

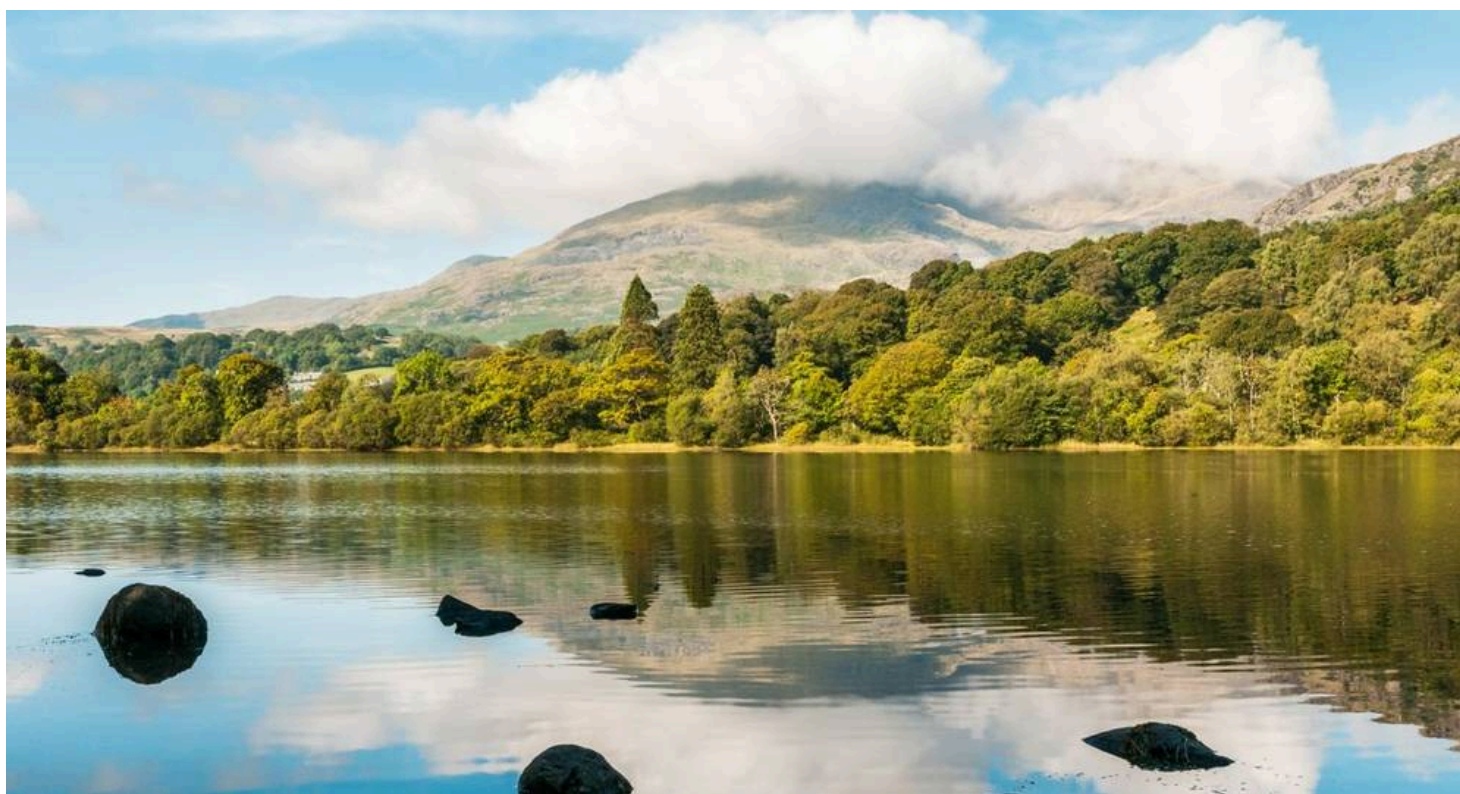
# Southern Lake District Langdale 10 Challenge Weekend

**Tour Style:** Challenge Walks

**Destinations:** Lake District & England

**Trip code:** CNCHL

**Trip Walking Grade:** 6



## HOLIDAY OVERVIEW

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We've one day's warm up and then we're straight into our challenge. An absolute classic – this route takes on 10 Wainwrights in one day, tackling 4,850 feet (1,520m) of ascent and clocking up 14 miles (22km) over some pretty tough terrain – and that doesn't include the miles already under your belt from the Saturday warm up! For those tough enough, this challenge treats you to routes summitting some of the Lake Districts finest Lakeland peaks, and gives you plenty to boast about when you're back home at the end of your holiday.

