz Series
Castle Ward’s annual Jazz Series continues throughout August. Bring a rug and a picnic and enjoy a relaxing afternoon in a tranquil and beautiful setting listening to the sounds of jazz. The perfect way to spend a Sunday afternoon. 2.30–5pm
Normal Admission   Members Free

Mount Stewart
10 August
Bug Detectives
Join us as we get out our magnifying glasses and discover a whole world of bugs and beasties… just where could those little critters be hiding?
This is a drop off activity for children aged 5–11 years.
Booking Essential
Contact 028 4278 8387
1.30–3.30pm
£7.50 per participant

Cushendun
12 August
Go Wild with the Rangers
Join our Rangers for a morning of fun and adventure. We will help you to complete some of your ‘50 things to do before you’re 11½’. Booking Essential
Contact 028 2073 3419
10am–12noon
No Charge   Donations Welcome

Springhill
12 August
Batty Bonanza
An exciting night of fun for all the family. Learn more about the bats that make their home in and around Springhill and make something batty to take home. 7.30–10pm
Normal Admission   Members Free

Kearney
13 August
Rock Pool Extravaganza
Young wildlife enthusiasts will love this day out at magical Kearney Village on the outer Ards Peninsula. Discover the amazing creatures lurking beneath the seaweed and slithering through the pools. This promises to be a great day out for all the family. Wellingtons recommended. Meet at Kearney Village. 11am–1pm
Adult Free   Child £3
Member Adult Free   Child £3

Portstewart Strand
13 August
Butterfly Safari
Great for kids—it's the season of butterflies and moths. Do you know what a Cinnabar moth looks like? Join our Rangers on the hunt to catch and identify the dunes fluttering residents.
Booking Essential
Contact 028 7083 6396
2–4pm
Adult £2   Child £1
Member Adult £2   Child £1

Castle Ward
13–14 August
CraftFest 2016
CraftFest is a must see event for those who love craft. With craft exhibitions in the house and the stableyard, as well as the opportunity to take part in workshops, watch demonstrations or have a go yourself. An annual celebration of craft, applied art and design organised by the Craft and Design Collective in partnership with the National Trust at Castle Ward.
10.30am–5.30pm
Normal Admission   Members Free

Enjoy the annual celebration of craft at Castle Ward
Mount Stewart  
28 August  
Jazz in the Gardens  
Bring your picnic and settle down on the lawn with your family and friends to enjoy an afternoon of jazz in the beautiful gardens at Mount Stewart. Sorry no BBQ’s.  
2-4.30pm  
Normal Admission  
Members Free  
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The Argory  
28 August  
Afternoon Tea  
Enjoy a delightful afternoon tea; finger sandwiches, Victoria sponge, homemade scones and other seasonal delights.  
Booking Essential  
Contact 028 8778 4753  
Afternoon tea sittings: 1pm, 2.30pm, 4pm  
Adult £10 (includes estate admission)  
Member Adult £5  
Child £7.50  
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Strangford Lough  
17 September  
Ards Beach Clean  
As part of the Marine Conservation Society annual beachwatch join us to tidy up the shoreline from Portaferry to Ballyhenny. Come along and pick litter while you learn how our ancestors foraged on the coast and what they salvaged. Meet at Portaferry.  
For more information contact the Rangers Office on 028 4278 7769  
10am–12noon  
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Rowallane Garden  
30 August  
Sizzling Summer BBQ Day  
To celebrate Northern Ireland’s Year of Food and Drink join us for a sizzling BBQ. Enjoy our local dexter meat from Rowallane and other sizzling delights. BBQ prices apply.  
12noon–3pm  
Normal Admission  
Members Free  
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Mount Stewart  
3 September  
Car Boot Sale  
Come along and sell your unwanted items or browse around the many stalls and pick up a few treasures. Traders can arrive from 7am for set up.  
9am–12noon  
Car £5, Van £10, Trailer £15  
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The Argory  
3–4 September  
Autumn Book Fair  
Calling all bookworms. Browse through hundreds of second hand books in our Courtyard and stock up on your winter reads. There’s sure to be something for everyone with live music and children’s activities on Sunday. Donations of unwanted books, CDs and DVDs are welcome prior to the event.  
12noon–5pm  
Normal Admission  
Members Free  
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Murlough NNR  
4 September  
Get Stuck In at Murlough  
The Rangers at Murlough work extremely hard at conserving this precious and delicate heathland for everyone to enjoy. Come along and discover what it takes to manage the nature reserve and help them with a day’s essential habitat management. Physical work involved. Suitable clothing and footwear essential.  
Meet at main car park.  
Booking Essential  
Contact 028 4375 1467 or email murlough@nationaltrust.org.uk  
10.30am–3.30pm
Murlough NNR
18 September
MCS Beachwatch
Lend a helping hand at Ireland’s first National Nature Reserve, as the National Trust in conjunction with the Marine Conservation Society take part in the annual clean up of our shorelines. A great excuse to bring your family and friends along and help do your bit in maintaining our heritage.
Meet at main car park.
Booking Essential
Contact 028 4375 1467 or email murlough@nationaltrust.org.uk
10am–12noon

