

## Mourne Scenic Drive

One of my very favourite things to do is to drive around in the Mourne Mountains. Take the back roads. Get yourself lost. Find your way again. That's the beauty of adventure. The best parts are usually unplanned.

My favourite loop is to head up out of Rostrevor, past Santa's Cottage, around to Spelga Dam, and across to Newcastle. If I fancy a castle visit I pop over to Dundrum. Then follow the coast road back, perhaps stopping at Bloody Bridge for a few photos, through Kilkeel and back to Rostrevor. You could start anywhere in the loop or go the opposite direction. There are plenty of sheep and lovely stone walls along the way. Perhaps make the Carrick Cottage Cafe near Annalong a destination to aim for.



## Mourne Archery 🌂

Maghera, near Newcastle

I can't recommend this highly enough. Katy is very good at what she does! Archery sessions for all ages and abilities. It is in a big barn so the weather won't impact your plans. Once she gets everyone set up and shooting she introduces various challenges including pinning balloons to the targets. Great advice on how to improve your archery and so much fun! Booking required as sessions are by appointment only.

<https://www.mournearchery.co.uk>    [mournearchey@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:mournearchey@yahoo.co.uk)



## Live music in a pub 🌂

Various pubs in the different villages

Another of my top suggestions is to get yourself to one of the many traditional music sessions. Alas many don't even start til 10pm but it's well worth it and an experience you'll never forget. Ask the locals where you are to find out where the music is on. I know there are regular sessions in Rostrevor, Warrenpoint, Hilltown and Newcastle. My favourite is usually Sat night in the Rostrevor Inn but it depends who is playing. Most sessions are free but you are expected to buy a drink or something.

