



Keswick Club Site – Walking around Derwentwater

Camping and Caravanning



Route Summary



This is a good long walk with some awesome views. It takes you into some great locations as it follows a course around Derwentwater keeping to the lake shore as much as possible. This strenuous walk is also a very popular one so expect to meet lots of other walkers and dog owners.

Route Overview



Category: Walking
Rating: Unrated
Surface: Moderate
Date Published: 18th July 2017
Difficulty: Hard
Length: 15.630 km / 9.77 mi
Last Modified: 18th July 2017

Description



CIRCUIT OF DERWENTWATER FROM KESWICK CAMPING AND CARAVANNING CLUB SITE



Views like this are common on this walk

The round of Derwentwater is a long stretch of the legs – if using a GPS it will show you it is 10.2 miles/16.41km – but every step of it is a joy, and the strenuous outing will take about 4.5 – 5 hours. The views are stunning and paths are generally good and easy to follow, but you should take Ordnance Survey OL Explorer Map 4 - The North Western Lakes all the same. Save this outing for a clear sunny day when the lake and the surrounding fells are at their very best and avoid it in wet and windy conditions – if there has been a lot of rain it is possible some of the lakeside paths may be flooded. Apart from that wear boots, take a rucksack and a packed lunch and go and enjoy one of the Lake District's classic low level walks.



The sign to watch for throughout the walk

THE ROUTE

START - From reception at Keswick Club Site head down the access lane to go left at the end for a short distance to go right up steps and right again to walk up the road (The Headlands). This becomes 'The Heads' and when the road bends left go right past a green café heading for 'The Lake'. Follow the surfaced track through Hope Park to join a road going ahead and curving right to pass the Theatre By The Lake and reach the boating piers at the end of Derwentwater.



One of many views of Derwentwater on the walk

Go ahead on the surfaced track left of the lake. At a fork go ahead signposted 'Friars Crag'). At the next fork go ahead, again heading for Friars Crag. Pass a memorial stone left and continue to the viewpoint, then re-trace your steps to go right and pass the memorial stone.



Ruskin Memorial Stone

Continue down steps to go right through a gate. Follow the path curving left around a bay to cross a bridge and go right over another bridge. Go left through a gate. Follow a path through woods to pass by a gate to a track junction. Go right signposted 'To The Lake'. Pass a house right and go past a cattle grid (gate). Curve right through an open meadow going left at a fork passing right of cottages. Follow the descending path soon curving left and pass 'The Millenium Seat' in trees. Descend to the lake shore and pass the Centenary Stone, which was created to celebrate 100 years of the National Trust.



The Centenary Stone

Continue by the lake to curve right over a bridge and continue curving right around a bay. Follow the elevated path

with the lake through the trees. Rise to go ahead at a junction and descend to re-join the lake. Continue in trees to cross a bridge and go right.

NOTE - if the water level is high you will have to go left to avoid it and re-join the lake at Ashness Landing Stage further on (check your map)

Follow the stony shore past outcrops to reach Ashness Landing Stage.

2 - Continue along the shore soon curving right around a peninsula to cross a bridge. Continue by the lake, curving around a bay and draw close to a road at a wall. Follow this to a car park. Here go left over the road taking a footpath signposted 'Lodore 1/2 mile'. Follow this in trees near the road rising/falling to reach junction. Go right descending to the road, then go left down the road passing the Lodore Hotel. Continue past toilets right and reach a gate and footpath right.

3 - Go through the gate taking the path ahead to cross a bridge via two gates. Continue on a boardwalk through marshy ground, crossing the end of Derwentwater. Pass through a gate continuing on the path to curve right.



Crossing the bridge

Follow the path up/down and over more boardwalk. Follow path as the lake comes into view again and pass through a gate. Continue by the lake in trees to pass a boathouse right on a small peninsula. Continue to a lane and go right (signposted 'Brandelhow'). Descend the Tarmac lane passing through a gate opening and continue on a rough track. Pass through a kissing gate and go right of a white cottage to follow the path in open ground near the lake. Curve around Brandelhow Bay and pass through a gate to continue under old spoil heaps.



View of Brandelhow Bay



Walking near Brandelhow Bay

Soon curve left away from the lake to go right in woods. Continue to fork right at split and reach High Brandelhow Pier.

4 - Continue on the path beyond the pier, rising up and down gently in woods and passing a hand sculpture. Continue to pass Low Brandelhow Pier and through a gate to go left away from the lake at a fork. Pass through another gate and continue on the track to curve right. Pass through another gate and go ahead at a junction. Pass under a house and rise to pass through a gate by another gate. Reach a track and go right signposted 'Keswick'. Follow the track to reach a lane.



Enjoying the view of Derwentwater

Go right, passing a turning for 'Hawse End and Landing Stage' right. Just after this go right through a gate. Follow the track through trees descending to cross a bridge and pass through a gate. Follow the path over an open field to pass through another gate and re-enter woods. Stay ahead immediately at a path crossroads. Rise on the track in the woods and continue to exit via a gate to a drive at the entrance to Lingholm. Go ahead signposted for 'Keswick' and rise with a wall right. Rise on the track to descend to reach the building of 'The Lodge' right and the entrance to 'Fawepark' left. Continue downhill for 'Portinscale' to reach the car park at Nichol End Marina.



Nichol End Marina

5 - Go left for 'Portinscale' and at the end of the road go right following pavements into Portinscale. Pass a café left and continue to a point where the road bends left. Here go right for 'Keswick' and continue to the end of the road. Go straight ahead crossing a bridge. Continue down the road beyond and further along go right, taking a footpath signposted for Keswick. Follow the path through a gate and continue on it to exit to a Tarmac access drive. Curve left to a road and go right to reach Keswick town centre. At the mini roundabout go right and stay ahead when the road bends left. Pass Booths supermarket and when the road bends left go straight on to pass the rugby club and right down the lane to return to Keswick Club Site.

Choose your trail



Waypoints

Choose your trail



viewranger

