



Take a walk or ride along the Keswick to Threlkeld Railway Trail

Day 3 - Keswick

For your third day in the Lake District, it's time to head to the market town of Keswick. Here, you can easily spend the day exploring the local shops and cafes; and discovering museums and galleries like the Derwent Pencil Museum [8](#) and Puzzling Place [9](#) – an attraction filled with optical illusions.

This is also a great place to go walking, with a range of routes to suit all levels. The Keswick to Threlkeld Railway Trail [10](#) is part of the Miles Without Stiles initiative and was funded by the Low Carbon Lake District Programme. It's an accessible route suitable for wheelchairs, trampers, prams and cyclists. The trail follows in the path of the old Keswick to Penrith Railway, passing by the River Greta; and travelling through original Victorian railway bridges and tunnels. Stretching for 5km each way, the route begins in Keswick and makes for a brilliant car-free day out.

During the spring / summer months, the Honister Rambler offers the chance to experience Honister Pass by bus, stopping off at popular locations along the way. The Honister Rambler is a seasonal bus service, numbered 77/77A, which operates from Easter to October. Along the way, it takes in Portinscale, Catbells, Grange, Seatoller, Honister Slate Mine [11](#), Buttermere, Lorton and Whinlatter Forest [12](#).

Day 4 - Departure

After a few days spent exploring the Lake District by foot, bike, and public transport, it's time to hop on the train or bus and head for home. You can extend your stay and location hop using the Stagecoach bus services if you prefer.



Visit the Gothic ruins and romantic gardens at Lowther Castle

Useful Information

Visit www.visitlakedistrict.com/sustainablestays to book accommodation and more car free inspiration.

Walking routes are for illustrative purposes only. If you are heading out on the fells make sure you're adventure smart at www.adventuresmart.uk

The Low Carbon Lake District initiative is a comprehensive programme to help tackle climate change in the Lake District National Park, working to reduce greenhouse gases and prepare for the impacts of climate change.

The project has received funding from the England European Structural and Investment Funds Growth Programme 2014-2020. Find out more at <https://www.lakedistrict.gov.uk/caringfor/policies/lowcarbonlakedistrict>



ICONIC LAKES TRAIL - EXPLORE THE NORTHERN LAKES WITHOUT A CAR



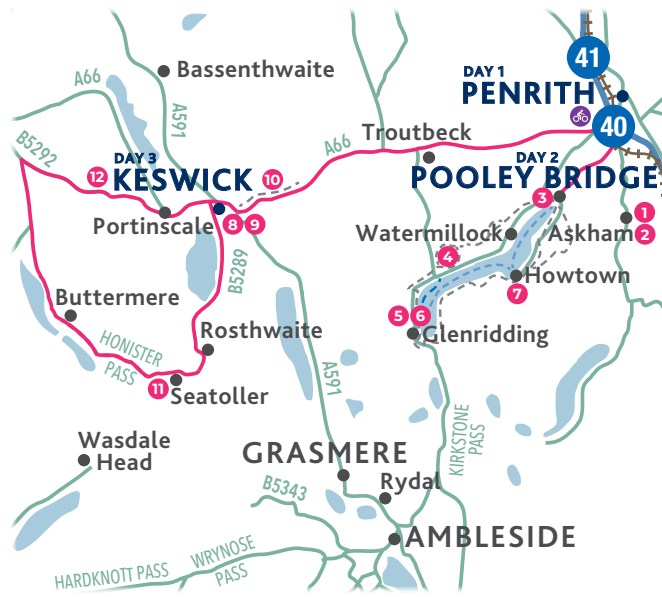
Fancy exploring some of the most iconic areas of the Lake District without a car? Well, we have the perfect trail for you. Walk or ride your way around this Grand Tour of the Northern Lake District, taking in Keswick, Penrith and the Ullswater Valley. Visiting the area without a car reduces your carbon impact and helps to look after this special place.

Go Car-free for 2023

www.visitlakedistrict.com/carfree



Arrive in picturesque Penrith



KEY: ① Attractions/points of interest (approx. location) 🚲 Bike Hire
 - - - - - Walking route



Walk the Ullswater Way

Tickets and Passes

North West 3 Day Explorer

3 days of Stagecoach bus travel around the North West area for under £30.

Bus & Boat Ullswater Explorer

Unlimited travel for 1 day in the North West plus any boat cruise on Ullswater.

Bus & Boat Derwent Explorer

Unlimited travel in the North West plus a boat trip on Derwent Water.

Check prices and find out more at www.stagecoachbus.com

Day 1 – Take the Train or Bus to Penrith

Hop on the train or a bus and head for Penrith. Located on the West Coast Main Line, it's around a three and a half hour train ride on the direct Avanti West Coast service from London– and passes through some beautiful landscapes along the way. If you are on a Stagecoach route you can get a North West Explorer pass and head up on the bus.

Upon arrival, it's time to check in to your accommodation. There are plenty of places to stay in Penrith itself, as well as in the surrounding area, so you'll be spoilt for choice. Arriving early? Many places will keep your bags for you ahead of check in.

Once you've dropped off your bags, it's time to head out and explore. Feeling active? Why not hire a bike or e-bike from Arragons Cycle Hire? ① They will deliver your bike to a number of accommodation providers in the Penrith area and can recommend some local routes. Alternatively, there are plenty of bus services to take you to your next stop.

Nearby, Lowther Castle & Gardens ② is a striking ruined castle in the Gothic style, set amidst 130 acres of ancient and romantic gardens. As well as wandering the castle's halls, visitors can also enjoy a bite to eat in the café. For kids, there's the Lost Castle Adventure Playground – one of the largest adventure playgrounds in the UK. There is a limited 106 bus service to Lowther from Penrith (not included in the tickets above).

After all that exploring, you'll be ready for dinner. There are lots of places to choose from, including country pubs; stylish bistros. You can get there by bus on the 111 Fellrunner service towards Langwathby.

Day 2 – The Ullswater Way

After a good night's sleep and a hearty breakfast, it's time to head out for a day on nearby Ullswater. Take the 508 bus from Penrith train station to Pooley Bridge – it's a direct Stagecoach service which takes around half an hour.

Winding its way around Ullswater for 20 miles, the Ullswater Way ⑤ is a walking route which can be done as one big stretch; or in smaller sections. There are bus and boat stops along the way, so you can easily take public transport to shorten the route. The walk may be long, but it's also low level and fairly easy – making it great for a range of abilities.

Beginning at Pooley Bridge, walk along the north of Ullswater to Aira Force ④ – around 8 miles on foot, via some stunning views and landscapes. Then, it's on to the village of Glenridding ⑤ on Ullswater's southern tip for lunch at a local pub or café.

If you want to keep walking, continue the Ullswater Way back up to Pooley Bridge along the south side of the water. Alternatively, take an Ullswater Steamers ⑥ boat up to Pooley Bridge via a stop at Howtown ⑦, before taking the 508 Stagecoach bus back to Penrith; the bus can also be taken from Glenridding.