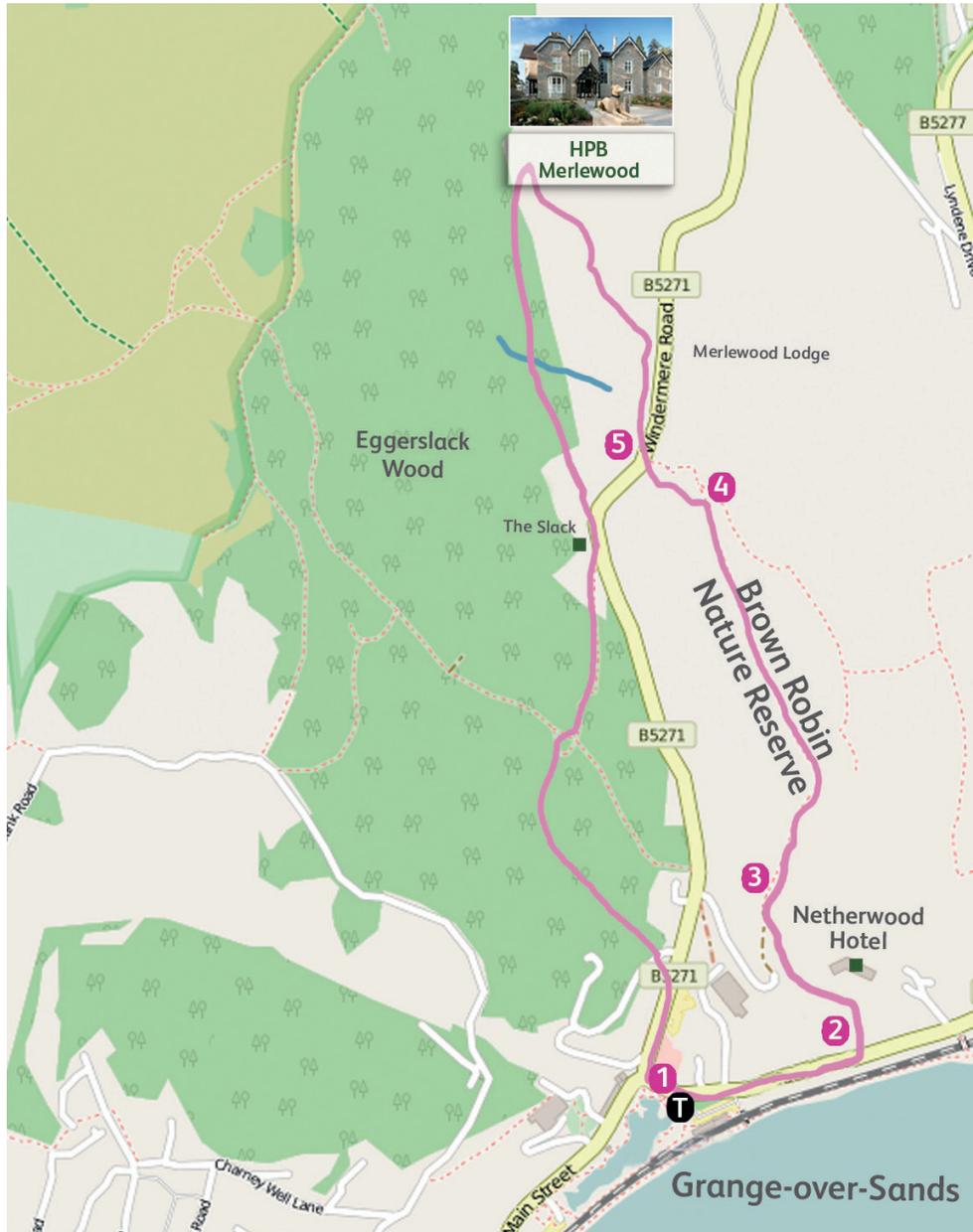


Grange and Brown Robin Nature Reserve

Walk 2

Distance - 5km (3 mile) Map: Ordnance Survey Explorer OL7, The English Lakes, South Eastern Area 1:25,000 Ascent 145m (476ft)



— - Walk

— - B5271 Windermere Road
(leads to the A590)

① - See attached instructions for details of points

T - Train Station

Disclaimer:

This route was correct at time of writing. However, alterations can happen if development or boundary changes occur, and there is no guarantee of permanent access. These walks have been published for use by site visitors on the understanding that neither HPB Management Limited nor any other person connected with Holiday Property Bond is responsible for the safety or wellbeing of those following the routes as described. It is walkers' own responsibility to be adequately prepared and equipped for the level of walk and the weather conditions and to assess the safety and accessibility of the walk.

Grange and Brown Robin Nature Reserve

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Distance - 5km (3 mile) Map: Ordnance Survey Explorer OL7, The English Lakes, South Eastern Area 1:25,000 Ascent 145m (476ft)



Start/car parking - Merlewood

Grange over Sands is a pleasant little town. Since any aspirations to fame as a seaside resort have long receded in common with the adjacent waters of Morecambe Bay, it has settled down as a desirable residential area, with an interesting array of individual shops and cafes and fine views across the bay. The Furness Railway main line between Lancaster and Barrow in Furness of 1857 passes through Grange. The present station, well proportioned and solidly constructed, was built in 1872. The greatest engineering work is the Arnside Viaduct, crossing the Kent estuary a little more than a mile to the east of Grange.

Brown Robin Nature Reserve is managed by the Cumbria Wildlife Trust. It occupies an area of attractive countryside, largely woodland, with a steep scrape and rocky outcrops.

The route below links Merlewood with Grange with the return through the Nature Reserve forming a circuit. There is a fair amount of ascent, a slightly awkward descent of a steep little bank and four stiles. Otherwise the walking is entirely easy.

WALK

Leave Merlewood by passing the tennis court, then turning right to rise along a short length of gravelled path. Turn left at a junction to follow a rough little path across the hillside. Descend to join a major track close to a stream. Turn left to cross the stream and descend gently to the Slack, a tiny hamlet where there are waymarks on a post. Do not join the main road; bear a little to the right to rise along a lane as far as a waymarked crossing of paths; turn left, go down a few steps, and descend through the trees, crossing an access drive before reaching the road, through a stile. Turn right to walk along the roadside pavement into Grange.

- 1 At the mini roundabout, the shops, cafes and other town facilities are to the right. One end of the ornamental gardens, with lake and waterfowl, is straight across. For the present circuit turn left along the roadside pavement, passing the railway station then the former station yard, on the right.
- 2 Approximately 200m after the station turn left into the entrance drive to the Netherwood Hotel. Turn left again in about 100m to follow a rough-surfaced lane rising past the old stone buildings of Blawith Farm.

- 3 Go through a gate to follow a track over grass, with woodland on either side. After another gate there is an informative notice board concerning the flora and fauna of the reserve. In addition to our route, the reserve has paths climbing the steeply wooded hillside to the right, with the promise of long views. Unless tempted to detour, continue along the main track. After another gate the track is attractively terraced on the hillside.
- 4 One hundred and twenty metres short of a gate in view ahead, turn left to leave the track on a minor path to the left; the junction is marked by a second white-topped post. Descend to a stile. Go over and continue the descent down a steep bank, a little awkward in places. Join the road at a layby. Cross the road, turning right.
- 5 In approx 20m turn left, go down three steps, and follow the well made footpath rising gently through the edge of woodland. At a junction at the end of the path bear right to join the Merlewood access drive just above Merlewood Lodge. Turn left. In a few metres turn left again to rise along either of the well made paths direct to Merlewood.

Refreshments - Good choice in Grange