



## Location Overview

### Ballykinler

[www.mod.uk/hive](http://www.mod.uk/hive)

#### **Ballykinler HIVE**

Ballykinler Station, Abercorn Barracks, BFPO 805

Tel: Civ – 028 4461 0389 Mil – 9491 40389 E – [ballykinlerhive@armymail.mod.uk](mailto:ballykinlerhive@armymail.mod.uk)

Opening hours: 9:30 – 13:30

#### **LOCAL AREA**

Ballykinler is situated on the southeast coast of Northern Ireland. It is a rural area on the coast with a blue flag beach and is overlooked by the Mourne Mountains. The nearest town is Downpatrick, which is approximately 7 miles away and provides a small selection of amenities. These include: shops, supermarkets, Hospital (with A&E), local college and leisure centre. Newcastle is approximately 10 miles and Ballynahinch approximately 15 miles away; both locations offer a small selection of amenities. The nearest cities are Lisburn which is approximately 22 miles away and Belfast which is approximately 25 miles; both have a wide selection of facilities and amenities.

A map of the location is available at this link: [www.multimap.com](http://www.multimap.com)

The postcode for Abercorn Barracks is BT30 8DQ

The local tourist information websites are: [www.discovernorthernireland.com/Downpatrick-Tourist-Information-Centre](http://www.discovernorthernireland.com/Downpatrick-Tourist-Information-Centre) and [www.downdc.gov.uk](http://www.downdc.gov.uk)

#### **UNIT OVERVIEW**

The current Unit at Ballykinler is 2 Rifles. The Unit, formed from an amalgamation of 1 and 2 Royal Green Jackets, The Light Infantry, The Devon and Dorset Regiment and the Royal Gloucestershire, Berkshire and Wiltshire Regiment is part of 19 Light Brigade.

Unit website: <http://www.army.mod.uk/infantry/regiments/5688.aspx>

#### **UNIT FACILITIES**

Within the camp there is a selection of facilities which include: swimming pool, gymnasium, library, crèche/playgroup, Coffee Pot with soft play area, small post office, Sandes (coffee shop) and a church. In the centre of the camp near to the families' accommodation there is a NAAFI shop and also a community centre, where events are held. There is also a well equipped Youth Club for children 5+ and a soft play area for the younger children.

**Spar NAFFI Shop** on camp

Opening hours may vary depending on leave or deployments, usual hours:  
Monday to Saturday 7:00 – 21:00  
Sunday 9:00 – 16:00

**Post office** (opposite Dunes bar)

Monday – Friday 8:30 – 12:00

**Post van** – located outside the Vivo garage.

Monday 9:30 – 12:30, Tuesday 12:30 – 14:30,  
Thursday 9:30 – 12:00 and 12:30 – 14:30  
Friday 9:30 – 11:30

**Post Box**

There is a post box outside the Vivo garage, just outside camp. Collections are 14:30 Monday to Friday and 10:30 Saturday.

**Coffee pot** includes a children's soft play area for under 5's, serving various hot and cold drinks and snacks. Located in the community centre building. Mournes baby music class is held every Wednesday at 10:00. Open Monday, Wednesday and Friday 9:30 - 13:30, Tuesday closed, Thursday 9:30 - 12:30.

**Sandes Restaurant** offers a wide variety of food and drink. Pool and snooker tables and other games available for customers.  
Open Monday - Friday 07:45-17:00

**Community Centre** (the families bar, Riflemen's bar and Corporals' Mess until further notice). Various activities are held monthly including bingo, salsa and discos. Pool tables and a Nintendo Wii are available to all. Open Monday to Saturday 19:00 – 23:00 (open at other times for events).

**ACCOMMODATION****Service Families Accommodation (SFA)**

Ballykinler Station: Post Code BT30 8DQ.

All houses are situated close to welfare facilities and amenities.

Ballykinler offers modern housing (2007) with en-suite bathrooms and attached garages. 3 and 4 bedroom houses are available.

