

Name of walk

Brotherswater & Dovedale

Length

7 Miles / 11 Km

Description

To start a short flat low level walk on clear paths, passing the small lake of Brotherswater followed by a moderate climb up the short narrow dale south of Brotherswater. This path is rough and steep in places but the views are fantastic.



Safety

Suitable footwear with good grip and support are always recommended. The weather can change rapidly so wear appropriate clothing

Route

Leave the Inn on the Lake by the Main Gates and turn left onto the A592 heading towards Windermere. This walk starts from the National Trust Car park at Cow Bridge, three miles south of Glenridding.

Walk through the gate at the back of the car park and start walking along a clear flat track with the beck to the left. After a short distance the little lake of Brotherswater starts on the left. Walk along the length of the lake then continue beyond as far as the fine old farm of Hartsop Hall, walk straight through the farm buildings. Just beyond the last of them the track splits, go right, climbing up to a gate in a dyke by an old disused mine. Go through the gate and continue along the clear track beyond, with a dyke to the left and mixed woodland on the slope to the right.

Continue climbing up on this path until, as the dale narrows the beck comes closer to the path to the left. The path continues up the dale beyond this point, eventually leading to a climb up to Dove Crag. For this walk however cross over the beck and double back down the far side.

The path leads to a gate in a dyke, go through this and drop downhill, through an area of pleasant scattered woodlands, always keep the beck to your left signposted for Brotherswater.

Follow this rough path along the eastern side of the lake and then up to the road, the shortest return to the car park is along the A592. To visit the little village of Hartsop, however walk straight across the road to join the signposted footpath.

The path cuts around the foot of a buttress of Hartsop Dodd, passing to the left of a group of buildings and continuing to a footbridge over pasture beck. Cross this and climb up the village beyond. Turn left to return to the main road, then right to the main car park. Turning left out of the car park onto the A592 back to Glenridding and the comforts of The Inn on the Lake.