

Lake District Fell Walking Weekend
May 7th - 10th 2020



Lake District Fell Walking Weekend
May 7th-10th 2020



Price: 385 GBP per person sharing

Included in the price:

3 nights accommodation: 235 GBP per person sharing (Bed & Breakfast basis)

Organisation Fee: 150 GBP per person

Accompanied Walks/Alternative Itineraries

Not included in the price:

Travel* & Transportation**

Lunch, Supper, Snacks & Drinks

*Easy Jet Flights Currently on Sale for 85 euros plus luggage

**We anticipate renting cars to give us maximum flexibility. We will divide the cost equally between travelers. Rough estimated cost of 130GBP per person plus fuel.

Day One: Thursday 7th May 2020

For those people travelling from the Netherlands, you will arrive at Schipol Airport, Amsterdam by 8am to check in for your flight to Manchester. Currently Easy Jet is showing the best value fare at around 85euros excluding baggage (return). We ask that everyone books their flights independently – we will set up a whats app group to communicate with the group.

Easy Jet – EZY 1832	
Departure:	10.00
Arrival:	10.20

On arrival into Manchester, after everyone has collected their baggage we will make our way to the car rental village to collect the rental cars. This is a short free shuttle bus ride from the main terminal. Participants travelling from elsewhere should plan to meet us at Manchester Airport by 1020 – so we can transfer to the Car Rental Village together.

We hope to rent a number of automatic cars – which will be the most flexible way for us to get around the UK. If anyone would like to volunteer to drive, please let us know.

It takes about 1 hour 40 minutes to drive from Manchester Airport to our accommodation. We will be able to stop en route at a motorway service station to pick up a packed lunch to eat in the car.



You will arrive at your accommodation, The Queens Head in Troutbeck between 2pm and 3pm

The Queens Head, Troutbeck

Located 4 miles from Ambleside and Windermere and nestled on the side of the fells which overlook the Troutbeck Valley stands The Queens Head, a 17th century coaching inn.

The Queens Head features a cosy drinking area with newly-refurbished dining areas and 10 comfortable en-suite guest bedrooms. Renowned for serving some of the finest food in the area, The Queens Head's menu will highlight a mixture of homely classic pub food with a Cumbrian flair.



Once you are settled into your room there will be an opportunity to visit the small town of Ambleside, where you can shop or pick up any provisions or equipment you may need for the next few days.

The group will meet up back at the Queens Head at 6.00pm for drinks and information about the next day's activity. For those of us walking – we will need to order a packed lunch to be ready first thing in the morning so we can take it with us.

Dinner will be around 7pm and everyone should get a good night's sleep ready for the coming adventure!

Day two: Friday 8th May 2020

It's time to move !

The group activity on offer for today will be a good fell walk... of course everything depends on the weather – but hopefully we will be able to ‘bag’ the big one – Helvellyn via Striding Edge and Swirral Edge. It is classed as a hard walk despite being only 8 miles long and 908m of ascent.

We should meet for breakfast at 0715 and be ready to leave the pub at 0815. It will take us about 20 minutes to drive to the start of our walk. Over breakfast we will pick up our packed lunch order for the day and fill up our water bottles.

We leave our cars in a carpark in Glenridding – there is a public toilet there – so last chance for a pee-stop! Then armed with our rucksacs, maps and compasses we start our walk to Helvellyn - England's 3rd highest peak – at 950m.

The walk starts with a gentle climb out of the village and from here onto a steep but well laid path. At the top of the first climb we ‘bag’ Birkhouse Moor at its stone summit cairn. After enjoying a fabulous view (weather permitting) of Ullswater we continue for just over half a kilometre to a walking intersection called ‘Hole in the Wall’. From here we start what is probably the most popular ridge walk in England – and it is by far the most exciting way to summit Helvellyn. The first part of the horseshoe walk is called Striding Edge – which is an exposed knife edge ridge that requires a head for heights and exposure. Saying that , however, it does have in most places an easier alternative side path if desired. From here we navigate a steep pull up to summit Helvellyn – where we can enjoy the views and maybe our packed lunch before descending the horseshoe ridge via Swirral Edge – another iconic ridge.





This is a serious mountain adventure at any time of the year – we will watch the weather carefully and if in any doubt we will modify the walk or choose another destination in order to manage risks. If it is windy or icy we will not attempt this – rather choose another walk of which there are plenty.

At the end of our walk, we have a choice of enjoying a cup of tea and cake in one of the little tea-shops in Glenridding or going straight home to the pub for a drink and hot shower.

In the evening, we will regroup in the bar for a well-deserved drink, a debrief of the day, followed by dinner around 7pm.

For those of us who want to walk again in the morning, we will need to order packed lunches ready to pick up in the morning.

Day Three: Saturday 9th May 2020

Today, the group activity on offer is another walk, this time in the Langdale area – whilst not the highest fells in the Lake District, they are often described as the most dramatic. They are characterised by rugged, craggy slopes that rise abruptly from the valley below – interspersed by a few tumbling streams.

