

Owens Walks

Route Description: Helm Crag, Gibson Knott and Calf Crag returning by Far Easedale, near Grasmere

1. Leave Grasmere village along Easedale Road, passing the YHA. After Goody Bridge, the road continues passing a ford (on the left) before opening into the wider valley overlooked by the triangular Helm Crag before us. Further along the road, reach a hamlet then turn right onto the stony bridleway signposted Far Easedale and Helm Crag.

Beyond a gate, leave the bridleway by a footpath heading uphill for Helm Crag.

2. Take the excellent steep short footpath, the well graded rock steps meander through the woodland upwards steering around small rocky outcrops. The path continues uphill in an efficient manner, Easedale Tarn comes into view (behind us) just before the path reaches a grassy place on the ridge. Pause for a view of the A591 climbing Dunmail Raise and wonderful views of Grasmere village and lake. Turning left, ascend the ridge to the splendid rocky summit, one of the best in Lakeland.

Take care over the rocks and respect the steep exposed rock.

3. Leave Helm Crag summit along a well marked path to Gibson Knott, the ridge separates the valley of Far Easedale on our left (our return route) from Greenburn on our right. Steel Fell is in front as the Langdale Pikes peep over Sergeant Man and Blea Rigg to the west. The summit of Gibson Knott is marked by a large cairn.

4. Continue from Gibson Knott summit on the ridge path to reach the summit of Calf Crag, marked by a large cairn on the rocky high point.

5. From Calf Crag summit a small tarn Brownrigg Moss is visible, continue on the path descending to the house at the top of Far Easedale, marked by a cairn close to old iron fence posts.

6. The house is obvious, marked by a large cairn as the ground continues uphill to Sergeant Man, close by are iron fence posts (and old gateposts), they mark the historic County Boundary. Here we turn left descending into Far Easedale. Follow the excellent path down the valley to reach the bridleway, the Easedale Road to Goody Bridge and finally Grasmere village.