Mount Stewart
24 September
Red Squirrel Day
Join us for a guided walk around the Red Squirrel Trail and learn all about the work of the Trust to save these endangered animals. Families can also enjoy red squirrel themed activity sessions led by the education team. Guided walks and activity sessions at 10am and 12noon.
Booking Essential
Contact 028 4278 8387
10am–2pm
Normal Admission Members Free

Slieve Donard and Slieve Comedagh
18 September
A Wee Dander on Donard
Join us on a guided challenge to ascend the two peaks of Slieve Comedagh and Slieve Donard—not for the faint-hearted. Discover the Ice House, stone pitching and once eagle lairs. Suitable clothing and footwear essential.
Meet at Donard Car Park.
Booking Essential
Contact 028 4375 1467 or email murlough@nationaltrust.org.uk
9.30am–4.30pm
No Charge Donations Welcome

Divis and the Black Mountain
25 September
Walk and Talk
Enjoy a guided walk on Divis Mountain with our knowledgeable Ranger and learn more about the heritage of this spectacular landscape. Experience the network of walking trails and hear about our exciting plans for the future.
Meet at The Barn.
1–2pm
No Charge Donations Welcome

Castle Ward
24 September
50 Things—Autumn Fun
Another chance to get a few more of the ‘50 things’ ticked off your list as we enjoy autumn activities. From picking blackberries to catching falling leaves, this will be a fun filled day for everyone to take part in.
12noon–4pm
Normal Admission Members Free

The Argory
25 September
Afternoon Tea
Enjoy a delightful afternoon tea; finger sandwiches, Victoria sponge, homemade scones and other seasonal delights.
Booking Essential
Contact 028 8778 4753
Afternoon tea sittings: 1pm, 2.30pm, 4pm
Adult £20 (includes estate admission)
Child £10 (includes estate admission)
Member Adult £15 Child £7.50

Minnowburn
24 September
Hedge Fun
Come along for a foraging morning on the outskirts of the city with one of our Rangers. Bring a basket or plastic container to gather some delicious autumn fruits.
Meet at Minnowburn car park.
11am–1pm
No Charge Donations Welcome

Who we are and what we do
We’re a charity founded in 1895 by three people who saw the importance of our nation’s heritage and open spaces and wanted to preserve them for everyone to enjoy. Over 100 years later these values are still at the heart of everything we do.

Volunteer and make a difference
As an independent charity we rely on the support of volunteers to help care for Northern Ireland’s coast, countryside, mansions and gardens.

From protecting wildlife habitats to welcoming visitors, helping in our shops and tea-rooms or providing administrative support, we’ve lots of opportunities to get involved.

Over 6,200 people volunteer for the National Trust in Northern Ireland—gifting almost a quarter of a million hours annually.

If you want to make a difference—for an hour, a day, or maybe more—just get in touch with your nearest National Trust place. We would love to hear from you.

