

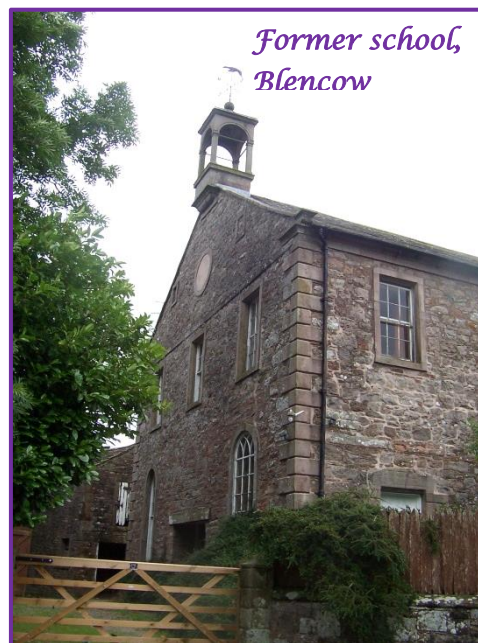
Walking from Blencowe Hall, Cazenovia Hall, Riverain and Wythburn

It is our wish to provide opportunities for our guests to enjoy the delights of the local area. A good, more relaxed way comes through walking so we are providing details for a number of walk routes that you may like to follow as you are able.

Our walks are set at three levels – Shorter, Medium and Longer, with ratings of Easy, Moderate or Strenuous. Please appreciate that all the walks are within the countryside and depending upon the time of year you may have to contend with muddy or waterlogged paths, stiles and gates, farm animals, long grass and crops. Where possible we will introduce you to local villages and on the more strenuous walks to iconic mountain landscapes and views. There will be some road walking where great care should be taken to keep to the right side facing oncoming traffic.

So please be prepared by wearing suitable clothing and bringing food, other supplies and equipment.

We've currently provided four described walks. The two shorter walks have been set to introduce you to the nearby villages of Greystoke (1¼ miles away) and Skelton (2½ miles away).



Greystoke is a village that reaches back into antiquity through Llyulph de Greystoke who built his first wooden pele tower in C11th. The castle, home to the Howard family, came to defend the area against the Scots as part of the chain of fortifications in Northern England that replaced Hadrian's Wall. It has been re-built and later destroyed by Cromwell after the English Civil War. The next replacement, which still dominates the village, underwent major fire damage in C19th and was utilised as a Prisoner of War camp in the 2nd World War.

Here is an extremely attractive village with many buildings faced with a soft pink sandstone. It has swimming pool facilities, a village hall, an inn, a shop, a thriving junior school and the large former collegiate church of St Andrew dating back to C13th.

Skelton again has some antiquity, with its church of St Michael, like that of Greystoke, dating back to C13th. Edward 1 is reputed to have dropped off here in 1299 for mass, en route to subdue the Scots. The village has an inn, village hall, junior school and a C19th active Methodist Chapel, in addition to St Michael's church. The main historic association of the village was with the ancient royal hunting ground of Inglewood Forest, lying largely to the east.



Each of these shorter walks provides good viewpoints of the local area and of course the chance to explore the villages and what they have to offer.

Nearby **Blencow** village is included on the medium level walk and, of course, is close enough for a gentle stroll. It's a village in two halves – Little Blencow to the north side and Great Blencow to the south side of the bridge over the River Petteril.



The village has an attractive central green around which is a former inn and former chapel. Another 'former' was the first free Grammar School in the North of England at Burbank House. Founded in C16th its pupils included the prominent Quaker George Whitehead and a former Chief Justice of England. Another former resident was the late Viscount Whitelaw, who lived at 'Enim' on the south side of the village.

This walk visits the village of **Greystoke Gill** after traversing the stabling area of the late British Racehorse trainer Gordon Richards. The village has a studio and an antique shop.

One of the great benefits to be gained from walking in this area comes from the views that can be gained on clear days across the wider expanses of the lower

lying countryside that carries the River Eden and several of its tributaries such as the River Petteril. From higher sections of land dramatic views can be gained of the North Pennines to the east and the Lakeland Fells to the west with prominent peaks such as Cross Fell and Blencathra coming to the fore.

The longer and higher walk that is offered provides an energetic climb from **Mungrisdale** to take in some peaks, including Blencathra (or Saddleback) on what may be referred to as the Skiddaw and Blencathra massif of Northern Lakeland. Good general purpose paths are used for this walk which, though steep in places, require little scrambling. In return you will be rewarded with some of the more dramatic views of and from Lakeland. This walk should not, however, be tackled if you or your party are not properly equipped or physically fit for mountain walking as weather conditions can change rapidly and your safety can then be at risk.



Mungrisdale from where the walk begins is a small village nestled into the hillside. It has an inn, village hall and church and is one of a number that sit astride the local valley road. At Mungrisdale the River Glenderamackin leaves the hills to wind its way south, then west towards the sea via the River Derwent at Workington. 1½ miles north, at Mosedale, the River Caldew leaves the hills to wind its way north towards the Solway via Carlisle and the River Eden.

So wherever you walk, whether or not along the routes selected, you'll find attractive rural landscape and a surprising number of hamlets, villages and farmsteads. The 1:25,000 OS Explorer Map – "OL5 – The Eastern Lakes: North Eastern Area" will be a great companion for any walk or exploration of the local area and is well worth acquiring.