This walk will be a little shorter – so we can start with a more leisurely breakfast.

We will meet for breakfast at 0800 and be ready to leave the pub at 0900. It will take us about 35 minutes to drive to the start of our walk. Over breakfast we will pick up our packed lunch order for the day and fill up our water bottles.

We have planned a circular walk – taking in the Langdale Pikes. The overall distance of the route is short at 7.5km but the ascents and descents are steep – which slows our pace down. The first ascent brings us to Stickle Tarn – a small ‘mountain lake’ which is beautiful and from here you can look across at the notorious Jack’s Rake route which diagonally traverses across the face of ‘Pavey Arc’ fell. We will choose a less demanding route up and from Pavey’s Arc Summit our next objective will be Thunacar Knott and onto Harrison Stickle (732m), Pike of Stickle (709m) and finally Loft Crag (682)m. From here we descend back to our carpark.



Once back in the valley floor – we can choose whether to go straight home to the pub – or stop at the Old Dungeon Ghyll Pub – whose hiker’s bar is iconic. The hiker’s bar is made from old cow stalls and is a local institution ! If possible we should definitely call in for a drink.



We can then make our way back to the Pub – stopping if we wish at Skelwith Bridge which has a great local craft shop.

Back at the pub, we can rest our weary feet, have a hot shower and get ready for our final dinner !



Notes about the Walks

We can't predict the weather – and so our planned walks may need to be cancelled or amended. We will pay careful attention to weather conditions and make any modifications we need to in order to keep us safe!

We will enclose a complete kit checklist – it is always best to be prepared. The weather is unpredictable and can change very quickly – so it is imperative that we all have all the items on the check list.

We are able to answer any questions you may have about these.

Kit List Attached To Email

Other Options

If for whatever reason you don't wish to join us for both walks, there are many other options available for you. If you can get a car load together – you can be independent – otherwise you will need to arrange your own taxi to and from the hotel.

Here is just a small selection of things to do and see in the local area. These are all excluded from the price of the weekend and you will need to arrange and pay for these excursions yourself.

1. Visit Grasmere village

Grasmere is probably the Cumbria's most popular village, thanks to William Wordsworth (1770-1850). Most of the buildings date from the 19th or early 20th Century, though the farms around Grasmere are much older. The Church dates from the 13th Century.

<https://wordsworth.org.uk/your-visit/dove-cottage/>

<https://www.lakedistrict.gov.uk/visiting/places-to-go/explore-grasmere-and-rydal>

2. Dove Cottage & Wordsworth Museum

<https://wordsworth.org.uk/your-visit/dove-cottage/>

3. Castlerigg Stone Circle & Visit the market town of Keswick.

The Castlerigg Stone Circle is up to 5,000 years old (older than Stonehenge) and the town's market has been trading since the 1200s.



<https://www.visitcumbria.com/kes/keswick/>

<https://www.keswick.org/explore/not-to-miss/castlerigg-stone-circle>

4. Walks from the pub in Troutbeck

Our pub accommodation is in a stunning location – with a few good walks to do from the front door. It is in a remote setting – so to 'walk' from here you need your fell boots and rain gear... it is not in a village or town – so adjust your expectations !

<https://www.robinsonsbrewery.com/-/media/images/robinsons/pub-microsites/o-s/queensheadtroutbeck/walks/queens-head.pdf>

4 Via Ferrata (iron way) at Honister slate mine.

The only working slate mine in England – Honister Slate Mine hosts a fabulous ‘via ferrata’ experience. The Via Ferrata consists of iron staples set into the rock face – and using a 2 carabina system you climb up and along the iron staples – a bit like rock climbing... It is hard to describe – check out the photos below or ask us some questions. On site there is also a gift shop which sells their local slate made into different items – like place mats, door signs, clocks etc

In order to avoid disappointment – it will be necessary to book this ahead of time.



<https://honister.com/>

<https://englishlakes.co.uk/english-lakes-blog/lake-district-heritage-culture/lake-district-adventure-on-the-via-ferrata-xtreme/>

6. Hill Top – Home to the well know children’s author - Beatrix Potter

<https://www.nationaltrust.org.uk/hill-top>

There are so many things to do or see.... Let us know what you are interested in and we can advise.



Day 4 Sunday 10th May 2020

Sadly no time for a long lie in – we will need to eat breakfast for 7am – in order to leave the pub by 0800 ready to drive back to Manchester airport and return our hire cars.

Easy Jet - EYZ1831
Manchester Departure: 12.05
Amsterdam Arrival: 14.24



Disclaimer & Own Risk

All bookings and activities are conducted at the customers own risk.

All information provided is given in good faith and no liability is accepted in respect of any damage, loss or injury which might result from acting on it or participating in any of the activities described.

Please visit the following link for critical safety points:

<http://www.happyhiker.co.uk/Safety/Hiking%20Pages%20-%20Safety.htm>