

Owens Walks

Route Description: Lingmoor Fell from Blea Tarn, Little Langdale Tarn and Slater Bridge

1. There's a NT car park at Blea Tarn in the hanging valley between Great Langdale and Little Langdale, this is the start of our walk. Leave the car park, turn left and walk along the single track road to the road junction with the Little Langdale road, note the rock formation Tarnclose Crag and its bigger counterpart Castle Howe, rooted in Little Langdale. Turn right at the junction for Wrynose. Walk along the road for 200m, there's a footpath on the left signposted Tilberthwaite 2.5mls.

2. Follow the footpath, over a small bridge and cross the meadow to reach a gate by the NT farmhouse Bridge End. Continue on the bridleway, Little Langdale Tarn comes into view as the track passes the Lakeland farm houses High Hall Garth and Low Hall Garth (climbers hut). Continue, there are spoil heaps on the right. Soon on the left is a kissing gate and stone steps over the wall, turn left here to Slater Bridge.

3. Cross Slater Bridge (packhorse bridge and clapper bridge), follow the good path uphill, keeping left of the wall. Continue through a kissing gate to the farm gate at Birk Howe Farm. Follow the gravel farm road to reach the road. Virtually opposite is a farm road with a sign 'Unsuitable for Motor vehicles', there's a footpath signpost Ambleside (challenging route). Follow this road past the farm at Dale End, continue through a steel farm gate then look for a wooden gate and footpath on the left.

4. Leave the bridleway on the left, follow the footpath onto the fell side, through a second then third gate, the path steepens, continue uphill on the obvious path climbing the fell side, sometimes alongside a stone wall on the right. The path is steep in places, as it reaches the ridge, there are first glimpses of Pavey Ark and Harrison Stickle. Continue uphill, at about 1200 feet (360m), the path passes remains of quarrying where there is a welcome stone seat. Continue on the obvious climb to the summit at 1530 feet (466m). This section is full of surprise views; Pike O'Blisco, Crinkle Crags and Bowfell dominate ahead. It's easy walking to the summit.

5. After crossing the stile at the summit, descend the obvious path alongside the fence and broken wall. Continue descending on the obvious path, there's a short steep rocky section where it may be wise to sit down as you descend, but it's straightforward. Below the mauvais pas cross a stile then follow the obvious path heading towards the huge rocky lump of Side Pike. Before Side Pike, there's a fence and gate, don't go through it but turn left and descend alongside the fence heading for the road. Just above the road is a stile over the fence on the right, follow this footpath to reach the road at the top of the pass (col).

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6. Cross the road at the col, follow the excellent path signposted Wrynose Pass, walk alongside Blea Tarn, through the wooded section, cross the footbridge at the outlet of the tarn, return to the car park on the obvious path.