

Cumbria LDWA Keswick Kanter Social Walk

There will be a led walk aiming to complete all four loops described below within 12 hours. The planned order is West then North then South and will end with the East loop, as being semi-urban this will be easier/safer if the light is failing.

If you don't want to do all 4 loops (28 miles), then use the descriptions below to self-navigate the loops you would like to do. Feel free to diverge from the routes given if it makes the day more enjoyable.

Comments about the routes and format of the event are very welcome, please send them to events.cumbria@ldwa.org.uk

To keep things simple, the route of each of the four loops will be described as if starting and finishing at the Orthodox Chapel, Braithwaite NY229236. Your actual start/end point will depend on where the cars are parked.

Abbreviations

R=Right L=Left rd=road imm=immediately AHD=Ahead cont=continue jct=junction
trk=track N=north E=east S=south W=west WM=waymark(sign)
WMP=waymark(post) fp=public footpath Post=fingerpost 100m=100 metres
FB=footbridge. Nyxxxxxx=Grid Reference

South Loop (4 miles, 1300ft ascent)

A walk on typical Lakeland fell side to the summit of Barrow with lovely views

S1. Turn R on rd then imm L up stony path with hedge & house on L to reach rd in front of Coledale Inn.

AHD on rd, at jct ignore rd descending to L & cont on rd round to R.

Cont on rd 350m gradually uphill, ignoring WMP on L at shed, to reach gate & Post (NY229232).

S2. Thru gate & cont uphill, in 1km (NY227227) keep AHD to follow main trk rising along E side of Stile End, to Barrow Door.

At the col (NY222316) turn L & ascend well-worn path thru heather to summit of Barrow.

S3. Descend ridge in NE direction on well-worn path to meet grassy path coming from R (WMP on R).

Bear L downhill to gate in wall. Thru & down to gate at Braithwaite Lodge Farm.

Thru gate & imm L thru another gate, leaving farm yard. In 10m bear R & follow fp (initially with fence/trees on R)

down into wooded area. Cross FB & ascend steep path to reach rd at WMP by shed that was passed earlier.

S4. Turn R on rd & retrace outward route back to chapel.

West Loop (8 miles/12.3km, 653m ascent)

A walk up through woodland to Barf with great views over Bassenthwaite lake

NB: A detour via rd avoids the closed (chicken) footbridge in Braithwaite NY228253

W1. Turn L & follow rd down over bridge to main rd. Turn L & follow rd uphill 200m to fp & Post on R at gate.

Thru gate, follow fp past Scout Hut on L & imm bear L on fp into trees. Thru gate & AHD on trk with fence on R.

Cont on trk thru further gates then follow path as it climbs up & L away from fence then descends to gate and trk crossroads. AHD (N) passing holiday accomodation on R & cross stone bridge to reach jct at Thornthwaite.

W2. Turn L into No-Thru-Rd & uphill to rd end. Take rocky path AHD on R (care needed if wet) then up to gate.

Follow fp with beck on L & in 500m at jct (NY217250), take opposite ascending path on R.

Cont uphill on path thru trees to cross FB & in 10m reach trk jct.

Turn R & ascend with stream on R to cross the stream on R as trk runs above wall/pipe.

W3. Cont on trk, ascending to trk jct.

AHD on lower path, descending & in 500m pass noticeboards at viewpoint/seating area on R (NY220256).

Cont on trk which curves to NW, reaching trk jct in an open area. Turn L uphill & in 50m reach base of rocky outcrop.

Go up on L side of stream until stream can be safely crossed to R with WMP beyond on R.

Follow path up thru trees to emerge on forest trk then turn R to stile (leaving forest).

W4. Follow path ascending NE 400m to the rocky summit of Barf.

From summit, return down to & cross stile at forest edge. Follow forest trk AHD for 700m, ascending to trk jct.

Turn L & follow descending trk for 500m to another jct, where follow sharply round to L and down.

Trk soon curves to R and descends to trk jct passed earlier.

W5. Turn R and retrace outward journey.

(I.E. down to wall/pipe then down to cross FB, down to and cross over trk to follow fp to rd jct in Thornthwaite,

turn R and follow fp to trk crossroads, thru gate AHD & follow fp back to start)

North Loop (7.9 miles/12.7km, 460m ascent)

Cross marshland and meadow then climb through woods to Dodd's lovely viewpoint

N1. Turn L & follow rd down over bridge to main rd. Turn R and follow rd (care, traffic) to 2nd turning on L (just after the Royal Oak).

Follow past school bearing L at rd jct (care, traffic) to reach road jct 15m before the busy A66.

Turn L & follow minor rd for 80m to gap in fence on R, cross A66 by railings to pavement opposite (care, traffic).

Turn L in front of Braithwaite Institute & take fp on R at end of building (WMP "Dancing Gate")

N2. Where rd ends, AHD thru gate & cross field in same direction to gate. Follow fp thru wood & cross bridges to reach Bog House.

AHD, following line of fence/trees on L then turn L (N) (NY241247) alongside ditch for 100m to bridge on R (NY241248).

