



YHA Honister House The Gables

Mountain walk

Distance: 5.7 miles (9.1km) **Ascent:** 748m (2,454ft)

Time: Allow 4h to 6h

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

Start/Finish: OS Locate NY 225 135 **what3words** ///earmarked.decanter.cycles



A spectacular walk taking in the pyramidal Great Gable with views into Wasdale, Ennerdale, Buttermere and Borrowdale. From the hostel turn right across the carpark, through the gate and turn left to take the track to the left of the mine visitor centre. Follow the path and fence line steeply uphill and over the summit of Grey Knotts to Brandreth. Move away from the fence to reach Brandreth's summit. Follow the obvious path south to Green Gable then descend into Windy Gap and, with the use of hands, up to the summit of Great Gable. After taking in the views follow the cairned path north west along the edge of Gable Crag and descend steeply on loose rocks to a path junction at Beck Head and turn right onto a narrow track (Moses Trod) around the head of Ennerdale. This well-defined path eventually reaches a fence line under Brandreth. After the stile follow the obvious cairned path to the tramway path, which is on a small embankment, turn right, follow this path back to the mine visitor centre 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 will be required. The high sections are very exposed to winds and storms with limited shelter. Steep drops alongside the path in places. Narrow exposed mountain paths requiring scrambling in places. Steep ascents and descents with typical boggy and rocky ground throughout. Take extra care descending Great Gable which is loose underfoot in places.

Accessibility

Experienced and physically fit walkers only. This is a physical route with steep and rocky paths – hands may be required in places.

Points of interest

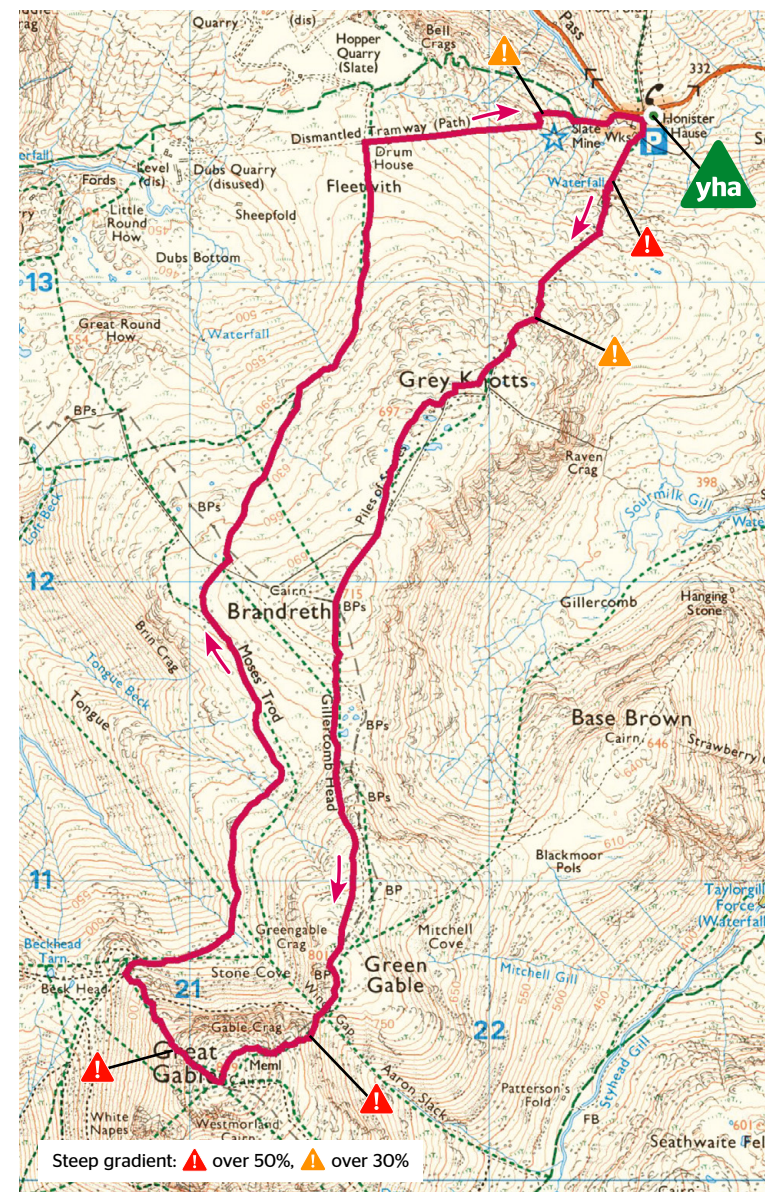
Spectacular views from Great Gable into multiple valleys, or a navigational challenge if the clouds are down! Historical mining area with workings and ruins. Honister mine visitor centre and outdoor adventure activities.

Facilities

No facilities on the route. Toilets at YHA. Toilets, café and visitor centre at the Honister mine next to YHA.

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





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.