

Get closer to what's important

Estate Map



Killeavy
Castle Estate



Killeavy Castle Estate
12 Ballintemple Road, Killeavy, Newry
County Armagh, Northern Ireland, BT35 8LQ

Phone: +44 (0) 28 3044 4888
Email: reception@killeavycastle.com
killeavycastle.com



Killeavy Slieve Gullion Walks and Cycles



Key To Map

Half Forest Drive Circuit
Cycle or Walk
9 KM - Moderate (Follow Green Markers)

Forest Drive Circuit
Cycle or Walk
14 KM - Strenuous (Follow Blue Markers)

Killeavy Old Church
Cycle or Walk
5 KM return - Moderate

Killeavy Guest Walks
Cycle or Walk
4 KM - Moderate (Follow Black Markers)

Upper Feeding Lot
Cycle or Walk
4 KM return - Moderate (Follow Black Markers)

Forest Park Loop
Cycle or Walk
4 KM - Moderate (Follow Black Markers)

St. Monnina's Well
Walk
7 KM return - Moderate (Follow Black Markers)
2 KM return from Killeavy Old Church

Slieve Gullion Circuit
Walk
15.5 KM - Strenuous

Walk or Cycle this Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty

Explore an exceptional countryside rich in geology, archaeology, wildlife and folklore. Stunning views await you on the Ring of Gullion.

The Ring of Gullion lies within a region long associated with an ancient frontier that began with the earliest records of man's habitation in Ireland. It was along these roads and fields and over these hills and mountains, that Cúchulainn and the Red Branch Knights, the O'Neills and O'Hanlons roamed, battled and died. The area which has always represented a frontier from the ancient Iron Age defences of the Dorsey, through the Anglo-Norman Pale, and latterly the modern border, is alive with history, scenic beauty and culture. This area reflects the mix of cultures from Neolithic to the present, while the rolling countryside lends itself to the enjoyment of peaceful walks, excellent fishing and a friendly welcome at every stop.

Surround yourself with nature as you explore the guest walks located throughout the grounds of our Estate.

Guest walks have been created to allow you to enjoy the scenic aspects throughout the estate. Some of our trails were created at the time of inception of Killeavy Castle in 1836 and recently reconditioned. Additional woodland walks have been created more recently to allow our guests to enjoy the scenic views over Slieve Gullion and the nearby countryside. Escape life in the fast lane and embrace the silence that nature provides.

We have mapped all our guest walks to allow you to make the most of your time. We offer regular heritage tours of the estate, explaining our history and ethos of sustainability. Join us to learn the rich history of Killeavy Castle, our farm-to-fork approach to dining and how none of our waste goes to landfill. Enquire at the hotel reception for the next available tour.

For those looking for something different hire a bicycle and take to the hills, or go a little easier with the hire of an e-bike. Picnic lunches can also be organised for guests all of which can be hired and booked from the hotel reception.



Welcome

At Killeavy Castle Estate we are all about living life more slowly and in the present; cherishing those ahhh moments for when the distractions of the modern world finally ebb away and you get closer to the things that matter most. Whether that's nature, history, loved ones or even yourself, this secluded country estate will provide everything you need to emerge fully rejuvenated.

Get closer to what's important

Wellness at Killeavy

At Killeavy Castle Estate we encourage our guests to practice both 'Active and Passive Wellness' during your stay with us. Disconnect from life in the fast lane and reconnect with nature to restore balance to your life by allowing yourself to absorb all that nature has to offer in the tranquil setting of our Estate.

Set amongst 365 acres of mixed farm and woodland Killeavy Castle Estate is the ideal retreat to practice 'Active Wellness' with activities such as self-guided guest walks, allowing you to take time to explore the estates mythical woodland, working farm, walled garden and estate garden. For the more adventurous both e-bikes and mountain bicycles are available for hire so you can explore the wide open spaces throughout the estate and the surrounding scenery in this Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty.