Cross & follow NE for 500m (boggy ground, vague path), keeping drainage ditch on your L

to reach rickety gate/stile in field corner (NY244250)

N3. Now on better ground (grassy meadow), head N towards two isolated trees then cont in same direction to gate in corner.

(River Derwent now on R). Follow fp thru gates with fence & river on R to High Stock Bridge Farm.

Exit farmyard over bridge to R & follow enclosed lane up to main rd (A591).

(Note: A trk on L just before the rd leads to an underpass under it, but it is private land).

N4. Turn L on rd & use either verge as appropriate (care, traffic) to reach rd jct after 150m (NY244265).

Turn R (Millbeck, Skiddaw) & just before 1st house on L (NY246264), take ascending stony trk on L.

Follow up & cross stream then bear L on steeply ascending path to right-hand bend where gradient eases.

Continue ascending, to reach jct (NY250266) with fp coming up from the R (which is your return route).

N5. Turn L on fp and follow up to turning circle at end of forestry trk.

AHD and in a few metres look for parallel path climbing grass on the R. Follow this path which maintains direction

& climbs as the forestry trk curves L. Cont N on this narrow path up to jct (NY249270) with another forestry trk.

Turn L and in a few metres, as trk bears L, cont AHD (do not cross stream) and ascend thru trees to another forestry trk.

(NY248272)

N6. Turn R and follow trk, soon curving L and ascending to Long Doors.

At the col (NY245273), take trk doubling-back and ascending (WM, Dodd Summit).

Follow up to trk jct (NY246271) where turn R and follow trk up to summit of Dodd.

N7. From summit, return to the trk jct & go AHD on path towards bench. Just before bench, in dip, turn R.

Follow path round bends then in 350m at WM (NY242271) take narrow path doubling-back to L and descending.

Cont down to trk jct, turn R then in 10m turn L on major trk (NY243269).

Follow this trk to the turning circle previously visited, then follow fp down, past your ascent route, to reach stile in wall at edge of forest (NY251265).

N8. Follow well-defined fp for 800m down to meet the rd at stile (NY254263).

Turn R and follow rd down to jct with A591. Reverse outward route to return to start.

East Loop (8.5 miles/13.7km, 409m ascent)

Round the edge of Keswick to Latrigg with views over the town and the fells beyond

E1. Turn L & follow rd down, taking gravel trk on R (50m before bridge). At jct bear L to rd (stream on L).

At jct by village shop turn L over bridge then imm R (Keswick). At bus shelter & cafe turn R to A66.

Turn R for 50m then cross rd at traffic island to cycle path opposite. Turn R to reach & follow minor rd.

E2. Just past Braithwaite Bridges camp site (NY241236) take fp on L.

Follow fp gradually uphill & then downhill, keeping fence on R to reach minor rd & descend to A66.

Turn R on pavement for 80m & cross A66 at traffic island.

Turn L on opposite pavement then turn R at jct (Portinscale).

E3. Turn L just after the Farmers Arms, follow fp between houses before turning L on fp (NY251236),

thru gate & down over field, to riverbank. Turn R and in 100m at jct, turn L to cross suspension bridge.

AHD on RD towards main rd, but as rd curves L take path on R next to fence.

After 50m climb bank on L to main rd and cross to enclosed trk opposite.

Follow trk to roundabout by Church & take 1st exit (NW). Under old rail bridge then turn R to

ascend on to old rail line. Turn L & follow trk thru trees for 600m to rd at edge of Keswick.

Turn R and at 1st rd on L (Skiddaw, Latrigg) turn L on Brundholme Lane.

E4. Just after Briar Rigg (cul de sac) on R, turn L on FP (Spooney Green Lane)

AHD over A66 footbridge then in 250m ignore trk to R (your return route) and ascend to

double-bend in trk (L then R) where stream is crossed. Just beyond (NY273248) take ascending path going E

(on R of main trk). Follow up, thru gate at edge of woods then steeply up the hillside.

Path curves to SE before reaching the summit of Latrigg.

E5. Take path E along the hilltop, descending gently to a gate (NY281248).
Do not go thru, but turn R & descend on path 25m to gate.
Follow path down, turning L (NY278244) to descend on zig-zag path to main trk running E-W.
Turn R (W) & follow to trk jct passed earlier (NY271244).
Turn L & retrace outward route but at rd on L just before roundabout (Vicarage Hill), turn L & follow
past grounds of Keswick School bearing L to main rd (NY259241). Cross rd to pavement opposite.

E6. Turn R and follow pavement to minor road leading to Suspension Bridge passed earlier.
Retrace outward steps back towards start, but on reaching the A66 turn L along cyclepath to Braithwaite.

Congratulations!

Please send any comments to events.cumbria@ldwa.org.uk in order that we can learn how to make it a better event in future.

If running this as event there would be a single manned checkpoint from which entrants start and to which entrants return to at the end of each loop, with a numbered marker close to the summit of each hill, the number being noted down by each entrant.