

## **Ascend Events - Derwentwater Dawdle**

**Start: Thornthwaite-cum-Braithwaite Victory Memorial Hall, Braithwaite, Keswick A66 (GR 233240)**

**Distance to CP1 (Rosthwaite) 9.6miles, distance to CP2 (Surprise View) 5.7miles Distance to finish (Braithwaite) 7.6miles – Total Distance – 22.4 miles (4300ft of ascent). Map OL4**

From hall up steps, cross main road (**EXTREME CAUTION**) to gap in wooden fence opposite. Go left along old road to junction and turn right. At next junction, ahead, cross road and continue with pub on right, along footpath between houses

Ahead over next road and continue with stream on right. Follow path around caravan site, through small gate and ahead (stream still on right). After 150yds, over bridge and turn left along path (stream now on left). Ahead through gate and in 200yds take path uphill on right through gate to avoid farm. At road (GR238230) go left to cross Little Braithwaite Bridge then continue ahead on road for 1 mile.

Turn left at t-junction by Swinside Inn, and at next junction go right (SP Grange) and ahead at next junction, continue ahead over cattle grid to green salt bin (GR247212 & 2.5miles).

Bear left on footpath uphill over Skelgill Bank and continue to rocky summit of Cat Bells (GR 244199 & 3.5miles).

Ahead descending to crossroad (GR244194), **go left descending** on good stony footpath. Keep right at fork junction to gate (DO NOT GO THROUGH) turn right on minor track (SP Hollows Farm). Continue on track behind houses for ¾mile to cross wooden bridge (GR247176), ahead to cross stile on left, continue ahead, wall on left then 25yds before gate in wall turn right on footpath (take lower of 2 paths with wall on left NOT the ascending path) and continue ahead through gate to Hollows Farm. Go through farmyard to reach access road and in about 100yds turn right on track passing No Camp Fires sign and through gate to join riverside path.

Bear left past metal barrier follow the track round to cross 2 foot bridges and turn right up main track (SP Seatoller & Honister GR250165 & 6.4miles) going uphill for 0.5miles, start descending and at low waymarker on left (GR246155) go left. Cross a double footbridge then ahead through gate. Continue ahead in a southerly direction, ahead at crossroads in path and continue in the same direction for 0.6miles crossing 2 bridges and through 3 gates until you reach a double gate (GR242142 & 8miles)

Take left gate, keep half left downhill on main rough stony track passing through 2 gates. At sharp bend on track follow it round (SP Coast to Coast) until it straightens then take distinct grassy track going down steeply to your left (GR247140). Descend until reaching path by wall and turn left to follow it through kissing gate above Glaramara Outdoor Centre.

Keep on path through gates to Borrowdale Youth Hostel (GR255142). Go past YHA, over bridge (SP Stonethwaite/Rosthwaite) and at bend in road take footpath on left at Peathow Barn. Through gate and ahead over 3 fields to go through gate. Turn right then left on road to Yew Tree Farm, turn right to reach Rosthwaite Institute

**CP1 Rosthwaite Institute (GR258148 9.6miles) – Opens 9.45am and closes 12.30pm**

**Hot/cold drinks, sweet/savoury food and toilet.**

Left out of hall to road, left again then right down bridleway (SP Stonethwaite/Watendleth). Over bridge and immediately right (SP Stonethwaite). Along narrow path through 3 gates for ¾mile, after 3<sup>rd</sup> gate continue for 250yds then bear left on indistinct path behind circular sheepfold (GR265137 & 10.7miles). Continue following path as it turns uphill (east) to a wall stile. Follow steep path uphill into wood, ahead to stile ascending along path until reaching open fell. Ahead on path to stile and continue ahead to Dock Tarn (GR273143 & 11.6miles).

Continue on path passing tarn on your right, level at first then slowly descending for ¾mile. At a low sign (SP Dock Tarn/Stonethwaite) turn right still descending. Go through a kissing gate and continue through 2 more gates to Lakeshore Gate. Continue ahead and **immediately before** packhorse bridge to Watendleth take gate on left (GR275163 & 13.1miles)

Ahead on clear track, river to right, for 1.3miles to reach wooden bridge. Right over bridge (SP Keswick on ground) then in 100yds left through gate in wall. Ahead on broad path through woods to road, left on road (TAKE CARE) to reach Surprise View.

**CP2 Surprise View (GR268189 15.1miles) – Opens 10.30am and closes 3.00pm**

**Cold drinks and sweet/savoury food.**

Continue down road for ½ mile to Ashness Bridge (GR270196), cross bridge and immediately right (Barrow Beck on right) along path ascending diagonally to stile and gate. Ahead 100yds then left on obvious path for 1 mile to cross stile in wall to summit cairn Walla Crag (GR 276213 & 16.8miles).

Bear right to stile in stone wall, cross then left to descend for ½ mile (wall on left) through gate to cross footbridge at Rakefoot Farm. Left on lane for 200yds then left (SP Keswick/Great Wood) to hidden gate. Descend, cross bridge and turn right by stream to gate. Ahead downhill passing mast, after sharp bend turn left and descend by stream to gate. Ahead to farmyard, curve right over bridge and ahead down tarmac lane for approx. 300yds. Opposite No.11 turn left on narrow enclosed track to kissing gate.

Ahead into wood, after 20yds take right fork on well-defined path going uphill. At fence corner continue ahead (optional ascent of Castlehead Viewpoint to left) now descending to reach steps exiting wood. Cross road (CAUTION), turn left behind hedge, then right down steps onto narrow enclosed path. Continue ahead in same direction through woods to reach boat landing near toilets, turn right to reach Lakeside Road and continue up, opposite Theatre by the Lake (GR264228) left into Crow Park, ahead, pathless over hill to descend to gate (GR262232). Ahead on road approx. 300yds passing Booths on left to T-junction (19.7miles).

Left for 100yds, over bridge then immediately left (SP Portinscale) to reach gate. Ahead on path across fields to gate and turn left along road. Cross suspension bridge and turn immediately right through gate, river in right. After 100yds through gate then turn left up hill. Through kissing gate, straight ahead up tarmac drive to T-Junction. Turn left down to main road. Turn right and after 75yds take footpath on left (SP Newlands Valley). Up drive and continue ahead as it changes to gravel path. At tarmac drive go left then right down footpath, over bridge and continue on obvious path to gate onto enclosed track. Follow this round to road.

Turn right and continue to T-Junction, turn right towards Braithwaite over Little Braithwaite Bridge (now returning as outward route).

Take path immediately after barn (IGNORE FOOTPATH SIGN) through gate and down to main track. Through gate and ahead, cross bridge, immediately left along path and continue through caravan park to road. Straight ahead to Royal Oak and down road (SP Thornthwaite). Just before A66 left on old road to fence and cross main road (**EXTREME CARE**) to return to the hall.

Congratulations... you've completed the Derwentwater Dawdle! Come in and get your medal & hot meal ☺