Darkley to Keady (via lakes) - 6.9 miles

Start at the bus shelter on the north edge of Darkley Village

Irish Grid Ref. H 86125 31300 (see at Google Maps). Download GPX Map at MapMyWalk

Go up to the junction and **turn left into Main Street**, Darkley.

0.18 miles. With Darkley Mill Chimney to your LHS, **turn right onto lane / track**.

0.3 miles. Turn sharp left to follow track along tree-line.

0.38 miles. **Follow track as it turns left** and past Darkley Lake to LHS.

0.62 miles. **Turn left along road** (Tullynawood Road).

Along this narrow road Darkley Lake is down to your LHS.

At 1.24 miles, Tullynawood Lake can be seen to the front left.

1.38 miles. **Turn left onto narrow road** and **follow for 270 yards to small car park next to Tullynawood Lake** (the view from the car park, over the lake and the surrounding countryside is beautiful).

Exit car park, turn left and retrace your steps back along narrow road, to junction. We were also at this junction at 1.38 miles.

1.71 miles. Turn left along Tullynawood Road.

1.78 miles. Immediately past old farmhouse (Lake View), **turn right** into Cargaclogher Road.

As you climb up this narrow road, look back for some great views over Tullynawood Lake.

1.96 miles. **Turn left** onto narrow road.

2.22 miles. Stay **straight on** past narrow road to LHS.

2.61 miles. Stay **straight on** past narrow road to RHS.

2.8 miles. At T-junction, **turn right onto Clay Road**.(TAKE CARE along this road).

After a short distance, look down to the LHS to see Gentle Owens Lake.

3.51 miles. By large double-fronted house, turn left onto narrow road.

After 125 yards the road turns right, then after another150 yards veers left and then right. There are views to the left, over Gentle Owens Lake and on the right is an ancient rath and souterrain. Please take care as this road is winding with many blind corners.

3.79 miles. At T-junction, **turn right**. Now on Castleblayney Road.

4.05 miles. Follow road as it turns right and past lane to LHS.

4.21 miles. Follow road as it turns left and past lane to RHS.

4.39 miles. Follow road as it turns left and past lane to RHS.

4.48 miles. At bottom of hill, and with works in front, **turn right** onto narrow road.

Soon Clea Lake will come into view in front and to your left. You should have some good views of the lake along this hilly and winding road.

5.02 miles. **At T-junction, turn left**. Now on Clay Road.

Note: Clay Road is usually busier than the narrow roads we have used and there is no pavement, so please take great care.

Soon Clea Lake will be visible again to your LHS.

5.88 miles. Stay **straight on past Cargaclogher Road** to your RHS.

75 yards past the junction, in the field to the left is a raised part of ground. This is the remains of an ancient rath.

6.56 miles. At T-junction (soon after entering Keady) turn left along Victoria Street, staying on LHS pavement.

6.72 miles. Continue along LHS pavement as it turns left into Bridge Street.

6.76 miles. Straight on across Davis Street. Then turn right to cross Market Street to Keady Monument.

Then **cross over** the 2nd part of **Market Street** and go straight on along Kinelowen Street.

After just 35 yards, **turn right to cross** over Kinelowen Street, **via the pelican crossing**, to Keady Mill. (There are some information boards to read here).

Turn right, along the walled footpath, then soon **left into Bridge Street** and past Keady Library.

Immediately past library, **turn left** along pavement**, and zig-zag** past the metal bollards to **finish at the Tommy Makem Arts and Community Centre**.