

WALK NO.1

DROMBEG STONE CIRCLE - VARIATIONS

Distance: 4-5 MI (7-9km) Time: 1 1/2 hrs - 2hrs

Terrain: All on (usually quiet) roads

Start and Finish: Glandore Village

**OPTION 1:** Through the village and continue outwards until you pass the church on the left about 1 ½ mil(2km) away, and take the first turn right signposted for Drombeg. This narrow road has a host of thorn trees, holly, ferns, primroses and a host of other flora line your route, which descends for a short distance before veering right, between two little hills, and then ascends to a sign for the Drombeg Stone Circle. Go right as directed by the sign, and the little lane swings sharp left, then right, to bring you to the gate at the stone circle.

OPTION 2: (Slightly longer/more uphill) Go left at the village information map, and go left up the steep hill, at this fork, into an instantly more rural setting with great views our the Glandore Harbour. Some ten minutes later, take the upward left again just before a house with a slated upper half, and once again take an upward left some 50m later. Now this narrow road weaves upwards past some homes, with good views inland as well as onto the harbour. When you arrive at a T-junction with a house facing you, turn right and this road levels off before descending past Glandore National School on your left. When you reach a fork with a sign "Glandore 2km" you go left towards the Church, and you have now the Drombeg Stone Circle.

RETURN OPTIONS: You can elect to return by either of the two outward routes described above, or carry on to finish a loop as follows: When you go from the Drombeg Stone Circle field back out to the little road, turn right (Southward), this road brings you down to a T-junction. You turn right here, and simply stay on this road, passing Kilfinnan Farm, and then swings right to where you will have really dramatic views down left onto Glandore Harbour and across to Union Hall. The road descends to a T-junction, where you turn left to bring you back down into the village and no doubt to a

well-earned beverage of your choice.

WALK NO 2. A STROLL THROUGH GLANDORE

Distance: 1 1/2 ml (2km) Time: 3/4hr.

Terrain: Narrow roads, village street

Start and Finish: At the information map of Glandore go up left here. It is steep at first, but rewards the effort with a rural atmosphere and good views over Glandore harbour. The two islands out there are Adam (the larger one) and Eve , everyone says that the mariners saying is "Avoid Adam and Hug Eve"! Be that as it may, your only navigating for now is when you come to a fork before a house with a slated upper half, and you keep right, downward past the house here. This narrow road weaves down to a T-junction with a water pump on the right. Turn right here, and now enjoy the stroll downhill back through the village. You might like to go down the signposted path on the left to visit the Terrace Strand. You then continue down through the village taking in time to admire the setting of the public park and the views over the Harbour from this natural verandah are marvellous, and indeed it is a busy spot on a sunny day. You can always amuse yourself by watching any incoming yachts or trawfers, to see what they make of the aforesaid marniers saying!



Of all the gems which deck our isle, And stood our native shore, None wears for me a sunny smile So bright as sweet Glandore.

Poem by Dr. Murray

WALK NO 3: UNION HALL AND LOUGH CLOCHAR

Distance: To Union Hall and back 3 1/2 ml (6km)

Time: 1 1/2 - 2hrs

Above and Lough Clochar 6ml (10km)

Time: 2 1/4 - 3hrs

Terrain: Easily walkable roads. A few manageable hills

on the loop.

Start and Finish: Glandore Village

Walk past the Church of Ireland with the harbour just below to your left (normally you should walk on the right, to face oncoming traffic, but you may decide that you are more visible on the seaward side of this road). The road winds most scenically along the harbour, and then you turn left onto the single lane Poulgorm bridge, with good views on up the inlet towards Leap. (Poulgorm means blue pool – an apt name). Follow the road over to Union Hall, with its unusual "backs to the sea inleft" layout. It won't take all that long to explore, but if you're that way inclined there are a few nice pubs and café for refreshments. If you are not doing the extra loop, simply head back to Glandore at your leisure, retracting your outward steps.

LOUGH CLOCHAR LOOP: From Union Hall village go up the hill to the Catholic Church, and turn left around the Church. A short distance later, (ignore the turn for Reen pier), keep straight on here, in a quiet rural sorting, and you reach a narrow lake on your left – this is Lough Clochar. At the far end of the lake, you come to a little crossroads, and take the left, uphill, option here. Keep left at the next fork as you go up this narrow road, and it continues to ascend for a while longer, before it starts to descend back into Union Hall, with good views back to the inner harbour and Poulgorm Bridge, infact the last few hundred meters to the middle of the village are quite steeply downhill. Your only remaining decision now is whether to head straight back for Glandore or to pause for that refreshment which was mentioned earlier!!!

WALK NO 4: COAST AND COUNTRY

Distance: Crow Lane 2 1/4 ml(4km) Time: 3/4 hr

Leap Pier 3 ½ ml(6km) Time: 1 ½ hrs

Terrain: Rural roads - but watch for traffic on second

half of the longer loop

Start and finish: Glandore Village.

Take the road opposite the pier and pass Glandore Harbour Yacht Club on right, head up the hill away from the village. The road rises steadily but levels off after about ten minutes. At the first junction A, (yield-sign) keep left, and at the next fork B, (house on right), take the left downward. You are now on the Mine Road, and a glance up to your left will explain why it was so named – that is the stone chimney of the engine house of a former manganese mine up there. When you come along to the next junction C you have to make your choice:

Return via Crow Lane: Turn up left on a steep hill, which soon levels off, and now your narrow lane weaves and undulates Southward. There is a good aspect out to Adam's Island in Glandore Harbour from here. The road then begins to descend and before you know it, you find yourself at Crow Lane, and at the top of the final steep descent to the harbour.

Return via Leap Pier: From this junction C keep right, on past the houses, and follow the pleasant, leafy road until you see your first glimpse of the sea inlet; go down past a dwelling house here, and turn left onto the road along the inlet. (Leap Pier is just along to your right as you reach this road). Now just follow the road back as it winds down along beside the water, passing Poulgorm Bridge about half way home. Do be careful of traffic on this busy road.

