

Lowther Caravan Park

Walks for staff and students to read and enjoy



First edition

July 2020



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Map Reading

Some of the walking routes enclosed you may have already completed on Outdoor Education and will therefore be familiar to you when you revisit them.

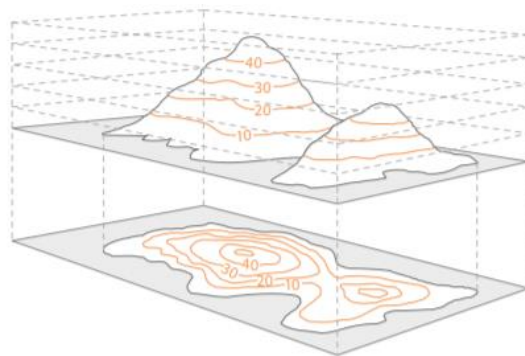
Route description, visual prompts and a route map will aid you for the routes you have yet to try.

If you are concerned what action to take if you begin to struggle to navigate half way through the route, simply turn around and retrace your steps to the start, the day has not been lost and many positive walks are out and backs.

- Blue spot indicates starting point of walk.

Below are some basic features that most maps will include and will help to build your understanding of map reading.

- Roads tend to be marked in different colours depending on the type of road depicted. Roads on a map range from thick blue lines, showing motorways, Orange lines, secondary roads (B roads), yellow lines quieter minor country lanes.
- Footpaths - public rights of way are marked in green dashes
- Woods are shown in green with a coniferous or non-coniferous tree shape printed over the top.
- Buildings are marked by small brown squares outlined in black. However, some particular buildings have their own special symbols, such as churches and pubs. Any of these buildings can be useful landmarks, helping you to check your position on the map.
- Boundaries around fields such as fences, hedges, are marked with a black line, depicting the exact shape of the field.
- Rivers and streams are shown as blue lines.
- A quick way to measure distance is to count each square you cross on the map. On your Ordnance survey map each grid square measures one kilometre from side to side and from top to bottom. If you go diagonally across a square, the distance will be a bit longer – about 1.5 km.
- Contours - the height and shape of the land is shown on a map using 'contour lines'. These lines appear as thin orange or brown lines with numbers on them. The number tells you the height above sea level of that line. A contour line is drawn between points of equal height, so any single contour line will be at the same height all the way along its length. The height difference between separate contour lines is 10 metres.





Respect other people:

- consider the local community and other people enjoying the outdoors
- leave gates and property as you find them and follow paths unless wider access is available

Protect the natural environment:

- leave no trace of your visit and take your litter home
- keep dogs under effective control

Enjoy the outdoors:

- plan ahead and be prepared
- follow advice and local signs

Askham Hall, Lowther Castle Loop

Start: Lowther Caravan

Distance: 7.5km

Route: Askham Hall, St Michael's Church, Lowther Castle

This route is very easy to follow, taking in sites of Askham Hall, St Michaels Church and Lowther Castle.

Askham Hall



Places of interest and route details:

Leaving the caravan walk into the woodland located next to the playpark, this section has two options, #1 continue following the tarmac track for 1km, this will lead to a bridge, option #2 join trail paths to the left of the track, this will follow the edge of Lowther River, the latter route will allow the children to play on rope swings and find camps already built up in the woods, both routes will meet up at a bridge.

Arriving at the bridge, do not cross over, turn right following the footpath uphill, this will lead through woodland, at the end of the woodland, walk through gate and across the field and then turn left, Askham Hall and Gardens will come into view.

Askham Hall dates to at least 1280, at this time it was the principal fortified building in the village to take refuge in when the northern Picts and Scots invaded the area, then considered a no-man's land between England and Scotland. In 1375 it was acquired by the Sanford Family. The Sanford's set about significantly extending the house, turning it into a grand Elizabethan mansion.

Continue through passing Askham Hall tea rooms, arriving at Askham Village, turn left following the road downhill, over the road bridge, continue along the road up hill. At the top of the hill is St Michaels Church, inside the Church there are various memorials to the Lowther family, outside in the churchyard is the Mausoleum of William the second Earl, who died in 1884, inside the Mausoleum there is a statue of him sitting in gloomy isolation, take a look.

