HILLSBOROUGH CASTLE GARDENS

This small park was created by the Hill family, laid out in an informal style. The House, built on the highest ground, looks over lawns with scattered clumps of trees and shrubs and, in the distance, a more thickly planted area bordering the stream.

Formal elements were introduced by 1856. Today the terraces are embellished with mixed borders, planted with herbaceous perennials and shrubs.

Throughout the grounds are exotic plants, mature specimens and modern commemorative trees.

GENERAL INFORMATION

HOUSE & GARDENS
OPENING TIMES

First tour at 10.30am and last tour at 4.00pm each Saturday and first tour at 12.00 noon and last tour at 4.00pm every Sunday, from Saturday 6th April 2013 through to Sunday 29th September 2013.

As Hillsborough Castle is an official Government Building the opening times may be subject to change at short notice.

TICKETS

GUIDED HOUSE TOUR & GARDEN ACCESS (UNGUIDED)

House Tour approx 1 hour, last tour 4.00pm Saturday & 4.00pm Sunday
Adult £7.00, Concessionary £4.00 (OAPs, students, children 5 – 16),
Family £18.00 (2 adults and up to 4 children). Under 5s free. Price includes VAT.

GUIDED HOUSE & GARDEN TOUR (MUST BE PRE-BOOKED)

House Tour as above, Garden Tours at 11.30am and 2.00pm
lasting approx 1 hour & 30 mins.
Adult £12.00, Concessionary £6.00 (OAPs, Students, Children 5 – 16),
Under 5s free. Price includes VAT.

GARDEN TOUR ONLY (MUST BE PRE-BOOKED)

Tours at 11:30am and 2:00pm lasting approx 1 hour & 30 mins.
Adult £7.00, Concessionary £4.00 (OAPs, Students, Children 5 – 16),
Under 5s free. Price includes VAT.

UNGUIDED ACCESS TO GARDENS ONLY

Last admission 4.00pm Saturday & 4.00pm Sunday
Castle Walk approx 30 mins, Glen Walk approx 1hour,
Lake Walk approx 1 hour 45 mins
Adults and Concessionary (OAP's, Students, Children 5 – 16) £3.50
Family £10.00 (2 adults and up to 4 children). Under 5s free. Price includes VAT.

Visitors are asked to note that due to the natural terrain the majority of paths are unsuitable for wheelchair users and those with mobility problems.
Suitable footwear is strongly advised.

Pre-booking of House Tours is advised.
Pre-booking of Garden Tours is essential.

For information on bookings, collection of tickets
and details on facilities for all visitors please contact:
HILLSBOROUGH CASTLE BOOKING OFFICE
The Square, Hillsborough, BT26 6AG
Tel: 028 9268 9406 or by e-mail: Hillsborough.castle@nio.x.gsi.gov.uk

Smoking and photography are not permitted inside the House.
Please refrain from littering and feeding the wildlife.
Only guide dogs and other assistance dogs permitted.

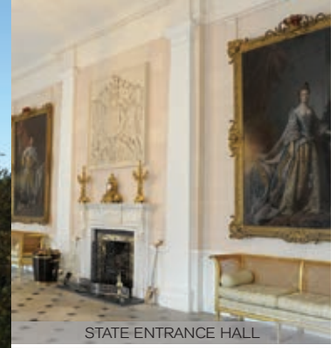
The information contained in this leaflet is correct at the time of printing.

HILLSBOROUGH CASTLE

A large rambling two-storey late Georgian mansion of a warm golden-orange ashlar, dating from 1797 and incorporating an earlier house of 1760.

The building was remodelled in the mid-19th century and early 20th century to its present form. The principal elevation consists of a pedimental portico of four giant flattened Ionic columns in the centre of a seventeen bay front.

The present State Entrance is formed by a single storey shallow portico of four pairs of coupled Ionic columns.


STATE ENTRANCE HALL

CANDLESTICK HALL

STATE DINING ROOM

RED DINING ROOM

THRONE ROOM

STAIRCASE HALL

STATE DRAWING ROOM

LADY GREY'S DRAWING ROOM

HILLSBOROUGH CASTLE

GARDEN WALKS

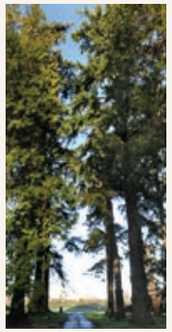
Hillsborough Castle
The south façade, symmetrical in itself, and seventeen bays long. The central section breaks forward to a formal tetrastyle portico of giant columns with flattened Ionic capitals.

Yew Tree Walk
By about 1895 the old line of the Moira Road had been transformed into a dramatic Yew Walk. Paired Irish (Florencecourt) yews *(Taxus Baccata 'Fastigiata')*.

Lady Alice Temple
A domed temple constructed in 1880 and containing a circular seat behind a screen of Ionic columns. Named after Lady Alice Maria Hill (Countess of Bective).

