

Access Guide to Cashtal yn Ard

Manx National Heritage has the guardianship of many ancient monuments in the landscape. A number of these sites are publicly accessible. Please note in most circumstances the land is not in the ownership of Manx National Heritage and visits are made at your own risk.

We recognise that visiting the Island's ancient monuments in the countryside can present difficulties for people with disabilities. We have prepared an access guide for visiting Cashtal yn Ard to help you plan your visit. This access guide does not contain personal opinions as to suitability for those with access needs, but aims to accurately describe the environment at the site.

Introduction

- Neolithic chambered long cairn (man-made stone mound)
- Approximately 5000 years old

The impressive standing stones visible today would once have been concealed within the cairn, but the smaller stones have been removed over time.

An entrance between the standing stones would have given access to the five chambers within. It is likely to have once been larger than the present site suggests and may have been linked with **Ballafayle Cairn** which is visible on the skyline to the north east. The site offers fantastic views of the surrounding countryside and, on a clear day, to the English coast.

Getting to Cashtal yn Ard

Grid reference – SC4623 8922

By car:

From Douglas: Journey time approximately 35 minutes. Drive north on the (A2) coast road towards Ramsey. At the Dhoon Glen, continue for 1km, then take the second right, signposted Port Cornaa and Cashtal yn Ard. Cross the tram tracks and take the next signposted right. When the road divides, take the left-hand fork through the ford and follow the narrow winding road for approximately 1 km. The road takes a sharp left turn with a cottage on the right. Two gates, one to a field and one signposted as a public footpath lie opposite the cottage, the footpath leads to Cashtal yn Ard.

From Ramsey: Journey time approximately 15 minutes. Drive south on the (A2) coast road towards Laxey. Turn left at the Hibernian onto the (A15) Hibernian Road and take the first right towards Ballaglass Glen. Pass the glen, continue around the sharp right-hand bend and up the steep narrow road until you reach a cottage on your left on a sharp left-hand bend. The public footpath to Cashtal Yn Ard is signposted on your right.

There is no bus route close to this site.



Signposting to Cashtal yn Ard



The roadside and cottage wall opposite the site

Access for Visitors

The road to Cashtal yn Ard is narrow and winding, with limited parking options.

Please do not block access to neighbouring fields.

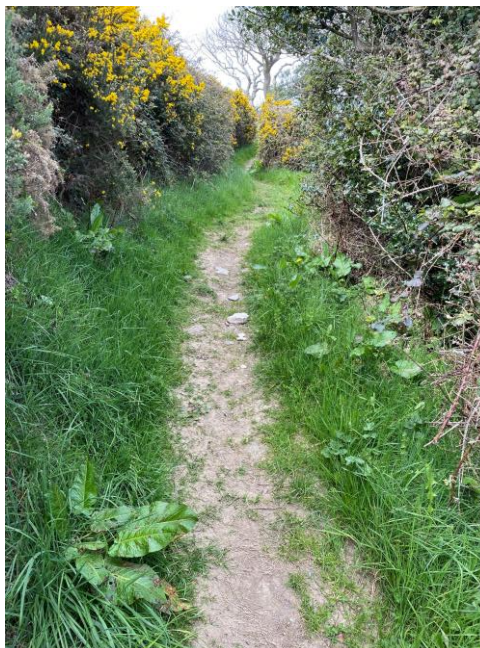
There are no toilets or facilities at Cashtal yn Ard.

The site is accessed by a public footpath and cannot be viewed from the road.

Dogs are only permitted on leads.



The gate leading to the site is visible from road and signposted.



The path is narrow and uneven, the first section is enclosed by hedges

The path is approximately 300m long. It is narrow and winding, with uneven ground and loose stones. It is enclosed on both sides by tall hedges and slopes gently upwards. It opens onto a fielded area with trees, a ruined building and field gates. These fields may have livestock in them. Follow the stony pathway, keeping the hedge to your left, along the field edge. The pathway is rutted and uneven. The tall trees lie to the left of the site itself.



The second half of the path is an uneven, stony track along the side of a field.



Stone stile with wooden rail and metal gate which give access to the field beyond

The site is accessed by either a large metal gate or a stone stile with a wooden rail at the top. The stones are somewhat uneven and could be slippery. There could be livestock in the field beyond – at the time of writing, there are three small, friendly ponies. The site can be viewed from the gate, but to access it, visitors must proceed approximately 30 metres beyond the stile/metal gate to the kissing gate.



The kissing gate which gives access to the site itself and the uneven ground within its enclosure

The site itself is enclosed by walls and fencing. It is grassy and uneven, with protruding stones in places.

A visit to Cashtal yn Ard links well with further heritage locations in the area, such as **Ballafayle Cairn**, **Rhullick ny Quakeryn** and **Maughold Head Burial Cairn**.

Please see separate Access Guides for these and other Manx National Heritage sites.



The view from Cashtal yn Ard. The red arrow shows the position in the distance of Ballafayle Cairn, for which there is also an access guide.

Further Information:

Please observe the Isle of Man Country Code when visiting ancient monuments in the landscape. This is to protect yourselves, the wildlife, farm animals, and to preserve the natural beauty of the Manx countryside.

Please remember that you are responsible for your own safety and for others in your care, so dress appropriately, wear stout footwear, be prepared for changes in weather and other events. We recommend letting someone else know where you are going and when you expect to return. Remember to bring your mobile phone with you, but don't assume you will always get reception at some of the more remote sites.

If you would like to speak to a member of our team about visiting Cashtal yn Ard or other ancient monument sites please email: enquiries@mnh.im.

For more detailed information about the site please see 'A Guide to the Archaeological Sites of the Isle of Man up to 1500AD' by Andrew Johnson and Allison Fox (Culture Vannin, 2017), available to purchase from the Manx Museum Gallery Shop and online:

www.manxnationalheritage.im

If you see any evidence of disturbance or damage during your visit please inform Manx National Heritage as soon as possible