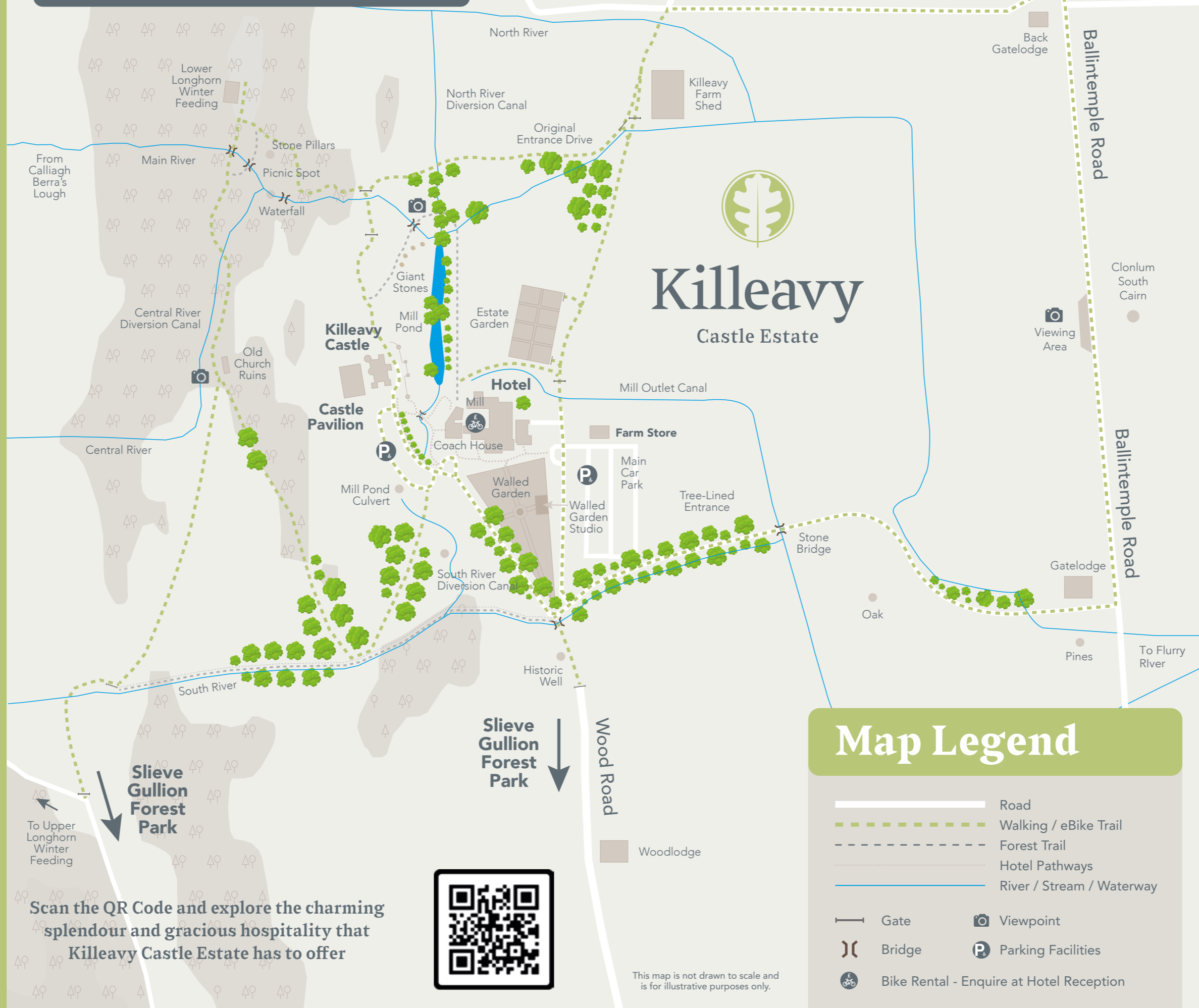
For those who need some 'Passive Wellness' why not visit our Spa where we adopt a 'field to face' approach in our treatments so that we remain unique in our offering and focused on your wellbeing.

Sustainability at Killeavy

As stewards of our pristine location and global citizens, sustainability is our focus. From concept, to design, to delivery of operations, we aim to lower our ecological footprint in all practices. Guided by the UN Sustainable Development Goals, we have green accreditations for environmental, staff and guest initiatives. Sourcing local produce and supplies while minimising single use items is our priority. By cultivating seasonal vegetables, fruits and herbs in our Walled and Estate Gardens along with rearing Longhorn Cattle and Cheviot Sheep on our Working Farm, cuisine served in our 2 AA rosette award-winning Restaurant, Bistro Bar is as sustainable as we can make it.

This evolving and embedded ethos allows us all to enjoy the luxury of the Estate whilst protecting our natural environment for generations to come.

Explore the destination of Killeavy Castle Estate



Scan the QR Code and explore the charming splendour and gracious hospitality that Killeavy Castle Estate has to offer



Our History

Killeavy Castle Estate is a rare place that can bestow an uncommon and precious gift – the feeling of having the world all to yourself. Shrouded by the dense woodlands on Slieve Gullion, the music of bird song and the whispers of ancient memories caress the air. Where nature walks hand in hand with history, you'll unlock the door to Killeavy Castle Estate.

Killeavy Castle is a Grade A listed historical building originally designed in 1836 by architect George Papworth of Dublin. Formally known as Killeavy Lodge, the Foxall family had their home rebuilt in the style of the pre-Victorian Gosford Castle with towers, tudor windows and a medieval style door transforming the modest farmhouse into a home fit for a king.

Situated on the eastern base of Slieve Gullion, the original castle and surrounding grounds brought a new element to the beautiful landscape. The building contained a basement level with a kitchen, store rooms, servant's quarters and underground tunnel to allow servants to enter and exit the building unseen. Above was a parlour and wine cellar, with an adjoining drawing room, library and conservatory. On the top level were six bedrooms, four dressing rooms and bathrooms. There was a beautiful walled garden and ornamental water wheel. The Bell family took ownership of the property in 1881, but in recent years the building fell into disrepair. Fortunately, the façade remained intact and surrounded by fir plantations and lush farmland, it has been returned to its former glory.

A New Beginning

The Boyle family took ownership of the estate in 2013 and began a major restoration and redevelopment programme and the estate welcomed its first guests in April 2019. The estate continues to go from strength to strength with awards such as 'AA Hotel of the Year' in 2023 and receiving 2 AA rosettes for Culinary Excellence in 2022. Our estate has been continuously recognised for its authentic farm-to-fork offering, winning the TourismNI 'Best Food and Drink Experience' in 2022, to name but a few, matched with excellent customer service from local staff.