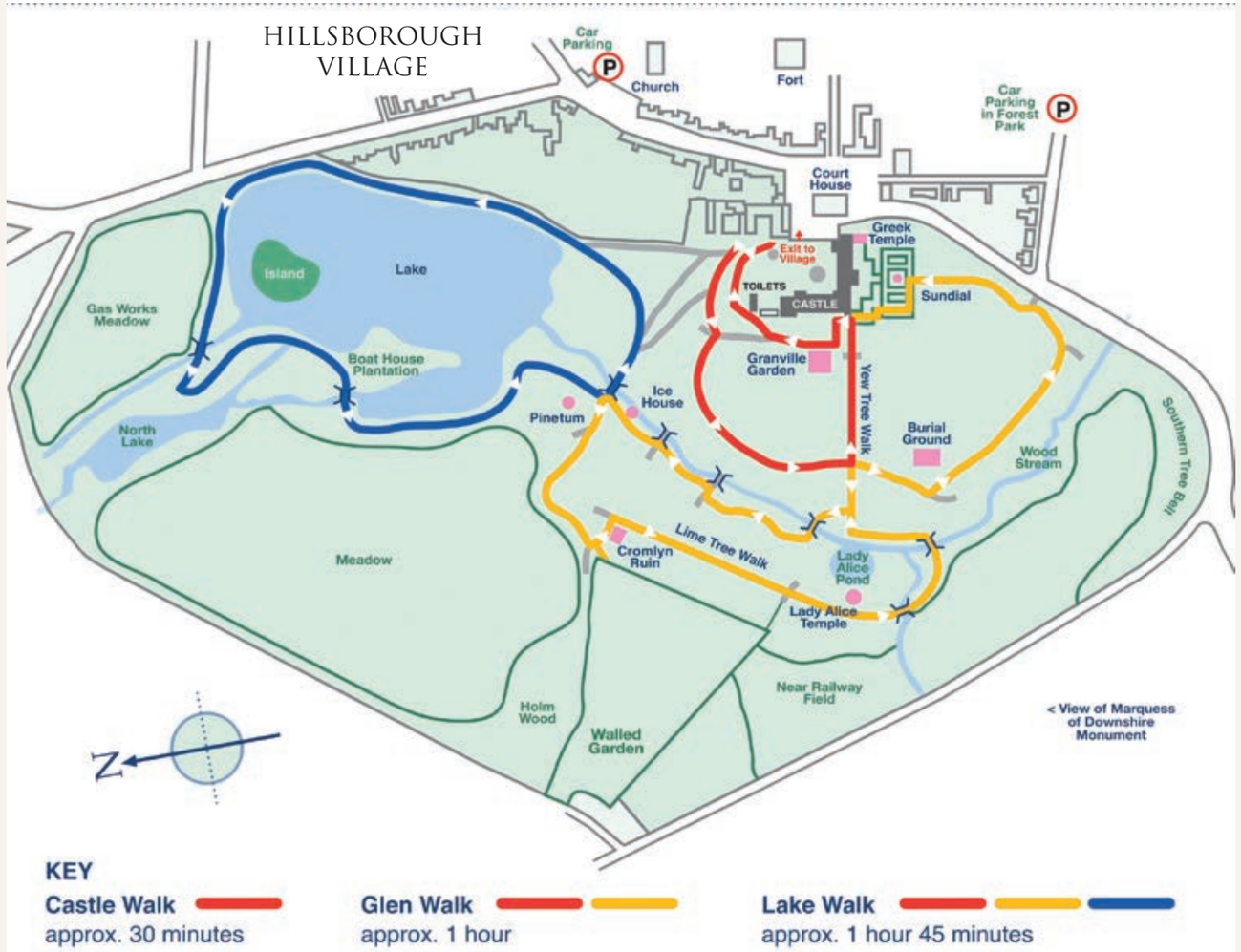
Ice House
Large rustic arched entrance of rounded sandstone giving way to a vaulted tunnel and brick lined coned store. A fernery has been established around it which includes several thriving tree-ferns *(Dicksonia Antarctica)*.

Pinetum
Amongst some excellent specimens of pines, spruces and firs is a commemorative *Pinus radiata*, planted in 1872.



Church View
The Parish Church of Saint Malachy. One of the best 18th century churches in Ireland – a good example of Gothic revival architecture as seen from the Lake.

Lake
While no principal rooms from the Castle have the benefit of views down over the lake to the north, this lake does nevertheless add greatly to the feeling of serenity and withdrawal which the grounds of the Castle achieve.



Cromlyn Ruin
Late 18th century sham ruin of standing stone and lintel intended to represent an earlier Christian Church of Cromlyn. Original chapel dates to 7th century.

Lime Tree Walk
Approximately 150 years old, it has a moss path that is a soft contrast to the crisp gravel of the Yew Tree Walk.

View of the Marquess of Downshire Monument
Constructed in 1848. A very tall fluted Doric column of dressed stone with a statue of the 3rd Marquess of Downshire on top.

Quaker Burial Ground
The Old Burial Ground is the remaining portion of the site of a former Quaker Meeting House. Today it is marked by a hedged enclosure planted with rows of Irish yews.

Jubilee Garden
A specially designed garden commemorating HM The Queen's Diamond Jubilee Year, and including the sundial in front of the South façade of the Castle.

Greek Temple
Summer House in Doric style dating from mid-19th century. The temple stands at the end of the terrace giving way to a blind doorway.

Granville Garden
Replanted by Lady Granville in the late 1940s and early 1950s. The magnificent Rhododendron (an unnamed hybrid of R. Arboreum) behind the garden is included in the Guinness Book of Records.