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YHA Ennerdale [Book your stay now](#)

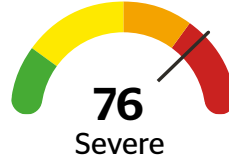
Pillar, Scoat Fell and Haycock

Mountain walk

Distance: 10.6 miles (17.1km)

Ascent: 1,252m (4,108ft)

Time: Allow 7h 15m to 10h 45m



Map: OS Explorer 1:25k (OL04) English Lakes – North-western area

Start/Finish: OS Locate NY 142 140 [what3words](#) ///voltages.pirates.user

A challenging high level ridge route with great views across the Lake District. From the hostel turn right to follow the forest road for almost 2.5km to a junction of paths. Turn right, cross the footbridge over the river and follow the waymarked path through the trees to a stile. Cross the stile, bear right, cross a stream and turn left and steeply uphill towards Pillar Rock. Follow a rocky path along the left side of Pillar Rock, turn sharp left, pass Robinson's Cairn and continue to the ridge. Turn right and follow a distinct path up Pillar. From the summit descend to Wind Gap and follow the ridge on the broad and often rocky path, then alongside a wall over Scoat Fell and onto Haycock. From the summit of Haycock head down along the ridge. As the ground begins to rise turn right at a small stile, turn right to pick up a distinct path heading north and down a broad ridge. Continue to cross a stile at the edge of woodland, follow the path down and bear left to cross a footbridge. Bear right and downhill to

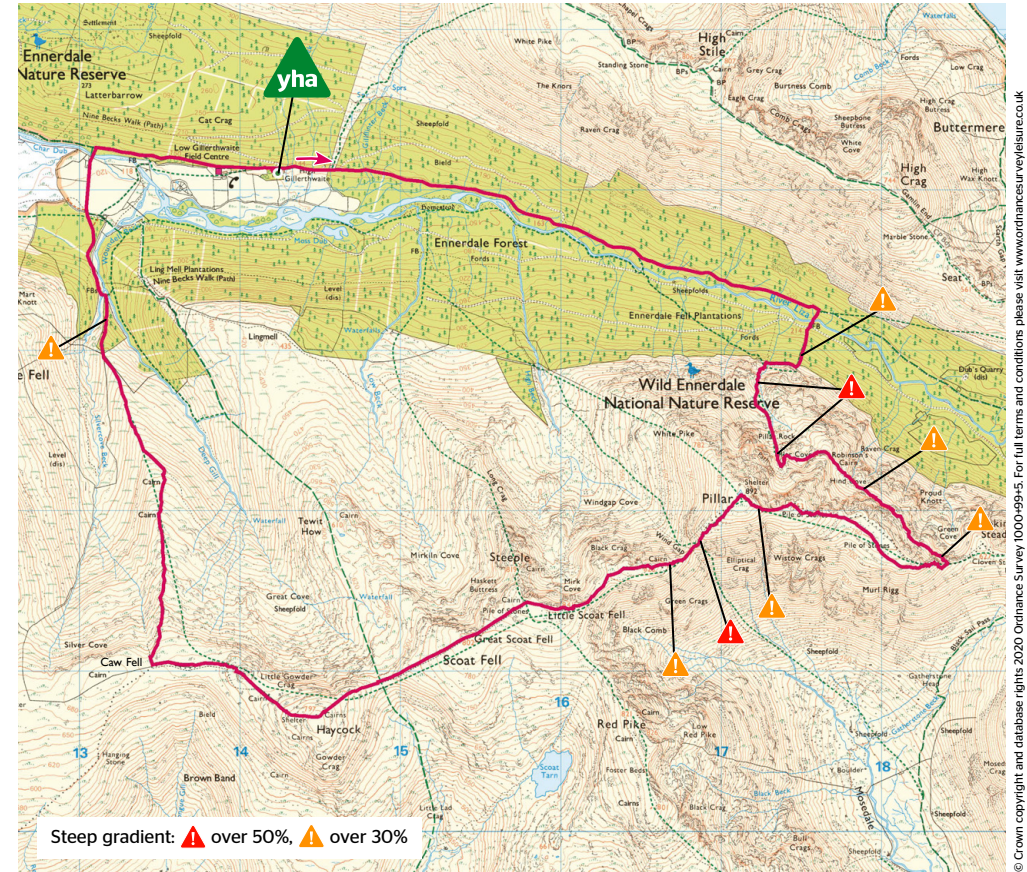
a forest road, head through a gate and continue to the main forest road. Turn right and to the hostel.

