



Country Walkers

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England: The Lake District - Flight + Tour Combo

Travel Style - Guided Walking Tour

This small-group Guided Walking Adventure offers an authentic travel experience, one that takes you away from the crowds and deep into the fabric of local life. On it, you'll enjoy 24/7 expert guides, premium accommodations, delicious meals, effortless transportation, and local wine or beer with dinner. Rest assured that every trip detail has been anticipated so you're free to enjoy an adventure that exceeds your expectations.



Rose trellised cottages, ruined castles, sheep pastures, lively pubs, and shop-lined streets: England is every inch the storybook you've imagined. With its views of rolling hills blanketed in pastures, deep forest, dramatic mountains, and plunging dales dotted with lakes, it's no wonder that this landscape inspired such celebrated figures as the painter J.M.W. Turner and writers William Wordsworth, Samuel Coleridge, and Beatrix Potter. You discover an untamed facet of England while crossing Whinlatter Pass, looking up at the surrounding peaks and catching the blue sparkle of Crummock Water and Buttermere Lake in the distance. Walking past the remains of prehistoric settlements in Lake District National Park, you come to the Celtic-era village of Pooley Bridge, home to welcoming pubs replete with traditional drink, food, and hospitality. Beside Aira Force waterfall, listen to your local guides weave stories from the region's romantic past. From tarns and thwaites, to fireside pints, we provide everything you need to enjoy it all in style.

Flight + Tour Combo Itinerary - 2019

Flight

Overnight Flight from USA to Manchester, England

Begin your adventure by departing from a convenient gateway city in the United States or Canada. Spend the first night aloft.

Arrival

Arrive in Manchester, England

Upon arrival at Manchester Airport, a representative holding a Country Walkers sign meets you as you exit the baggage-claim area. Please note that there may be up to a 45-minute wait if there are other guests arriving within the same time frame. A complimentary small-group transfer is provided to



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the George Hotel in Penrith—a charming town in the heart of the Lake District—approximately two hours away. The remainder of the day is at your leisure (no meals included).

Accommodation: George Hotel, Penrith

In the center of the bustling market town of Penrith, the George Hotel is a 300-year-old historic building bursting with old-world charm and English hospitality. With contemporary accommodations featuring in-room Wi-fi, a dapper lounge where afternoon tea is served, and immediate access to the heart of the village, it's the ideal home base for travelers exploring the Lake District.

Day 1

Join your Country Walkers *England: The Lake District* tour

Breakfast is included at your hotel.

Upon meeting your guide(s), you immediately transfer to the village of Askham to walk through the Lowther Estate, owned by Lord Lonsdale. Continuing over the fell and into Lake District National Park, you pass ancient prehistoric settlements and enjoy first views of the Cumbrian Mountains and Ullswater. Descending to the village of Pooley Bridge at the edge of the lake, you pause for lunch in a local pub. This village was one of the earliest settlements on the lake, dating to the Celts. Following lunch, you transfer to the hamlet of Dockray, overlooking the lake, and walk by Aira Beck toward Aira Force, probably the most famous of the Lake District's waterfalls. Here, you admire the views and are regaled with tales about the romanticism that the region has long inspired.

The short drive to the hotel just a few miles outside of Keswick allows plenty of time to settle in before meeting for a pre-dinner drink and a fuller introduction to the week ahead. The hotel restaurant features local produce whenever possible, so tonight's dinner promises excellent cuisine.

Accommodation: Borrowdale Gates Hotel, Grange-in- Borrowdale

Relax and enjoy some of the finest fell views and walking available in the Lakes, treat yourself to a stay at this privately owned country house hotel. With open log fires, award-winning Lakeland cuisine and warm comfortable bedrooms decorated in a contemporary style, this hotel is a hidden gem located on the edge of the hamlet of Grange-in-Borrowdale.

Day 2

Whinlatter Pass to Buttermere Valley

4 miles, easy to moderate; 2 miles easy

Today, you cross Whinlatter Pass, which connects the beauty of the Keswick Valley to Buttermere and beyond. Here, magnificent nature predominates, and as you walk in the ancient forests and along the shores of Crummock Water, you see stirring views of the high mountains surrounding this pretty vale.



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Completing the walk at the hamlet of Buttermere, you enjoy a pub lunch and afterward take an optional walk along the picturesque shore of Buttermere Lake, before boarding the coach to ride over Honister Pass and back to the hotel via Borrowdale. There is time to refresh at the hotel and enjoy its beautiful surroundings before heading to dinner in a local restaurant.

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Day 3

Derwentwater to Keswick, Victorian ferryboat ride

4 miles, moderate; 2 miles, easy

After a breakfast buffet consisting of cereal, fruit, pastries, and cold meats, or a traditional hot Cumbrian breakfast, you follow in the footsteps of the men of Borrowdale, quarrymen and miners of yesteryear. This valley was once home to many working slate mines, most of which are now closed. Starting from the hotel, you walk along a Victorian terrace, overlooking the jewel that is Derwentwater. A short boat ride will take you to Keswick, one of the more populated towns in the Lake District. After lunch, and some free time in Keswick, a second boat ride will take you to Lodore, from where you will amble back to the hotel. Dinner tonight is at the Lodore Falls Hotel. The restaurant here prides itself on using freshly prepared local ingredients.

