

Walker's Britain: The Lake District, Cumbrian Way

Tour code: WCW

Revised: October 10

This tour provides an excellent introduction to the charms of English Lakeland, England's most mountainous area that requires no recommendation. Walking is unquestionably the best way to see this celebrated landscape, hailed over the years by the likes of poets, authors and painters. Wordsworth, Tennyson, Arthur Ramson, Beatrix Potter and Wainwright, have all left their mark! The distances covered each day are fairly short so there is ample time to pause and admire the unsurpassed scenery. The route is very much a classic although it largely avoids upland areas where navigation would become a problem in poor weather. It should be borne in mind that Lakeland is the wettest region of England and the going underfoot can be wet as well as rough, rocky; clients should come suitably prepared.



General Information

Duration of tour: 8 days (7 nights)

Season: 27 March to mid October.

Starting point of tour: Ulverston.

Tour ends: Keswick.

Nearest major City and International Airport: Manchester - 2hrs.15 mins by direct rail service. The first hotel is 5 minutes walk from the station.

Breakfast: in UK will generally consist of sausage, bacon, eggs etc, cereals and fruit will also be available. It is important for you to tell us if you have any dietary requirements when you book your holiday so that we can inform everyone that you are staying with.

Baths: it is not normal for your room to have a bath, the main reason being that it takes up a lot of space, some hotels/guesthouses may have a separate room in the house where a bath is available to guests, but in the main it is showers.

Single Supplements: are payable on most of our tours. The single supplement guarantees the privacy of your own room, however, rooms can at times be small and in some places may not enjoy the same facilities as double/twin rooms.

Luggage: When staying in hotels, sometimes your luggage will have been taken to your room awaiting your arrival. However don't be surprised if your luggage is waiting for you to take it up to your room.

Grading

Moderate. Some long days and steep climbs and descents. Generally however undulating. Mixed weather can be expected. We would not recommend the route for first time walkers.

Waymarking

National Trail Acorn marks often attached to posts and stiles. But you will have to use map interpretation especially in times of low visibility, so you should be accustomed to using map and compass.

Getting to the Start

Outward journey from London to Ulverston- Train from London Euston via Preston to Ulverston. **Journey time** 5 hours. Hotel is 5 minutes walk from the station.

Inward journey to Manchester at end of tour: Bus or taxi (no buses on Sundays) from Keswick to Penrith or Carlisle (30-45 mins). Then mainline train to Manchester via Preston that takes approx 2 ½ hours.

Inward journey to London at end of tour: Bus or taxi (no buses on Sundays) from Keswick to Penrith or Carlisle (30-45 mins). Then mainline train to London Euston. (4 hours).

Your Accommodation

Below is described the normal accommodation that we use on this tour. At the time of booking please be aware that other places might be used instead if these choices are full or closed for whatever reason.

❑ **Night 1:** Your first hotel is a friendly, family run hotel in the heart of this attractive market town. Proprietors Ken & Brenda run this three crown rated hotel and have created a friendly atmosphere and always extend a warm welcome to their guests. All rooms have ensuite bathrooms and are equipped with T.V, and tea and coffee making facilities, direct dial telephone.

❑ **Night 2:** Overnight at a traditional Lakeland Inn with cozy log fires and beamed ceilings. A selection of excellent real ale and delicious homemade food is served. All rooms have a ensuite shower room, hair drier and tea and coffee making facilities.

❑ **Nights 3 & 4:** A traditional, single-storey Lakeland cottage in the centre of Conistone village. All rooms are ensuite and there

is a guests' lounge with TV. Evening meals are available in the many pubs and restaurants nearby. Coniston is a superb base for walks and two nights are spent here.

❑ **Night 5:** We stay at the famous climbers' inn The Old Dungeon Ghyll. This historic hotel has provided accommodation for Lake District explorers for 300 years. The hotel is very comfortable, offering excellent facilities including a well stocked bar serving a full range of local beers, carefully prepared home-cooked meals, and traditional decoration throughout. Set in the magnificent Langdale Valley, The Old Dungeon Ghyll is amongst the finest inns in the country, and as such is deservedly a favourite with all who visit.

❑ **Night 6:** Tonight we stay in a small, and long established guesthouse. It is set in a beautiful small hamlet, and offers excellent home cooking. A popular peaceful retreat for former clients. No ensuite facilities tonight as this is a listed building.

❑ **Night 7:** In the market town of Keswick that nestles beneath the giant Skiddaw by the shores of Derwentwater, we stay at a 2 star hotel set right on the old market square close to all the towns amenities.

PLEASE NOTE: It is generally normal practice when staying in hotels that you check-in on or after 2pm and checkout by 10am the following morning. Guesthouses/bed & breakfast establishments are normally check-in on or after 4pm and checkout by 10am.

Outline Itinerary

❑ **Day 1 Ulverston:** Travel to start point an historic market town close to the shores of Morecambe Bay.

❑ **Day 2 Lowick Bridge:** Via Beacon Tarn (9 Miles 5 hours). By the shores of Morcambe Bay and through 'Blawith.' Gently undulating farmland with enticing views

of the superb mountains to come. There are frequent stiles and 'kissing gates' along the footpaths.

❑ **Day 3 Coniston:** Water Yeat to Coniston. A pleasant walk along the western shores of Coniston Water. (8 miles 4 hours).

