

September in the Lakes – Walk Descriptions

There are three walks:

1. Thursday 21st Sept. half day - Castlerigg Stone Circle walk down into Threlkeld
2. Friday 22nd full day – Cat Bells, Derwent Water and beyond
3. Saturday 23rd full day – Blencathra, towers above Threlkeld where we are based

Everyone can do the Thursday walk. On Friday and Saturday, there are two routes each day for different levels of walking - A is the most challenging and requires experience, B has less challenges, but remember this is the lakes – nothing is easy. With everyone's safety in mind, JJ will have the last word on who should do which walk.

Thursday

Afternoon walk meeting at 3pm at the Castlerigg Stone Circle then walking to the Salutation Inn in Threlkeld arriving about 5pm. The 'Session in the Sally' begins at 8pm.

Friday

Cat Bells “a classic high level fell walk”.

Wikipedia link here https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Cat_Bells

Getting to Cat Bells for this walk requires some organising. Walkers should study the descriptions below carefully and decide how to get to and from the walk start and end points. As usual, please get together and arrange cars or book a minibus. Public transport and parking options are given below.

Both routes will give fabulous views over Derwent Water and the fells. Both groups will meet at the end of the walks at the Swinside Inn <http://swinsideinn.co.uk> (where there is plenty of parking).

The two routes are:

A: led by JJ: Cat Bells, Bull Crag, High Spy, Dale Head then return through the beautiful Newlands Valley. The walk will take 5-6 hours. Bring a packed lunch.

There is only a very small car park at the start of the walk so walkers need to be dropped off by the cattle grid at Hawes End, on the north end of Cat Bells, at 9.30 for a 9.45 prompt start.

There is a bus--Honister Rambler No 77A--leaves Keswick (Booth's Supermarket) at 0930 and arrives Catbells 09.43.

B: led by Colin: taking the ferry across Derwent Water, with superb views of the fells. To begin, a more leisurely walk which returns by the lake side but still achieves Cat Bells. The walk will take 5-6 hours. Bring a packed lunch.

Meet at 9.30 in the car park for the Theatre by the Lake. Take the 9.45 ferry to the far side of Derwent Water (arrives Hawes End 9.55) then walk up to Cat Bells and then back down to Derwent Water and Swinside. There is some steep ascent and descent.

The best option for getting back to Threlkeld or other accommodation is for walkers to get picked up from the pub at Swinside. Other options are the bus – the Honister Rambler returns from Catbells at 15.56 and 17.56. The last ferry back from Hawes End is at 15.43.

Maps of the area:

General area for the walk showing the ferry from Keswick, the summit of Cat Bells (the red marker) and the pub at Swinside.



The P for the car park at the north end of Cat Bells is very small and not suitable for everyone to leave cars there.

