

Your Adventure Your Way

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YHA Members: Head to the member benefits area at yha.org.uk/walk-os to find your discount code for an OS Maps Premium subscription

Hazards

This is a high-level mountain route so proper preparation and equipment is necessary. The higher parts of the route regularly have low visibility, make sure you know where you are at all times and have a map and compass for navigation. In winter conditions the route will become slippery and dangerous, especially when covered in snow and ice – mountaineering skills and equipment may be required. Includes steep paths and exposed sections with steep drops. The route between High Raise and Easedale Tarn is indistinct in places and not all paths are shown on the OS 1:25k paper map. Careful navigation is required, download the gpx file to support navigation. Path passes close to deep water. Some walking on lanes and narrow roads without pavements.

Accessibility

This is a physical route with very steep and rocky ascents and descents. There are no stiles on the route. Paths are uneven, many are well-trodden, but some are faint and require good navigation skills.

Facilities

No facilities on the route. Pub, food and drink available in Grasmere village.

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/emercencysms 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



Produced by Matt Overd (<https://walkingpace.uk>). Contributions from Andrew Turnbull, Simon Lightowler & Simon Airley. Designed by HeylinSmith.com. Cover image: drewrawcliffe/Adobe Stock



Helm Crag, Gibson Knott and High Raise walk



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YHA Grasmere Butharlyp Howe

Book your stay now yha.org.uk/stay-018

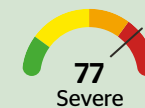
Mountain walk

A great Lake District circuit with stunning views and a fine ridge walk over Gibson Knott to Greenup Edge and High Raise, returning via Easedale Tarn.

Distance: 10 miles (16.1km)

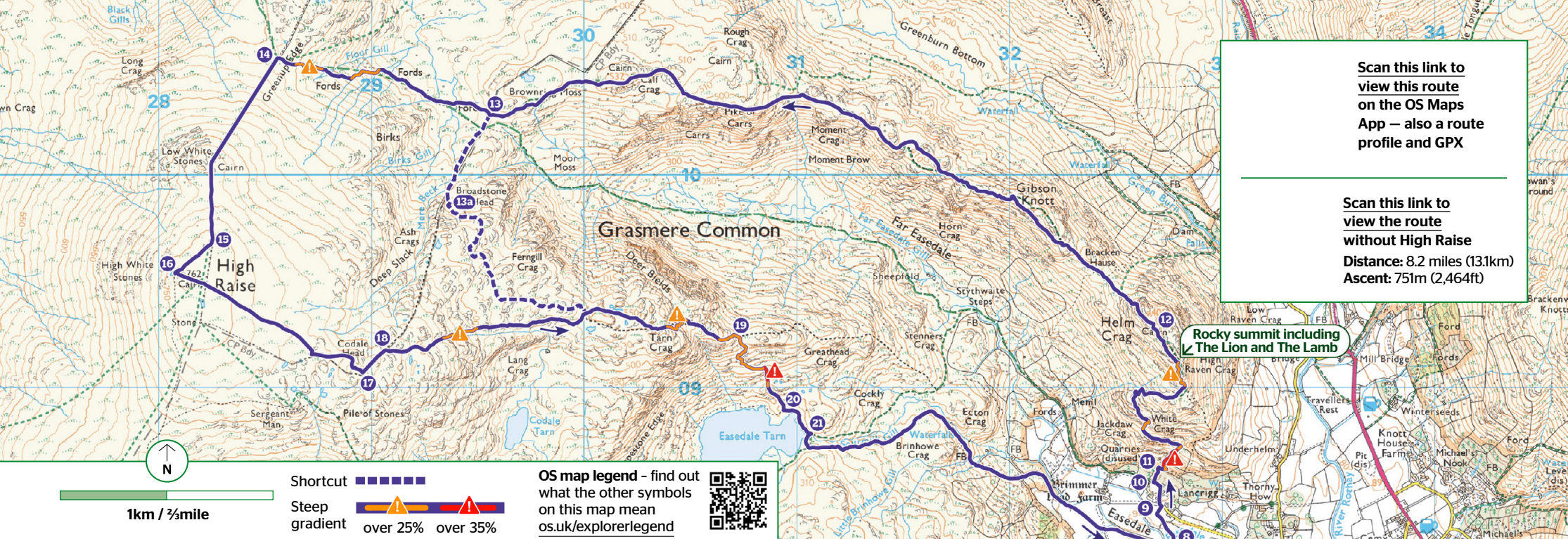
Ascent: 971m (3,186ft)

