

Route Planning

- Route Choice
- Route Cards and Mapping
- Bad Weather Alternatives
- Escape Routes
- Group Size
- Weather Forecasts

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Route Choice

- ▶ Where to source your route from?
 - Guide Books, National Trails Office, Marked Trails?
 - Where to start and finish, is there access?
- ▶ Is the Route suitable for your group?
 - Is your group fit enough to complete the walk?
 - Is the terrain suitable, steep ground or rivers?
 - How long will it take in time and distance?
 - Time of year, long or short days.
- ▶ Bad Weather – is there an alternative?

Route Cards and Mapping

- ▶ Using a Route Card to plan your walk
 - Traditional Approach to planning a walk
 - Can aid in exposing potential problem terrain:
 - Rivers – Bog – Steep Ground – Roads – Maps
 - Uses a format that encourages calculations for:
 - Distance – Height Gain – Timing
 - Allows others to know the intended route:
 - Participants on the day can lead a leg
 - A copy can be left with a third party
 - May help if the intended route is known
 - Route Cards becoming a thing of the past?

Traditional Route Card

X Hiking Club – Route Card

FROM	TO	BEARING	DISTANCE		HEIGHT		TIME	CUL TIME	NOTES GPS Ref
			DBL	MSS	RCL	MNS			
Gapak	Turn for 595	280	590	7.5	30	3	13.5	16.5	Tracks
Turn	594	280	1.7	25	200	20	45	54.5	Tracks
594	Col	202	700	13.5	100	10	23.5	1hr 16.5	
Col	Tollagee top	188	400	12	110	11	23	1hr 40	
Top Top	524	134	1.5	25	-280	-	23	2hr 03	
528	548	132	460	7	20	2	9	2hr 12	
548	557	166	400	13.5	20	2	15	2hr 28	
557	470	114	1.7	25	20	2	28	2hr 56	
470	NW Track	N/A	2.4	35	-	-	35	3hr 30	
Bridge	500	N/A	1.6	30	200	20	1hr	4hr 30	
599	412	128	900	15.5	20	2	15	4hr 45	
413	Turn	308	400	12	90	9	21	5hr 06	
Turn	Scar	02	1.3	20	130	13	33	5hr 40	
Scar	561	320	900	13.5	10	1	15	5hr 55	
561	Browa	05	450	13	20	2	15	6hr 10	
Browa	Cas	200	1.2	15	-	-	15	6hr 25	

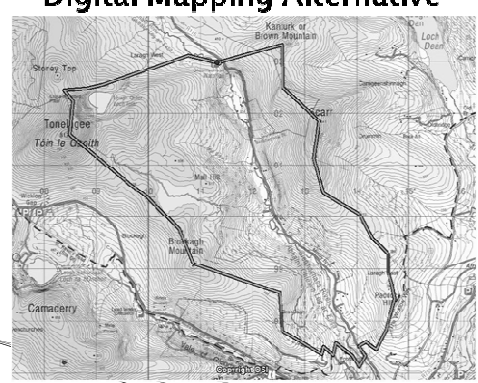
Route Card: SallyGap_11 (Page 1/1)

Waypoint Number	Waypoint Name (Coordinates)	HEIGHT	Bearing	Length of trail	Cumulative distance to this point	Ascent		Time		Cumulative Time
						ft	m	min	sec	
1	(012983 / 12234)	439								
2	541	551	0.72	0.72	+42	-	12	0	00: 15	
3	Sally/Gap (013002 / 10323)	523	0.85	1.57	+7	-	4	0	00: 24	
4	Campone (013226 / 12138)	688	1.14	2.71	+163	-	40	0	01: 04	
5	540 (013186 / 05191)	450	1.02	3.73	+80	-	20	0	01: 12	
6	Lugga (014555 / 01544)	650	1.84	5.57	+102	-	40	0	02: 12	
7	Sheepbank (015172 / 04415)	415	2.40	8.00	+50	-	41	0	02: 33	
8	Callaghan (017201 / 12533)	641	2.46	10.46	+34	-	04	0	02: 37	
9	Varrell (017057 / 12124)	651	0.80	11.26	+50	-	21	0	04: 18	
10	583 (014855 / 10320)	500	2.22	13.48	+56	-	36	0	04: 30	
11	Gracasha (014244 / 13875)	560	0.74	14.22	+19	-	11	0	02: 09	
12	521 (013020 / 12252)	500	1.25	15.47	+20	-	10	0	02: 27	

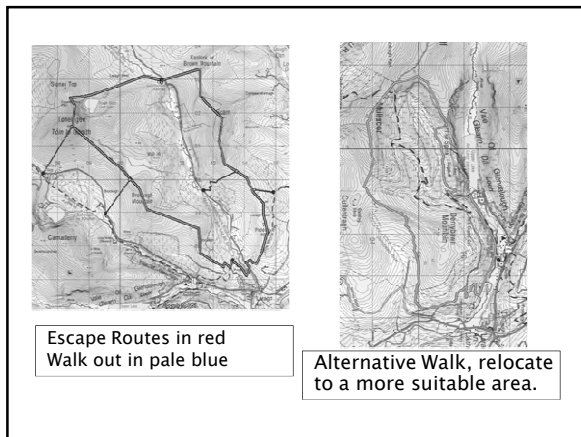
Co-ordinates System: 11 caiaodur Sub Zone Irish Grid

geolives Copyright OSI

Digital Mapping Alternative



The map displays a route through a hilly area with contour lines. Key locations marked include 'Torre/Gap', 'Torre/Gap to Cassin', 'Camacery', 'Brough Mountain', 'Kamark of Brown Mountain', and 'Lach Deun'. A grid is overlaid on the map, and the route is clearly delineated with a thick line.



Group Type & Size Factors

- ▶ Ability – no one can be left behind
- ▶ Are all members capable of completing?
- ▶ Timing – each obstacle takes time to negotiate
- ▶ Management – what type of group?
- ▶ Parking?

Weather Forecasts

- ▶ Where to source weather forecasts:
 - MET office – Internet – radio – look out the Window
 - Previous days weather is relevant to conditions underfoot!