



## LET YOUR IMAGINATION SOAR

Lake District: Arguably one of the most scenic places in England, this beautiful corner of Cumbria is simply stunning. A rugged landscape of shadowy ridges pierced with golden light, shimmering meadows ablaze with wild fauna, and sparkling lakes. This is the home of Wordsworth and Beatrix Potter, where you can walk amongst these literary giants, from the rolling hilltops to the quaint villages. There are over 885 square miles of National Park to explore, yet you can choose to adopt an active or more leisurely route: from hiking, watersports and horseback riding.

**Travel from London:** We recommend a driving holiday so you have added flexibility and can tailor your curiosity. The journey takes approximately 5 hours.













DAY	PROGRAMME
Day 1	<ul> <li>Drive to Lake District</li> <li>Overnight in Windermere</li> </ul>
Day 2	<ul> <li>Morning Tour around Windermere: Beatrix Potter places of interest</li> <li>Afternoon Steam Gondola Experience</li> <li>Overnight in Windermere</li> </ul>
Day 3	<ul><li>Full-day walk with lunch picnic</li><li>Overnight in Windermere</li></ul>
Day 4	<ul> <li>Travel from Windermere to Keswick</li> <li>Afternoon at leisure</li> <li>Overnight in Ullswater</li> </ul>
Day 5	<ul> <li>Water Activities on the lake</li> <li>Overnight in Ullswater</li> </ul>
Day 6	<ul><li>Full-day walk</li><li>Overnight in Ullswater</li></ul>
Day 7	Drive to London





## **DAY BY DAY**

## Day 1

Self-drive to the Lake District (approx. 5 hours from London).

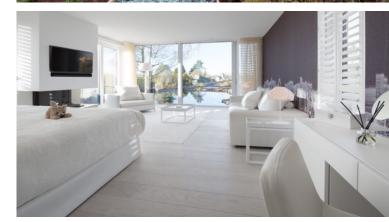
Drive to your accommodation just outside of Windermere, the southern-most part of the District, and check-in. You will stay here for the next 3 nights.

Afternoon at leisure to explore the nearby surroundings. Perhaps go for a short hike, or head into Windermere village for a late lunch or dinner at one of its local restaurants.

We recommend staying in one of the stunning Spa Lodges or Garden Suites at The Gilpin Hotel & Lakehouse, which both offer ample private outdoor space to take in the stunning Lake District views from your hot-tub.













#### Windermere - Coniston

Enjoy breakfast at The Gilpin restaurant before meeting your local guide at 09:00. The guide will meet you at your hotel.

Start your Lake District holiday by exploring some of the most popular attractions nearby. You'll visit a variety of places associated with the author, including her vacation home, Wray Castle, and her home, Hill Top. See where she found inspiration for her stories and illustrations, and learn about her life and times from your guide. Even travelers unfamiliar with her books can enjoy the beautiful sights.

Duration: Half-day (4 hours)

After, head to Coniston where you will be greeted by the local Gondola crew and enjoy a welcome lunch, and then roll up your sleeves and join the crew for a handson, one-to-one experience. You'll spend time up on the helm as well as in the engine room of the magnificent, rebuilt, Victorian steam boat – leaving with signature Gondola overalls as a memento.

Set sail on the length of Coniston Water aboard the majestic Steam Yacht Gondola (cruise approx 1 hour 45 minutes).

The cruise will finish approx. 16:15.

Enjoy a special dinner at the Michelin starred, four AA rosette HRiSHi at The Gilpin Hotel.











### Tarns Walk - 6.5 Miles

This walk really captures the essence of the Lake District! Bring a picnic lunch with you and take in the rugged landscapes and the thriving wildlife. This route takes you out to Far Sawrey, once there, continue past the pub until you reach a bridleway on your right hand side. You should be on this path for about an hour, passing Moss Eccles Tarn, where you may see people fishing, as well as Wise Een Tarn; can you spot the boathouse nestled on the bank?

When you reach a crossroad in the path, take the right hand trail leading you back to Far Sawrey. On the return leg, you will pass Three Dubs Crags, stopping to take in the view when you reach High Blind How. If you remain on this path, you can head back to the pub at Far Sawrey, where you can treat yourself to some well-deserved refreshments!

Depending on your interests, fishing can be arranged at Moss Eccles Tarn.

Evening at leisure.











