

Limestone from the quarries in Ballintemple was used in the construction of important buildings such as St Finbarr's Cathedral, the Cork Savings Bank and the Court House.

Back on the marina drive, continue left until you are back to the old railway entrance. Follow the path back the way you came up to the SPAR store. Then instead of going up the sports ground, take the path on your right. It will lead you up to the quarry on your left.



Take the bus to/from Ballinlough or Blackrock

Go out to Ballinlough by bus.

The no 10 bus leaves from Cork, Grand Parade Street across from the library approximately every half an hour. The bus stops almost in front of the Silver Key pub.

Come back from Blackrock by bus.

From Blackrock Road you can take the bus No 2 back to the city center.

Latest timetables available from the Bus Station at Parnell Place or at www.buseireann.ie



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Castles & Quarry Walk



The walk

Time: 2 ½ hrs (from Silver Key Pub to Dundanion Castle and back to the Quarry)

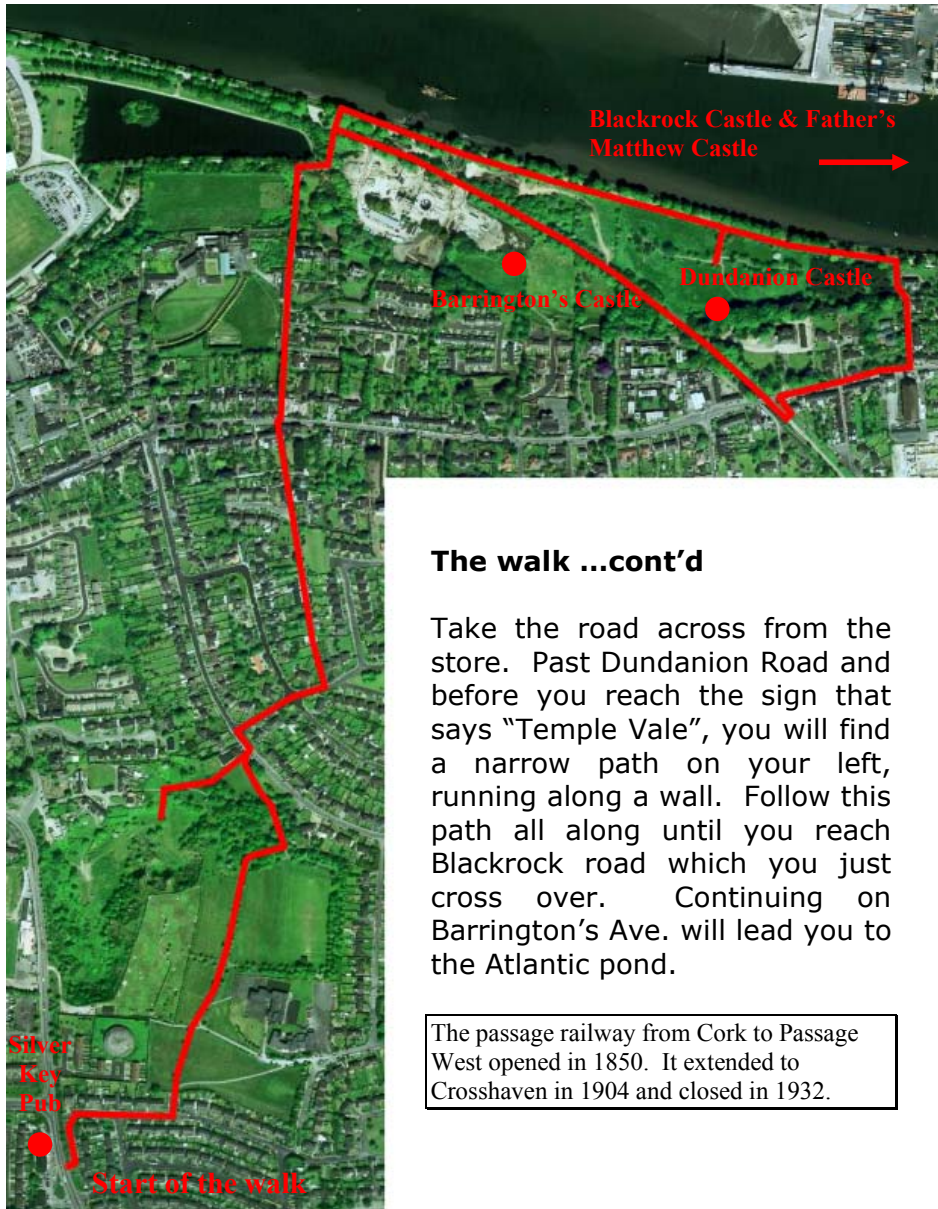
The walk starts in Ballinlough (East of Cork City Centre) across from Silver Key Pub, which is located on Churchyard Lane, at the corner of Ballinlough road (the pub is located on the number 10 bus line). Across from the pub, at the pedestrian street light, you will see an entrance to a residential area. That is the beginning of the walk.

Cross the metal barrier and follow the street until you find a small cul-de-sac on your left which leads you up a grass slope.

Walk straight on until you reach a group of trees. The path then gently swings right under the trees.

At the intersection, turn left and follow the path almost straight until you reach the SPAR store on Beaumont drive.

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The walk ...cont'd

Take the road across from the store. Past Dundanion Road and before you reach the sign that says "Temple Vale", you will find a narrow path on your left, running along a wall. Follow this path all along until you reach Blackrock road which you just cross over. Continuing on Barrington's Ave. will lead you to the Atlantic pond.

The passage railway from Cork to Passage West opened in 1850. It extended to Crosshaven in 1904 and closed in 1932.

Once at the pond, turn right and follow the path left after the small bridge. Up the pathway on your right, you will see the start of the old passage railway. Walk along it until you pass the sewage plant. At the two stoned blocks turn right and follow the path. You will find there Barrington's castle.

Back to the railway line, continue walking a little bit further. At the old railway station, leave the track by its left. You will find yourself on Blackroad road again, with Dundanion House in front of you (Dundanion castle is located behind the house). Turn right on Blackroad and follow it until Church Ave. (opposite the church). Turning left will lead you to the marina drive, where you will get a sight of Blackrock castle as well as Father Matthew's castle, far away on your right.

The marina is said to have been one of Europe's fine walks in its days. It used to stretch all along the river Lee from the city to Blackrock village, until the right of way was halted by Ford & Dunlop.

Turn left toward Cork city center. After about a 100 meters, enter the grassy area on your left. Once at the small "roundabout", look at the trees range in front of you. Dundanion castle is hidden behind it.



Dundanion castle was built in the 16th century by the Galwey family, a very influential family in Cork during the 15th and 16th centuries. It is believed that William Penn the Quaker and founder of the state of Pennsylvania sailed from Dundanion to America in 1682. At that time the tide flowed beneath the Castle.