## WHAT'S INCLUDED

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- Full board en-suite accommodation, a full programme of walks with all transport to and from the walks, plus evening activities
- Adventurous walking
- Stay at the beautiful National Trust property, Monk Coniston, overlooking Coniston Water

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## HOLIDAYS HIGHLIGHTS

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- Summit some of the Southern Lake District's finest peaks
- Take on the challenge of 10 Wainrights in a day!
- Head out on guided walks to discover the varied beauty of the South Lakes on foot
- Let our experienced leaders bring classic routes and hidden gems to life
- Visit charming Lakeland villages
- Relax at the end of an epic day, in the comfort of our Country House accommodation

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## TRIP SUITABILITY

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This trip is graded walking grade 6 - to complete the challenge today, we need to be walking at a fair pace. To give you an idea of what our 'fair pace' will be – we'd be looking to complete today's route in approx. 10 hours of walking (excluding lunch/snack stops). We'd expect you to be a seasoned hill walker, with a head for heights.

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## ACCOMMODATION

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### Monk Coniston

Wrapped in manicured gardens with stunning views over Coniston Water, Monk Coniston combines country house grandeur and romantic, gothic-style charm with contemporary touches to great effect among the rugged landscapes of the Lake District. Rocky mountains and grassy fells loom all around this handsome home, once owned by Beatrix Potter, and more latterly turned hikers' hotel and owned by the National Trust. Fell-flecked scenery unfurls from the windows of the bedrooms in the main house, adjoining cottage and counting house. While the setting remains traditional and the grand entrance recalls a traditional era, the interiors have been swept into the present with bold patterns and comfy fabrics. Beyond the house, trails from the doorstep set off to explore the Lake District. Climb famous summits including Bow Fell, the Langdale Pikes and the Old Man of Coniston. Bag a series of Wainwright summits. Alternatively, slip into the beautiful valleys and stroll picturesque lakeside paths in search of secret corners such as Cathedral Cove in Little Langdale.

### Matchless Country House Accommodation

#### Accommodation Info

#### Need To Know

#### Important Covid-19 Steps We Have Taken For Guest Safety: Please Read

As we slowly reopen in the wake of the Coronavirus lockdown, our country house stays are set to be organised a little differently; extra steps have been taken to keep our guests, house teams and leaders safe while we return to action. We ask all our guests to respect the measures put in place.

Initially the overall capacity of the houses has been reduced. Guests must wear face coverings in public spaces. To adhere to social distancing guidelines, we have taken the necessary steps to space out furniture and seating in public areas. In addition, a one-way system will be in place around the house. Adequate signage will be displayed to support the direction of travel to be followed by guests and house teams.

As a temporary measure, we will not be servicing rooms during a stay. Extra tea, coffee, milk, and toiletries will be made available on request for all guests. It is recommended that guests bring their own toiletries for the

duration of their stay. We have removed all non-essential and reusable items from our rooms for the meantime including cushions, hairdryers, bathrobes, bed throws, and printed materials to reduce the number of items that need to be disinfected. Hairdryers will be available on request. Clean towels will be available on request. We will though be increasing the frequency of cleaning in our public areas providing particular attention to frequently touched items including door handles and handrails.

For now, there is no cream tea on arrival day. We have also adapted our food offering to remove all buffets and open food items. Different sittings may be required for breakfast and dinner due to the occupancy and size of the house. Picnic lunches will now be pre-ordered the night before from an order form in the room. The bar in each country house will be open, and we will be offering a table service for drinks. At this time there is no, or only a very limited, evening social programme available. Outdoor swimming pools at those houses that have them will re-open throughout May to September. Indoor swimming pools will remain closed.

For more information and to see all the steps taken, [visit our page on how house stays will be adapted](#).

## Rooms

*Tea & coffee-making facilities, TV, Hairdryer, Toiletries, Wi-Fi*

Stay in the smartly presented rooms in the main house. With 32 rooms, Monk Coniston has plenty of space and there's a range of Good, Better and Best Rooms to choose from. Rooms with a view are well worth the extra spend as you'll be overlooking the gardens or the lake. Our favourite is Room 9 on the first floor, which contains some of the original features from when it was first built in 1885, a striking sailboat-patterned wallpaper and opens on to beautiful views of the gardens and fields that slope down to the shore of Coniston Water.

