

Explore and Play

Who: Families

Where: *Exploris, Cloughey Beach and Ards Blair Mayne Leisure and Wellbeing Complex*

Duration: Full Day

Exploris Aquarium, Portaferry, BT22 1NZ, 028 4272 8062

A sunken galleon, friendly sharks and a snappy crocodile all-star in Northern Ireland's only aquarium and seal rehabilitation centre. Located one hour from Belfast on the shores of Strangford Lough you will be wowed with a diver's view of marine life from around the world.

See a variety of sea creatures close up. From the native fish of Strangford Lough to the colourful coral reefs of the Tropical Oceans and even the Amazon Rainforest where you can see some of its reptilian inhabitants. Check out the rehabilitation work with common and grey seals in the nursery pens and outdoor pools and enjoy the playful antics of our resident otters.



Frump in the Stump, Corrog Wood, BT22 1PW

(4 mins from previous)

Heading back along the peninsula why not stop and get a photograph at the Frump in the Stump. Situated on the Deerpark Road, the 'Frump' is craftily carved into a tall wooden stump. Commissioned by the Woodland Trust to create something in wood, to draw attention to the Trust's new 14-acre plantation of young trees at Corrog. The "Frump" is really a dryad, a nymph from Greek mythology, inhabiting a tree, she, or it, supposedly jumped into the tree to guard it from being cut down!



Cloughey Beach, BT22 1JB

(12 mins from previous)

After, enjoy a picnic on Cloughey Beach. This breath-taking beach offers beautiful views and miles of unspoilt beach to play on or simply sit and enjoy. Blow away the cobwebs with a walk and maybe even a paddle.



Ards Blair Mayne Leisure and Wellbeing Complex, Newtownards, BT23 4DB 028 9181 2837

(30 mins from previous)

Finish the day at the new Ards Blair Mayne Leisure and Wellbeing Complex. The newest and most exciting inclusion in the complex is the Blacklight Adventure Zone. Try your hand at Blacklight adventure golf, climbing walls or high ropes. If you prefer the water the aqua zone is for you, choose from three pools including children's splash pool with spray cannons, water jets, a slide and cascades



For more information on any of these places to visit or more ideas on other locations call into or phone [Ards Visitor Information Centre on 028 9182 6846](tel:02891826846).