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Day 4

Rydal Mount, The Vale of Grasmere

4 miles, easy to moderate; 2 mile, easy

On the morning walk, you meander through one of the region's prettiest dales, walking in the area around two of the smaller lakes, Grasmere and Rydal Water, and in the footsteps of William Wordsworth, one of England's most famous poets of the early 19th century. After lunch, at The Badger Bar your day continues with a tour of Rydal Mount, William Wordsworth's best loved family home for the greater part of his life from 1813 to his death in 1850 at the age of 80. The house continues to be owned by the Wordsworth family and retains the feel of a lived-in family home. The day is complete with a walk along an ancient "coffin route", enjoying lovely views along the way. Or, if



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you are staying at Ambleside Manor, the day is complete with a walk through the grounds of the historic Rydal Hall, enjoying lovely views along the way.

At the walks end, you arrive at your next hotel. Here, a warm welcome awaits and later you enjoy a delicious dinner in a local restaurant.

Accommodation: The Daffodil Hotel & Spa (or equivalent), Grasmere

The Daffodil Hotel & Spa offers contemporary luxury on the shores of Grasmere water, located in the heart of The Lake District and just a short walk into Grasmere village. Originally built in 1855, the newly built Daffodil Hotel & Spa opened in 2012 and is owned and run by the Harwood and Brady families. The property features a sauna, swimming pool, and rooms overlooking a peaceful lake, gardens, and woodlands.

Day 5

Tarn Hows and Coniston Water

6 miles, easy

Following a hearty English breakfast, we'll take a coach ride past the head of Windermere and the ancient Roman Fort of Galava, to the starting point of our walk. A gradual climb along historic paths will lead us to Tarn Hows, a wonderfully picturesque tarn, or lake, in the hills. This is one of the most popular beauty spots in the district and quite rightly so. It was formed in the late 1800's when the landowner built a dam which led to the connection of the 3 smaller tarns which had been here previously. For once, man has rivalled nature as a bewitching landscape artist! There are incredible views to the surrounding mountains with wonderful names – Old man of Coniston, Wetherlam, Helvellyn and the Langdale Pikes. We now descend to the shores of Coniston Water and into Coniston village to enjoy lunch at a local restaurant.. In the afternoon we have time to explore the village of Coniston before meandering along paths by the side of Coniston Water, listening to the lapping waves, singing birds and tales of adventure and mishap from the Waters past.

At the end of the walk we will be collected by our coach and return to our hotel and your evening is free to explore and eat in a local pub or restaurant.

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Day 6



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The Langdale Pikes, Skelwith Bridge to Great Langdale

4.5 miles, easy; 2 miles, easy

The Langdale Pikes are one of the best-loved and most photographed areas of The Lake District. A home for walkers, fell-runners, and climbers, the valley is surrounded by some of the area's tallest mountains, and nearby is England's highest, Scafell Pike. Starting at the tiny village of Skelwith Bridge, you pass by a slate factory, a waterfall, and a small lake before arriving at the hamlet of Elterwater. From there, the walk takes you on a winding track into Great Langdale, deep into the valley where cars are fewer and walkers predominant. After lunch at the only pub owned by the National Trust in the whole country, located in a hotel that has been catering to walkers for more than 300 years, you walk farther into the valley, before completing the walk. Returning to the hotel, this evening you toast your explorations with a farewell drink and celebratory dinner.

Accommodation: The Daffodil Hotel & Spa (or equivalent), Grasmere

The Daffodil Hotel & Spa offers contemporary luxury on the shores of Grasmere water, located in the heart of The Lake District and just a short walk into Grasmere village. Originally built in 1855, the newly built Daffodil Hotel & Spa opened in 2012 and is owned and run by the Harwood and Brady families. The property features a sauna, swimming pool, and rooms overlooking a peaceful lake, gardens, and woodlands.

Day 7

Your England: The Lake District tour concludes

After enjoying a late breakfast, you're provided a small-group transfer, via Penrith, to the Radisson Blu Hotel at Manchester Airport for your post-tour night. (Lunch and dinner are on your own.)

Accommodation: Radisson Blu Hotel, Manchester Airport

Conveniently connected to Manchester Airport's terminals, the Radisson Blu Hotel is the ideal respite for travelers on the road. With a sleek, modern design, in-room Wi-fi, an indoor pool, fitness center, sauna, and spa, it offers countless amenities to refresh guests in transit.

Departure

Cheerio! This morning, after a complimentary breakfast, a short stroll via an elevated covered walkway brings you to Manchester Airport for your departure flight.