OUTDOOR TRAVEL
THE ACTIVE HOLIDAY COMPANY

WALKING HOLIDAYS IN THE UK

2026

ENGLAND – CONISTONWATER IN THE LAKE DISTRICT

8-day / 7-night one-hotel GUIDED walking tour based in one of England's most beautiful National Parks

Conistonwater is an ideal location to explore the Lake District National Park where, for generations, the outstanding scenery of the Lake District has attracted walkers to discover this magical landscape of rare natural beauty. Ramble along stunning lakeside paths, climb famous hills and fells, unwind in the tranquil wooded valleys, see high waterfalls and open moorlands. Perhaps you too will be inspired by mountain tarns and lakes to write poetry and paint landscapes, as so many poets, artists and writers have been inspired before you.

Whatever your interests and walking experience, the Southern Lake District offers something for everyone: Ascend the mountain summits of the Old Man of Coniston, Bowfell and the Langdale Pikes; meander past lakes and tarns and visit the Lakeland stone villages of Grasmere and Hawkshead; discover the area's literary connections with William Wordsworth, Arthur Ransome, John Ruskin and Beatrix Potter; walk past the abandoned copper mines and slate quarries, evidence of Lakeland's industrial past, which are now beginning to blend in with the landscape. Ride on the scenic narrow-gauge Ravenglass & Eskdale railway, or cruise down Coniston Water on a steam yacht.

Each walking day you are offered a choice of up to three guided walks of varying length and ascent. Each night your walk leaders will brief you on the following day's walks – the routes are at the complete discretion of the leaders. You choose the walk that suits your fitness level and interests. At this centre, we offer two different weekly itineraries – ideal for a 14-night holiday or a second visit.

Cost from: **$2390** per person twin share Single room supplement on request
Mid / high season supplement from **$300 - $660** per person on selected departures

2026 Departures: 6, 20 March, 3, 24 April, 15, 29 May, 19. 26 June, 3, 17 July, 14 August, 18, 25 September, 30 October, 13 November

Includes: 7 nights in comfortable hotel room with ensuite bathrooms, full board (breakfast, packed lunch each walking day, and dinner) experienced walks leader, 5 guided walks, transport associated with the walks.

Not Included: Transport to/from the house, drinks and any personal expenses

Accommodation: You stay at **Monk Coniston**, a romantic Gothic-style country house, complete with minstrels' gallery and ornate public rooms, on the shores of Conistonwater. The house is surrounded by a large garden with glorious views down to the lake and boasts a putting green and croquet lawn. Monk Coniston has 32 bedrooms, located in the main house and adjoining cottages. Premium rooms may be available for a surcharge, please ask when booking. There is a comfortable lounge, dining room with lake views, bar and library.

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Trip Grading: Walk moderate to longer distances usually on well-defined paths. Some walks are rough or steep in sections, particularly in mountainous areas and will require reasonable fitness. The more challenging walks are over rough and rocky terrain with sustained ascents and descents and include high summits and ridges. These challenging walks will require good fitness and stamina. Choice of easier walks 10-12km with ascent up to 380m, medium walks 12-17km with ascent up to 860m, harder walks 14-19km with up to 1100m ascent in a day.

Suggested itinerary (routes are determined each day by walk leaders – subject to change):

Day 1: Arrival day
Arrival day – plan to arrive at Monk Coniston mid-afternoon. Check with us for local transport or taxi transfer options from / to nearby Windermere.

Day 2: Tarn Hows and Wetherlam
The easier route follows in the footsteps of Beatrix Potter on a pleasant ramble through the woods to picturesque Tarn Hows then to Yew Tree Farm, which was donated to the National Trust by the author and used as a location for the film *Miss Potter*. Other routes traverse the lower eastern slopes of Wetherlam then walk via Tilberthwaite Gill, a water-filled ravine, and Holme Fell, or ascend to the summit of Wetherlam via the gill.

Day 3: Ambleside Fells
The three walks take very different paths but all feature spectacular viewpoints. The easier walk has lake views from the lower slopes of Loughrigg Fell and allows plenty of time to explore the popular town of Ambleside. The medium walk ascends Wansfell Pike for views over Windermere and the Fairfield ridge before looping back via Troutbeck and Skelghyll Woods to Ambleside. On the harder walk there's a steep scramble to the top of Red Screes, an ascent up Dove Crag and an up-and-down over High Pike and Low Pike, before finishing in Ambleside.

Day 4: Free day
Free day, without organised walks. Explore the area independently or relax at the country house. Perhaps take a steam-powered yacht on Coniston Water or ride the Ravenglass and Eskdale Railway.

Day 5: Hawkshead and Coniston Fells
The easier route takes us across the countryside that inspired Beatrix Potter, to the pretty market village of Hawkshead, with its narrow laneways and whitewashed stone buildings. There are a number of teashops and pubs for a refreshment after our walk. Or, walk the lower slopes of Coniston Old Man before dropping down to the shoreline of Conistonwater. Those who choose the harder option can summit Coniston Old Man and Dow Crag.

Day 6: The Langdale Valley
Follow the Langdale Valley, with its two spectacular waterfalls, Colwith Force and Skelwith Force, or walk the ridgeline above the valley, where you need to 'thread the needle' (squeeze through a narrow fissure) to reach the summit of Lingmoor. Or, for a challenging but rewarding day, follow the classic Crinkle Crags ridge walk, ascending two fine fells and gaining over 1000 metres of elevation.

