

ITINERARY FOR THE LAKES and DALES PARTY

Distance: 60 km possibly

Walking: moderate to tiring



Day 1 ARRIVAL EDINBURGH to YORKSHIRE DALES If you live in the UK of course you can drive to the Stone House Hotel near Hawes easily and avoid airports! For those content with flying you will be met by James and the rest of the group at Edinburgh airport and be driven to The Stone House Hotel outside Hawes in Wensleydale. Light lunch on the way. Wensleydale is one of the most famous of the Yorkshire Dales but I thought this was only due to the cheese! Of course it is all to do with beauty as well which you will discover! We will unpack at this well-situated hotel. All bedrooms with bathrooms en suite. You will spend your first four nights here.

Walk: 6 km

Day 2 SWALEDALE After breakfast we shall set off in the car to the small town of Reeth on the river Swale. Swaledale is the adjacent dale to Wensleydale but by driving to Reeth we avoid the hike of going up over the top of the moors that separate the two dales. So from Reeth we shall spend the day walking in another extremely beautiful dale with undulating fields drystone walls and babbling brooks. A lovely gentle way to start the week in extraordinarily beautiful countryside. Dinner at the hotel. *Walk: 12km (pretty flat)*



Day 3 LITTLE LANGDALE TO RYDAL Drive after breakfast to the Three Shires Inn in Little Langdale just outside Ambleside (1 hour). The Three Shires Inn is a wonderfully situated pub with rooms. There are lovely views over Wetherlam hill and the Langdale landscape. All rooms with bathrooms en suite. Once unloaded we shall start our walk to Rydal Water. Rydal is very much associated with Wordsworth and a fitting way to start our experience of the Lakes! Picnic on the way. Visit Dove Cottage home of William Wordsworth.
Walk: 9km 'circumnavigation'. 110m – 200m – 80m

Day 4 NEAR SAWREY BEATRIX POTTER and WINDERMERE We drive after breakfast to Beatrix Potter's house for a visit round this enchanting magical world created by an extraordinary woman. Hill Top is the house where several of her books were written and the furniture you see may be reminiscent of certain stories as she has left the house exactly as it was when she wrote them. It is absolutely fascinating for Beatrix Potter lovers! We then walk to Lake Windermere for a picnic on the shores of the lake. After the picnic we shall walk to the Drunken Duck for a drink before returning to Little Langdale for rest and then dinner.
Walk: 12 km max 90m – 195m – 50m

Day 5 BUTTERMERE TO DERWENT WATER Leave 08.15. We drive forty mins to Keswick and fork back on ourselves to drive half hour to Buttermere through Borrowdale. Walking starts in Buttermere. There are two short two hundred metre rises, a little sharp but ready for a light picnic lunch on the top of Robinson peak. We then walk down to Littletown Farmhouse for a cream tea. The best thing after an arduous descent. Cat Bells (451m) is an easy enough climb with great views

over Derwent Water. This is a possibility too ... whether yeh or neh we shall drive to Castlrigg stone circle before driving back to Little Langdale. It is a beautifully placed stone circle taking us back to Druid days.

Walk: 9km plus possible extra possible 4 km? 333m - 520m - 737m to 100m



Day 6 ULLSWATER After breakfast we will drive to the ferry at Glenridding on Ullswater. Catch the ferry to Howtown and have a light lunch at the Howtown Hotel. Then we walk back along the east shore line to Patterdale. Swimming opportunity at Swan Bay! Drive back to Little Langdale for our last dinner. *Walk: 12km (pretty flat)*

Day 7 EDINBURGH We depart in the morning for those wishing to go back to Edinburgh. For those wishing to recuperate their cars from Stone House Hotel we shall drop you back there in the morning.