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. Steep rocky climb, with mild scrambling, around Pillar Rock and on the traverse to the ridge. Care should be taken when exiting the path onto the ridge as some parts are heavily eroded. The Pillar to Haycock ridge is exposed to weather. Navigate carefully to find the right path off the ridge below Caw Fell. Stream crossings may be difficult after heavy rain.

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.

Scan or click to view this route on the OS Maps App – also a route profile and GPX



Accessibility

This is a physical mountain route with stiles and narrow, steep and rocky paths – hands may be required in places. Good navigation required in places.

Points of interest

Pillar Rock famous for early rock climbing and Abraham brothers photography. Stunning views throughout the route, especially from the summit ridge, including views out to sea.

Facilities

There are no facilities on the route. Toilets and water available at YHA.



Thank you for choosing to walk from our hostel.
We hope you have a great time.

Walking in the national landscapes of England and Wales is part of YHA's heritage. With hostels on National Trails, in National Parks and Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty, YHA plays a unique role in the nation's walking community.

To make it easy for everyone to enjoy walking from YHA hostels, we have curated three walks – an easy, moderate, and more challenging option. They have all been graded – the higher the grade, the more challenging the route.

Before you go:

- Check the local weather forecast (mwis.org.uk).
- Check the tide times for coastal routes (tidetimes.org.uk).
- Get the right clothing, footwear and kit for the route and weather.
- Ensure you have enough time to complete the route before dark.
- Download the OS Locate and what3words apps to your phone.
- Contact 999 by SMS text (must pre register by texting 'register' to 999) (relayuk.bt.com/emergencysms).
- Plan your walk by completing the YHA route notification card it helps Emergency Services if you get into difficulties or fail to return from your walk when anticipated (yha.org.uk/route-card).
- Ensure your entire group have the fitness and skills to complete the route.
- For further information on how to stay safe visit adventuresmart.uk

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

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



Scan or click to shop
for OS maps online
osmaps.com/yha

Share your walks



What to wear

- Base layer and mid layer.
- Walking trousers.
- Warm jacket(s).
- Take extra layer(s).
- Hat, gloves and neck gaiter.
- Sun hat, sun cream and sunglasses.
- Waterproof jacket and trousers.
- Cushioning walking socks.
- Walking shoes or boots.

Kit

- Map, compass and GPS device or OS Map app on your phone.
- Water, lunch and high energy snacks.
- Charged mobile phone and portable charger.
- First aid kit.
- Head torch, spare batteries.
- Watch.
- Whistle and survival bag.
- Rucksack, with waterproof cover or a dry bag or plastic bag inside.
- Medicines or toiletries you would usually use.

You might also want to take

- Spare socks, hat, gloves.
- Balaclava.
- Leg gaiters.
- Waterproof baseball cap (handy if you wear glasses).
- Walking poles.

- Bivi bag or group shelter.
- Spare food and hot drink.
- Duct tape (handy for fixing things).
- Penknife or multitool.
- Tissues and hand sanitiser.
- Plastic bags to take away your rubbish or dog poo.

In case of emergency

- Call 999 (or text 999 if pre-registered) and ask for the Police.
- Use OS Locate or what3words to provide a detailed description of your location.
- If you need to attract attention shout or give six blasts on a whistle at regular intervals. In low light flash your torch six times at regular intervals.
- If you can send someone for help, they need to know your location (grid reference), number of people in the group and the nature of the emergency.
- Help could be some time coming so whilst waiting make the casualty comfortable.
- Keep the casualty warm and dry using spare clothing. Use coats or rucksacks to insulate them from the ground.
- Remember the rest of the group could be getting cold whilst waiting. Use an emergency shelter or find a sheltered location.