*All 'Good' rooms are ensuite and furnished to a high standard. There are also several 'Better' Rooms that are either larger or have a desirable view, a more luxurious mattress and larger television – upgrade your stay for just an extra £15-25 per person per night. You can choose a specific room for an extra £30 per room, subject to availability. Upgrade supplements still apply.*

## Facilities

*Free Wi-Fi, boot room and drying room, extensive garden, lounge, bar, Lakeland barn for activities, library and board games to borrow*

After a day exploring the Lake District, return to the house. Stroll through the extensive grounds with their putting green and croquet lawn and uncover the hidden walled garden on the hill behind the house. Take a turn around the National Trust nature trail and look out for the fabulous, rare mature trees. Stumble on the small secret folly stood quietly among the bluebells when they're out and the lush green grass when they're not. Catch up with fellow guests in the bright and spacious lounge or grab a drink from the airy bar and wander down the garden to the bench overlooking Coniston Water for the perfect place to enjoy a sundowner – you might even spot the restored steam yacht Gondola cruising the five-mile length of the lake. After hours, duck into the converted Lakeland barn with its exposed beams and rustic chandelier for evening activities and skittles.

## Food & Drink

As at all our country houses, holidays are full board, from afternoon tea served as a welcome treat through that evening's meal to a hearty breakfast on the day of departure. Lunch is a chance to stock up on our famous picnic snacks. Food at Monk Coniston is varied and tasty and has a strong emphasis on ingredients from the area and seasonal produce. Once a week the bright dining room with its giant fireplace and oversized mirror hosts a Local Food Night, when, over a sociable evening, you might try a five-course feast of regional flavours. From a cup of Monk Coniston walled garden vegetable soup to a Wabberthwaies Cumberland sausage – the only Cumberland sausage to have a royal warrant and to be served on Concorde – to twelve-hour slow cooked Cumbrian lamb and Ravenglass crab and Morecambe Bay shrimp cakes, the kitchen puts out the best of the Cumbrian countryside. Look out too for the Kendal Mint cheesecake among the assiette of deserts.

## Accessibility

For accessibility and assistance information, please contact our expert team on 020 3974 8865

## TRAVEL DETAILS

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Our address is: Monk Coniston, Coniston, Cumbria LA21 8AQ

Tel: [01539 441566](tel:01539441566)

### By Train:

The nearest train station is at Windermere. For train times and route planning by train visit [www.nationalrail.co.uk](http://www.nationalrail.co.uk) or phone 03457 48 49 50.

### By Taxi:

The 13-mile journey from Windermere railway station takes approximately 30 minutes. You can pre-book a taxi from our recommended taxi company, Ace Taxi. As a guide price, it cost £25 per 4-seat taxi in 2019. 8-seat taxis are also available at a higher rate. Please pre-book your taxi at least 7 days in advance by contacting:

Ace Taxi\*

Tel: +44 (0) 1539 445445

Email: [acetaxiwindermere@gmail.com](mailto:acetaxiwindermere@gmail.com)

The return taxi journey can be arranged on your behalf by the Monk Coniston Manager.

\*Ace Taxi is not owned or managed by HF Holidays

### By Bus:

From Windermere station you can catch the 505 bus direct to Monk Coniston - the bus stop is right outside our Country House. Journey time is around 50 minutes. For bus times see [www.traveline.info](http://www.traveline.info)

### By Car:

From Ambleside take the A593 signposted to Coniston. Turn sharp left over a narrow bridge, then after half a mile turn left onto the B5286, signposted to Hawkshead. About 3 miles along this road, and just before Hawkshead, turn right onto the B5285, signposted to Coniston. Follow this road over Hawkshead Hill. The road descends then goes around a 180° bend to the left. The entrance to Monk Coniston is on the left about 100yds after the bend. There is car parking available within the grounds.

## Travelling From Overseas

For most guests the most convenient option is to book a flight to Manchester Airport. There are direct trains every hour from Manchester Airport to Oxenholme, change here for Windermere- this is straightforward journey - allow 1½ hours to Oxenholme. See [www.nationalrail.co.uk](http://www.nationalrail.co.uk) for train times.

You can take a taxi from Oxenholme station to Monk Coniston or you may prefer to change trains and continue your journey to Windermere. Please pre book your taxi from Oxenholme as there may not be taxis available at the station.

