

Ambleside 02 November 2014



Today we have two coaches for our trip to this popular Cumbrian town. The Burnley and Blackburn coaches will meet at Burton in Kendal services. It would be appreciated if this could be a brief stop; today's walks are trying to fit a lot in and we don't want to be caught out with the rapidly diminishing daylight.

When we pull-up at the start of the A to C walks the coaches will be blocking the road so a speedy exit from your coach would be appreciated. Finally; and sorry for this list of suggestions; please note the earlier return time.

Today's Walks

A Walk **Harvey Thompson** **Off Second** **12 miles Moderate**

Off and running from Ecclerigg Farm (NY393009) soon we arrive in Troutbeck and its beck which we follow. Passing The Tongue we are surrounded by high mountains. Ahead our eyes are inexorably drawn to the stimulating sight of Threshthwaite Mouth the source of Trout Beck. From the source a short, 50 metre scramble, leads us to the summit of Stony Cove Pike, at 2503ft, the day's highest point. A short, but steep, descent leads us to the Kirkstone Inn and the start of a long downhill into Ambleside.

It is 12miles long, with 2625ft (800m) of ascent and on recognised paths.

B Walk **Robert Eccles** **Off Third** **9.5 miles Strenuous**

Starting from Rydal Mount we follow the coffin route to Forest Side and the north end of Grasmere. Skirting the town, we cross the Easedale Road and start our first climb of the day to Lang How (414m). Turning south via the tarn we get to Spedding Crag before dropping to High Close. After a little on the road we endure our second climb to the trig point (335m) on Loughrigg Fell. Finally we drop down to Black Mire and then head east to the coaches.

A couple of climbs with easy descents for hopefully fantastic views all day. At under 10 miles this walk is still classed as a strenuous due to the 800m of ascent.

C Walk **Paul Brown** **Off First** **8 miles Moderate**

We leave the coaches near Windermere railway station and walk uphill to Orrest Head viewpoint for panoramic views of Lake Windermere and the mountains. It was these same views which in 1930 so inspired Wainwright's love of the Lake District. We continue to Crosses Farm and Far Orrest, then follow a track northwards for about 1 ½ miles, before descending to walk through Limefitt caravan park and on to Troutbeck parish church. From here we climb steadily to Troutbeck village, then continue uphill along Robin Lane, an undulating track, before descending to Ambleside through pleasant woodland.

In places the track is steep and rocky so care is needed. If it is clear we can expect fine lake and mountain views throughout this walk.

D Walk **Sue Baxendale** **Off Fourth** **6 miles Fairly Easy**

We stay on the coach and carry on to Grasmere to enable us to do a linear walk back to Ambleside. From Grasmere we go through the village and follow minor road until we can take the lakeside path along the bottom of Loughrigg Terrace. Then we follow the river to Rydal Water where we again take the lakeside path. We cross the road to Rydal church and take the steep, but short, road up to Rydal Hall. From here its the track through Rydal Park back into Ambleside.

Pick-Up Times and The Return Journey

Today we have just one pick-up point:

05:30 PM Ambleside Rothay Road Coach Park Walks: A, B, C and D

For fairness, Blackburn will drop off at Clitheroe first and Burnley at Barrowford. Any additional stops are at the discretion of our drivers and couriers but need to take into account everyone's desire to get home quickly.

Our Next Trips

Otley via Fewston (07 December), Grassington (04 January) and Arnside (01 February). Ticket cost is the usual £13:00 / £6:50 and there will be no increase for 2015. After today, or to book beyond February, then contact Robert by email at bookings@coach-rambles.org.uk, telephone on 07795 250502 / 01282 798145 or on-line at www.coach-rambles.org.uk/book.

Group Socials

Burnley and Pendle Christmas Party on Friday 05 December at 19:30 with a buffet supper and dancing. Tickets at £7 are available today from Margaret Clark (Burnley coach).