

# 7 Night Southern Lake District Christmas & New Year Self-Guided Walking Holiday

**Trip style:** Self-guided walking

**Destination:** 📍 Lake District

**Trip code:** CNN07-PXA03

**Grades:** 1, 2, 3, 4 & 5

**Carbon Footprint:** 🌱 193kg CO2



## HOLIDAY OVERVIEW

The Lake District has always conjured up an effortless sense of romance. But in winter, the whole place has an added sprinkling of magic. Spend the festive season amongst the much-loved walking trails and chocolate-box villages of the southern Lake District. Our characterful country house at Monk Coniston will be at its festive best, making it a merry base from which to take wintry walks and much more. We pull out all the stops at this time of year

and welcome you with a sprinkling of festive cheer, seasonal food, and plenty of yuletide treats. So wrap up warm and step into Christmas with HF Holidays.

## WHAT YOU'LL LOVE

- Getting into the festive spirit with a self-guided walking holiday
- Staying in our charming country house overlooking Coniston Water
- Heading out on your choice of winter walks
- The easy-to-follow routes and maps available in our Discovery Point
- Discovering the stunning landscapes of Southern Lake District on foot
- A celebration dinner with all the trimmings on Christmas Day and New Year's Eve

## WHAT'S INCLUDED

- En-suite accommodation in our 4-star country house
- Cream tea on arrival day
- Cooked or continental breakfast every morning
- Daily packed lunches
- Three-course evening meals, plus tea & coffee
- Easy-to-follow routes, maps, and information available in our Discovery Point if you want to explore independently

## TRIP SUITABILITY

This trip is graded Activity Level 1,2,3,4 and 5, To make the most of your break use the Discovery Point at Monk Coniston - the starting point for your outdoor adventure.

You'll find our recommended walking and cycling routes - detailed route notes for you to borrow contain route maps, and information about the places of interest on the walk. There's also a comprehensive library of local maps and guidebooks.

When you're not walking, there's plenty to do locally. Why not cycle in nearby Grizedale Forest, take a boat ride on the lake, or visit a National Trust property. See the 'Local Area' tab for further ideas.

## ITINERARY

### **Day 1:** Arrival Day

Check-in at the hotel is available from 16:00. If you are a member you can arrive at the house from 14:00. Enjoy a complimentary cream tea at 16:30 and meet other guests.

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### **Day 2-7:** Laid Back Walks

Our easiest routes, allowing plenty of time to savour the magnificent mountain landscapes. All our walk notes suggest the best places to stop, great pubs, and tea rooms. Around Tarn Hows - 2 miles Coniston village - 3 miles Windermere & Wray Castle - 3 miles Brantwood to Monk Coniston - 3 miles Tarn Hows - 4 miles Hawkshead & Latterbarrow - 4 miles Rydal Water & Loughrigg Terrace - 4 miles

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### **Day 2-7:** Leg Stretcher Walks

Some longer walks on valley and lakeside paths, plus a few of the easier, lower fells. Experience the true flavour of Lakeland as you follow these varied routes. Coniston & the Miner's Bridge - 5 miles Tarn Hows & Yew Tree Farm - 6 miles Grasmere & Rydal Water - 6 miles Wansfell - 6 miles Hawkshead - 7 miles Latterbarrow, Windermere & Wray Castle - 8 miles

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### **Day 2-7:** Full on Walks

For those who love the high mountains. Expect some rough paths as you head to some of these famous summits, but there are plenty of rewards when you reach the top. Langdale Pikes - 4 miles Helm Crag - 8 miles Bow Fell - 8 miles Old Man of Coniston (out & back) - 8 miles Old Man of Coniston - 10 miles Wetherlam - 10 miles Fairfield Horseshoe - 11 miles Coniston Round - 11 miles

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### **Day 8:** Departure Day

Enjoy a leisurely breakfast before making your way home.

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## Monk Coniston

With a desirable address overlooking Coniston Water (the inspiration for Arthur Ransome's 1930 novel, *Swallows and Amazons*), this characterful Grade II-listed house delights with lakeside and woodland walks from the doorstep, décor that stays true to the period feel, and plenty of Beatrix Potter references. While the children's author and illustrator did not live at the Monk Coniston estate (her beloved home was Hill Top, bought in 1905 with the royalties from *The Tale of Peter Rabbit*), she campaigned with the National Trust to save it from development. She then purchased the entire estate in 1930 and as the new owner she immediately sold half to the organisation, bequeathing them the other half in her will.

### **A warm welcome**

We want you to feel comfortable from the moment you arrive. You'll find a welcome pack in your room with guest registration forms, menus, order forms for dinners and picnic lunches, the Wi-Fi password, and the front door code. Our houses are locked at night, so we recommend noting the Duty Manager's number on arrival in case of an emergency (or getting locked out).

### **Evening entertainment**

While evening entertainment varies from house to house, HF Holidays Inter-House Quiz night held after dinner on Wednesdays is a weekly staple. Your HF Holidays leader may be around for tips on guided and self-guided walking routes as well as visit-worthy local attractions.

### **Walks talks**

Our HF Holidays walk leaders host guided walking information briefings before dinner on guided walking holiday arrival days. This is followed by a group Walks Talk for information on the following day's guided walks (held before dinner every evening). Self-guided walking guests are, of course, welcome.

### **The walking day**

Prior to setting off on guided walks, your HF Holidays Leader will run you through a short safety briefing. There's also an up-to-date weather forecast on display at the house to ensure you have appropriate clothing and footwear. If you choose to do your own walks or are on a self-guided walking holiday, we ask that you please complete an Independent Walker Card each day. These can be found near the Discovery Point in the house.