To contact DIO Housing Information Centre: 0800 1696322 Option 1, Option 5 for Rosyth  
Website: <http://www.mod.uk/DefenceInternet/Microsite/DIO/>

**Single Living Accommodation (SLA)**

For information regarding the SLA please contact the following telephone numbers:

**Junior Ranks** Contact HQ COY CQMS Tel: Civ: 028 4461 0307 Mil:(9) 491 40307

**WO & Sit Mess** Contact the Mess Manager Tel: Civ: 028 4461 0292 Mil:(9) 491 40292

**Officers Mess** Contact the Mess Manager Tel: Civ: 028 4461 0229. Mil:(9) 491 40229

**Local accommodation****Holiday Homes**

Within the camp there are six 3 bedroom, fully furnished houses that are used as holiday homes. The cost is £8.00 per night, and a £10 non refundable deposit is required. For further

information contact the Families office on Tel: 02844 610298

**Slieve Donald Hotel**

Downs Road, Newcastle BT33 0AH

Tel: 028 4461 3654

[www.hastingshotel.com](http://www.hastingshotel.com)

**The Carriage House**

71, Main St, Dundrum, Newcastle, County

Down BT33 0LU

Tel: 028 4375 1635

[www.carriagehousedundrum.com/](http://www.carriagehousedundrum.com/)

**Ardmore house**

1 Ardmore Avenue, Downpatrick

BT30 6JY

Tel: 028 4461 3028

**TRAVEL**

The unit Postcode for Sat Nav is BT30 8DQ

**By Car (From Belfast City Airport)** At roundabout take 2<sup>nd</sup> exit (towards Belfast A2), at the traffic lights turn left (towards Newcastle and Downpatrick A7)), next roundabout take 2<sup>nd</sup> exit again following signs heading towards Newcastle. At the next roundabout take 6<sup>th</sup> exit, and continue to follow signs for Newcastle. Then at the roundabout signed Ardglass turn left and then follow that road all the way into Ballykinler.

**By car (from Belfast International)** At first roundabout take 2<sup>nd</sup> exit (Belfast M2), next roundabout take 2<sup>nd</sup> exit (signed Templepatrick), at the third roundabout take 2<sup>nd</sup> exit again towards M2 Larne, then you would join the motorway M2 to Belfast. Junctions 1a continue forward onto the M3 signed for Newcastle, leave the M3 at junction 1 turn left signed Newcastle. Follow the Newcastle signs till at the roundabout signed Ardglass turn left and then follow that road all the way into Ballykinler

**Taxi** The recommended service for the camp is Clough Cabs on 07821821120 and Bradstaffe Taxis on 07899 788460.

Singles/unaccompanied are to contact the unit before travelling.

**By train:** The trains do not operate all over Northern Ireland. The nearest station is Lisburn. For more information on the trains visit [www.translink.co.uk](http://www.translink.co.uk)

**Motoring:** On arrival In Northern Ireland, you must register your Privately Owned Vehicle (POV) with the Drivers Vehicle Agency Northern Ireland (DVA NI) if you will be staying for a period of twelve months or more. This is a legal requirement. There is no legal requirement to change to Northern Ireland number plates, but if you would like further advice on this issue then contact the Centralised Risk Assessment Cell on 028 92263601. The purchase of registration plates is an individual responsibility. A list of DVA (NI) authorised outlets is available from the DVA offices.

**HEALTHCARE**

**Service Personnel:**

Station Medical Centre - Civ: 028 4461 0219 Mil: (9) 4914 0219

Station Dental Centre - Civ: 028 4461 0212 Mil: (9) 4914 0212

## Dependents:

Medical – The main health centre accessible to dependents is in Dundrum. The Dundrum Surgery Tel: 08444 773832. Other Health centres include Downpatrick Health Centre Tel: 028 4461 2962 / 3016. A full list is available from the HIVE.

Dental - There are many dentists in the Downpatrick and Newcastle areas. The main practices are Downe Dental Care Tel: 028 4461 4422, Downe in the Mouth Tel: 028 4433 4102 and Hughes O'Boyle in Newcastle Tel: 028 4372 2302.

The nearest hospital is the Downe Hospital, Pound Lane, Downpatrick, BT30 6JA, tel no: 028 4461 3311, fax no: 028 4461 5699. This hospital also provides an A&E department. Contact A&E on: 028 4461 3311 ext 3836.

NHS Direct offers a 24-hour nurse advice and health information service, and provides details of local healthcare services, such as doctors, dentists or late night opening pharmacies. **NHS Direct - Tel: 0845 46 47** [www.nhsdirect.nhs.uk](http://www.nhsdirect.nhs.uk)

## SCHOOLS AND CHILDCARE

**Little Acorns Creche** (Newborn-3yrs). Tel: 028 4461 0384  
Open Monday to Friday 9:30 - 12:30. The creche is located within Ballykinler Camp. A 1 hour lunch club is also offered from Tuesday to Thursday at the cost of £2 per day.

**Great Oaks Pre school** (3 yrs to school age). Tel: 028 4461 0384  
Great Oaks is located next to Little Acorns Creche, and is open 5 mornings per week, Monday to Friday 9:30 -12:30. Lunch club is also offered to this age group.

