Visit this Dumfries treasure again and again. Come here in summer for endless walking, fishing and sailing. Springtime brings wildflowers and snowdrop views of the surrounding mountains.

The woodland is classic Scots pine with a damp forest floor. Look out for damselflies and dragonflies dancing over the water. Firm but uneven gravel surface. Some short steep steps with single wooden steps in some places. Part may be slightly grassy or muddy.

Many people come to climb Scolty hill and the Burnett monument — the route is up and steep but the views are superb.

A nearhaun widdie (a nearby wood) for 'river bend of the plain' Dùn Fhotheir – Gaelic for Cambus o’ May Dunnottar

Aberdeenshire’s forests

Bennachie

A legendary day out for everyone on and around this much-loved hill.

Showy wildflowers carpet the ground in spring. Binacharach hilltops and Greythorn woods are great places for red squirrels. Distant views to the Moray Firth and beyond.

Alvie is a protected site. The ancient remains include the ruins of a chapel and three medieval hermitages. Enjoy the views of the Firth of Moray.

Bennachie

The heart of the hill. At the Bennachie Centre you’ll find the ancient forest trail, the shortest (but steepest) route to the Mither Tappeh Trail, the shortest (but steepest) route to the Mither Tappeh Trail of Bennachie and the Burnett monument — the route is up and steep but the views are superb.

Bennachie: A short loop around the wids hill, when you may see chameleons and dragonflies dancing over the water. Firm but uneven gravel surface. Some short steep steps with single wooden steps in some places. Part may be slightly grassy or muddy.

Bennachie Centre: A nearhaun widdie (a nearby wood) for ‘fort on the shelving slope’ (in a hill) Bedingfield House. The Shell House, where you can buy hot drinks and snacks.

Duntottar

Explore the deciduous woods of Duntottar House and discover its intriguing history at the Shell House, Kirkhill and Scolty Hill.

Visit our website: www.dunnottarwoods.org

To book in advance or to get more information, contact Bennachie Centre on 01667 430245 or 07974 292825.
Not many forests have a castle with a turrened next door, but then Delgaty is a special place. You’ll find different trees and habitats here, from bright red beech with splendid flat-topped larches to ancient oak and birch. The trees invite you to wander through the huge conifers and colourful beech trees that line the river. Enjoy the peace and quiet of this lovely forested area.

**Ferry Knowe Trail**
- A short stroll around Ferry Knowe and lookout hill with some great views through the majestic larch trees.
- Mostly wide gravel surface.
- Sections of uneven sandy path with exposed tree roots and slightly muddy soft sections.
- Includes some steep short steps.
- Allow 1 ½ hrs.

**Queen Tree Trail**
- Generations of trees can be seen on this trail from firs to oaks planted in the 1840’s to beeches that were brought here to improve the soil.
- Mostly wide gravel and grassy surface.
- Some uneven sections.
- Includes exposed tree roots and slightly muddy sections.
- Allow 2 hrs.

**Gallion of Water Trail**
- Climbs through the forest to the top of the Bin for grand views and a pool that was believed to have healing powers.
- Sections of rough, narrow earth path.
- Long steep gravel steps with some short flights of wooden steps.
- Includes some rocky, sunny and potentially muddy parts.
- Allow 2 hrs.

**The Big Tree Trail**
- Wander through giant fir trees and majestic Douglas firs in this short stroll through the forest.
- Firm gravel surface with some uneven sections.
- Short moderate ramps.
- Sections of grassy path.
- Allow 0.5 hrs.

**Garm Hill Trail**
- A fine circuit of Garm Hill Wood, which is home to a variety of trees and some good grassy areas.
- Fertile gravel surface throughout, with some rocky, rooty and muddy parts.
- Long moderate slopes with some short steeper ramps.
- Allow 1 ½ hrs.

Countesswells and Foggieton

These popular forests are close to Aberdeen with plenty of paths to explore on foot, bike or horseback. Cycle or walk through the huge spruce trees near the entrance to Countesswells and enjoy fine views down to the loch with views of Delgatie Castle.

**Fishery Trail**
- Climb up into the wooded forest past the old fish house and return via the loch with views of Delgaty Castle.
- Firm but uneven gravel surface includes some exposed tree roots and a short flight of steps.
- Allow 1 ¼ miles / 1 ½ hrs.
- Allow 1 hr.

**Song Birds Trail**
- Enjoy the peace and quiet of this lovely forested area.
- Firm but uneven gravel surface, partly steep, slippery and potentially muddy.
- Allow 1 ½ miles / 1 hr.

**The Bin**
- Named for the hill at its heart. The Bin contains many of Aberdeenshire’s finest spruce and larch trees.
- Fertile gravel surface
- Some uneven sections at the entrance to Countesswells and enjoy fine views down to the loch with views of Delgatie Castle.
- Allow 2 ½ hrs.