#### Windermere - Keswick

The route from Kendal (just South-East of your base in Windermere) to Keswick is often touted as one of the best drives in the UK. Start from your base in Windermere, and make your way Northwards to Keswick – the drive direct is around 30 minutes, however you will find an abundance of inroads to follow and explore along the way.

We recommend taking at least 2-3 detours along the way, arriving in Keswick for an early supper before travelling the short journey to Ullswater, your base for the next 3 nights.

## **Skelweth Bridge**

#### **Scarfell Pike**

#### Helvellyn

Check-in at the fantastic Another Place, The Lake, a relaxed boutique hotel in Ullswater. Activities are at the heart of the lake and its' surrounding area, but the team at Another Place encourage you choose how leisurely or rigorously you wish to enjoy them.

Evening at leisure.











#### Water Activities: Ullswater

Today you will get on the water at Ullswater Lake. Far from the hustle and bustle, Ullswater is the best base for outdoor pursuits in the Lake District.

With miles of lakeshore and an instructor at your disposal, you'll have the perfect canvas to reconnect with nature. Pick up a paddle, find your feet and explore the lake on your own steam. After breakfast, make your way to the Lake for a late morning paddle-boarding session.

Head back to the hotel for a well-deserved lunch at the excellent Living Space where the chefs serve the very best gastro-pub cuisine using the very best of local produce.

After lunch, it's time to head back out on the lake, with an afternoon's sailing experience. Depending on your experience level, your instructor will guide you through the basics and introduction of sailing, providing you with a fantastic afternoon. Depending on your interest level, you can complete a RYA Level 1 & 2 course here (combined, over 5 days).

#### Star-gazing:

In the evening, you will explore the constellations amongst the Lake District fells. Well-known astronomer, Robert Ince, will guide you on your journey along the Milky Way. Start with a talk in the library on how we need to protect dark skies and what you may see when you go outside, weather permitting.

Once outside, Robert will point out the naked eye objects, helping you locate them with a powerful lens and teach you to find them yourself by star hopping. Enjoy stories of the sky from Greek mythology and other cultures while seeing the wonders through powerful telescopes and binoculars.

Sessions run at 8.30pm or 10.30pm. Wrap up warm and bring binoculars and a torch if you have them!











## Beyond the lake: Place Fell Hike (7 miles)

This hike begins in Glenridding, where you will take the Ullswater Steamer one stop to Howtown. From here, follow the Ullswater Way until a cafe stop at walkersonly Lowther Farm Tearoom, then leave the Ullswater Way to head into the fells. Ramble up to the summit of Place Fell with stunning moorland and valley views, then descend to the green eden of Patterdale, following the road for the last mile back to Glenridding.

Catch the Ullswater steamer from Glenridding to Howtown then you will hike along the Ullswater way from Howtown to Lowther barn tearoom.

After a pit-stop, ascend from Lowther barn into the fells and take in the final ascent up to Place Fell.

Enjoy the spectacular view and then descend from Place Fell to Patterdale, then along the road to Glenridding, before making your way back to Another Place for some well-deserved relaxation.













## **Departure day**

Spend the morning at leisure, or enjoy one last trip out on the lake.

Formed by glaciation, Ullswater has excellent water quality, which makes it perfect for wild swimming. You can join a guided swim, or venture out solo from the private jetty (we recommend less-experienced swimmers staying near the shoreline).

In summer, the water can be a cool 11 degrees Celsius minimum, making this a revitalising morning jaunt.

Check out from the hotel and start your drive to London (approx. 5.5 hours). Stoke-on-trent makes the perfect lunch stop midway, an abundance of quality pubs and bistros can be found along the high-street, or weather-dependant, enjoy a picnic in the Trentham Monkey Forest, and see if you can spot one of the 70 macaques.









## **HOTELS**

# The Gilpin Hotel & Lake House

Another Place, The Lake

Windermere

Ullswater

The epitome of a modern country-house hotel, The Gilpin Hotel & Lake House is an indulgent yet charming break, boasting private hot-tubs and saunas, Michelinstarred dining and legions of attentive staff.



Georgian grandeur gets a contemporary remake at Another Place – a handsome home turned boutique hotel in Lake District national park. Fell-flecked scenery unfurls from every window, sloping down to a private lake shore and Ullswater's sail-graced surface. Indeed, everything at Another Place flows back to the source, from the lake views you'll spy from almost all 40 rooms to the Swim Club spa with its water-facing pool. On the lake-step, you'll find running trails, horse-riding, cycling and kayaking – there are endless things to do and explore here.





