

Walk 1-L Place Fell and the Ullswater Shoreline

An iconic mountain, panoramic views and an iconic lake.

Distance:

8¾ miles (14 km)

Cumulative Height

2,750 ft.

Our rating: Strenuous

Local services: There are no shops or services close to Hause Hall and Cruik Barn. Cafes at Side Farm nr. Patterdale, Lowther Barn Café nr. Sandwick and Howtown Hotel; shops, public houses and cafés in Pooley Bridge.

Start grid: NY434191

Map: OS Explorer OL5
The English Lakes North-eastern area

This walk begins in the courtyard to Hause Hall. It firstly drops downhill along fields paths into Boredale. It then climbs up the slopes of Sleet Fell on the west side of the dale then up higher onto Hart Crag and Place Fell Summit. It descends to Boredale Hause and the Patterdale area, before traversing the lower slopes of Place Fell alongside Ullswater. The walk boasts a series of splendid high level views of the eastern and central Lakeland Fells.

Opportunities exist on clear days for 'aerial' type views over Patterdale and Glenridding from the summit area of Place Fell.

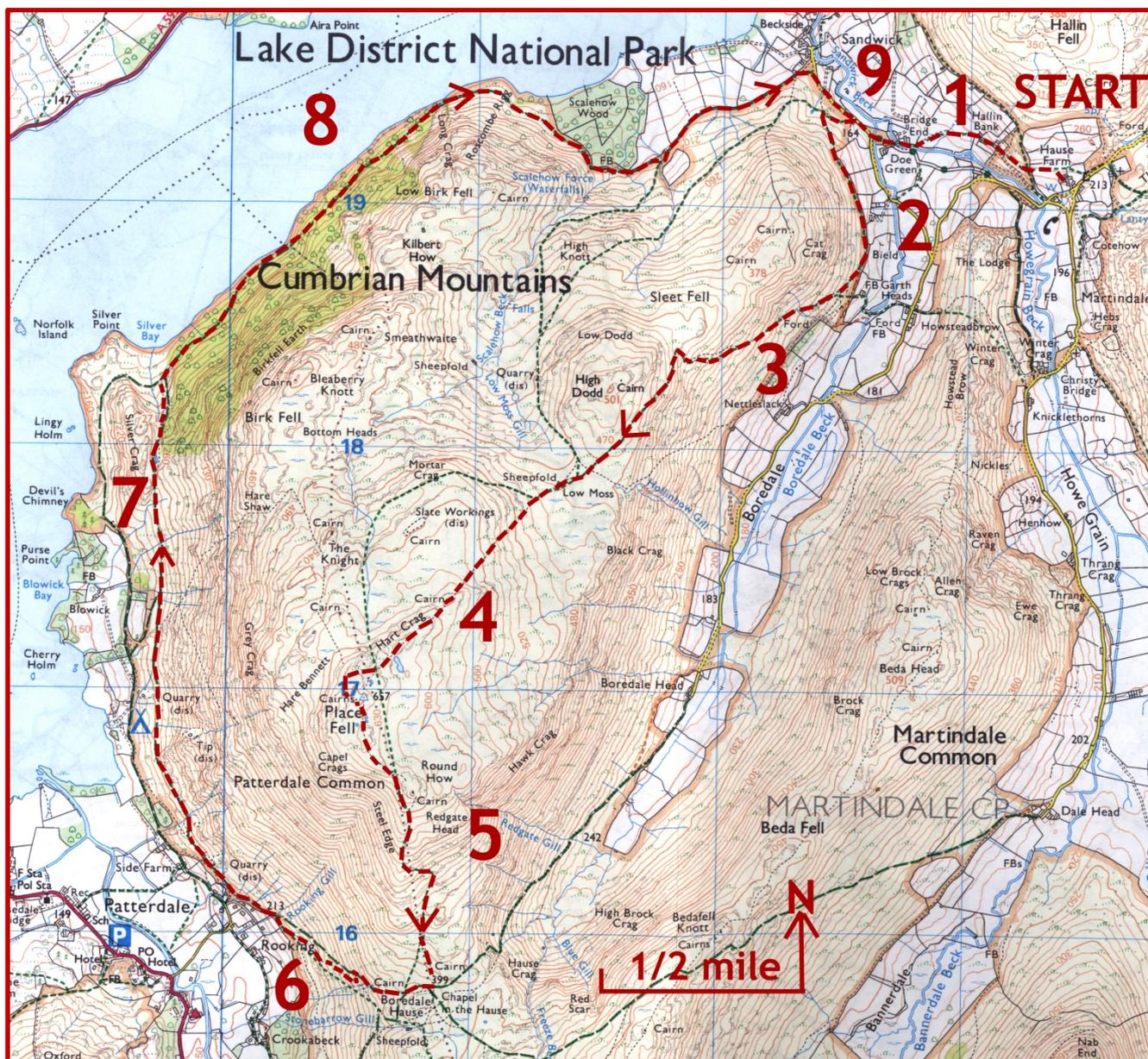
The Walk

1. Commence the walk by turning left through the field gate to the rear of Hause Farm. Bear up right from the gate, at first along a grooved grassy track then continue across the field to a ladder type stile. Climb down then continue on across the hillside to reach the apron area alongside Hallin Bank. Drop down through the property and out through a gate into a hillside field. Keep ahead at first, then sweep left, down the bank, to reach a gate in the field corner close to Sandwick Beck. Continue then alongside the beck and over a wall stile onto the driveway to the property Bridge End. Turn left, pass through a gate, metalled access road to reach a junction with the local access road to Sandwick. **Note:** *The walk will eventually return to this point when you will be invited to retrace your steps back to Hause Farm.*

