



Welcome to The English Lake District

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A World Class Destination Offering Incredible Scenic Beauty

- **2 UNESCO World Heritage Sites** – Lake District National Park & Hadrian's Wall
- **2 National Parks** and **3 Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty**
- Home to England's **highest mountain** - Scafell Pike, **longest lake** - Windermere & **deepest lake** – Wastwater
- More than 150 miles of **stunning coastline** and **beaches**
- **Open space** and **fresh air**

And there's so much more...

- Rich in **heritage and culture** – home of renowned writer and conservationist Beatrix Potter
- World class **activities** and **attractions**
- Outstanding **food & drink** including 8 Michelin Stars
- Stunning selection of **accommodation** to suit all preferences including hotels, B&Bs, self-catering
- Suitable for **groups** and **FITs**
- **Family friendly, romantic, events & conferences**
- Towns and villages, great for **independent** and **specialist shops**
- **All year-round** destination

Easily Accessible

The English Lake District positioned in the region of Cumbria sits within the North-West of England

By Air

Cumbria is served by a number of airports including Manchester, Liverpool, Newcastle, London, Glasgow and Edinburgh.

By Rail

The Lake District is on the West Coast Mainline and is just 2 hours 45 minutes from London Euston, 2 hours from Glasgow and Edinburgh. Manchester has a direct train service from the airport itself taking just an hour.

By Car

The Lake District is only 15 minutes away from the M6 motorway. Approximately 4 hours' drive from London, 2 and a half hours from Glasgow and Edinburgh and Manchester is around 1 and a half hours drivetime from the Lake District. The M6 motorway travels through Cumbria – with junction 36 near Kendal, junction 40 at Penrith and junctions 42-44 at Carlisle all accessing the county.

By sea

There are ferries from Belfast and Dublin to Liverpool, Holyhead and Cairnryan, the Isle of Man to Lancaster (Heysham) and Northern Europe to Newcastle (North Shields) and Hull. Road and rail networks link these ports with the Lake District, Cumbria



New Launches 2020/2021

Accommodation -

- **Renovated rail carriages, Ravenglass** - Two historic camping coaches are being transformed into quirky self-catering accommodation, together with a new sensory garden. Uniquely located in TWO World Heritage Sites: the English Lake District and Hadrian's Wall. Sleep 4-6 people, launching 2021
- **Cliff camping, Honister Slate Mine** – Hanging tents 500 feet high suspended above the valley floor, anchored to the side of Fleetwith Pike. You reach your bed for the night by abseiling down the cliff face.
- **Luxury spa suites, Gilpin Hotel & Lake House** (AA 5 star, Michelin rated) – New spa suites designed as private spa sanctuaries for two with south facing decked gardens offering mountain views. Each includes a personal cocktail bar, steam room, sauna, infrared lounge bed and automated massage chair.
- **Luxury 'Waterbird' boathouse** – Nestled on slopes of ancient woodland with private lake frontage. It also has its own wet dock and private mooring. Sleeps up to 4 people.



Activities & Experiences -

- **MV Swift** - is the largest new vessel to sail on England's longest lake, Windermere, for more than 80 years. The 300-seater 'steamer' run by Windermere Lake Cruises will be her first full year of service in 2021.
- **The Museum at Wordsworth Grasmere 2021** - Uncover Wordsworth's radical and creative life in the new and expanded Museum and enjoy breathtaking views of Grasmere Vale from a unique Viewing Platform. Explore the unique collection of some of the greatest treasures from the Romantic age.
- **VIP group cruises** launched by Ullswater 'Steamers' for 2021, new exclusive sailings for group tour operators on a dedicated heritage vessel, to take in some of the most epic views in the Lake District National Park.
- **'Deep Time' Arts programme**: Marking Cumbria's Year of the Coast 2021, a new arts programme reflecting the region's long history and multi-layered cultural heritage, is being created. It will include five coastal commissions with international artists – including two former Turner Prize winners - celebrating depictions of the diverse coastal landscape, people/communities and little-known 'gems'.
- **Wildcat Island campfires**, Windermere Jetty Museum – Set up camp on Wildcat Island for den making and wood-crafted games - themed adventure kit for intrepid explorers.



Brand New for 2021... 'The Overland Expedition'

Designed for exploration and adventure, spend the weekend off grid from the comfort of an overlander vehicle. Based on the privately owned 5000-acre Graythwaite Estate, on the shores of Windermere. Have exclusive access to remote locations with breathtaking views in order to unwind and escape from everyday life.

Launched by **Graythwaite Adventure** the essential ingredients of these packages include driver training, journeying in a sustainable way sensitive to your environment, bushcraft, vehicle maintenance bush mechanics and sleeping under canvas in a rooftop tent. Click [here](#) for more information on the Overland Expedition Experience packages.

