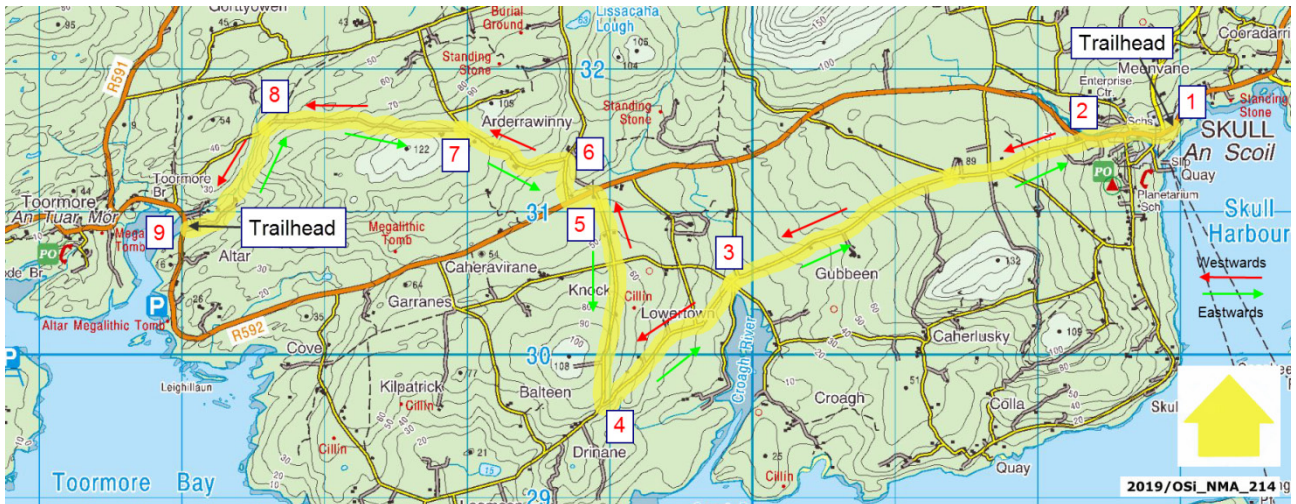




Fastnet Trails

Schull <-> Toormore - 10km Linear

Map of the Schull - Toormore Linear Walk



This walk is mostly along quiet country roads. It is about 10km long easy walk which takes about 2 hours depending on how long you linger over the views.

It is highly recommended that you wear a hi-viz vest for safety reasons and good footwear for comfort reasons.

This walk is beautifully described and photographed on the roaringwaterjournal website

At <https://roaringwaterjournal.com/2018/05/06/another-grand-day-out-on-the-fastnet-trails/>



Fastnet Trails

Schull <-> Toormore - 10km Linear

Walk Guide

Schull to Toormore

Read this Walk Guide in conjunction with the map above for best results. The route is marked with yellow arrows which you need to look out for.

Starting at the trailhead (1) opposite the hotel, follow the road west through the village passing the Bunnratty Arms and the library. Press on up Air Hill until you reach CopperPoint housing development and immediately after that a country road branches off at a y-junction (2).

Take the LEFT, climb steadily uphill past farmyard and tractors and as you gain height enjoy the views back to Mt Gabriel and Schull harbour. Soon you pass roads going off left and right but you should keep STRAIGHT ON and eventually start to descend enjoying fabulous views out to the west. Can you see the Fastnet Rock and Lighthouse? You'll pass Gubbeen Farm on your left and about 3km from your start point you will cross a small stream and reach an ochre coloured house on a cross roads (3). This is known locally as the "five cross roads". If you have a moment to spare, perhaps go and sit on the bridge where the stream enters Croagh Bay and see if there are fish swimming in the pool.

Continue STRAIGHT ON keeping the ochre house on your left. After a short distance the road steepens, rounds a sharp bend and passes a right turn which you can ignore. The road continues to rise steadily and the Fastnet lighthouse will come into view again. Eventually, after a last steep leg, you reach the crest of the hill (4) and after admiring the view, you turn sharp RIGHT uphill again. On your left you'll see a restored signal tower built in 1804 to give warning of a French Invasion. Soon you pass three water tanks which supply mains water to the local community and the road levels off and starts the descent to Lowertown. You pass over a cross roads and very soon you'll see Lowertown Church (5) in

front of you. Turn LEFT here and follow the main road for about 200m and then turn RIGHT where you see signposts for Drinagh Coop.

Continue up this side road for just 250m and you will see the Drinagh Coop building - turn LEFT just before the Coop (6) and follow this small road up between fields. Soon you will see an old burial ground on your right which is worth a quick exploration. The road steepens a bit and as it levels off you'll see a road going off LEFT (7) which you need to take.

You pass a couple of houses on your left and the road soon starts a steady descent. After a bit more than one kilometre, the road bends left and steepens. As you reach the bottom of the hill look out for a farm gate on the left with signposts to Toormore and of course a yellow arrow. Go through the gate and after 15 metres look back to your right at the interesting old bridge under the road.

Continue down the path about 500 metres and emerge through a small gate onto a lane which leads you down to Altar Church and the Trailhead.

From here you might catch the bus back to Schull, collect your car or of course retrace your steps.





Fastnet Trails

Schull <-> Toormore - 10km Linear

Walk Guide

Toormore to Schull

Read this Walk Guide in conjunction with the map above for best results. The route is marked with yellow arrows which you need to look out for.

From the trailhead (9) at Altar Church walk up beside the stream with burial ground on your left. After a few winding bends and a steep rise, look out for a small gate to the LEFT. Through the gate follow the grassy path across the field and up a lovely valley beside the stream. After ten minutes you will reach a farm gate onto the road (8) where you need to turn RIGHT.

The road rises quite steeply for a while but eventually levels out and after passing a few houses on your right you reach a junction (7) where you go STRAIGHT ON.

Descend steadily past a farmhouse and a burial ground on your left and you will see the Drinagh Coop yard and buildings on your left. At the road junction (6) turn RIGHT, leaving the Coop behind, and walk down to the main road at Lowertown (5) where you need to turn LEFT and walk as far as the Church where you turn RIGHT up a small road opposite the church.

The road rises steadily, over a cross roads, continuing steadily uphill for about one kilometre until the road levels off and the Fastnet Lighthouse comes into view. On your right is one of a series of Signal Towers built in 1804 to warn of a French invasion. You pass three water tanks which feed the local water mains and descend steadily, with splendid views, to a junction (4) where you turn sharp LEFT.

The road now descends steadily for over a kilometre to reach the junction (3) known locally as "five cross roads" where the stream enters Croagh Bay.



Continuing forwards round a bend, cross the stream and keep STRAIGHT ON up the hill ignoring the left turn.

Soon you pass through farm buildings, the road narrows a bit and then widens out as you pass the entrance to Gubbeen Farm where the famous cheeses and meats are made. Continue up the hill passing a number of houses and as the road starts to level out there are side roads left and right which can be ignored. Finally you start to descend with views of Mount Gabriel and Schull Harbour ahead then pass through a farm yard where tractors are often lined up along the road. You reach a junction with a major road (2) and bear RIGHT to walk past Copper Point development and down Air Hill until you pass the library and Bunratty Arms.

You are now in the main street where you can find refreshment and at the far end you will find the Trailhead almost opposite the Harbour View Hotel.

