SCREE ROUTE INSTRUCTIONS:

ROUTE: ABSTRACT MATTERS #1

LOCATION: BORROWDALE

8.9 MILES, 3,200 FEET ASCENT



Park up along the road approaching Seathwaite Farm (NY 235121), making sure not to block any gates etc. Pass through the farmyard, heading due S, and take the track which heads towards Stockley Bridge, passing through a couple of gates and crossing a footbridge just after the farm. About 250m further along the track from the footbridge, you will pass through another gate (NY 235116), with the gash of Hind Gill up on your LHS. Follow the faint path, which goes up the LHS of the gill at first, before soon crossing over to the RHS to climb increasingly steeply up the hillside ahead, with the increasingly deep gash of the gill down on your LHS. When the ground starts to flatten out, continue in the same direction (SE) to join the main path up Glaramara from the Borrowdale Valley, bearing SSE for the final climb up to the summit tor. The main path scrambles up the face of the tor, but if this looks too tricky, another path bends round to the RHS to ascend to the Glaramara summit (NY 247105) from behind.

There are a variety of paths which wind their way through the knolls and tarns for 1.75 miles, in a general SSW direction, to Allen Crags, over a first set of subsidiary tops (NY 243097), down to Lingcomb and High House Tarns, over a second subsidiary top (NY 240092) and on to the summit (NY 237085).

From Allen Crags, descend SW to the path junction (NY 235083) just before the shelter, where you turn R (NW) to take the major path descending towards Sprinkling Tarn. As you descend, the gash of Ruddy Gill will start to form down to your RHS, and there is an early escape route down its eastern bank back to Seathwaite if you want to cut your day short, at the path junction at NY229 087. Otherwise, continue along the main path until it reaches Sprinkling Tarn, and follow any one of two or three paths around the tarn's southern and eastern sides, which conjoin in a path which winds its way between tops and tarns towards Seathwaite Fell (general direction due N). The summit of Seathwaite Fell is the last 'knoll' along the ridge, identifiable by the tarn immediately before it, beyond which an easy scramble climbs up to the summit (NY 229102).

Retrace your steps, taking a right-hand branch of the path (if you spot it) about half way back towards Sprinkling tarn, which cuts off a corner and leads you back to the main path from before along the tarn's north western shore. Turn right (NY 226091) along the path which descends to Styhead, cutting a corner before you reach the stretcherbox at NY 222095 to join the path which descends Styhead Gill due NNE towards Taylorgill Force.

There are two possible routes of descent. You can either stick to the western bank of the gill, and take the narrow and scrambly path which allows fabulous views of Taylorgill Force to your RHS, but note that this is not a route for beginners, or those with a fear of heights. Beyond the waterfall, the path curves left (N) around the base of Base Brown and back to a bridge over the river (NY 234122) which leads to Seathwaite Farm.

An easier alternative route crosses a footbridge over Styhead Gill shortly beyond Styhead Tarn (NY 223102) and continues along the eastern bank of the gill, before descending Greenhow Knott down to Stockley Bridge (NY 235109). Cross the bridge and turn left along the track back to the farm.

PLEASE NOTE THAT THIS ROUTE IS COMPLETED AT YOUR OWN RISK. WHILE EVERY CARE HAS BEEN TO ENSURE THE ACCURACY OF THE DESCRIPTION, SCREE CANNOT ACCEPT RESPONSIBILITY FOR ERRORS, OMISSIONS, OR CHANGES IN THE DETAILS GIVEN. IT IS YOUR OWN RESPONSIBILITY TO VERIFY THE ROUTE AGAINST THE MAP BEFORE SETTING OUT, AND TO TAKE RESPONSIBILITY FOR YOUR OWN NAVIGATION AND NAVIGATIONAL DECISIONS AT ALL TIMES.