

## PLACE FELL

MODERATE, 11.5 km, 4h 30min, Grid Ref.: NY395160, North England

**WPT 1 [Grid Ref.: NY395160]**

From the car park opposite the Patterdale Hotel, turn left through the village past the White Lion pub. Take the next left, crossing Goldrill Beck to the little hamlet of Rooking, where you'll pass Wordsworth Cottage – now a B&B, but once owned by the poet. Ignore a path leading off on your right and continue along the road to the left, following signs for the bridlepath to Boredale Hause. When the road ends, two paths head uphill on your right; take the higher of these. You'll continue to see the lower path running below you, until you branch off more steeply uphill on a grassy path which forks off to the left. This quickly becomes a more distinct, stony track, which continues climbing to Boredale Hause.

**WPT 2 [Grid Ref.: NY407158]**

Boredale Hause is a distinct crisscross of paths. Take the left-hand path which leads northwards and very steeply uphill to the cairn on top of Round How. As you ascend, the views of Helvellyn will become steadily more and more impressive, with first its ridge and then its summit cairn and trig point coming into view. Don't be tricked, however, into mistaking Round How for the summit of Place Fell on your way up, as many people do. And if you are fooled, then take heart from the fact that from Round How onwards all the serious climbing is over.

**WPT 3 [Grid Ref.: NY406170]**

From the top of Place Fell, the views of Helvellyn, with Ullswater sparkling at its feet, are unsurpassed. You'll also get an unrivalled sense of the full, serpentine length of the lake – the second longest in Cumbria, at 7½ miles – cradling Place Fell in the crook of its arm. On a clear day, you'll also see the Pennines to the north-east and the long, straight back of High Street to the south-east. From the summit, a clear path leads off north-east, past the biggest of the surrounding tarns. As this continues, it may become less distinct – particularly in summer when the bracken is high, or after rain, when the pools on the plateau swell. If in doubt, walk on a bearing to the ruined sheepfold nestling in the depression at Low Moss, just below High Dodd.

**WPT 4 [Grid Ref.: NY414179]**

From Low Moss, there is a choice of paths. Take the left-hand route, which heads downhill to follow the valley of Scalehow Beck. The path will become more distinct as it gets lower, passing a ruined quarry hut and a series of burbling waterfalls. At the bottom of the falls, the path crosses a bridge before joining the (sometimes busy) lakeside path from Sandwick to Patterdale.

**WPT 5 [Grid Ref.: NY417192]**

The return leg of the walk may not be isolated, but it takes in what Wordsworth thought was the 'loveliest mile' in England, and what Wainwright considered 'the most beautiful and rewarding walk in Lakeland'. The path undulates a little, but it is a broad, easy-stepping route which allows you to enjoy the delightful surrounding woodland, and the periodic glimpses of the lake, shimmering below you through the trees. At various points, small paths lead down to the shore if you're tempted to paddle. Stay on the lower of two paths when the way splits. This turns into a rough road, and passes through a campsite. About 500m beyond the campers, at Side Farm, turn right to cross the fields on a long, straight driveway. This will take you into Patterdale, where you need to bear left to return to the start.

**Terrain**

ascent on a distinct, steep, stony path; boggy upland which can be almost pathless; then a clear, broad lakeside track which can be busy

**Suitable**

x

**Parking**

NY397159

**Town**

Keswick

**Refresh**

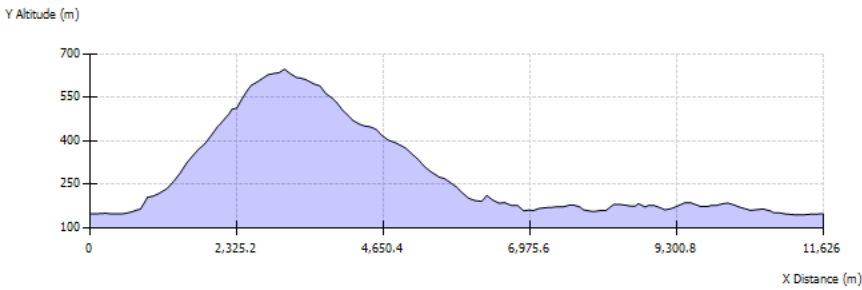
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**Transport**

trains to Penrith, then Patterdale Rambler bus from station (it doesn't run in the evenings or on winter Sundays) – tel. 0870 608 2608



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Total Air Distance: 11,626 m  
 Total DTM Distance: 11,746.4 m  
 Min. Altitude: 146.1 m  
 Max. Altitude: 648.8 m  
 Avg. Altitude: 277.2 m  
 Total Ascent: 628.9 m  
 Total Descent: -629.1 m  
 Total Ascent Distance: 4,928.4 m  
 Total Descent Distance: 5,412.2 m  
 Total Level Distance: 1,405.9 m  
 Percent Ascent: 42%  
 Percent Descent: 46.1%  
 Percent Level: 12%



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