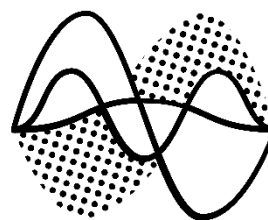


SCREE ROUTE INSTRUCTIONS:

ROUTE: ABSTRACT MATTERS #2

LOUGHRIGG FELL, GRASMERE

4.7 MILES, 1,343 FEET OF ASCENT



Scree

Reimagining the
Lake District Fells

Start at White Moss car park (NY 351065), and head west, parallel to the road, over a small footbridge, beyond which the path curves round to your left to a larger footbridge (NY 348064) over the River Rothay. Cross the bridge, and take the left hand branch of the paths ahead to climb up through the woodland, where you will meet a wall on your LHS after a few hundred metres. Follow this wall out beyond the woodland where it turns and heads due east, up above Rydal Water. Follow the path the entire length of Rydal Water, coming down to meet the shore as you approach its far end. At the major path junction at NY 360060, bear sharp back left, turning almost entirely back on yourself, to climb in a SW direction (the path junction is where route 45 of the accessible route alternatives turns round and returns to the car park).

Follow this fairly rough path uphill, between two walls, until you reach the Rydal Caves, which are well worth spending time exploring (in particular to 'find' images for this experiment). The path climbs round to the final cave (NY355058), which has a tarn inside its rock amphitheatre, and is a great place for 'abstract' photography.

After exploring, take the path which heads steeply uphill on the LHS of the cave as you face it, which starts zig-zagging more steeply up onto the open fell. Part of the joy of Loughrigg is the maze of paths which criss-cross it – I don't think I have ever completed the next part of the walk in an identical manner. The path marked on the GPX file here heads further south than the most direct route from the caves to the summit (eg you could alternatively take the path due W at NY 354054, or another option at NY 354052). Yet the GPX route provided, in its detours, does show you a bit more of the character of Loughrigg. In fact, if you have time, it's worth making a day of it and exploring all of Loughrigg's nooks and crannies, but obviously only if you are confident of finding your way back to where you are meant to be! It can also be very confusing in bad visibility, so do take care.

The route provided in the GPX here climbs just W of S for about 500m, before the ground levels out somewhat, and the path heads in a more SW direction for a few more hundred metres, before veering sharply NNW at NY 351050 (where if you are following my GPX you will see I took a short there-and-back detour to look down on another tarn). This path climbs past two further small tarns on the RHS, and another on the LHS, to join the more direct paths to the summit knoll (NY347051).

At the summit there is a trig point, and extensive views in all directions, particularly north over Grasmere towards Dunmail Raise and west towards the Langdale Valley.

Head due NNW from the summit on the major rebuilt path, which takes you down to the path junction at Loughrigg Terrace (NY342057). Turn left (W) onto the terrace for a short distance, before passing through a gate on your RHS, which cuts down through Red Bank Woods. At the bottom of this path, before it merges with the road, where there is a cottage on the LHS, turn diagonally back right on another path which will lead you down to the shores of Grasmere. Pass through the gate at NY343059, which leads you onto a small section of beach that is popular for bathing! Beyond the beach, there is a weir at the lake outlet. Follow the path along the south bank of the river back to the footbridge at NY 348064 from earlier in the day. Cross the bridge and follow the paths upon which the route started back to the car park.

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.