Turn right along the road at the church and right again after a gate. Walk over the bridge and continue (carefully) on the road through the hamlet of Little Town to find the footpath just after the last building on the right (FPS Skelgill) point B. Turn right and continue on the faint but obvious path over several fields to reach Skelgill Farm with its camping barn. Turn right after the farmhouse and up the road through the gate on to the level road. Carry straight on to where the road forks (at start of climb to Catbells). Keep left over the cattle grid and in 45 metres take the path on the right (FPS Hawes End). At the next road, if you want to take the launch back to Keswick, turn right and in 15 metres turn left down a path in the woods (FPS Launch Jetty) through a kissing gate and ahead to the lakeshore. If you wish to walk back to Keswick, rather than taking the launch, at the road go left through the wicket gate and retrace your steps back to Keswick (stages 3, 2, 1).

The launch takes you back to the boat landings in Keswick.

On disembarking, turn left and walk past the Theatre by the Lake and turn left into Hope Park. Walk through the park, passing the crazy golf and putting green, cross the road and take the pedestrian subway to reach Lake Road. Turn right up Lake Road and left at the top to continue through the shops back into the Market Square of Keswick (1).

By 1567 the company was mining enough lead and copper ore from the fells around Keswick to keep six ore smelters in action at Brigham in Keswick. This is believed to then have been the biggest operation of its kind in Europe.

Below you on the near shore is Brandelhow, once a large mine which had flooding problems. Its lead ore veins were rich enough for miners to justify the use of water wheels to pump out the mine, though they eventually lost the battle in 1851. Other mines in the area included Saltwell Mine, near Brandelhow, and Copperplate Mine so called because the copper it produced was used to plate ships against encrustation. In its mining heyday the area around Derwentwater must have been busy and noisy - a far cry from the quiet beauty you enjoy today.

Continue left when the grass track meets gravel towards the head of the valley with impressive views of Dale Head. Just after the last farm buildings on the right look out for a footbridge to the right beside the old Goldscope mine workings. (Old mines and their remains can be dangerous so please stay away from them.) Copper was mined from this area as early as the 13th century but by 1565, copper and some lead were being mined on a large scale. The name Goldscope is thought to have evolved from ‘Gottes Gab’ which in German means ‘God’s gift’. Though this rich source of ore was mined, on and off, for more than 400 years the spoil heaps just before Low Snab Farm are the only remains.

Cross the footbridge and turn right through a gate onto a path back towards the farm. Follow the path beside the wall and ahead through a gate onto a permissive path through the farm and ahead to Newlands Church.

Continue over the summit and descend on the path ahead. At the lowest point before the path starts to climb Maiden Moor, take the path to the right, descending steeply into Newlands valley. Fork left on a grass path to a cairned path that follows the steepest route through the old workings of Yewthwaite Mine, then bears left curving down to the valley.

On meeting a wider track in the valley and by a wall, a shorter route is possible by turning right and walking along the path to Skelgill and picking up the route description at stage 7. For the longer walk, on meeting the wide path turn left and continue on the track which bends left towards the valley head under Dale Head.

Where the gravel path bends right for Little Town, the route may again be shortened by turning right to Little Town at point A and picking up the route at Little Town as in stage 6, point B. For the longer route, do not go into Little Town, but instead take the grass track off to the left facing the sharp ridge of Hindscarth.
Please keep your dog on a lead.

Safe and Sound

The weather in the Lake District can change very quickly and you should always dress appropriately for your activity:

- if you are walking, wear strong boots, take a rain jacket, some food and drink, a map and a compass
- call the National Park Authority’s Weatherline Service 0844 846 2444 to check the forecast before you leave
- in case of an accident away from the road, call 999 and ask for Mountain Rescue

The Countryside Code

The land in the Lake District National Park is nearly all privately owned and much of it is farmed. Because of this it is especially important that you use the Countryside Code to guide your activities in the National Park:

Respect, Protect, Enjoy

- Be safe - plan ahead and follow any signs
- Leave gates and property as you find them
- Keep dogs under close control
- Protect plants and animals, and take your litter home
- Consider other people

The fields and fells of the Lake District are pasture for sheep. Dogs do not have to attack sheep to cause them harm, particularly from late autumn through to early summer when ewes are either pregnant or with lambs. Please keep your dog on a lead.

The Lake District National Park

With its world renowned landscape, the National Park is for everyone to enjoy, now and in the future.

It needs a prosperous economy, world class visitor experiences and vibrant communities, which sustain the spectacular landscape.

Everyone involved in running England’s largest and much loved National Park is committed to:

- respecting the past
- caring for the present
- planning for the future

Thank you for helping to care for your National Park.

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Website: www.lakedistrict.gov.uk

KESWICK WALKS

Catbells and Newlands

A challenging route onto popular fells whose mineral wealth was mined for more than 800 years. The walk is steep, rocky and slippery in places: a map, compass, walking boots and waterproof clothing are a must. Part of the route is completed by a trip on the launch; ask TIC staff for a timetable and take some money for your ticket.

KESWICK WALKS

Alternative formats can be sent to you.
Call 01539 724555

This leaflet is printed on recycled paper.

The Lake District National Park

Can be sent to you.