

Owens Walks

Route Description: Space and seclusion over Clougha Pike

1. Leave the Rigg Lane car park [SD52674 60392] entering the Access Land by the gate. Climb the short slope to reach a fork [SD52778 60401], turn R then R again and follow the path across the boardwalk. The pleasant path ascends through gorse and trees alongside the stream to reach a stone wall with two ladder stiles [SD53419 60305].
2. Cross the right-hand ladder stile and ascend by the wall. Reaching the corner of the wall, head R (south) following the wall for about 100m to another corner [SD53598 60172] and a good path. Continue through a wooden gate [SD53647 60138] up the fell side, the summit is on the skyline. Through rocky outcrops, reach the wall [SD54041 60151] and ridge. Go through a kissing gate [SD54273 59874] then over the fence stile, pass a large cairn to reach the summit of Clougha Pike [SD54413 59473], there's a trig by a couple of stone shelters.
3. Leave the summit on the Easterly path, this is the track to Grit Fell (but we are looking for a small path, a few hundred metres away). Along the obvious path, cross the fence stile [SD54697 59495] then descend to a shallow depression [SD55023 59369]. Follow the path to the L (you can see the estate road) across Plover Moss to reach the estate road by a large rocky outcrop [SD55229 59601].
4. A short detour up the estate road to visit 'Clough Pike' art installation – it's worth the effort!
5. Return to the outcrop at 4. then take the good path heading toward the wind farm above Caton, we soon pass a small mere, Black Fell is to our R. Continue descending the excellent path, passing stone grouse butts. On the lower slopes reach a grassy plateau [SD55066 60981], keep the wall to your right, here the path is less distinct due to the wet-ground. Further on there is a short steep slope to a wall and ladder stile [SD55066 61122].
6. Don't cross the stile, stay inside the Access Land, head L (West) contouring across the meadow, cross a delightful stream [SD54953 61113] tumbling down the fell side, ignore the ascending grassy ramp, contour across the meadow, the path becomes more distinct in a rocky section, ascend the short slope [SD54730 61133]. At the top of the slope, follow the obvious track towards the rocky outcrop to reach the estate road [SD54097 61053]. Now follow the estate route, descend the steep bends to reach a gate and ladder stile [SD53992 61103]. Continue along the estate road, about 50m before the boundary of the Access Land, there is a path [SD53757 61287] crossing the meadow to our L (SW). Take the path to reach Ottergear Bridge [SD53543 61148].
7. Cross the bridge then follow the good level track to the car park.