Your skills, help and time are welcome.

Thank you for your support
Registered charity number 205846
Time to get away

If you're looking for an excuse to go somewhere different for family parties or hidden-away breaks our holiday cottages offer a home away from home. Each one is characterised by its quirky history, unique architecture or beautiful landscape setting.

Every booking helps us look after special places for ever, for everyone

Portbraddan Cottage, Antrim
Nestled in an idyllic harbour on the North Antrim Coast, this three bedroom cottage is an inspirational location from which to explore the North Coast of Northern Ireland—sleeps six people.

Crom Cottages, Fermanagh
At Crom there are seven cottages around two sides of a large open courtyard, right on the tranquil shores of Upper Lough Erne. Erne view is the largest cottage and accommodates six people. Alder Cottage is the smallest with one double bedroom.

Butler's Apartment, Florence Court, Fermanagh
Butler's Apartment provides an unforgettable country house experience at Florence Court. Situated in the south wing, this unique and atmospheric apartment retains its original features and character, and is enhanced with luxurious additions—sleeps four people.

Potter's Cottage, Castle Ward, Down
This quaint stone cottage is in the heart of the Old Castle Ward farmyard near the peaceful and tranquil shores of Strangford Lough—sleeps four people.

Holiday cottage bookings
For further details and bookings contact:
T: 0344 800 2070
E: cottages@nationaltrust.org.uk
W: www.nationaltrustholidays.org.uk

Some cottages are adapted for visitors with special requirements.

Crom
Crom is one of Ireland's most important nature conservation areas with rare and spectacular wildlife, inspirational woodland walks and nature trails—the perfect place to pitch your tent. The estate is a well-known camping destination, but for those who want to enjoy a little more luxury, we've introduced new 'glamping' PODS. They were originally used to house pigs, but they've certainly had an upgrade since then!

Bookings: contact 028 6773 8118.

Camp and caravan

When it comes to camping there can be few sites to rival the special places we look after. Our campsites are set in some fantastic locations, ideal for exploring the surrounding countryside. Be inspired by nature and wake up to the great outdoors.

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Castle Ward
Tucked away in the stunning 820 acre demesne there are 28 hard stand sites, space for up to ten tents and four eco-friendly continental camping PODS. The Bunkhouse, a two-storey former game-keepers cottage is also ideally suited for groups of up to 14 people. Surrounded by 34 km of trails there is plenty of space for walking, cycling and other outdoor activities all year round.

Bookings: contact 028 4488 1204 or email castleward.accommodation@nationaltrust.org.uk

Springhill
Springhill has space for 20 touring pitches. With its walled garden, charming house and parklands full of tempting paths and trails, there's something for all the family. (Note: no hook up available).

Bookings: contact 028 8674 8210.

Causeway Hotel
A warm welcome followed by exceptional hospitality, comfort and cuisine are what you can expect from a visit to the Causeway Hotel. Situated at the entrance to the world famous Giant's Causeway, with views over the beautiful Antrim coast, there are 28 ensuite bedrooms and conference facilities for up to 60 delegates.

