

The Grand Tour of Skiddaw

Distance - 12.2 miles Rise and fall - 3100ft

Skiddaw is the 4th highest mountain in England and stands proud above Keswick. It's solitary standing and steep sides means the views from the summit are far reaching and unforgettable.

WALK INSTRUCTIONS

Start Point: The walk starts at the bottom of Spooney Green Lane (CA12 4PJ) but there is parking along the Brundholme Road. There are however lots of parking options in Keswick.

- 1 Follow the footpath up the hill all the way to the car park behind Latrigg. If you feel like adding Latrigg on to this walk you can do so on the outward journey or on the way back.
- 2 When you reach the car park head through the gates at the end and turn left and head along the fence towards Skiddaw. When you head through the next gate take the right-hand path option avoiding the steep uphill path – you get to come down this later!
- 3 Follow this good path (The Cumbria Way) across the front of the fell and around under Lonscale Crags. Eventually you will reach Skiddaw House YHA (a good stop for a cup of tea). Continue northwards on the Cumbria Way until you reach a gate by 'Whitewater Dash' waterfalls.
- 4 Here the real ascent starts and you follow the fence line up the hill (westwards) towards Bakestall and then up onto the plateau below the summit of Skiddaw. One last steep section brings you right onto the summit of Skiddaw – where it'll most likely be a tad breezy due to the exposed nature of the mountain.
- 5 To descend, continue over the summit (southwards) and follow the obvious path as it turns south-eastward. As you reach a gate head through it, although if you wish to take in the summit of 'Little Man' head right here.
- 6 The path, now flatter holds excellent views over Keswick and Borrowdale. The path steepens and zig zags down the mountain to the car park behind Latrigg. From here retrace your steps down the trail beside Latrigg to finish the walk.