Flying to London Heathrow airport is another option, but has a longer onward train journey - allow at least 4 hours to reach Oxenholme. From Heathrow first take the train to London Paddington station. Next take the Underground train to London Euston. Finally the main line train from London Euston to Oxenholme takes 2½ hours. See [www.nationalrail.co.uk](http://www.nationalrail.co.uk) for train times.

## LOCAL AREA

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Monk Coniston is an imposing Gothic property leased from the National Trust and set in 8 acres of grounds, including a restored walled garden and the impressive arboretum. Some particularly impressive specimens, including a giant sequoia (the largest tree in the world) and the wollemi pine can be explored on the Monk Coniston Tree Trail.

Views from the property offer breathtaking glimpses of Coniston Water and the surrounding mountains.

Coniston village is about one mile away – there is a direct path from the house to the village. Here you'll find a small supermarket, post office, newsagent, pubs and a Barclays Bank (open 3 times a week). A wider range of facilities is available in Ambleside, the nearest town, about 8 miles away. The [Ruskin Museum](#) is also well worth a visit - find out more about the lake's connections to Donald Campbell and Swallows and Amazons author Arthur Ransome.

During your visit to Monk Coniston you may enjoy visiting the following places of interest:

### Steam Yacht Gondola

First cruising Coniston Water 150 years ago, the restored [Steam Yacht Gondola](#) is now operated by the National Trust, stopping at the Monk Coniston jetty at the bottom of the meadow below the house before gliding across the lake, calling at Coniston village and Brantwood House.

### Ravenglass & Eskdale Railway

Ride 'L'al Ratty' a [highly scenic narrow gauge railway](#) which runs from the coast at Ravenglass along beautiful Eskdale. You could combine a visit with a walk over Muncaster Fell, or to Stanley Gill waterfall.

### Blackwell House

[Blackwell](#) is a stunning house, completed in 1901 in the Arts & Crafts style. Admire the remarkably preserved interiors, and soak up the beautiful views over Lake Windermere and the Coniston fells

### Brantwood House

Just a couple of miles from Monk Coniston, [Brantwood House](#) - John Ruskin's former home - commands superb views over the lake. The house's 250-acre estate features 8 distinct gardens which were created by Ruskin with the help of his cousin Joan Severn and head gardener, Sally Beamish.

### Tarn Hows

A short walk from the Country House, [Tarn Hows](#) is a man-made lake created by Monk Coniston's resident owner, James Garth Marshall in 1865, as he continued to develop the estate and expand his pleasure grounds. He built a dam to flood the area, amalgamating several smaller tarns, before planting the shores and islands with new woodlands and specimen trees. There is an accessible 1.75 mile circular walk around the lake.

### Grizedale Forest

Nearby [Grizedale Forest](#) is ideal for walking and mountain biking and also has a popular sculpture trail. You can also experience the [Go Ape](#) high-ropes course and zip wire – a great option for active teenagers - or explore using a Segway.

## Levens Hall

[Levens Hall](#) is a beautiful, privately-owned Elizabethan stately home, famous for its magnificent formal garden and having the world's oldest topiary gardens. Levens Hall is near Kendal and can be reached by car in about 50 minutes from Coniston.

## Grasmere

Grasmere is about 30 minutes' drive from Monk Coniston and is famous for its connections with William Wordsworth. The poet's homes at Dove Cottage and Rydal Mount can be visited, the former of which includes the [Wordsworth Museum](#). Grasmere's famous traditional [gingerbread shop](#) is also well worth a visit.

## Windermere

Take a cruise along the length of [Windermere](#) - England's largest lake. Ferries connect Ambleside in the north to Bowness and Lakeside in the south, where you can connect with the [Lakeside and Haverthwaite Railway](#).

## USEFUL HOLIDAY INFORMATION

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### Essential Information

"*There's no such thing as bad weather, just the wrong type of clothing!*" goes the adage. Come prepared for all eventualities and you'll walk in comfort as well as safety. Britain's famous for its changeable weather, so here's our advice on what to wear and bring.