Overland Expedition Experience:

- Introduction to 4x4 and off-road experience
- Lunch, line caught trout on flat breads with mint raita and herb salad cooked on a fire box grill
- Set camp for the evening and introduction to camp craft
- Clay pigeon shooting experience
- Fire lighting and wild food cookery over an open fire, then enjoy the fire pit and admire the dark skies
- Early morning stand up paddleboarding on Windermere
- Fresh coffee and breakfast burritos followed by an estate walk including tracking and foraging



2021 - The Year of the Cumbrian Coast



Whilst we are renowned for our lakes and mountains, our rugged coastline is certainly worth a visit. This year we are celebrating our rich coastal landscapes, villages and towns and would be happy to assist with ideas for your itineraries, for example:

- Enjoy a scenic journey transporting you over the high mountain passes with **Mountain Goat Tours**
- Take a trip on the narrow gauge **Ravenglass and Eskdale Steam Railway**; one of the oldest and longest narrow gauge heritage railways in England. Steam for 7 miles through the beautiful Lake District National Park from the coastline to the mountains as you soak up the spectacular views. Travel in style when you upgrade to their first-class observation carriage, also available to hire for private use for a single or return journey.
- The nearby **Muncaster Castle** is still cherished by the family who have inhabited Muncaster for over 800 years. The surrounding woodland gardens teem with wildlife & nurture exotic plants from around the world and the fabulous Hawk & Owl Centre flies falcons, owls, hawks, eagles, herons & vultures to enchant visitors with the majesty of these fascinating birds of prey.



2021 MILESTONES:

- **70th birthday of the Lake District National Park.** Established in May 1951, the Lake District is England's largest National Park, home to its highest mountain (Scafell Pike) and its deepest lake (Wastwater).
www.visitlakedistrict.com/explore
- This year marks **30 years since the passing of Alfred Wainwright.** Between 1952 and 1966, Wainwright climbed 214 Lake District summits to produce his seven Pictorial Guides. For more than 50 years, Wainwright's meticulous hand-drawn books have been an essential companion for visitors to the Lake District.
- **250 years since Dorothy Wordsworth's birth.** Visit Dove Cottage where Dorothy wrote her much loved Grasmere Journal and see her bedroom at Rydal Mount & Gardens which continues to be owned by the Wordsworth family and retains the feel of a lived-in family home.
- **100 years since Donald Campbell was born.** Campbell - whose adventurous exploits cemented his name among the biggest legends of the 20th century - was tragically killed on Coniston Water in 1967 whilst attempting to break his own world water-speed record in his legendary Bluebird K7 craft.

2022 MILESTONES:

- **Hadrian's Wall marks 1900 years of history.** In 2022, it will be 1900 years (AD 122) since the Roman emperor Hadrian visited Britain and ordered work to begin on what is now a UNESCO World Heritage Site. Stretching 73 miles from Cumbria's west coast across some of the wildest and most dramatic country in England, you can experience Roman life and epic history in stunning locations.

Dark Skies Cumbria

The Lake District, Cumbria is one of the best places in England for a stargazing getaway, particularly during the winter season with over 1,000 stars visible on a clear night – complimented by part of our own galaxy, The Milky Way, majestically stretching across the night sky.

Let your clients be captivated by our dark skies with a range stargazing experiences:

- **Sleep under the stars at Castlerigg Hall** in one of their 'Hex Pod' glamping pods, fitted with skylights so that you can appreciate the beautiful stars from the warmth and comfort of your pod. To help get a closer look at the stars, guests are also welcome to borrow binoculars from Reception
- Take to the water with a **guided wild and open water night-time swim with Another Place** under the light of the full moon or during the new moon when you can see the stars more clearly. The Milky Way can often be seen over Ullswater.
- Take a **guided stargazing walk at Whinlatter Forest**, England's only true mountain forest to stargazer rooms offering incredible views of the night's sky.
- Enjoy an evening of **stargazing & bushcraft cookery with Path to Adventure**. Learn how to fillet a whole Rainbow Trout and cook it indigenous style over an open fire. You will also have a go at lighting the fire using only traditional methods, such as flint and steel with natural tinder or even try out the fire bow. You'll then have the chance to stargaze out on the open fell beside the Wood.

For more information and ideas for stargazing experience, head to our website [here](#).



CONTENT/ASSETS:

- Cumbria Tourism's official new-look website is: www.visitlakedistrict.com
- We have an **extensive library of images and video** footage available. We also own all the copyright. Please contact Darren Milby to register for access: dmilby@cumbriatourism.org
- **Visit Safely and with confidence:** Last year we produced a series of videos across the destination showing how easy it is to stay in hotels, eat out and visit attractions in a COVID-safe way. See the videos [here](#)
- You can also see a range of [Itinerary planners](#) to suit different locations, durations and budgets on our website
- Check out our [blog](#) for more ideas and inspiration



Visit Lake District, Cumbria

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Inspiring Hints & Tips



on Jan 20 2021
In Explore, Travel

2021 - the year of the Cumbrian Coast

2021 is the year of the Cumbrian Coast. Most people know the Lake District, Cumbria for our lakes and mountains but our rugged coastline is certainly worth a visit. In 2021 we are celebrating our rich coastal landscapes, villages and towns.



on Jan 15 2021
In Explore, Health & Wellbeing, Activities

James Forrest's mission to complete all the Wainwrights

Its thirty years since we lost Alfred Wainwright - the Cumbrian author who is now synonymous with the Lake District fells. Just after lockdown, inspired by his daily exercise, James Forrest set a new record for the time taken to complete all the Lake District mountains.



on Nov 25 2020
In Local Produce, Shopping, Health & Wellbeing, Gift Ideas, Treat Yourself

Introducing Home Spa by Pure Lakes

Introducing Home Spa - Handmade by Pure Lakes in their Lake District workshop. Specially designed to bring the spa into the home, allowing you to have the relaxing and luxury experience of a natural spa treatment, anytime.