❑ **Day 4 Coniston:** In Coniston from here you can tackle Coniston Old Man or take a variety of scenic walks. You can take a trip on the lake visit Grisedale forest or simply relax in this pleasant village. This is a classic Lakeland village and the setting for 'Swallows and Amazon's' and an inspiration for Beatrix Potter.

❑ **Day 5 Langdale:** Coniston to Langdale (11 miles 6 hours). We pass the exquisite little lake at Tarn Hows and enter the beautiful Langdale valley with its tiny hamlets at Elterwater and Chapel stile. This is Lakeland scenery at its best.

❑ **Day 6 Borrowdale:** Langdale to Borrowdale (8 miles 4 hours). Hike to the head of Langdale then over the Stake Pass (1600ft) between Bow Fell and the Pike of Stickle. Then it's down into the remote Langstrath valley and onto Borrowdale.

❑ **Day 7 Keswick:** Borrowdale to Keswick (9 miles 3 ½ hours). A walk through the delightful woodlands of Borrowdale, then a walk along the shores of Derwentwater to Keswick. A lively and attractive market town at the heart of the Lake District. There is time for an afternoon visit to the Caldbeck ring. If you want to climb Skiddaw the mountain that towers over the town you will need to stay an extra night here.

❑ **Day 8: End of tour**

Included

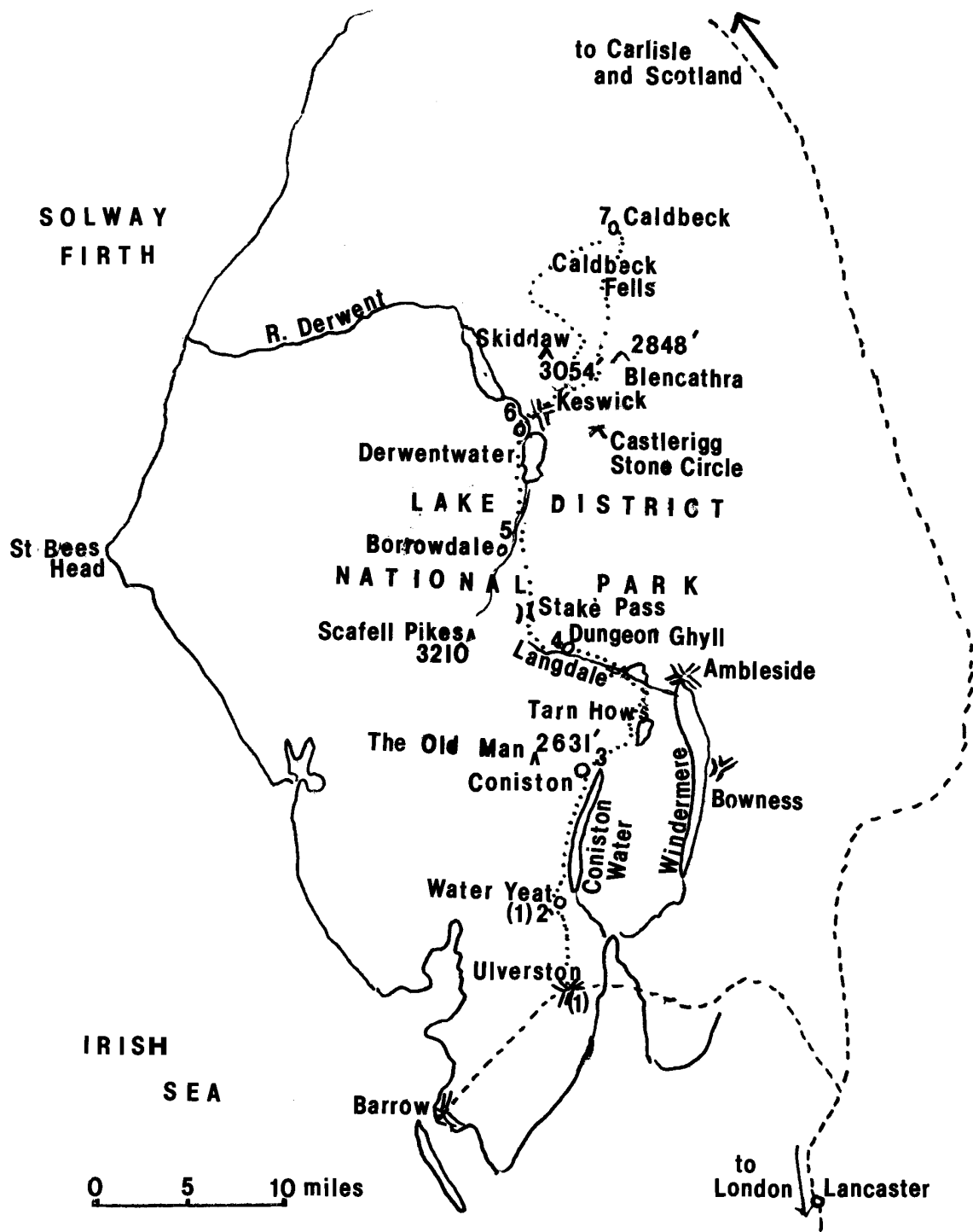
Bed & breakfast with ensuite facilities where available. Luggage transfers from Inn to Inn. Full route notes and map package.

Extend your Stay

Extra nights:

Ulverston

Keswick



THE CUMBRIAN WAY

0 5 10 miles

..... Walkers Britain itinerary
 7 night stop
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