

LAKE DISTRICT

Grasmere village to Allan Bank loop

A circular walk from Grasmere to Allan Bank takes you along the riverside, through historic parkland, with views of the surrounding fells. Entry to Allan Bank's grounds and house requires a ticket, but it's free for National Trust members.

! Steep gradients and uphill climbs

The steepest gradient is found at step 6 where for 49yd (45m) the gradient is between 20 and 23% and forms part of an overall climb of 85yd (78m). The longest uphill climb is at step 12. It is 159yd (145m); the first third is 71yd (65m) at 12%, second third is 38yd (35m) at 7% and final third is 49yd (45m) at 10%.



Information

Address: Broadgate Meadow Lake District National Park Car Park, Grasmere, Cumbria, LA22 9TA. Grid reference: NY 33860774 what3words: ///clouding.rinses.study

Activity: Walking

Easy: A short route but it does have a stretch of 49yd (45m) where the gradient is between 20 and 23%. This forms part of a 85yd (78m) uphill section. For further details, please see the Terrain tab.

Dog friendly

Full trail: Miles: 1.2 (km: 1.92)

Duration: 45 mins

Terrain

Gradient

There are steep uphill and downhill gradients ranging from 4% to 23%.

The steepest gradient is found at step 6 where for 49yd (45m) the gradient is between 20 and 23% and forms part of an overall climb of 85yd (78m).

Total stages: 18

Start point: Broadgate Meadow Lake District National Park Car Park, Grasmere, Cumbria, LA22 9TA. Grid reference: NY 33860774 what3words: ///clouding.rinses.study

1. From the Blue Badge parking spaces, turn left towards the corner of the car park towards a footpath and a wooden bench.
2. At the bench, go straight ahead with the river on your right and follow the path until you reach a wooden gate. The path is 4.4ft (135cm) wide, narrowing to 3.6ft (110cm) where moss encroaches over the path edges. The gradient is no more than 3% but tree roots do create small speed bumps and there are step downs of 2in (5cm) on either side of the path. Between stops 2 and 3 there are 12 benches.
3. At the wooden gate, cross over the road and turn right to walk along the pavement at Broadgate Orchard.
4. Continue along the pavement until you reach a small layby with a wooden gate on your left, signposted by a way marker. This is before the road crosses a bridge. The pavement has drop kerbs and is 5.9ft (180cm) wide. The gradient is no more than 3%. There is a downhill camber towards the road of 10%. This can be avoided by walking next to the wall.
5. At the end of the wall turn left onto the gravel path and go through the wooden gate. There is an 8.2ft (2.5m) slope down for the road to the gate at 5%.
6. Continue straight on the path towards the wooden fence on the right. This is where the path begins an uphill climb. The path is predominantly coarse gravel but this becomes looser at the wooden fencing. The path narrows on the climb to 4.5ft (140cm).

The longest uphill climb is at step 12. It is 159yd (145m); the first third is 71yd (65m) at 12%, second third is 38yd (35m) at 7% and final third is 49yd (45m) at 10%. This is also the longest downhill slope.

Surfaces

Paths are predominantly tarmac with some looser gravel between steps 5 and 9. There is some coarser material at Allan Bank at step 14. There are protruding rocks stop 8. There are three sections of road walking, between steps 3 and 5, 9 and 10 and 17 and 18.

Steps/uneven surfaces

There is one step up of 2in (5cm) from the footpath to Allan Bank driveway at step 12. There are some tree roots and a pavement camber between steps 2 and 4. There is a level access route into Allan Bank.

For further information on the nature of the paths and route itself, please see the trail itself.

7. Continue straight along the path until you reach a downhill slope.
8. Go straight ahead downhill for 55yd (50m) to a wooden gate. The path narrows to 3.6ft (110cm) near to the gate due to vegetation overgrowth.
9. Go through the wooden gate and turn right onto the road for 82yd (75m) until you reach a wooden gate on the left with a National Trust sign to Easedale and Allan Bank and Grasmere.
10. At the wooden gate with the National Trust sign, turn left on the path towards Allan Bank. The gate has a handle on the right and opens towards you. It is 5.2ft (160cm) wide. The path surface is made up of very fine compacted material.
11. Go through another wooden gate, keeping on this path and ignoring one path on the right. Here the path has an uphill slope of 27yd (25m) with a 6% gradient. Where the path ends and meets the driveway, there is an 26ft (8m) uphill slope at 10%.
12. At the junction, turn right and continue uphill to the Allan Bank gates. There is a 26ft (8m) uphill slope with small protruding rocks at a 10% gradient to access the driveway. There is a 2in (5cm) step up onto a stone slab access ramp.
13. Go through the gate (this will be locked when the house is closed). Take the path on the right, to go around the back of the building. Please note: there is an admission fee to access the grounds and house at Allan Bank, free for National Trust members. The pedestrian gate has an opening of 4.1ft (125cm). The vehicle access has two gates which open towards you. They are 10.8ft (330cm) wide. They are electric. To open these gates use the bell on the touchscreen control panel on the side of the driveway.
14. Go into the house at Allan Bank and pay for admission or scan your membership card at the welcome desk. This is at the front of the house, across the hallway and on the right. The door opens away from you and is 3.3ft (102cm) wide. There is a doorbell and staff can assist if needed. At the entrance there is a disabled toilet on the right. Inside the house you can explore the Wordsworth display, art exhibitions, second-hand bookshop and informal rooms. There is lots of seating. There are stairs to the second floor and no lift.
15. Retrace your steps down the driveway by completing steps 12 and 13 in reverse.
16. At the cattle grid at the bottom of the drive, take the path on the right and go around the corner to a metal gate. Here the path is 5.2ft (160cm) and once through the gate there is a downhill gradient of 12% onto the driveway.
17. Continue for 164yd (150m) until you reach the main road. The driveway is tarmacked and there is short section with an average downhill gradient of 8%. It is no more than 3% as it nears the road. At the road junction turn left past the café situated on the corner and continue on the road for 96yd (88m) until you reach the pavement.
18. Continue along the pavement for 186yd (170m) until a fork in the footpath opposite the Village Hall. There is a small downhill gradient of 15% towards the road. Cross over the road and continue straight to the Broadgate Meadow car park. The road surface is compacted tarmac and the steepest gradient is no more than 3%.

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