Leaving the churchyard, Lowther Castle in view, only a few years ago this was a complete ruin, it has now been restored into Castle, Gardens and tea rooms.

Leaving Lowther Castle simply follow the road straight through Lowther Park, entering woodland, walking over the bridge you arrived earlier and then retrace your steps to the caravan.

Pear Tree School Curriculum:

P.E

L – Lowther Castle, St Michael’s Church, Askham Hall

HS – Lowther Castle, St Michael’s Church, Askham Hall

Grid Reference:

Lowther Caravan: Ny 5279 2622

Bridge: NY 5210 2505

Askham Hall: NY 5168 2384

Lowther Castle: NY 5216 2396

Bridge: NY 5210 2505

Askham Hall, Lowther Castle Loop

Start: Lowther Caravan

Distance: 7.5km

Route: Askham Hall, St Michael's Church, Lowther Castle

Grid Reference:

Lowther Caravan: Ny 5279 2622

Bridge: NY 5210 2505

Askham Hall: NY 5168 2384

Lowther Castle: NY 5216 2396

Bridge: NY 5210 2505



Brougham Hall, Brougham Castle

Start: Lowther Caravan

Distance: 8km

Route: Brougham Hall, Brougham Castle out and back.

Brougham Castle



In a picturesque setting beside the crossing of the River Eamont, Brougham Castle was founded in the early 13th century.

Both a formidable barrier against Scots invaders and a prestigious residence, the castle welcomed Edward I in 1300. A complex of passages and spiral stairways makes Brougham a fascinating castle to explore, as well as an ideal picnic setting. The top of the keep provides panoramic views over the Eden Valley.



Brougham Hall, a 15th-century fortified house once owned by the de Burgham family, whose name probably morphed over time into the current form of 'Brougham'. There has been a fortified manor at Brougham from at least the 14th century and probably much earlier

Rescued from dereliction in 1985, today it is one of the largest country house restoration projects in England and is home to an array of arts and craft workshops and businesses.

Route details:

This route is an out and back and one that will be easy to navigate, following country roads throughout.

Leaving the caravan, walk down the long driveway to the entrance of Lowther Holiday Park, at the junction, turn right and then take your first left, signposted Brougham Hall. This country road (B6262) will lead to both Brougham Hall and Brougham Castle, return the same route.

Grid Reference:

Lowther Caravan: NY 5279 2622

Lowther Caravan Entrance: NY 5242 2820

Brougham Hall: NY 5275 2837

Brougham Castle: NY 5382 2905

**Brougham Hall, Brougham Castle
Walk #2**

Start: Lowther Caravan

Distance: 8km

Route: Brougham Hall, Brougham
Castle out and back.

Grid Reference:

Lowther Caravan: NY 5279 2622

Lowther Caravan Entrance:
NY 5242 2820

Brougham Hall: NY 5275 2837

Brougham Castle: NY 5382 2905



Derwentwater Lakeshore

Start: The Chalet Café, Portinscale

Distance: 12km

Route: Portinscale, joining the Cumbria way heading through Hawes End, Manesty Park, Park Nab, same route return.



Places of interest and route details:

This is a stunning woodland walk along the western shore of Derwentwater, following the Cumbria Way. The lake views are magnificent, framed by a mountain backdrop. Catbells and High Spy will be the steep hillsides to your right, Bleaberry Fell and Walla Crag are the fells across the water.

Drive into Portinscale, park near The Chalet Café.

The Chalet Cafe to your right, walk up along the road for one mile passing Derwentwater Marina, Derwent Bank, continue until you reach the sign Nichol End Marine, at this point walk a further 20 metres until you reach two road signs, at this point join the footpath left.

Follow the obvious path uphill through woodland, joining the Cumbria Way, the route from here is fairly obvious and will lead to Hawes End Outdoor Club, at this point take the path to the left leading to the shores of Derwentwater.

The path from here will follow the shoreline throughout leading to your turnaround point Park Nab, same route return.