Bookings: 028 2073 1210 or info@thecausewayhotel.com

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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Address</th>
<th>Contact Details</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Ardress House</td>
<td>64 Ardress Road Portadown BT62 8RS T: 028 8787 4753 E: <a href="mailto:ardress@nationaltrust.org.uk">ardress@nationaltrust.org.uk</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Argyll</td>
<td>144 Derrycaig Road Moy Dungannon BT77 4NA T: 028 8778 4753 E: <a href="mailto:argory@nationaltrust.org.uk">argory@nationaltrust.org.uk</a></td>
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<tr>
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<td>82 Belmont Church Road Belfast BT4 3FG T: 028 9065 3338 E: <a href="mailto:belmonttower@nationaltrust.org.uk">belmonttower@nationaltrust.org.uk</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>Carrick-a-Rede</td>
<td>19a White Park Road Ballintoy Ballycastle BT54 6LS T: 028 2076 9839 E: <a href="mailto:crom@nationaltrust.org.uk">crom@nationaltrust.org.uk</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Castle Coole</td>
<td>Enniskillen BT74 6JY T: 028 7084 8728 E: <a href="mailto:pattersons@nationaltrust.org.uk">pattersons@nationaltrust.org.uk</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>Castle Ward</td>
<td>Nr Strangford Downpatrick BT30 7LS T: 028 4488 1204 E: <a href="mailto:castleward@nationaltrust.org.uk">castleward@nationaltrust.org.uk</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Crom</td>
<td>Newtownbutler BT92 8AJ T: 028 6731 8318 E: <a href="mailto:crom@nationaltrust.org.uk">crom@nationaltrust.org.uk</a></td>
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<td>Derrymore</td>
<td>Downhill Demesne and Hazlett House 107 Sea Road Castlecomer BT34 4RP T: 028 7708 8728 E: <a href="mailto:downhilldemesne@nationaltrust.org.uk">downhilldemesne@nationaltrust.org.uk</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Florence Court</td>
<td>Enniskillen BT92 1DB T: 028 6634 8249 E: <a href="mailto:florencecourt@nationaltrust.org.uk">florencecourt@nationaltrust.org.uk</a></td>
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<tr>
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<td>North Coast Office 60 Causeway Road Bushmills BT37 8SU T: 028 2073 3855 E: <a href="mailto:giantscauseway@nationaltrust.org.uk">giantscauseway@nationaltrust.org.uk</a></td>
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<td>Gray's Printing Press</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Minnowburn</td>
<td>Minnowburn Warden's Office Ballynahatty Road Belfast BT8 2LE T: 028 9064 7787 E: <a href="mailto:minnowburn@nationaltrust.org.uk">minnowburn@nationaltrust.org.uk</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mount Stewart</td>
<td>Portaferry Road Newtownards BT22 2AD T: 028 4278 7699 E: <a href="mailto:strangford@nationaltrust.org.uk">strangford@nationaltrust.org.uk</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Murlough National Nature Reserve</td>
<td>South Down Office Dundrum BT33 0NQ T: 028 4357 1467 E: <a href="mailto:murlough@nationaltrust.org.uk">murlough@nationaltrust.org.uk</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Patterson's Spade Mill</td>
<td>51 Antrim Road Templepatrick BT39 0AP T: 028 9443 3691 E: <a href="mailto:pattersons@nationaltrust.org.uk">pattersons@nationaltrust.org.uk</a></td>
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<td>Portstewart BT55 7PS T: 028 7086 6396 E: <a href="mailto:portstewart@nationaltrust.org.uk">portstewart@nationaltrust.org.uk</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>Springhill</td>
<td>20 Springhill Road Moneyreagh BT45 7NQ T: 028 8674 8210 E: <a href="mailto:springhill@nationaltrust.org.uk">springhill@nationaltrust.org.uk</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Strangford Lough</td>
<td>Mount Stewart Portaferry Road Newtownards BT22 2AD T: 028 4278 7699 E: <a href="mailto:strangford@nationaltrust.org.uk">strangford@nationaltrust.org.uk</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wellbrook</td>
<td>Beetling Mill 20 Wellbrook Road Corkhill BT80 9RY T: 028 8674 8210 E: <a href="mailto:wellbrook@nationaltrust.org.uk">wellbrook@nationaltrust.org.uk</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Northern Ireland Regional Office</td>
<td>Rowallane Stableyard Saintfield BT24 7JH T: 028 9751 0721 E: <a href="mailto:ni.customerenquiries@nationaltrust.org.uk">ni.customerenquiries@nationaltrust.org.uk</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Derry-Londonderry Office</td>
<td>No 3 St Columb’s Court Derry-Londonderry BT48 6PT T: 07919 110267 E: <a href="mailto:ronan.gorman@nationaltrust.org.uk">ronan.gorman@nationaltrust.org.uk</a></td>
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Together we can protect Northern Ireland’s natural and built heritage.

Join today at your favourite place.

Registered charity number 205846