

555 StagePath

RIDE & STRIDE BY BUS

the family way to walk

ALWAYS CHECK THE TIMETABLE - USUALLY DISPLAYED AT EACH BUS STOP – TO CONFIRM BUS TIMES FOR THE BEGINNING AND THE END OF EACH WALK STAGE.

The StagePath in the leaflet has been carefully researched and described for clarity in route finding. The maps on the other hand are very basic, as there is no substitute for carrying and referring to the correct Ordnance Survey Explorer Map, acquire OL7, OL5 and OL4 &/or the Harvey Lake District Outdoor Atlas.

Line - Journey of the 555 bus service
Dashes - the route of the StagePath
Dots - Request and Timetabled bus stop



STAGE 2

NORTHBOUND

Brockhole National Park Centre > Ambleside

allow two hours, gently undulating

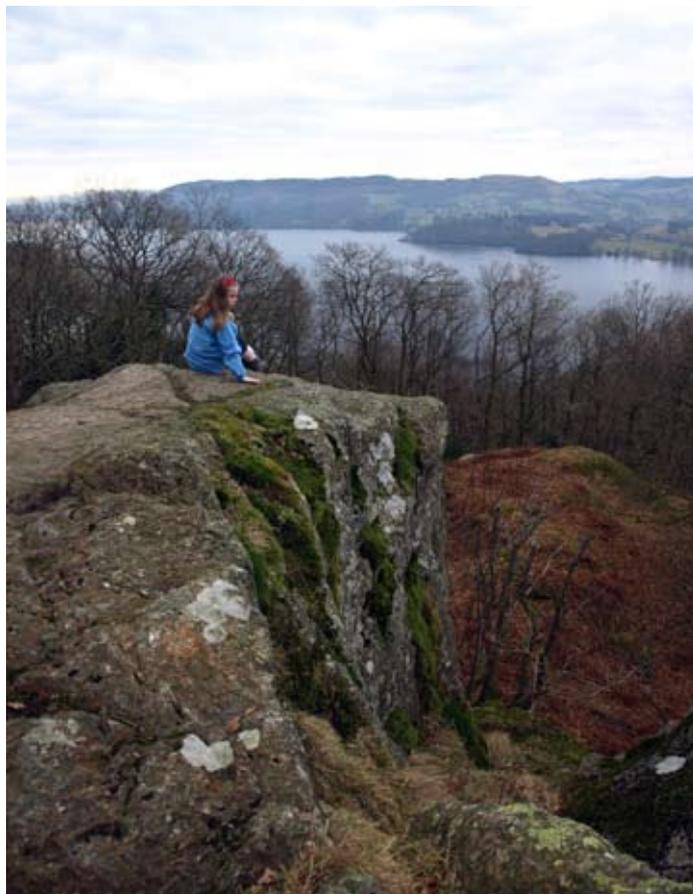
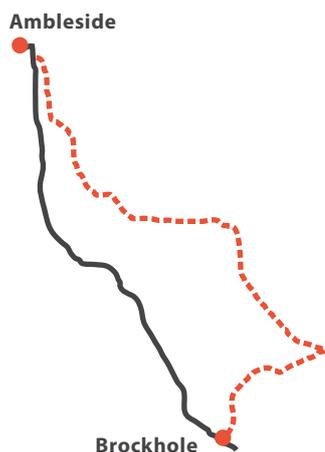
Another steady climb rewarded with memorable views over the upper reaches of Windermere visiting Jenkyns Crag in Skelghyll Wood, which provides a wonderfully intimate view of the backdrop of the lake, the beginnings of mountain Lakeland..

From the southbound bus stop follow Mirk Lane as directed on the bus stop post. This private metalled road leads past Merewood Lodge (holiday lets). As the road ends after Merewood Cottages bear up the narrow path flanked by an old wall, climbing as a rough lane between Newclose Wood and pasture. Stay on the lane leading down to a gate, cross the flag-stones over a stream and by the garden walls of Wood Farm. Stepping onto a roadway turn left, signed 'To Troutbeck & Holbeck Lane'. Respect the privacy of the large residence. Keep ahead, off the road and up the winding lane via a gate, still with woodland left and pasture right. Leaving the woodland at a stile/gate the walled track, hereon known as Grand Ma's Lane, rises to Castle Syke Farm, with the barn conversion farmhouse right and bank-barn left.

At the road turn left, following Holbeck Lane (minor road) with handsome views over Windermere. After 220m bear off right along the private road signed 'Skelgill Farms and flats only'. Shortly after Close Cottage the Langdale Pikes come into view ahead, further along are grand westward views over Windermere's Pullwood Bay, backed by Black Fell and the Coniston Fells. From a

gate the unenclosed road leads on passed an isolated bank-barn rising via a hand-gate/gate, going under Low Skelghyll then up by a bank-barn and gate, winding to cross Hol Beck kissing-gate/cattle grid.

The roadway passes a bridleway sign 'Ambleside 1¼ miles' then enters High Skelghyll farmyard, an active working environment. Re-double your respect for the occupant's privacy, as the right-of-way runs close to the farmhouse. Continuing via the gated sheep holding pens, contour on the



Jenkyns Crag

path to a gate into open woodland with a clear view down to the Low Wood Hotel, and down the lake to Gummers How and Claife Heights. The path descends easily levelling beside a low wall the National Trust sign by a gap gives access to Jenkyns Crag, a rocky headland and a 'must-visit' station. It overlooks the upper reaches of Windermere with Wray Castle and Blelham Tarn intimate features in view across the placid lake, and westward to the Coniston Fells. The track continues winding on the old pitched way, keep down left at a lateral path junction, cross a culverted bridge over Stencher Beck. Duly the track draws by a laurel hedge and wall into Skelghyll Lane. The lane becomes a walled road descending to the junction with Old Lakes Road, turn right passing between Heart of the Lakes/Organico and the Ambleside Mountain Rescue Base at Fisherbeck. Continue on down to the main Lake Road, cross and go right. Turn left along Kelsick Road by the Homes of Football Gallery to arrive at the glass-canopied bus stop.