

Circuit of Coniston Water

35 km / 22 miles

1200 m / 4000 ft of ascent

A route around Coniston Water taking in Nibthwaite, Grizedale Forest, Tilberthwaite, Coniston and over Beacon Fell. In parts it is coincident with the Cumbria Way. A digital route file based on the route description can be downloaded from the LDWA website.

		Grid reference
Start	Water Yeat	SD 288 891
	Bouthrey Bridge	SD 291 889
	High Nibthwaite	SD 294 896
	Lawson Park	SD 317 951
	East Side car park	SD 316 978
	Road footpath junction	SD 316 982
	Booncrag Farm	SD 315 983
	Low Yewdale Farm	SD 312 990
	High Yewdale Farm	SD 314 997
	Low Tilberthwaite	NY 305 011
	Hole Beck	SD 293 990
	Miners Bridge	SD 294 980
	Coniston	SD 299 976
	Road footpath junction	SD 301 971
	Beacon Fell	SD 277 906
	Beacon Tarn	SD 274 903
	Footpath junction	SD 274 898
	Road	SD 283 892
Finish	Water Yeat	SD 288 891

Maps required: OS Landranger sheets 90 & 96
or OS Explorer sheets 6 & 7

To receive a badge and certificate please write a brief description of your walk, including the date, time taken, your name as you would like it to appear on the certificate, and the address to which they should be sent. Either post it, with a cheque for £1 payable to 'P H Grayson', to:

Mr P H Grayson
2 Thirlmere Close
Millom
Cumbria
LA18 4PJ

or email it to 'peterhgrayson@yahoo.co.uk', and you will then be asked to transfer £1 to a PayPal account.

Route description

From the A5084 at Water Yeat take the minor road E down to Bouthrey Bridge. Turn left after the bridge and follow the footpath alongside the River Crake. After going through 2 gates in walls turn right and go up to the road. Turn left and follow the road into High Nibthwaite. Where the road bends left take the footpath to the right. After 40 m go through a gate and take the footpath to the right, signposted 'High Bethecar'. After 900 m cross a stream and follow the wall on your right. After a kissing gate continue following the wall on your right to High Bethecar. Turn right over a stream and head in an easterly direction up to a kissing gate. Bear right and head down to Low Bethecar. Turn sharp left and head in direction 35°. After a stile continue in the same direction for 800 m, then turn E and follow intermittent paths to a gate in the wall corner (GR 321904). Through the gate follow the path between broken walls, which after 1 km will bring you to a wide track. Turn left and follow the track for 2.6 km to a triangular junction. Take the track heading at 25°. After 2 km, just before the track starts to rise (GR 320947), turn left onto a path down to Lawson Park. Bear right and follow the path down to the road. Turn right and follow the road for 1.4 km to the junction by the lake (GR 314979).

Turn right then after 300 m turn left onto the footpath through Boon Crag Farm, signposted 'Low Yewdale'. Continue on this bridle track, crossing Yewdale Beck and straight through Low Yewdale Farm to the road (A593). Cross the road, turn right, and follow the path beside the road till it reaches the Tilberthwaite road, and follow this up to Low Tilberthwaite (GR 305011). Go behind the houses and take the track to the left, signposted 'Public Footpath'. Follow the track to the top of Tilberthwaite Gill, cross the gill at a footbridge, turn left and after 150 m cross another stream (GR 299006). Follow the path up to Hole Rake Pass (GR 293991) and continue down into the Coppermines Valley. Turn left and follow the track down into Coniston.

On reaching the main street turn right and follow the road over the bridge for 500 m to a stile on the left (GR 301971). Go over it and follow the path down to a track (where the route joins the Cumbria Way) which takes you to Coniston Hall. Past the Hall continue on the road past a barrier and bear left. After 600 m bear left on a track and follow the footpath alongside Coniston Water. After 3.3 km the path leaves the lake and goes up to a car park on the A5084 (GR 288926). Cross the road and follow the path down to stepping stones and a footbridge. Over the bridge follow the path up a shallow valley, roughly following the line of some overhead wires, till you reach a stream where the wires end and there is another set of overhead wires in front of you. Cross the stream and follow the path to the left, keeping the wires on your right. When you reach a minor road turn right and follow it for 140 m, then take a path on the right (GR 281915). (The route has now left the Cumbria Way.) Cross a stream, go uphill, then down under the overhead wires and continue uphill. The path is indistinct in a few places but keep going uphill to the summit of Beacon Fell (GR 278906). Continue on the path in a south westerly direction, aiming for the south end of Beacon Tarn. 70 m before the end of the tarn turn left and follow the path then the road to Water Yeat.