South East Coast Canoe Trail

Starting more than 50km northeast along the south east coast of Northern Ireland and the County Louth, this coastal canoe trail has all that one could expect from a good canoe trail and more. The trail winds through the cross-hatched countryside of Co. Down, County Louth, and County Meath, taking canoeists along the beautiful coastline, rocky covers and long sandy beaches. The South East Coast Trail offers sea kayaking for all abilities.

The south east coast of Northern Ireland is, in general, a strong windsurfing area for the seas around Strangford Lough and the Lough Neagh. However, there is a lack of water sports, particularly in the coastal areas of County Louth and County Meath. The trail caters for all abilities, from novice to experienced canoeists.

Winds and Weather

The winds and weather along the canoe trail can be unpredictable. Strong northerly and southerly winds can create choppy conditions on the water. It is recommended to check the weather forecast before setting out on the trail and to be prepared for strong winds and rough seas.

Non-emergency contacts

Safeturf - 0808 800 3674
Rooftop - 0808 800 3675

Emergencies

Northern Ireland Water - 02890732222
Environment Agency - 0345 988 9379

Harbour contact details

Strangford Lough Arches - 028 4273 9929
Strangford Lough Adventure Centre - 028 4273 9929

Maps, charts and pilot books

OS Ireland Map Series 1:50,000 Sheet 21 Strangford Lough
OS Ireland Map Series 1:25,000 Sheet 18 Strangford Lough
OS Ireland Map Series 1:50,000 Sheet 18 Strangford Lough
OS Ireland Map Series 1:100,000 Sheet 18 Strangford Lough
OS Ireland Map Series 1:25,000 Sheet 21 Strangford Lough
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OS Ireland Map Series 1:25,000 Sheet 22 Strangford Lough
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Happy Paddling!
Kilbough to Newcastle

From Kilbough, the road descends through 30 John's Point, where the Killbridge and the North Channel meet. Beyond this point, the road continues through a series of natural rock formations that outline the coastline. At Newcastle, a distance of 6 miles southwest, the road begins to climb, passing through the town centre, passing the Moonee Moore House, and then descending again.

Prior planning is essential when planning this stretch of coast as there is an area subject to frequent high tides. The road is subject to intermittent closures due to high tides. Consults should contact Delphi. The road is subject to temporary closures due to high tides.

Newcastle to Cranfield

The route is of particular interest to those interested in nature and wildlife. The route is subject to frequent high tides. The road is subject to intermittent closures due to high tides. Consults should contact Delphi.

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Tidal Information

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Newry Canal

Further inland, the Newry Canal connects the town of Newry to the River Mourne. The canal was constructed in the 18th century and is a popular location for birdwatching and wildlife observation. The canal is subject to intermittent closures due to high tides. Consults should contact Delphi for the most up-to-date information.

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