Grid Reference:

Portinscale: NY 2520 2341

Hawes End Outdoor Centre: NY 2491 2121

Boat Houses: NY 2509 1951

Footbridge (turnaround point) NY 2605 1875



Walk #3

Derwentwater Lakeshore

Start: Portinscale

Distance: 12km

Route: Portinscale, joining the Cumbria way heading through Hawes End, Manesty Park, Park Neb, same route return.

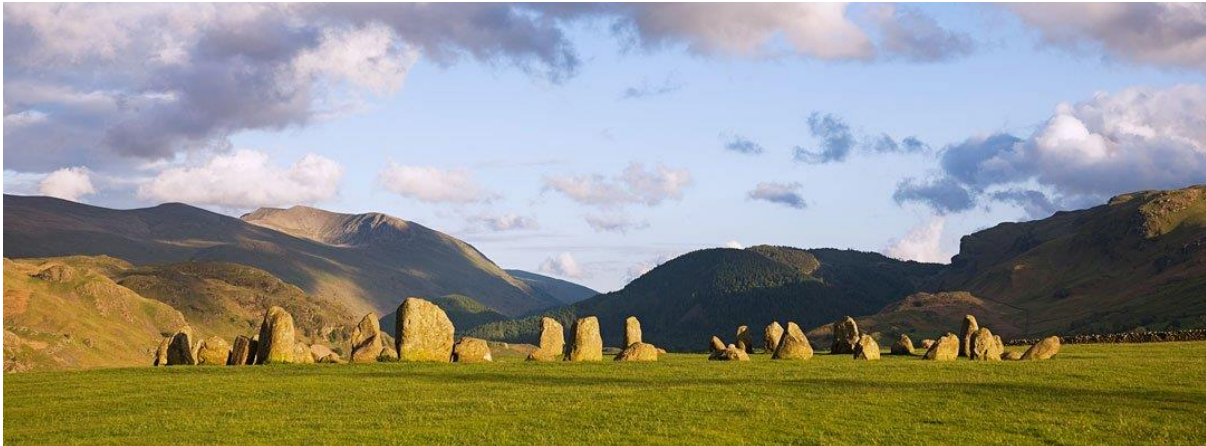
Turn around point, perfect for a picnic

Castlerigg Stone Circle, Low Rigg Circular

Start: Lane parking adjacent to the stone circle CA12 4RN

Distance: 7km

Route: Castlerigg, Tewat Tarn, Low Rigg



The Stone Circle is surrounded by the fells of Skiddaw and Blencathra to the north and Castlerigg Fell, High Rigg and Clough Head to the south, this ring of 38 stones has stood there for 4,500 years and set within a magnificent landscape.

Places of interest and route details:

The start of the walk – Castlerigg Stone Circle Take some time to explore the circle, taking in the views of Skiddaw, Blencathra, and the Helvellyn range. Then head back out of the gate onto the lane.

Following the Road - From the circle field, turn right out of the gate and walk along the lane, going past the entrance to the Keswick Climbing Wall, continue along, at the end of the road, turn right, and then shortly after, turn right again at the next junction.

Leaving the Road - Continue to follow the road, until you reach a turning on the right, signposted for St Johns in the Vale church. Take this turning, and you will now be on a much narrower lane that gently leads up. Keep an eye out for a gate with a signpost for a public footpath on the right hand side. The path is signposted for Tewat Tarn. Go through the gate and you will now be in a narrow field . There is now a gentle climb up through the field to its opposite end.



The Gate for the Path to Tewat Tarn

The Gap in the Wall & Quarry - at the opposite end of the field there is a gap in the wall that you can walk through. The path continues through another field, largely following the wall to your right. You will pass the remains of a small old quarry on your left. Continue past the quarry, and the path is less clear here, but if you keep close to the wall on your right you will eventually see a signpost for the footpath, and the tarn becomes visible in the distance.

Tewet Tarn



Tewet Tarn

Leaving the Tarn - as you stand facing the tarn from the direction you arrived at, look to your left (towards the Helvellyn range), and you will see in the near distance a wall with a gate. Head towards the wall and go through the gate, then turn to your right. The path will bring you back along the side of the tarn, and continue straight ahead past the tarn.

