



# 'Steamer' Walks

## Cruise & Walk with the Ullswater 'Steamers'

### Howtown to Pooley Bridge Walk

<b>Description:</b>	Rewarding walk with great views across the lake
<b>Starting Point:</b>	Howtown 'Steamer' Pier
<b>'Steamer' Options:</b>	Pooley Bridge to Howtown then walk back to Pooley, or Glenridding to Howtown, walk to Pooley then get the Steamer back to Glenridding
<b>Distance:</b>	6 miles / 9 km
<b>Difficulty:</b>	Fairly Easy but quite long
<b>Terrain:</b>	Some uphill stretches and can be boggy in places
<b>Duration:</b>	3 hours average
<b>Footwear:</b>	Boots/sturdy shoes
<b>Clothing:</b>	Waterproofs during wet weather
<b>Toilets &amp; Refreshments:</b>	Glenridding or Pooley Bridge piers or villages, on the 'Steamers' or Howtown Hotel Public Bar (March–October only)

**Always check the weather forecast and boat times before your walk.  
Take plenty of water, especially on hot days!**

1. Disembark; walk down Howtown pier and straight along the path towards the road. You'll soon come to a gate, go through it and again walk straight ahead a few metres along the road. The Pooley Bridge path starts just to the left of the entrance for the Howtown Outdoor Centre, signposted **Pooley Bridge and Askham**. Follow the path uphill to a gate which takes you through the grounds of a house, keeping right you will soon reach another gate exiting the grounds after which you should bear left along the outside wall. This stretch of broad path allows excellent views of Howtown Bay and of the upper reaches of the lake towards Pooley Bridge, although slightly uphill it is easy walking. Continue along this path keeping to the outside of the wall, ignoring all other way marked routes until you reach Austerstone Wood. From here you have the option of taking the low level or higher-level routes.

**Low Level Route** A quicker and easier alternative to the higher route, but the views are not quite as good.

L2) Follow the path marked **Public Bridleway – Pooley Bridge** bearing left downhill to and through a kissing gate. Turn right along the track to Crook-a-dyke. At this point take the path way marked with a yellow arrow through the gate, straight ahead over the beck. Follow the path uphill, over the stile and through the gate to pass Seat Farm. Follow way mark to **Cross Dormant**.

L3) At Cross Dormant, bear left on track and descend to the Howtown road. When you reach the road bear right and follow it as far as Waterside Farm (about ¼ mile). Turn left into the farmyard and follow the way marked path along the lakeshore to Pooley Bridge. When you reach the road turn left and cross over the bridge. Bear left and follow the pavement along the road to Pooley Bridge 'Steamer' Pier from which you can catch the 'Steamer'.

**Higher Level Route** A slightly longer and more uphill alternative to the lower route, but with better views of the valley and across towards Blencathra in the East.

H2) At Auterstone Wood continue straight ahead along the path (ignoring the way marked path downhill to Pooley Bridge) towards Barton Park Wood – the next group of trees in the distance. Passing Barton Park on your left after a while, continue along the path until you reach a stone circle known as The Cockpit. The path divides here and you should take the left branch. The path soon forks again at a cairn, and you should again bear left.

H3) The path takes you down across Barton Fell and onto Roe Head Lane. Follow the road straight along, straight over the crossroads and all the way to the mini roundabout in Pooley Bridge village. Turn left here, walk through the village, passing the various pubs and shops, and follow the road over the bridge. Again, follow the road around to the left and walk along the pavement until you reach Pooley Bridge 'Steamer' Pier. You can get refreshments and use the toilets in either the village or the pier house.

