

ARDWELL BAY

- Circular coastal and farmland walk**
- 3km/2 miles**
- Allow 1 hour**
- Hard surface tracks, beaten earth and grass paths. Stiles and gates.**
- Moderate**
- Stout shoes or boots recommended**
- Please avoid the dunes and stick to paths**

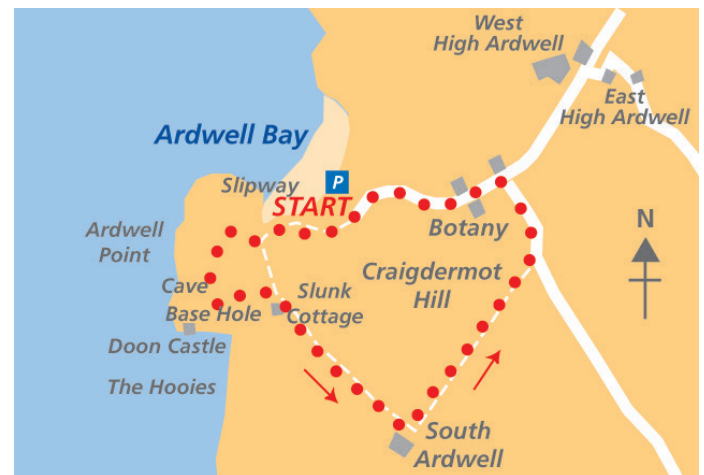
PARKING From Sandhead, follow the A716 south then turn right at the sign for Kirkmadrine Stones. Follow this road to its end where it becomes a rough, uneven track to Ardwell bay car park. Please do not park on the slipway or leave litter.

START From the car park, follow the track past the slipway to a stile then follow the waymarkers.

Ardwell bay is hidden by the cliffs and dunes that surround it. It is only when you round the corner into this beautiful, secluded bay that it finally comes into view. On the sandy beach waders such as dunlin search for food as the tide ebbs and flows. There are also grey seals in the bay and if you're lucky you may spot one swimming around the coast.

Follow the stunning coastline to Doon Broch. Perched near the edge of the cliffs, this fortified dwelling looks no more than a pile of stones at first glance. On closer inspection, however, you can make out two rooms as well as the original entrances, on both the landward and seaward sides. Built between 100BC and 200AD, it is now considerably reduced in height.

Heading inland, enjoy fabulous views as you approach the farm buildings at South Ardwell. Continue to follow quiet tracks through pleasant farmland, returning to Ardwell Bay. The dunes here are very delicate, being held together by specialised plants such as marram grass. Overhead, kestrels hover in search of small mammals taking cover in the vegetation.



Map © Crown Copyright and Database right 2013. All rights reserved.
Ordnance Survey licence 100016994