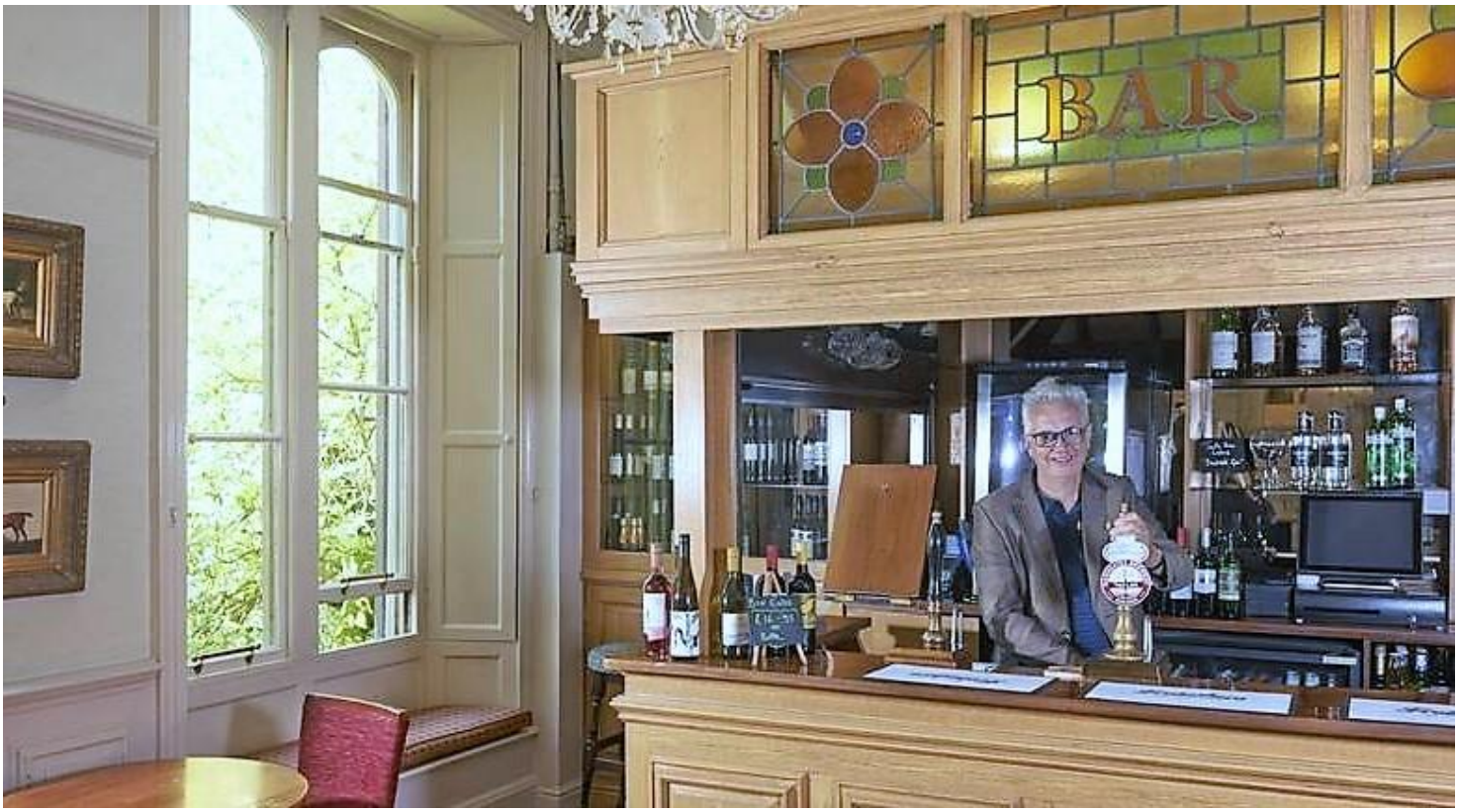
Day 7: Grasmere and Helm Crag
The charming village of Grasmere was home to poet William Wordsworth and those who choose the easier route will have time to explore the village, visit Wordsworth's grave in the churchyard, and sample the famous Grasmere gingerbread, along with a walk to the impressive glacial lake Easedale Tarn. Or take a shorter or longer route to the summit of Helm Crag for great views over Grasmere.

Day 8: Departure day
Tour ends after breakfast.

Outdoor Travel offers walking holidays – guided in small groups or self-guided with inn-to-inn luggage transfers and meals –in many parts of the United Kingdom, Ireland and across Europe, including Wainwright's challenging **Coast-to-Coast** trail, the **Cotswolds**, the spectacular coast of **Cornwall**, the **Yorkshire Dales**, the **West Highland Way** in Scotland or **Snowdonia** in Wales or the **Ring of Kerry** in Ireland. In France see the Dordogne, Alps, Provence or Riviera Coast, walks too in Austria, Spain or Italy. Walk the **Way of St James** from Le Puy in France to Santiago de Compostela in Spain or the **Via Francigena** – the pilgrims' Road to Rome.

Contact Outdoor Travel for details and reservations:

- Call Toll free 1800 331 582 or (03) 5750 1441
- Email**: info@outdoortravel.com.au**
- Web**: http://www.outdoortravel.com.au**
- Mail: Outdoor Travel Pty Ltd, PO Box 286, Bright, VIC 3741, Australia



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