Buttermere Valley car park Access Statement

Buttermere, near Cockermouth, Cumbria, CA13 9UZ
Grid ref: NY 172 172
T: 017687 74649 (North Lakes office in Keswick, during office hours)
E: northlakes@nationaltrust.org.uk

Introduction

The Buttermere Valley is an area of tremendous natural beauty encompassing three lakes, dramatic fells, woodlands and farms.

The Buttermere National Trust car park lies a few hundred metres to the north of the village of Buttermere, which itself nestles between the two lakes of Buttermere (to the south) and Crummock (to the north).

The car park is located on the B5289 coming in from Lorton near Cockermouth in the North or via the Borrowdale Valley and Honister Pass to the south. This road is narrow and twisty with passing places, edged with a mixture of rocky outcrops, walls, and hedgerows. Sheep, cows and chickens may be encountered in the road (dairy herds from local farms may be walked through the village at milking time) or surrounding fields.

Dogs are welcome throughout the valley, but should be kept on a lead wherever there is livestock in the vicinity. There is a dog bin located in the car park.

Mobile phone reception is poor, patchy and unreliable in this area. In an emergency contact 999 or the number above, as appropriate, as soon as you are able.

There is a phone box located next to the public toilets in the village, approximately 500m downhill from the car park.

Parking is free to National Trust members. Parking charges apply to all other vehicles at all times.

There are no toilets or refreshments available in this car park, but both (non NT) can be found in the village, approximately 500m downhill from the car park.

Arrival & Parking Facilities

The B5289 is a tarmac road in good condition with no pavement and no white lines. The turning into the car park is wide enough for two cars to pass and is signed at the entrance.
There is parking for approximately 50 cars on unmarked compacted gravel. Two wider spaces, marked out but undesignated, are located next to the payment machine area. The car park is open 24 hours a day, all year round.

The tariffs accepted by the car park payment machine*:

- 2hrs - £4.00
- 4hrs - £5.50
- All day - £6.50
- 4 hrs for coaches - £10.00
- All day for coaches - £20.00
- All day fishing - £10.00
- All day boating - £5.00

Charges apply at all times. National Trust members park free.

If our car park is full, there is non-NT ‘Pay and Display’ parking available in the village behind the Bridge Hotel and next to the Fish Hotel. The car park has toilet facilities, including disabled and baby-changing facilities and a telephone box.

The Honister Rambler bus (77/77A) runs from Easter to October in a circular route, going in both directions, from Keswick to Buttermere, taking in Portinscale, Grange Bridge, Seatoller, Honister, Low Lorton, Whinlatter and Braithwaite. The bus stop is located in Buttermere Village approximately 400m downhill from our car park.

*Correct at the time of writing
Getting to the lake:

Buttermere lakeshore is approximately a 1km (0.6 mile) walk from the car park: turn right back out of the entrance and head downhill, then walk over the bridge and right by the Bridge Hotel, continue on footpath to the left of the Fish Inn until you reach the lake.

From here the Buttermere lakeshore path circles the lake for 7km (4½ miles) with one very short stretch on the road and one 'rock step' (short scramble) where you may have to use your hands. We recommend that you allow three hours to complete this walk.

The permissive path along the north end of the lake (closest to the village) closes from 1st April - 30th June each year so that the resident sandpipers can nest in peace. These ground nesting birds are particularly vulnerable to being disturbed by dogs and people. You can still walk round the lake, however - it just means that you need to decide which way you're going before you leave the village. View path closure and alternative paths [here](#).

Trails

Further information about trails around the property is available on our main website. [https://www.nationaltrust.org.uk/buttermere-valley](https://www.nationaltrust.org.uk/buttermere-valley)

Contact details for more information

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Date: December 2016

Map

See below