Heading Toward Low Rigg - After leaving the tarn, you will see a fence in the distance. Go through the gate. Low Rigg is ahead, just to your left, and is the nearest summit to you. This is where you need to aim for.



A Gate with Low Rigg in the Distance to the Left

The Summit of Low Rigg - Here you will be rewarded with panoramic views. Skiddaw, Blencathra, Threlkeld Common, the Helvellyn Range, Whinlatter, Grasmoor are all visible from the summit.

Leaving Low Rigg



The Wall & High Rigg in the Distance from Low Rigg

From the summit of Low Rigg, look south (the opposite direction from the tarn) and to your left you will see a stone wall that leads down the hill and beyond. If you follow the wall down the hill side, you will see a gap with some stone steps. Head down the hill towards this gap and go over the wall using the steps.

The Youth Centre - Once over the wall, the path is much clearer. You will see buildings in the distance – the church and the youth centre. Head towards these buildings, following the path. You will arrive at a stone wall, and again, there is a gap in the wall and stone steps allowing you to cross. On the other side of the wall, you will see the youth centre and will now be on a road. Turn right, and you will see a gate ahead. Go through the gate, which marks the end of the road.

Entering Farm Land - Once through the gate, the road becomes a track and this winds down the hill. At the end of the track, you will arrive at a narrow farm road. Go across the road and you will see a gate opposite you with a signpost for a public footpath. Once through the gate, you will be in a field. The path is not clear, but if you head in a fairly straight line across the field to the other side, you will come to some large boulders in the ground to climb down with a gate to go through. Once through this gate, the path is clearer, and you will again need to walk straight across this second field to the gate on the other side.

The bridge and signpost - Once through the gate, directly ahead of you there is a footbridge over a small stream. Cross the bridge and once more you are in a field. At this point, you need to head directly across the field to a wooden signpost at the other end. Stay in the field and turn right, heading along the track that runs along the edge of the field. You will see a signpost ahead that looks quite new with a flat stone bridge. Go across the bridge and continue along the track.



Joining the road - Once across the bridge, you will see a stone wall ahead. There is a gate to go through that will take you into another field. In this field, the path leads up alongside the wall that is to your right and eventually leads you to the other side where there is a stone wall and a gap with steps for you to cross over. Once across, you will be in the final field and it is just a short walk up a gentle hill to the other side of the field where there is a gate that will lead you onto the side of the A591.

Returning to Castlerigg Stone Circle - You will now be on the side of the A591. Follow the road for 25 metres until you see a turning on the right, with a small layby and a bus stop. Turn right here and you will be on Castle Lane, which is a very narrow lane that is rarely used. Walk to the end of the lane and at the end of the lane, you will be back the layby for Castlerigg Stone Circle.

Grid Reference:

Stone Circle: NY 2914 2362

Quarries: NY 3063 2369

Low Rigg: NY 3035 2294

Youth Centre: NY 3065 2245

Nest Brow Road: NY 2902 2246

Walk #4

Castlerigg Stone Circle

Start: Lane parking adjacent to the stone circle CA12 4RN

Distance: 7km

Route: Castlerigg, Tewat Tarn, Low Rigg

Grid Reference:

