

Owens Walks

Route Description: Beacon Fell and the River Brock

1. There's good parking near the Beacon Fell Visitors Centre (SD56422 42679). Walk along the road past the Public Toilets, as the road turns R, there is a footpath and gate (SD56251 42857) on the L, leading through the 'Life for a Life' Memorial Forest. Follow the path crossing the FB to a stile (SD55797 42897) at the Bleasdale Road. Turn R & then L down White Lee Lane (almost opposite) to Higher Brock Bridge (SD54913 43109) and Brock Mill (alternative parking & start available!).
2. Don't cross the bridge, follow FP through the gates of Brock Cottage Farm & alongside the river in front of the buildings. Follow the path along the riverbank, it's glorious & teeming with wildlife. Eventually, climb the steps, away from the riverbank to a farm track (SD54924 43770), turn L. Admire the Thirlmere Aqueduct crossing the river before reaching a white cottage. Keep R of the cottage, through a pine forest before the FP converges with the riverbank, over a small footbridge and boardwalks to a footbridge and ford crossing the River Brock.
3. Don't cross the river, turn R up the stony lane, at the top it is tarmac (Snape Rake Lane). Along the narrow lane, as it bends to the R, there is a bridleway on the L (SD55683 44035). Walk along the bridleway descending to a bench & a footbridge to emerge from the woodland to Waddecar Youth Activity Centre. Descend diagonally across the meadow towards the river, past the toilet block along a track to a stile (SD56264 44310), continue through the meadows to a confluence in the river, a FB and a ruin (Gill Barn) (SD56583 44529).
4. Don't cross the river, walk past the ruin & cross a stile through Gill Barn Wood, over a FB to emerge from woodland at a stile (SD56859 44317). Follow the good path across the meadow with great views of Parlick, turn at the fences and reach the road near Wickins Barn (SD57361 44143).
5. Turn R along the road, pass Wickins Barn, follow the road to the L then to the R to a footpath (SD57206 43855) & farm track on the L. Follow the farm track, heading directly for Beacon Fell, continue on as the track turns L for Sagar Farm, through the gateposts to Heatherway Farm.
6. There is a stile (SD57184 43311) in front of the farmhouse, turn R and walk along the meadow for about 100m where a path turns L, directly for Beacon Fell. Ascend the pasture, crossing a stile (SD57045 43109) before reaching the one-way road on Beacon Fell. Opposite is a footpath, climbing through trees on Beacon Fell, then turn L at the sculpture and keep ascending before turning R, heading directly for Beacon Fell summit (SD56814 42836) & the trig. There are many paths to return to the Visitor Centre and the finish.