

Below is the proposed itinerary for the trip. As is true on any adventure travel trip, plans for any specific day may be modified due to weather considerations, unforeseen circumstances, new opportunities, and group interests.

DAY 1

Arrive Manchester (MAN), transfer to Oxenholme Train Station & Trip Kickoff

Welcome to England! We'll meet as a group at **12 PM at Oxenholme Train Station**, where you'll be greeted by your guide. From here, we'll head into the Lake District National Park, starting with a stop at Brockhole Pier to catch a shuttle ferry across Lake Windermere. It's a great way to take in the scenery as we make our way to a scenic lunch spot.

After lunch, we'll take a short walk to Claife Viewing Station, a historic overlook with beautiful views of the lake. Then, we'll visit the former home of beloved children's author Beatrix Potter, where you'll have time to explore the house and gardens that inspired her stories.

Later in the afternoon, we'll take a short transfer to our hotel in Ambleside, set at the entrance of the Langdale Valley. There's time to settle in and unwind before we gather for a welcome dinner and orientation to kick off the trip.

Included Meals: Lunch, Dinner

Accommodations: The Wateredge Inn (or similar)

Daily Activities: Welcome Dinner

DAY 2

Hike Lingmoor Fell and Cathedral Caves

After a leisurely breakfast, we'll set off to hike the peaceful, heather-cloaked slopes of Lingmoor Fell. Though modest at 1,540 feet, its secluded setting offers breathtaking, uninterrupted views of the surrounding landscape. From the summit, the rugged silhouettes of Coniston Fells, Crinkle Crag, and the Langdale Pikes rise dramatically against the sky, while the valleys of Great and Little Langdale spread out below in a stunning tapestry of colors.

This afternoon, we'll explore Cathedral Quarry—a fascinating maze of winding tunnels and softly illuminated caves that open into a vast chamber known as the 'Cathedral.' The interplay of light and shadow here creates a truly mesmerizing atmosphere.

As evening falls, we'll return to the charming town of Ambleside, where you can wander its lively streets, browse local shops, and enjoy a delicious dinner at one of its inviting eateries. We'll then settle in for the night, recharging for tomorrow's adventure.

Included Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Accommodations: The Wateredge Inn (or similar)

Daily Activities: Hiking (~6 miles, ~4 hours, ~1,300 feet elevation +/-)

DAY 3

Explore the Langdale Pikes

As morning dew lifts from the fields, fill up your water bottles and head out for another rewarding hike in the heart of the Lakes. We'll make our way to hike the Langdale Pikes. The pikes sit proudly above the Great Langdale Valley, and their craggy domed tops will beckon us from up above. We'll hike Pavey Ark, Thuncar

Knott, Pike of Stickle, Harrison Stickle and Loft Crag. After winding through lush, green valleys and peaks, we'll celebrate the day's hike with a hearty meal in a friendly English pub.

Included Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Accommodations: The Wateredge Inn (or similar)

Daily Activities: Hiking (~6 miles, ~5 hours, ~2,900 feet elevation +/-)

DAY 4

Hike "The Old Man of Coniston"

For our final day of hiking in the Southern Lakes, we'll take a short drive to Coniston and its iconic peak, 'The Old Man.' Towering above a pristine lake, this impressive summit holds a rich history. Before you go searching for a lost elder, know that "Old Man" comes from the ancient Celtic *Alt Maen*, meaning "High Stone," while Coniston originates from the Norse *Konigs Tun*, meaning "King's Farm." Mined extensively for its 'Coniston Copper' from the 16th to 19th centuries, the mountain still bears traces of its industrious past.

After reaching the summit and taking in the views at its unique marker, we'll descend through a rugged, untamed landscape that stuns at every turn—offering endless photo opportunities. Back at our hotel, we'll have time to freshen up before gathering for a well-earned local dinner. Tomorrow, we journey north to explore the next chapter of our Lake District adventure.

Included Meals: Breakfast, Lunch

Accommodations: The Wateredge Inn (or similar)

Daily Activities: Hiking (~5 miles, ~5 hours, ~2,000 feet elevation +/-)

DAY 5

Visit Keswick and Derwentwater

After several days of long and fulfilling hikes, we get to rest our legs this morning with a 45 minute scenic drive through the heart of the Lake District to the market town of Keswick situated in the northern lakes, surrounded by high peaks in every direction. This afternoon, we'll enjoy some free time to explore the markets and soak in the rich history and culture of the town. Lunch on your own today gives you the chance to try a local pub or 'hubble' (hubbub) cafe; the choice is yours! After lunch, we'll drive to the Keswick Launch and board a ferry that will take us the length of the local lake, Derwentwater, to our hotel for our final 4 nights. Upon arrival, we'll be tucked in the folds of the idyllic Borrowdale Valley, framed by valleys, and deciduous trees. After a day through the Heart of the Lakes, we'll rejoin for dinner and settle in for some downtime.

Included Meals: Breakfast, Dinner

Accommodations: The Borrowdale Hotel (or similar)

DAY 6

Hike Cat Bells Ridgeline and Have Afternoon Tea

After a good night's sleep, we'll enjoy a point-to-point hike from the doors of our hotel over to a local favorite, Cat Bells. We'll take a ferry and make the ascent up and onto the Cat Bells ridgeline to take in the panoramic views of the stunning lake, valley, and rolling hillside. Before descending down to Lingholm for a well-earned afternoon tea, we'll take some photos and overlook the octagonal walled garden. Beatrix Potter crested this garden as her inspiration for Mr McGregor's garden in *The Tale of Peter Rabbit*. After feeling charmed, we'll enjoy our tea and the whisper of the wind. The evening is at leisure, with guests enjoying dinner on their own and time to relax comfortably.

Relax comfortably.

Included Meals: Breakfast, Lunch

Accommodations: The Borrowdale Hotel (or similar)

Daily Activities: Hiking (~5 miles, 3-4 hours, ~1,200 feet elevation +/-)

DAY 7

Explore the Hills of Blencathra

As we awaken to our first day in the North Lake District, zip up your jacket, lace up your boots, and join your guides to hike up Blencathra. This is one of the most northerly hills in the Lake District that features sweeping views of the valley from above. As we begin our hike, we'll listen for the electronic call of lapwings and the cat-like 'kee-yaa' of buzzards. We'll take a break just below the summit at 'Scales Tarn,' a lovely spot to enjoy a drink and a good snack before the final ascent to the summit. From the top, we'll soak up the stunning views before descending the impressive ridgeline back down into the green lock of the valley.

This afternoon, we'll venture onto the water, where Derwentwater's sheltered bays and islands create the perfect setting for stand-up paddleboarding (SUP), a calming activity that has gained much popularity. As you glide across the lake, the soothing sound of water lapping against your board and the focus on balance will guide you into a peaceful, meditative rhythm. Surrounded by the majestic peaks of the Lake District, it's an ideal place to experience pure tranquility. This evening, relax with an aperitif in the gardens before dinner, celebrating a day well spent—both on and off the water.

Included Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Accommodations: The Borrowdale Hotel (or similar)

Daily Activities: Hiking (~5 miles, 4-5 hours, ~2,100 feet elevation +/-), Stand-Up Paddle Boarding (1-2 hours)

DAY 8

Departure Day – Return to Manchester via Train

Enjoy the scenic views that unfold beyond the window as you wind your way back through Borrowdale Valley and the northern fells, towards Penrith. Arrive at Penrith station at noon to depart anytime after, and say goodbye to your guides and fellow participants. Hop on the train for a 2-hour journey home. Flights can be booked to depart anytime after 5pm.

Included Meals: Breakfast

Travel Time: Train (~2 hours)