Time: Allow 6h 30m to 10h 15m



Partnered with





Route directions

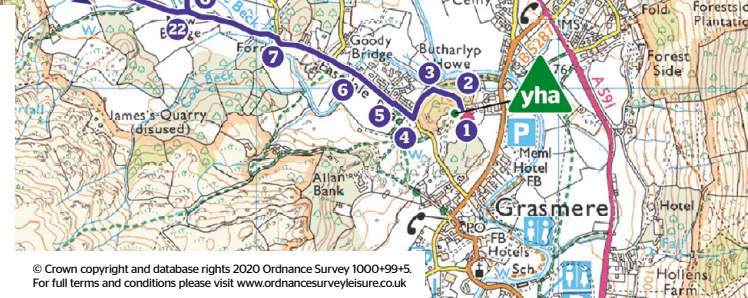
Map: OS Explorer 1:25k (OL7) English Lakes – South-eastern area

Start/Finish: Grid ref NY 336 079

what3words ///wire.dimension.regard

- 1 From the hostel bear right, head up the stone steps and continue up the rough slope.
- 2 As you crest the hill and leave the trees the path is unclear. Join the path which crosses left to right in front of you by bearing right downhill.
- 3 Turn left onto the track.
- 4 At the road turn right.
- 5 Pass through the gate on the left and turn right to follow alongside the road.
- 6 Rejoin the road and cross the bridge.
- 7 Turn left to cross the footbridge over Easedale Beck.
- 8 Turn right, follow the path and cross over New Bridge. Then follow the path across the fields.
- 9 At the road turn left, then immediately right onto the bridleway signposted to Far Easedale and Helm Crag.

- 10 When the path splits turn right towards Helm Crag.
- 11 Turn right, then left and stay on the path to the summit cairn on Helm Crag.
- 12 Follow the path over the summit, stay on the ridge path and pick a route over Gibson Knott, Moment Crag and Calf Crag to Brownrigg Moss.
- 13 At the path junction bear right for High Raise and follow the path paved with flags along the foot of Birks to Greenup Edge.
 Or - to miss High Raise go left and pick a path over rough ground, following metal poles from the old fence, towards Broadstone Head.
- 13a Turn left to follow the faint trail which heads below Fernhill Crag. Pay attention to the route as you navigate hillocks, bog and steep paths to Tarn Crag.
- 14 Turn left and follow the grassy path along Greenup Edge, keeping the remains of the old metal fence on your left.
- 15 Bear right to visit the trig point on the summit of High Raise.
- 16 At the summit of High Raise turn left and head over the plateau to Codale Head - the path may not be visible in places.
- 17 From Codale Head follow the path around to the left.



This route has been created by YHA to provide inspiration and to aid planning and preparation of your walk. It doesn't replace the need for an OS Map or the OS Maps App to navigate your walk safely. Digital maps are a guide and do not always reflect the conditions on the ground, ensure you are aware of your immediate surroundings.

- 18 Bear right onto a faint path, pass a small pond and into a gully to follow alongside a stream. As the stream bends to the right go straight ahead to Tarn Crag.
- 19 Turn right, then bear right down the zig-zag path to Easedale Tarn.
- 20 Turn left onto the path next to Easedale Tarn.
- 21 Turn right to cross the stream leading from the Tarn. Follow the path downhill alongside Sourmilk Gill to Easedale.
- 22 From New Bridge retrace the route to the hostel.