**Cumran Primary School** (3-11 yrs), Tel: 028 4481 1352  
Cumran is located in the village of Clough, which is approximately 3 miles from Ballykinler. An Education & Library Board (ELB) bus runs from Camp for eligible pupils.  
Email: [info@cumran.clough.ni.sch.uk](mailto:info@cumran.clough.ni.sch.uk) web: [www.cumranps.co.uk](http://www.cumranps.co.uk)

**St Josephs Primary School** (3-11yrs). Tel: 028 4485 1600  
St Josephs is a Catholic school but children from other denominations are welcome. It is located in Tyrella approximately 2 miles away from Ballykinler. Public transport is available.

**Down High School Preparatory Department** Tel: 028 4461 2103  
Fee paying school with no ELB transport provided. [info@downhigh.downpatrick.ni.sch.uk](mailto:info@downhigh.downpatrick.ni.sch.uk)  
[www.downhighschoolni.org.uk](http://www.downhighschoolni.org.uk)

**Blackwater Integrated College** (11-17 yrs), Tel: 028 4461 2115.  
Located in Downpatrick approximately 7 miles away. There is a free school bus that picks the children up just outside the camp. [www.blackwaterintegrated.org](http://www.blackwaterintegrated.org)

**Down High School** (11-17 yrs) Tel: 028 4461 2103  
Down High School is a Grammar School located in Downpatrick approximately 7 miles away. A Common Entrance Assessment test must be taken. Further details can be found at [www.age.org.uk](http://www.age.org.uk). A sixth form College is also available.  
[info@downhigh.downpatrick.ni.sch.uk](mailto:info@downhigh.downpatrick.ni.sch.uk) [www.downhighschoolni.org.uk](http://www.downhighschoolni.org.uk)

## Education Contacts

There are no catchment areas in Northern Ireland giving parents a choice regarding education; contact the HIVE for a full list of Schools. The responsibility for placing a child into school is with the parent and not the LEA.

The South Eastern Education and Library Board Tel: 028 90566200,  
<http://www.seelb.org.uk>, [info@seelb.org.uk](mailto:info@seelb.org.uk)

Inspection reports for all schools can be found on [www.deni.gov.uk](http://www.deni.gov.uk)

### USEFUL CONTACT NUMBERS

These are the main Unit contact details. For any other Unit contact numbers please call the HIVE on 028 4461 0389

|                            | Mil                 | Civ                            |
|----------------------------|---------------------|--------------------------------|
| Welfare office (admin)     | (9)491 40145        | 028 4461 0145                  |
| UWO (unit welfare officer) | (9)491 40297/98     | 028 4461 0297/98               |
| HIVE                       | (9)491 40389        | 028 4461 0389                  |
| Guard Room                 | (9)491 40285        | 028 4461 0285                  |
| Padre                      | N/A                 | 07824 607680                   |
| Army Welfare Service       | (9)491 66371        | 028 9226 6371                  |
| Housing Helpdesk           | Enquires<br>Repairs | 0800 169 6322<br>0800 030 4651 |

### SECURITY IN NORTHERN IRELAND

Since the end of Op BANNER, life in Northern Ireland for service personnel and their families has improved considerably. However, the unique situation in Northern Ireland means that the military community must pay particular attention to their personal safety. This can be achieved by following a number of measures.

Information on these measures can be obtained by attending a security brief on arrival in Northern Ireland. Service personnel are to receive the Northern Ireland Induction Brief from their unit within 48hrs. A security brief is also available for all families on arrival at Lisburn. This takes place on the first Tuesday on every month at 0930hrs in the community centre. There are many ways to receive up to date security information:

- The Northern Ireland Garrison Security Awareness website is available through DII on the intranet at [www.nisyaware.dii.r.mil.uk](http://www.nisyaware.dii.r.mil.uk) Unit welfare staff can access this site on behalf of dependents.
- Sign up to your unit's text messaging system via your welfare office and receive information via your mobile phone.
- If you require specific security advice, for example all out of bounds areas, then call the team at the Centralised Risk Assessment Cell (CRAC) on 02892 263601
- Information about out of bound areas can also be obtained from the Northern Ireland Security Guard Service at the main entry point to camp.
- Call the security hotline number where any security notices are recorded on 02892 263937.

Before arriving in Northern Ireland contact your unit for up to date information about both the current security situation and how to travel to your new unit.

If you are unsure about how to obtain information on security in Northern Ireland call any of the Northern Ireland HIVEs or your Unit Welfare Office.

This is a brief overview of the area and facilities available at Ballykinler Station. The HIVE holds further information and will research information on your behalf.