## ROUTE PLAN

Parking is available at Glen Helen car park SC295842, (WP01)

From **WP01** Go over small foot bridge on south side of car park, continue through gate and turn left 90 metres

**WP02** Follow the public footpath signs up hill, behind house, into plantation 220 metres

**WP03** Following public footpath round to the right, stay on forest ride, gently up hill 300 metres

**WP04** Turn left, follow forest ride on the level passing ruins of farmhouse on left. Do not enter building which may be unsafe. Continue onwards 350 metres

**WP05** Turn right and follow sod hedge directly up hill. Hedge will change to a dry stone wall. Continue upwards 450 metres

**WP06** Pass through the gap and continue on the other side of the wall. Here the view opens over heather moorland. Follow the plantation edge 450 metres

Department of Environment, Food and Agriculture, Thie Sieau Whallian, Foxdale Road, St. Johns, IM4 3AS Tel: 01624 801263 • Fax: 01624 801060 - E-mail enquiries: defa@gov.im - Website: www.gov.im/defa

**WP07** Turn right and follow surfaced track through young plantation 360 metres

**WP08** At highest point divert to summit cairn to enjoy panoramic views. Return to track and continue 240 metres

**WP09** Bear right, in front of gate, and follow path between fence and trees. Turn right (WP09a), head downhill to corner. (Care should be taken as sections of this slope are steep) 550 metres

**WP10** Turn right into plantation, then left to follow sod hedge through trees down hill to forest ride 170metres

**WP11** Turn left and follow forest ride down and around bend (WP11a). Continue on this ride until you rejoin the route at an earlier point 720 metres

**WP12** Turn left and retrace your steps back 430 metres to the car park at **WP01**.

10 metre Ordnance Survey Grid References -

WP01 SC2950 8425	WP08 SC3000 8334
WP02 SC2951 8420	WP09 SC2975 8334
WP03 SC2965 8418	WP09a SC2962 8332
WP04 SC2954 8391	WP10 SC2935 8362
WP05 SC2988 8397	WP11 SC2928 8375
WP06 SC3018 8364	WP11a SC2918 8372
WP07 SC3034 8322	WP12 SC2959 8407

## WARDEN'S WALK Eairy Beg

Warden's Walks are available as a series of leaflets, each with a detailed map and route description. They are also available on our website. They should be used in conjunction with the Outdoor Leisure Map 1:25,000 series.

This is a walk of 4 kilometres, about 3 miles approx. 1.5 hours in duration. It involves a climb through Eairy Beg plantation to the summit of The Beary. The going is generally good but has a moderately steep ascent and descent. It may be wet under foot in places and there will be some undergrowth in summer.

Look out for several points of interest along the way including; Eairy Beg farmhouse tucked away in woodland; now in a rather derelict state (and certainly not safe to enter). The building appears on the Island's 1870's maps and predates the plantation by at least one hundred years. The farm once operated a gorse mill powered by a horse wheel; the mill crushed the gorse which was used as winter feed for livestock. It was last occupied in the 1960's.

The 'Twelve Shares', to the south east of Beary Park extends to 100 acres of heath land and, as the name suggests, is in multiple ownership. Various stories try to explain the origins of this land. Some say that, many years ago, the land was owned by a family who farmed at the nearby Dreem Beary. The story goes that, following the death of the husband, the widow and her children fell on hard times. Neighbouring landowners, seeing the family's plight, grouped together to each buy a share of the land, providing the family with an income. Today the issue of land ownership remains complicated.

The mix of tree cover and extensive moorland in the area creates ideal habit for various birdlife. It is a good place to see hunting sparrow hawks and hen harriers and, if you are really lucky, you might even see a merlin, Britain's smallest hunting bird, which is an occasional visitor here.



## WARDEN'S WALK Eairy Beg 4 kilometres, 3 miles. Approx. 1.5 hours



No.5 in a series of walks in the Manx countryside, created by the Island's Forestry Warden

## Department of Environment, Food and Agriculture

Supported by

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