**Clashdarng**
- Enjoy this huge forest on mountainous slopes with panoramic views in summer and also in winter. It’s one of Scotland’s top places for Nordic skiing with some easy trails and far deeper slopes to the wide gravel roads.

**Coycarnie**
- Part of Clashdarng, this young broadleaf woodland is greening fast, so came back regularly to see how it changes.
- There is plenty of open land for walking in the wide gravel roads.

**Tappie Tower Trail**
- Climb to the top of the Tappie Tower for excellent snow-holding. Tappie Tower Trail information.
- Firm and muddy wide gravel surface with some uneven and potentially muddy sections.
- One long steep gravel steps. Parts may be wet after rain.

**Queen Tree Trail**
- Generations of trees can be seen on this trail from firs to oaks planted in the 1840’s to beeches that were brought here to improve the soil.
- Mostly wide gravel and grassy surface.
- Some uneven sections.
- Includes exposed tree roots and slightly muddy sections.
- Allow 2 hrs.

**Gallion of Water Trail**
- Climbs through the forest to the top of the Bin for grand views and a pool that was believed to have healing powers.
- Sections of rough, narrow earth path.
- Long steep gravel steps with some short flights of wooden steps.
- Includes some rocky, sunny and potentially muddy parts.
- Allow 2 hrs.

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- A fine circuit of Garm Hill Wood, which is home to a variety of trees and some good grassy areas.
- Fertile gravel surface throughout, with some rocky, rooty and muddy parts.
- Long moderate slopes with some short steeper ramps.
- Allow 1 ½ hrs.

**Foggieton Trail**
- With wide trails suitable for young families and some flat depressions, Tappie Tower is easier than Kirkhill, but just as easy to get to.
- It’s a good place to explore and to try perfecting your technical skills at the MTB fun park.
- Allow 3 ½ miles / 2 ½ hrs.

**Beech Tree Trail**
- Watch for warblers flitting among the young trees on this short winding trail.
- Fertile gravel surface throughout.
- Sections of grassy path.
- Long steep gravel steps with some short flights of wooden steps.
- Includes some rocky, sunny and potentially muddy parts.
- Allow 0.8 km / ½ mile / ¼ hr.

**Warblers’ Trail**
- Explore the towering trees of Tappie Tumpwood and look out for the Delgaty Coen, said to be the world’s smallest owl.
- Unusual gravel surface with some exposed tree roots and potentially muddy parts.
- Sections of grassy path.
- Allow 2 ½ km / 1 ¾ miles / 1 ½ hrs.

**Wobbly Trail**
- Watch for warblers flitting among the young trees on this short winding trail.
- Fertile gravel surface throughout.
- Sections of grassy path.
- Long steep gravel steps with some short flights of wooden steps.
- Includes some rocky, sunny and potentially muddy parts.
- Allow 0.8 km / ½ mile / ¼ hr.

**Galton of Water Trail**
- Climbs through the forest to the top of the Bin for grand views and a pool that was believed to have healing powers.
- Sections of rough, narrow earth path.
- Long steep gravel steps with some short flights of wooden steps.
- Includes some rocky, sunny and potentially muddy parts.
- Allow 2 hrs.

**The Robbers’ Trail**
- Explore the towering trees of Tappie Tumpwood and look out for the Delgaty Coen, said to be the world’s smallest owl.
- Unusual gravel surface with some exposed tree roots and potentially muddy parts.
- Sections of grassy path.
- Allow 2 ½ km / 1 ¾ miles / 1 ½ hrs.

**Wids nearabout (woods nearby)**
- Fairly steep slopes.
- Some rocky, rooty and potentially muddy parts.
- Some steep slopes.
- Some uneven sections.
- Firm gravel surface throughout.
- Allow 2.8 km / 1 ¾ miles / 1 ½ hrs.

**Tappie Tower Trail**
- Climb to the top of the Tappie Tower for excellent snow-holding. Tappie Tower Trail information.
- Firm and muddy wide gravel surface with some uneven and potentially muddy sections.
- One long steep gravel steps. Parts may be wet after rain.

**Ladybird Trail**
- Enjoy the peace and quiet of this lovely forested area.
- Firm but uneven gravel surface throughout.
- Some short steps.
- Section of grassy path.
- Allow 2 hrs.

**Mabers’ Trail**
- Watch for warblers flitting among the young trees on this short winding trail.
- Fertile gravel surface throughout.
- Sections of grassy path.
- Long steep gravel steps with some short flights of wooden steps.
- Includes some rocky, sunny and potentially muddy parts.
- Allow 0.8 km / ½ mile / ¼ hr.