2. Turn right, along the road then when the wall turns up left leave the road to the left along a rising grassy path. Wherever possible turn left at any path junction and make your way up to the higher outside corner of the wall. Pass by the corner and gently drop downhill for a while with the wall on the immediate left side. After about ¼ mile the path levels out a little as it gently rounds a corner to the right. In this vicinity there is a path junction with a faint path keeping close to the wall and the major, clearer path veering right to begin a steep climb up the side of Sleet Fell.

3. Continue along the steeper path as it rises across the slope of Sleet Fell on the west side of Boredale. (**Boredale: the valley with the store house**) The path rises fairly consistently across the slope, by about 500ft in ½ mile. Views during this traverse become increasingly stunning and widespread. The path then turns somewhat, into the hillside, and contains some short very steep sections. It

then reaches a junction with a more prominent grassy hilltop path. At this point turn left, onto the path and proceed up and around the shoulder of High Dodd. (**High Dodd: the high, compact, rounded hill**) Once over the shoulder the path then descends slightly as it crosses the somewhat spongy area of Low Moss to reach a path junction and ruined sheepfold at the head of Low Moss Gill.



4. Pass to the left side of the sheep fold then proceed steeply uphill on a partially eroded groove path to reach a rocky cairn after a short steep scramble. This is at the highest point in the immediate view when climbing up. Pass by the cairn onto a rocky ridge route on Hart Crag (**Hart Crag: the rocky height frequented by the hart or stag**) and continue ahead, winding between rocks and past small tarns. The triangulation pillar of Place Fell summit will come into view. Follow a suitable scramble route to the summit of the mountain in the vicinity of the pillar. **Place Fell: 2154ft high (the mountain with open, level areas).**

5. Turn sharp left from the direction in which you approached the summit, descend down rocks and proceed across terrain between small tarns towards the lower second summit of Round How. (**Round How: the hill with the circular**

top) Turn right, off this second summit, and descend steeply to gain the main downward path which leads south towards Boredale Hause. *[Note: The initial descent from Round How is a steep rock scramble. To avoid the scramble retrace your steps back a few yards from Round How, towards Place Fell summit, then turn left along a path that contours around to meet the main path below the scramble area.]* Continue steeply downhill on a clear path, winding a little on the hillside. Parts of this path are stepped and others have a steep loose gravel surface. As the slope shallows out a cross junction of paths is reached, just in front of a ruin at Boredale Hause.

6. Turn right at this junction and proceed steeply downhill on a path that descends (slanting down the hillside) towards Patterdale and Ullswater. After descending a little way the path zig zags to join a second. It then continues downhill as the upper of two rather stony parallel hillside paths. Close to the foot of the hillside the two paths join, just above the hamlet of Rooking. After a further 200 yards a path junction is reached. Here the main route descends steeply to the left towards the hamlet and a lesser path keeps ahead and uphill. Continue along this lesser upward path.

7. Follow the path uphill to reach an area of former slate quarry workings. Pass across these, generally keeping to the upper level path. After passing through the first set of quarry workings the path reaches a junction, beside a small hillock to the left. Turn right here and uphill, along a stony path and cross further former quarry workings. From this point the path begins to contour, with panoramic views across Ullswater to Patterdale and Glenridding. Ahead will be seen Silver Crag, where the path rises to a low Hause to the right side. En route to the Hause a path junction will be reached where the right path rises steeply and the left drops down gently. Take the left path at this point, as the right leads up to the top of Place Fell. Pass across the Hause beside Silver Crag, then descend quite steeply along a stony, but partly stepped path that passes through low juniper woodland, to reach a path junction by Silver Bay.

8. Turn right and continue along the stony path that passes through woodland close to the shore of Ullswater. *Ullswater is the second largest of the English Lakes at 7½ miles in length and, on average, ¾ mile in width.* This path is very clear to follow but is somewhat undulating and requires care, due to rock outcrops and tree roots. In places there are good viewpoints across Ullswater. After about 1½ miles the path moves away from the shore area and is separated from Ullswater by enclosed woodland and fields. Once the enclosed area is reached keep the wall to the left side for the remaining ¾ mile to Sandwick. In this section of the route a footbridge will be crossed, over Scalehow Beck. A little later a shallow gill leading down from Sleet Fell will need to be forded. The path eventually reaches Sandwick and drops down to the local road.

9. Turn right, along the road, and shortly meet up with the route used at the beginning of the walk. From here re-trace the path, via Bridge End, back to Hause Farm and the end of the walk.