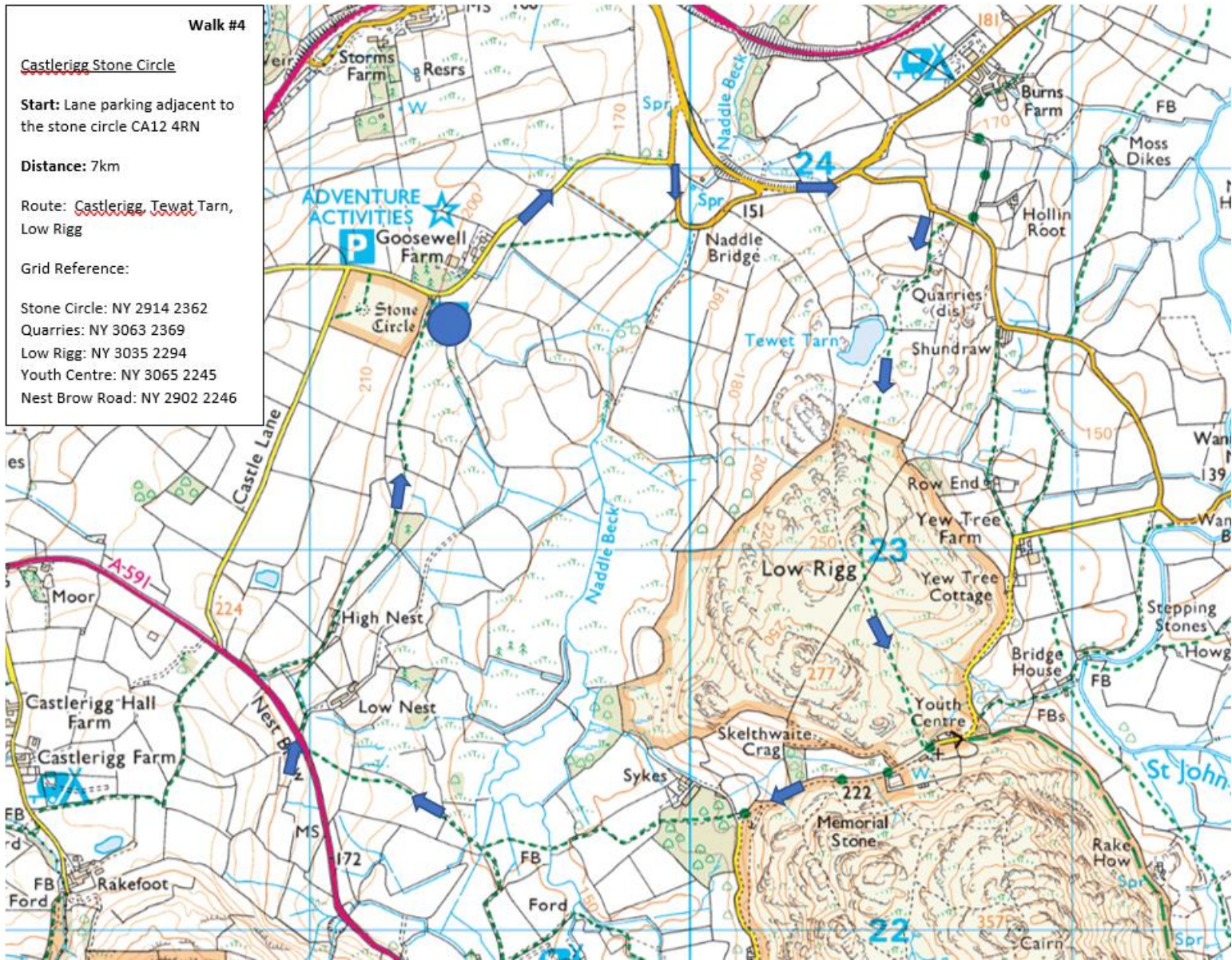
Stone Circle: NY 2914 2362

Quarries: NY 3063 2369

Low Rigg: NY 3035 2294

Youth Centre: NY 3065 2245

Nest Brow Road: NY 2902 2246



Whinlatter Forest

Start: Whinlatter Forest, WHinlatter Pass CA12 5TQ - Visitor Centre Car Park

Route: Trails within Whinlatter Forest



Whinlatter, just up the hill from the village of Braithwaite, is England's only true Mountain Forest. It rises to 790 metres above sea level and offers amazing views of the Lake District and into Scotland.

Owned by the Forestry England, Whinlatter is home to a number of graded walks throughout the forest on marked trails, arriving at the Visitor Centre, view the information boards and choose the trail you wish to follow, the routes will be signposted throughout.

The forest is a great haven for wildlife and a popular haven for a number of birds, the most famous of which are the Osprey.



The forest is also a haven for cycling, there are a number of marked cycle routes on offer, if you wished to have a day out on the bikes.

Aira Force and Gowbarrow trail

Those wishing to walk to Gowbarrow Fell can only do so when accompanied by a qualified instructor.

Aira Force is a sight to see and has an impressive woodland walk leading to the falls, you are permitted to walk to Aira Force without instructor assistance, follow the arrow signs throughout.

