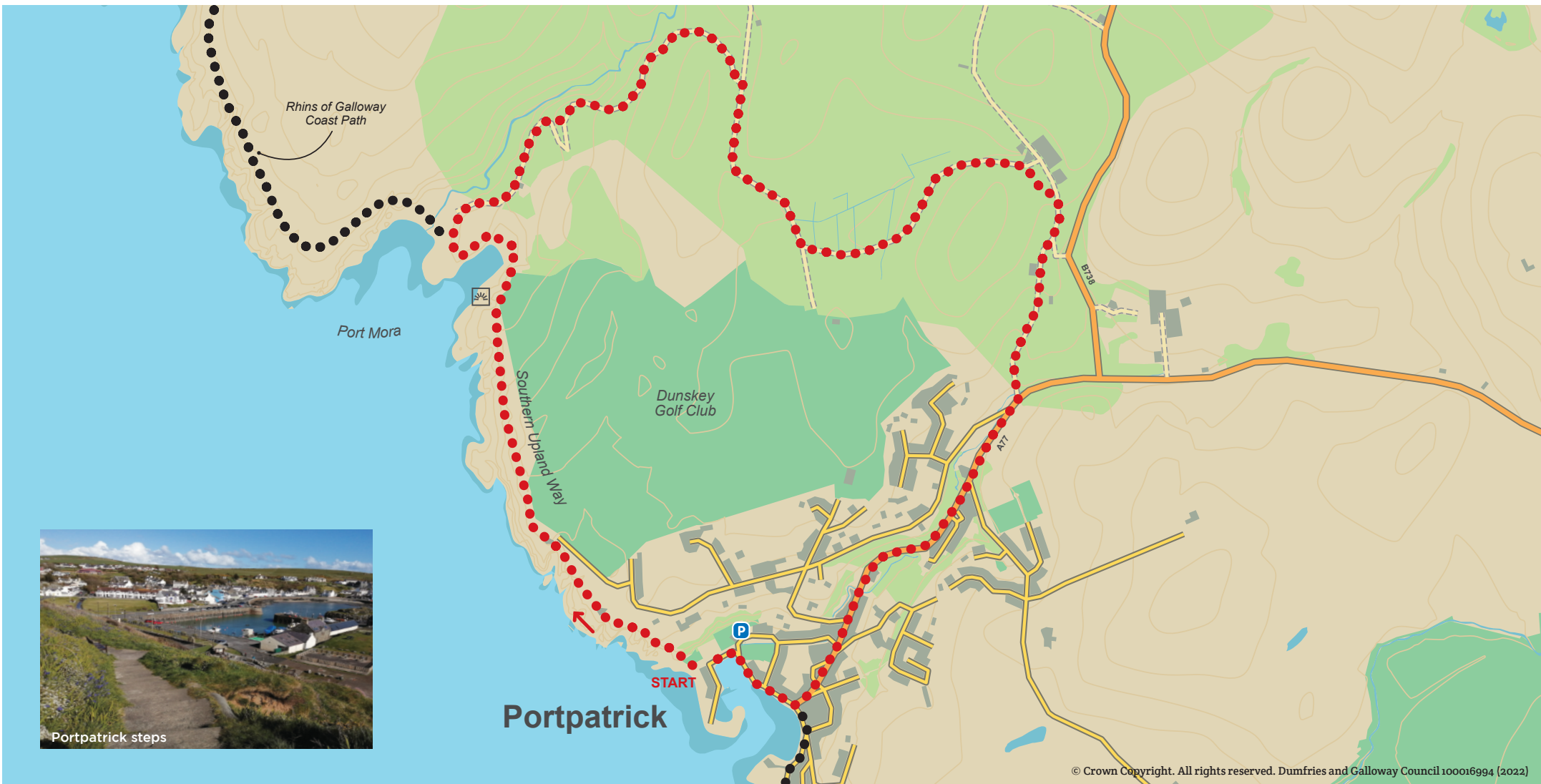


Portpatrick Circular Walk

Walk 2

Distance
6 km / 4 miles

Moderate with some
steps and steep sections



Port Mora



A clifftop path with views over the Irish Sea leads to sheltered bays before going inland through a steep wooded glen with the sound of a fast flowing burn taking you back to Portpatrick.

You begin this walk in the harbour village of Portpatrick. There is plenty of parking in the harbour which is the starting point of the Southern Upland Way. Both the Southern Upland Way and this short walk begin by climbing steps up onto the

cliff top. On a clear day you will have views across to Ireland and along the rugged shoreline. The path winds along the top of the cliff until it comes down to a sandy bay known as Port Mora or Sandeel Bay where you will see caves in the side

of the cliff. These are the Dropping Cave and Ouchtriamakain or Monks Cave. There was a local belief that these were healing caves. In the past people would bring sick children to bathe under the waterfall and make an offering of money on an alter inside the cave in the hope of a cure.

Around a small headland you come into another bay. This is Port Kale or Laird's Bay where the first telephone cable between Scotland and Ireland came ashore. There is an interesting double octagonal building here that was used to test the cable connection. On a calm day if you stop and watch the sea here for a while you may see grey seals taking advantage of the sheltered inlet.

Healing caves



You will then leave the Southern Upland Way which continues along the coast towards Killantringan Lighthouse. Follow a footpath sign pointing inland along a track into a wooded glen. A winding track takes you under ancient oak trees covered in mosses and lichens and on your left the sound of water from the burn below. Leaving Dunskey Glen you reach the top the woodland and emerge into farmland. Keep following the footpath signs which will take you back to the road at the top of Portpatrick.

There is a pavement along the road all the way down through the village back to the harbour where you started. It is well worth exploring the harbour and village and a great places to get food and drink.

Cable house



Follow the Outdoor Access Code; take care of the environment, keep dogs under control especially near farm livestock and wildlife. Do not leave litter.