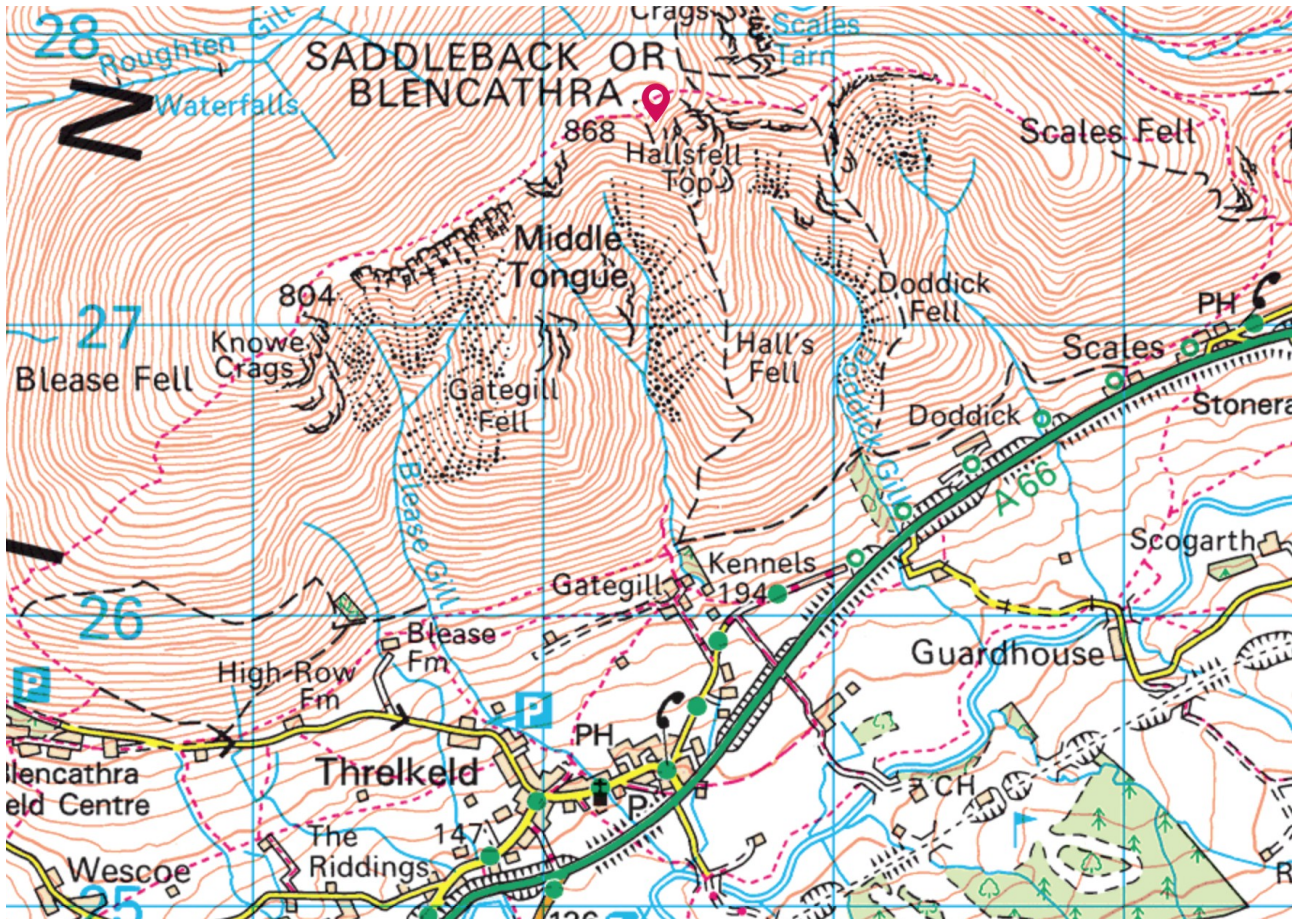


The A & B walks share the same ascent of Cat Bells. The A walk continues south after Hawes Gate while the B walk turns east to join the Cumbria Way.

Saturday

Return to Blencathra

Blencathra, also known as Saddleback, is one of the most northerly mountains in the Lake District. It has six separate fell tops, of which the highest is the 868-metre (2,848 ft) Hallsfell Top. The aim of this day is for all walkers who are able to take one of the two walking routes to make it to the top.



The start for both routes is to meet at Threlkeld Village Hall at 9.15 for a 9.24 or 9.30 start (see below). The coffee shop opens at 8.45. Please park in Station Road, up Blease Road or in any car park in the village but NOT in the village hall car park. Be aware main road through village is a double-decker bus route and must not to be blocked (yes that has happened!!)

Both walks are the same as in 2015.

A: Hallsfell Ridge: Led by Colin, this route gets to the summit via Hallsfell Ridge. The walk starts by walking out of Threlkeld heading north east. This is an exhilarating ascent but to do this you need a good level of fitness, a head for heights and some experience of scrambling. It is steep and unremitting but ultimately very rewarding. JJ says: "Please let me be the final judge of who does this."

B: Scales Fell: led by JJ, A long ascent rewarded by amazing views.
Take the 9.24 bus from Threlkeld to Scales or meet at the White Horse pub in Scales to leave at 9.45.

There is another possible route that JJ has in mind – Doddick Fell. Which in terms of difficulty and geography is half way between the A and B walks. A late decision will be taken on this.

Both walks meet at the top then descend via Blease Fell to meet back at the Horse & Farrier for around 4-4.30pm.

If bad weather, we all walk around High & Low Rigg.

We are guests of Threlkeld Ammenities Association once again and are made very welcome. Please respect the village.