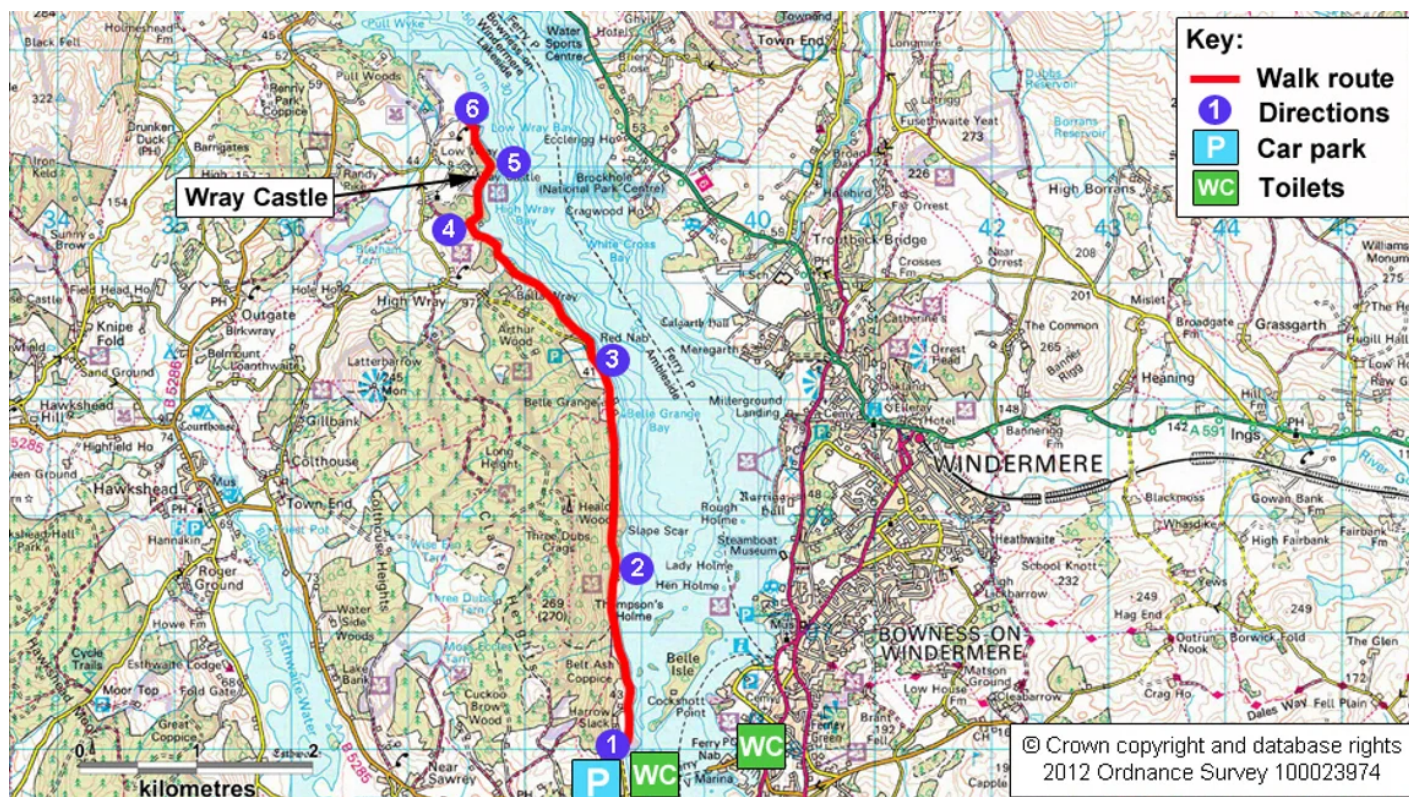


LAKE DISTRICT

Windermere west shore walk

A wonderful lakeshore walk through woodland and parkland. The low-level linear route features impressive views of the islands of Windermere, interesting archaeology and the Victorian Gothic Wray Castle.



Information

Address: Windermere, Cumbria

OS map: Explorer OL7

Activity: Walking

Moderate: Combination of tarmac, gravel and stony track; includes some short, steep sections. For further details, please see Terrain section.

Dog friendly: Dogs are welcome on leads.

Full trail: Miles: 8 (km: 12.8)

Short trail: Miles: 4 (km: 6.4)

Duration: 1 hour 30 mins - 3 hours

Terrain

This linear walk includes some short, steep sections and follows a combination of tarmac, gravel and stony track, as well as some grassy parkland near Wray Castle.

Total steps: 6

Start point: National Trust car park at Ash Landing, grid ref: SD388954

1. Turn left as you exit the National Trust Ash Landing car park. Follow the track with a low wooden barrier. Walk past Claife Viewing station and follow the tarmac road through the farmland, with the lake on your right. After ½ mile (800m), cross a cattle grid and continue along the gravel track, past Strawberry Gardens caravan site.
2. Continue straight ahead along the track through the woodland, eventually passing Bark Barn (built in the 19th century for storing oak bark before being transported to local tanneries for use in the leather industry) on your right and then Belle Grange House on your left. Continue along the gravel track until you reach the tarmac road, with Red Nab car park just to the right.
3. Bear right through the car park and continue along the lakeshore, passing a low wooden barrier. Continue along this track, passing two small boathouses on the way, until you come to two field gates crossing the track – one with a stone squeeze-through stile next to it, the second with a footpath gate.
4. Just after the second gate, turn right through the footpath gate in the wall and walk through the parkland, past the third boathouse in High Wray Bay, keeping the lake on your right.
5. Follow the lakeshore path through the parkland towards Wray Castle. After the short steep section of path, turn right at the brow of the hill and head towards the metal gate into Watbarrow Wood.
6. Keeping the lake on your right, follow the path through the wood until you reach a large boathouse. At this point you can follow the path by the railings up to the castle, or along to the wooden jetty at the second large Gothic boathouse. Windermere Lake Cruises run a boat seasonally from the Wray Castle Jetty to Waterhead & Brockhole – check their website for latest timetables. Alternatively retrace your steps back along the lakeshore to Harrowslack car park.