Start: Aira Force National Trust Car Park CA11 0JS

Distance: 7.5km

Route: Aira Force, Gowbarrow Fell



Experience Aira Force at its best as you head towards the thunderous roar of the waterfalls. Pass through woodland with lush green ferns and evergreen conifers that tower over open glades. Then, emerge from the confines of the gorge to enjoy expansive views over Ullswater from the summit of Gowbarrow.

Rainy days are often the best time to see the falls in full force, as rainwater runs from the fells into Aira Beck and thunders 65ft over the falls. Look out for the rainbow that appears when the conditions are just right on a sunny morning.

The walk is on well surfaced paths, once out onto the open fell, the path is clear to follow.

Start: 1 - Take the waterfall path out of the top end of the car park, through the picnic field. Follow the path and head through a gateway in the wall into a grassy area known as the Glade.

2 - Take the left-hand path through the arboretum and follow the path up to a little wooden gate on your left (which has superb views out over Ullswater to the left). Don't go through the gate but follow the path to the right, drop down a long steep flight of steps to the viewing platform at the base of the waterfall. Continue over the bridge and climb the steep steps on the left.

3 - At the top of the steps, bear left to the upper bridge for a view down Aira Force. Rejoin the main path and walk upstream keeping the river on your left as you go. Keep going till the path takes you through a gap in the wall and then through a gate onto open farmland.

4 - Before you get to the next gate in the wall ahead turn right up the field and take the permissive path to the fell gate. Keeping the wall on your left continue up the fellside on a good stone pitched path maintained by the Fix The Fells project, a good opportunity for a breather as you take in the views.

5 - Once the path flattens out and bears away from the wall follow the path up to the trig point on the summit of Gowbarrow. From here you have fine views all round. Look south to Place Fell and Red Screes over to Kirkstone, with the bulk of Helvellyn beyond. Blencathra, Bannerdale and Carrock Fell can be seen to the north-west, with the Pennines to the north-east. Martindale and High Street are to the south-east.

Read more

6 - On leaving the summit, continue along the path keeping parallel with the wall on your left. Follow the path down, bearing right until you reach the ruin of an old shooting lodge. Keeping right, continue up and around the eastern flank of Gowbarrow.

7 - A good path takes you to the brow and down to an obvious cairn. Go over a fence stile to the superb vantage point up the head of the lake from the point marked on the map as Memorial Seat. Go back over the stile and bear left, staying on the path down towards the woodlands.

8 - At the bottom of the slope you will see across the field a building known as Lyulph's Tower (private). It was built as a hunting lodge by the Howard family in the 18th century. It was designed to look like a grand castle from the lake - from the land it appears a little more modest. Just before the woodland take the left hand fork then through a gate to rejoin the footpath bearing left back to the Glade and car park.

Grid Reference:

