

Walk to Bowness from Park Cliffe

Distance: Approximately 4.5 miles. 2 hours walking.
Stiles: Only 2.
Terrain: Fairly easy, undulating with mostly good paths and lanes. Great views.
Best choice is OS Explorer OL7. South Eastern area.

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- Leave Park Cliffe and turn right onto Birks Road, carry on uphill, past Great Tower Scout Camp.
- Take the first road on the left onto a road (signed Bowness) Continue on this road and take the first turn on the right, over a cattle grid onto a smaller tarmac lane. You are now entering 'Ludderburn', site of special scientific interest.
- Pass through a gate in a deer fence just before reaching a tarn on your left hand side. Walk on to the track straight ahead and over a cattle grid, ignoring the tarmac lane bending away to the right. Carry on up the rough track, with the wall on your right side. Ignore the signed footpath crossing our track.
- Weather permitting; views to the left and ahead are of Bow Fell, Crinkle Craggs and the Langdales.
- Pass through a gate or stile and carry on along the track. Cross a small stream (may be dry after much hot weather) and take the Public Bridleway signed to the left. Go on up the rough track with the wall on your right and through a high gate in a deer fence.
- At a junction, take the short walled lane to your right. This leads you to the A5074 road, which you cross onto the narrow gravelled lane opposite. Almost immediately, take the footpath to your left over a wall stile, head up the field away from the wall as directed by the sign and then following the overhead power cables.
- Pass through two gates that eventually bring you to a house. Here, bear right in front of the house and through another gate. This leads to a narrow lane, passing through 'Lindeth Farm' and onto a tarmac lane.
- Pass 'Tethers End' house on your left and climb the wall stile on the left, immediately past the house. Walk up the grassy bank, passing a cottage on your right. Pass through a gate into an open field where the path follows the direction of overhead telephone wires. Over the next small hill, catch a glimpse of the lake (Windermere) through the trees.
- Walk straight ahead and through a gate stile, this leads to a path that runs between a tarmac lane and a duck pond. After leaving a covered walkway, turn right onto a narrow fenced footpath. Cross the road (B5284) to follow a smaller tarmac road.
- At the road end, turn left onto a road for a few metres before turning right into 'Smithy Lane'. Be very careful here as this road can be very busy. Turn left at the bottom of Smithy Lane then immediately right onto the short footpath bringing you to another main road (A592).
- Cross the road, go right and then left into 'Glebe Road' and the lakeshore.
- From here it's an easy stroll to the steamer and boat piers and the centre of Bowness.