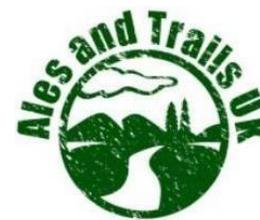


Loughrigg Fell & Loughrigg Tarn



Distance: 8.59 km

Difficulty: Moderate-to-hard

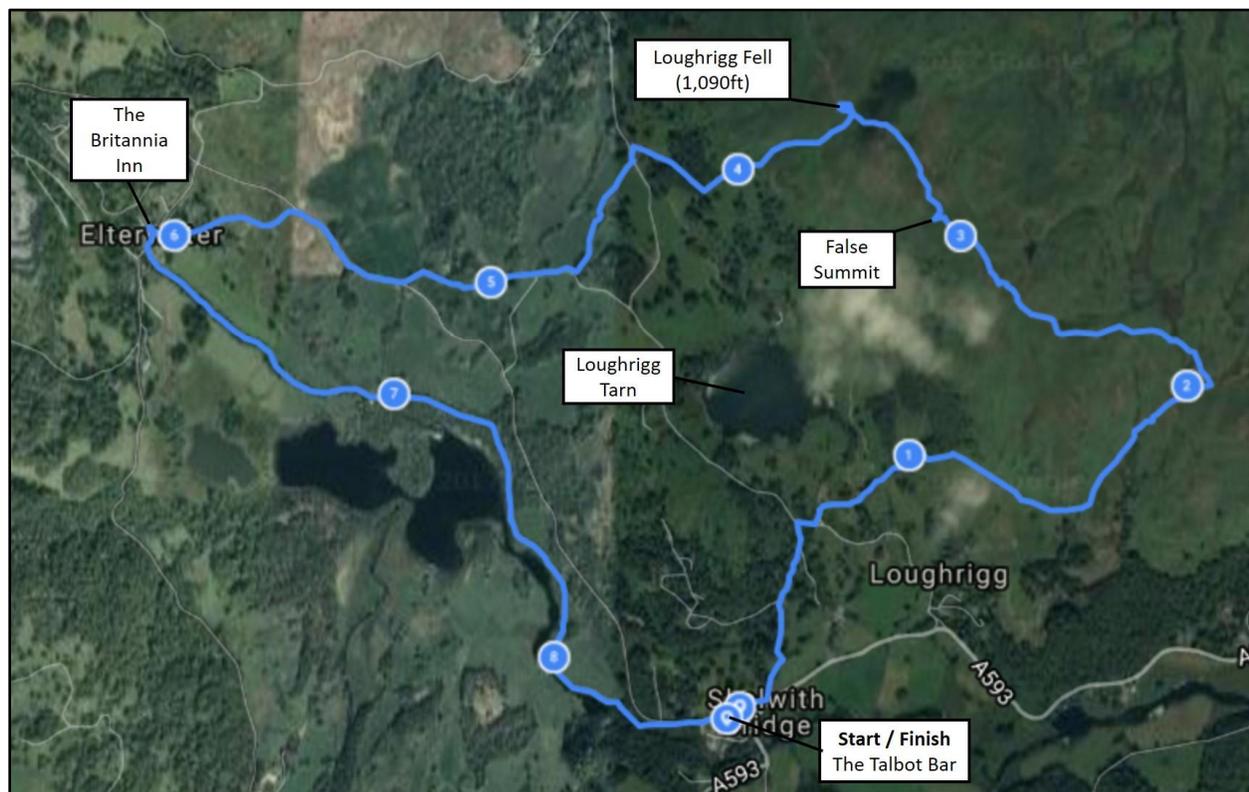
Dog Friendly: No

Ascent/Descent: Strenuous (+/- 426 metres)

Toilets: At the pubs, only

Wildlife: Nothing of note

Endomondo GPS track: [View/Download here](#)



The Loughrigg Fell & Loughrigg Tarn circular walking route (Google Maps)

Starting location: Park at the Talbot Bar in Skelwith Bridge (satnav: LA22 9NJ).

1. With your back to the Talbot Bar, look for the white cottage to the right of the pub (pictured right) and take the road to the right of the cottage, as indicated, going uphill.



Follow this road uphill until you reach a T-junction. Here, go right and then almost immediately left, then bear right at the houses (pictured left). When you reach two gates, both signposted as High Cross Estate / Loughrigg Tarn, take the right-hand gate, following the uphill path that has the stone wall running along the right side of the path.



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2. Follow this path as it climbs quite steeply uphill. Where you come to a lesser worn path bearing off slightly right, take this path to climb up to a bench offering stunning views out over the surrounding area. The path will then rejoin the main path and shortly opens up as the climb becomes less strenuous and the terrain more expansive. When you reach a very small body of water (it may have dried up in the summer months), you are looking for the most-worn path off to the left. Follow this path, and after a short while, you will see a peak ahead with a pile of stones atop it (pictured left). This is not Loughrigg Fell; it is a false summit, but the views are breathtaking, nevertheless.



3. Continue on along the well-worn path in roughly the same direction until you come to the true summit; a trig point may just be visible at the summit. Follow the worn path up to the summit and enjoy yet more breathtaking views. Climb down from the summit and look for a steep path down from the fell, heading downhill towards Loughrigg Tarn that you just enjoyed views of. Take care; the path is quite slippery, steep and uneven. At the bottom of the path down, go right and follow the path out onto the road, climbing over a stile. Go left just a few metres and take the path on the right, into a field. Walk along the wall to your left, picking up the path on the left-hand side of this wall, following it until you reach a stile hidden from view and come out onto the road. Walk right, along the road. Merge with another road and continue on in the same approximate direction, towards Elterwater.



4. As you approach the village of Elterwater, turn left and go into the village centre. Follow the road all the way to the Britannia pub. Exit the pub and continue on along the road you came in on, going almost immediately left into a car park. Here, join the marked footpath that follows the River Brathay on your right. Follow the riverside path for almost 2km, after which you emerge into a more-expansive riverside location. Keep following the meandering path, passing Skelwith Force, before reemerging back at the Talbot Bar.

Pub 1: The Britannia Inn

The Britannia in Elterwater the perfect haven for walkers and ramblers searching for somewhere to rest and recuperate after a morning on the fells; low beams, log fires and comfy chairs! The snack menu is very reasonably-priced and the ale selection offers a choice of obscure local ales, as well as more established favourites. View their website [here](#).



Pub 2: The Talbot Bar

The Talbot Bar in Skelwith Bridge is another walker-friendly bar ideally-situated for retiring after a trip up and down Loughrigg Fell. The pub serves traditional Lakeland food and fine Jennings ales, sometimes including the Lake District stalwart Cumberland Ale, a particular favourite of ours. View their website [here](#).



Tips

Sturdy and reliable footwear is a must for this walk as some of the paths are somewhat steep and slippery.

This walk is very popular with walkers, even in the winter, so consider reserving a table if you intend to have a meal at any of the pubs.