Car Park: NY 4001 2056

Fords: NY 3991 2147

Airy Crag: NY 4076 2182

Shooting Lodge: NY 4142 2175

Memorial Seat: NY 4134 2063

Car Park: NY 4001 2056



Rheged, Dacre Castle

Start: Rheged Centre, CA11 0DQ

Distance: 10km

Route: Rheged, Stainton, Dalemain House, Dacre

Dacre Castle

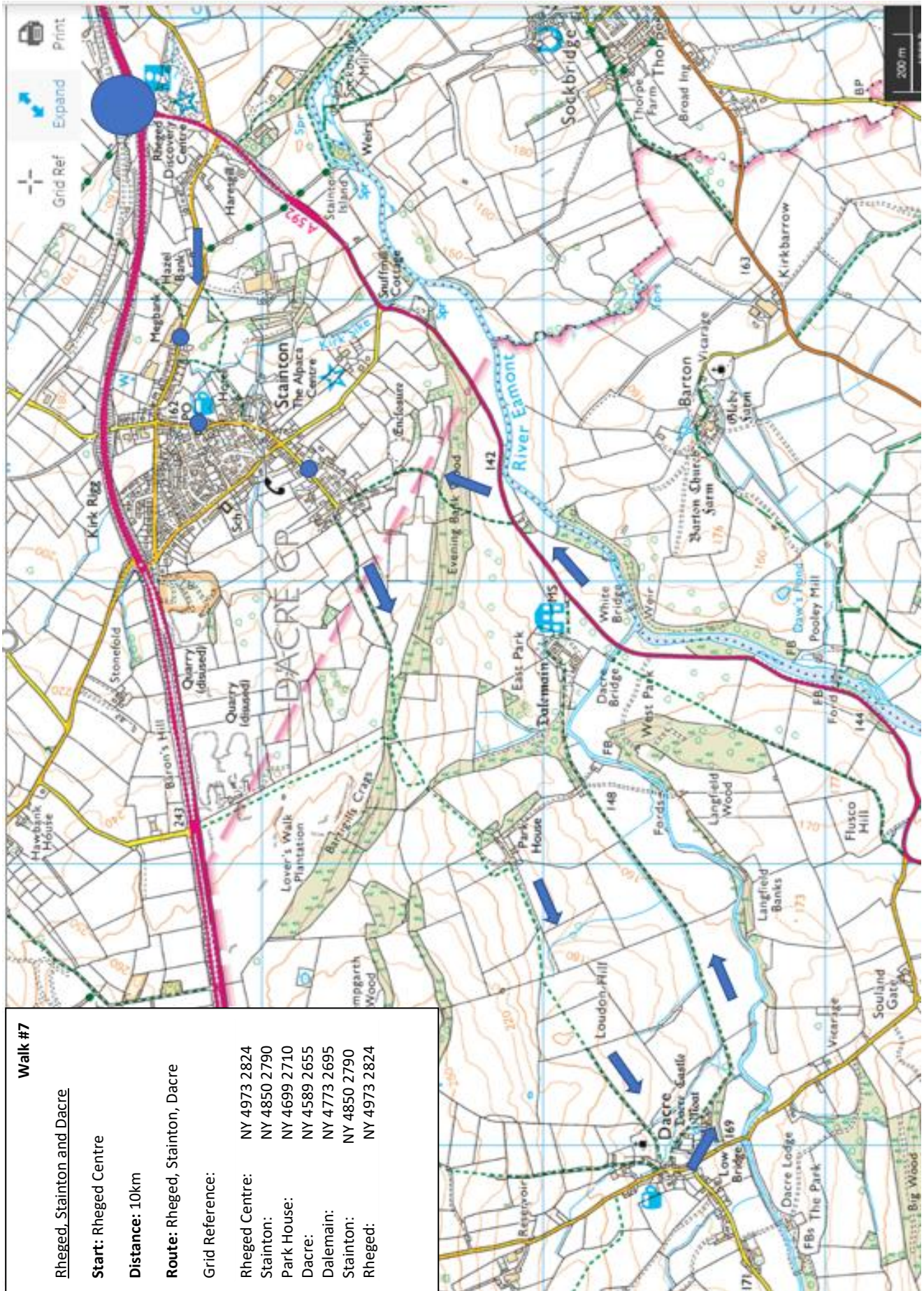


Places of interest and route details:

The walk starts from the Rheged Centre near Penrith. A short road-walk leads to footpaths to the village of Stainton. The walk then crosses quiet pastures, passing Park House, with stunning views before dropping to the village of Dacre, with its ancient church, 18th Century inn and castle. Arriving in Dacre take the the footpath left passing Dacre Castle. From here a long access track with no stiles is followed to Dalemain House (toilets and tea room). A short climb through woodland leads back to Stainton, where the outward route is retraced.

Grid Reference:

Rheged Centre: NY 4973 2824
Stainton: NY 4850 2790
Park House: NY 4699 2710
Dacre: NY 4589 2655
Dalemain: NY 4773 2695
Stainton: NY 4850 2790
Rheged: NY 4973 2824



Walk #7

Rheged, Stainton and Dacre

Start: Rheged Centre

Distance: 10km

Route: Rheged, Stainton, Dacre

Grid Reference:

Rheged Centre:	NY 4973 2824
Stainton:	NY 4850 2790
Park House:	NY 4699 2710
Dacre:	NY 4589 2655
Dalemain:	NY 4773 2695
Stainton:	NY 4850 2790
Rheged:	NY 4973 2824