#### Essentials

- Waterproof walking boots providing ankle support and good grip.
  - A waterproof jacket and over-trousers
  - Gloves and a warm hat (it can be chilly at any time of the year)
  - Rucksack
  - Water bottle (at least 1 litre capacity)
  - A small torch (everywhere in winter, year round in mountains)
  - Sun hat and sunscreen
- Denim jeans and waterproof capes are not suitable on any walks.*

#### Recommended

- Several layers of clothing, which can be added or removed
- Specialist walking socks to avoid blisters.
- A first aid kit inc plasters– your leader's first aid kit doesn't contain any medication
- Sit mat (insulated pad to sit on when you stop for a break)

#### You Might Also Want

- Walking poles, particularly useful for descents.
- Insect repellent
- Flask for hot drinks
- Rigid lunch box
- Gaiters
- Blister kit (eg Compeed) just in case
- Waterproof rucksack liner

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## HOW TO BOOK

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When you're ready to book, you can choose to **book online** or book **over the phone**. Our website offers secure online booking for our holidays, is available 24/7, and offers more in-depth information about all our holidays. If you prefer to call us, our experienced and knowledgeable team are available to answer any specific questions you have and can offer guidance as to which holiday is best suited to your needs.

Our office is open: Monday to Friday: 9am – 7pm Saturday: 9am – 1pm Sunday & Bank Holiday Monday: closed

### PAYING YOUR DEPOSIT

To secure the holiday of your choice, you will need to pay a deposit: UK & European Holidays: £150 per person and Worldwide Holidays: £250 per person. You can pay your deposit by debit or credit card with no additional card fees charged or make an online BACS payment directly into HF's bank account, please see details under BACS payments. You can also pay your deposit by cheque within seven days of booking. Cheques should be made payable to 'HF Holidays Ltd' with your booking reference / Order ID on the back.

### NON-MEMBER FEE

Non-members can join our holidays by paying a Non-Member's fee of £20 per person per holiday. Alternatively, full membership is available from £100 – visit [hfholidays.co.uk/membership](http://hfholidays.co.uk/membership) for details.

### BACS PAYMENTS

Please quote your booking reference / Order ID when you make your payment online: Bank Name: Svenska Handelsbanken AB (publ) Account Name: HF Holidays Ltd Account Number: 35923304 Sort Code: 40-51-62 IBAN: GB92HAND40516235923304 Swift / Bic Code: HANDGB22

Once we have received your booking and deposit, we will send a confirmation invoice to the lead name. Please check this carefully. For bookings 'with flights' it is essential that the names on your booking confirmation invoice match those on your passport for bookings overseas. Please advise us immediately of any errors. Any name changes after the balance of your holiday has been paid will be subject to a fee levied by the airline.

### MANAGE MY BOOKINGS

Payments can also be made through the Manage My Booking function on our website. Click on the link at the top of our homepage. This is available to all customers who provide an email address at the time of booking.

### YOUR FINAL BALANCE

The balance is due 10 weeks before departure. As with paying your deposit, you can pay your final balance by debit or credit card, make an online BACS payment directly into HF's bank account or pay by cheque.

### TRAVEL INSURANCE

Travel insurance is an important part of any booking and essential for one of our holidays. HF Holidays works with specialist. Insurance Brokers Campbell Irvine Direct. For more information or to obtain a quote call them on 01702 427 236 or visit [hfholidays.co.uk/insurance](http://hfholidays.co.uk/insurance)

### PEACE OF MIND

#### ATOL:

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**TRIP NOTE VALIDITY**

These Trip Notes are valid based on the date printed at the bottom of the page. They will occasionally be updated post booking and pre-departure. We will send you the latest trip notes prior to departure through a link in your pre departure documents or we can send you a copy in the post if preferred.

In booking this trip you should be confident in your ability to participate in all activities described in these Trip Notes. If you have any doubt about your suitability you should call HF Holidays and ask to speak to one of the team about this itinerary.

The information in these Trip Notes is given in good faith. Where differences exist between the Trip Notes and our current brochure, the Trip Notes supersede the brochure. All holidays can be subject to unexpected changes; so please be prepared to be flexible where necessary. At times, it may not be possible to follow the itinerary as planned due to weather conditions, political, physical or other factors. In these circumstances we will make the best possible alternative arrangements to maintain the integrity of the original itinerary.

**PRICE GUARANTEE**

We promise that our earliest published prices will always be the best and if we reduce our holiday price after your booking has been confirmed, we will pass this reduction on to you. Our price promise applies if any subsequent offer price is for an identical holiday, duration, location and date and does not cover any optional extras, flights or additional services.

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