

#### **Hazards**

Crossing busy and fast roads without pedestrian crossings. Some walking on lanes and narrow roads without pavements, including a long section between Grasmere lake and village. Deep water close to the route. May be slippery in places after rain, especially near Rydal Caves.

## Accessibility

There are stiles, steps and narrow gates and paths on the route. Much of the walk is on roads or good paths, but there are some uneven sections with loose rocks and exposed tree roots.

#### **Facilities**

Toilets, pubs, food and drink available in Rydal and Grasmere.

## Before you go:

- Check the local weather forecast and whether there is enough daylight to complete the walk (metoffice.gov.uk).
- Ensure you are wearing suitable clothing and footwear for the route and weather, and that you take the right kit — learn more at yha.org.uk/walk-skills.
- Download the OS Maps and what3words apps to your phone.
- To be able to contact emergency services by text visit relayuk.bt.com/emergencysms or text 'register' to 999.
- For more information on staying safe in the outdoors visit adventuresmart.uk.
- Complete a route notification card (yha.org.uk/route-card) to provide essential information for the Emergency Services if you do not return when expected.
- Check all members of the group have the fitness and skills to complete the route.

### In case of emergency:

- Contact 999 and use OS Maps or what3words to help pinpoint your location.
- To attract attention shout or give six blasts on a whistle at regular intervals. In low light flash a torch six times at regular intervals.
- If you can send someone for help, they need to know your location, number of people in the group and the nature of the emergency.

# For more walks or information on route grading and timings go to yha.org.uk/map-guidance

If you encounter problems with this route contact walking@yha.org.uk

Walking has been at the heart of YHA since 1930, helping people access the great outdoors. Today, YHA continues to make adventures possible with mapped routes and affordable hostel stays across England and Wales. Our hostels are ideal for walkers, with drying rooms, self-catering kitchens, and great trails from the doorstep. We're committed to making adventure accessible to everyone, with walks for all abilities and guided walking events that connect people to nature, heritage, and each other.

Supported by

Share your walks







# Rydal walk





## Lakeside and countryside walk

A lovely walk providing spectacular views of the lakes and surrounding fells throughout. Includes historic Rydal Hall, fascinating Rydal Cave and a stroll alongside Grasmere lake.

**Distance:** 6.9 miles (11.2km) **Ascent:** 338m (1,109ft)

Time: Allow 3h 30m to 5h 45m





### **Route directions**

Map: OS Explorer 1:25k (OL7) English Lakes - South-eastern area

Start/Finish: Grid ref NY 336 079 what3words ///wire.dimension.regard

- 1 From the hostel bear right, climb the stone steps and continue up the rough slope.
- 2 When the path splits bear right.
- 3 At the road turn left, cross over the bridge, then turn right onto the footpath towards the river.
- 4 Cross the main road onto the residential street ahead.
- (5) When the road bends to the left pass through the metal gate. Pass the house, then head to the gate at the top left of the yard, by the wall.
- 6 Pass through the gate and immediately turn right.
- 7 When the path splits bear right and head downhill.
- **8** At the road turn left, then follow the sign for the Coffin Route to Rydal.
- Pass through the gate on the right (not the gate to the house). Cross the small stream and head back up to join the main path.
- At the road turn right and head downhill.
- Cross the road and turn right.
- Opposite the Badger Bar a famous watering hole, turn left, signposted to Rydal Water & Grasmere, and cross over the footbridge.
- Turn left, then follow the path uphill and through the woods.
- After the steps, turn right onto the road.
- When the track splits, take the left path, signposted to Grasmere via Rydal Caves.
- **16** At the top of the wall, bear right to pass the Caves.
- When the track splits at the top of the plateau, keep left.
- At the path junction turn left and head downhill towards Grasmere lake.
- At the lakeshore bear left onto the path around the lake.
- At the road turn right and follow it around the edge of Grasmere Lake to Grasmere village.

