



British Walking Federation

PT122 BOWNESS AND BEATRIX WALK



ORGANISED BY THE BWF NATIONAL COMMITTEE

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DISTANCE: 11km

ENTRY FEE: £2.00 per walker (Cheques payable to the British Walking Federation)

AWARD: Cloth Badge at £2.50 each

START VENUE: Bowness Bay Information Centre

OS MAP: OL7 **GR:** SD400966

SAT NAV: LA23 3HJ

what3words ///obligated.jolly.safari

CAR PARKING: Various car parks in the area (charges apply)

DIRECTIONS FROM M6 MOTORWAY: From the South leave the M6 at junction 36, and take the A590 towards Sedgewick, and then the A591 to Windermere. At Windermere take the A592 to Bowness-on-Windermere. From the North, leave the M6 at junction 37 towards Kendal, on the A684. Then pick up the A591 to Windermere and follow the instructions above.

PUBLIC TRANSPORT: Train or bus to Windermere. Bus to Bowness. Please check as all transport is seasonal.

REFRESHMENTS: At the start and on the route

ROUTE DESCRIPTION (Updated 23rd October 2025)

With the information centre behind you and facing the Lake, turn left down Glebe Road with the Lake on your right. After 300m, and just past The Quays shops on your right, take the Public Footpath signposted to Hawkshead via Ferry/Cockshott Point. Follow the path keeping the Lake on your right. At T-junction, turn right, and follow the signs for the ferry.

Q1. At slipway on Windermere Ferry sign, what should pedestrians carry?

Board the ferry and cross Lake Windermere as a foot passenger. (Every 20 mins at a cost of £1.15 each way for 2025, cards/contactless only.)

After crossing Lake Windermere, walk along the road for approximately 140 metres. Take footpath on the right through gate signpost Hill Top 2 miles and follow along the side of the Lake for approximately 150m to go through the gate, turn left on road

passing NT cafe on right. After approximately 100m go through the gap in the wall on the right, sign post public footpath Hill Top and Far Sawrey. Ahead to "The Picturesque" information board.

Q2. What year was William Green's painting of the view?

Walk up the path to ruined Claife Viewing Station – the building was a party destination and viewpoint for the hundreds of Victorian visitors. Watch out for Red Squirrels in this area.

Retrace steps back down 50m and take path down slippery steps signposted Hill Top, Near and Far Sawry. After the descent follow the path right, through the NT car park, keeping the road on your left and follow the public footpath signposted Near and Far Sawrey and Hill Top. Go through the gate, cross the road with care, and continue on the path in the same direction with the road now on your right. As you come to the end of this path, continue on the road for approximately 100m, turn right at footpath signposted Far Sawrey. Follow the track, go ahead through kissing gate and another gate. Join the lane via the path and continue in same direction passing cottages (looks like private property), through kissing gate and ahead to road and turn right.

Q3. On defibrillator unit, what is the number? CPAD____

After 50m turn left on lane opposite the Cuckoo Brow Inn signposted Hill Top 3/4 mile. At road junction bear left, and ahead on this road through village. Just before church and cottages, take footpath on right signposted Near Sawrey and Hill Top through kissing gate ahead on gravel path across field and over bridge in same direction along river. Through kissing gate on right and immediately turn left through gate signed Near Sawrey & Hill Top, nice seat for a rest stop, do not go out into the road. Eventually the path emerges onto the road turn left on road passing Hill Top, whilst living here Beatrix Potter wrote most of her now famous books. She used the cottage, gardens, and surrounding area for inspiration for the stories and illustrations in her books.

Immediately after passing Hill Top, pass Tower Bank Arms on your left keep on this road towards Hawkshead and take the first road left signed Lakeside. After 500m, at the fork in road turn left on single track road eventually passing Dub How Farm and cottages. After a further 500m turn left into woodland signposted Far Sawrey 1 mile, then almost immediately go through a wooden gate and continue ahead on wide track. Continue uphill following footpath sign keeping wire fence on right to cross boardwalk. At fork keep ahead for 50m to kissing gate and field, cross field aiming for gate and stile in same direction through three gates and fields on terraced path to reach kissing gate and road, turn left.

Almost immediately turn right through kissing gate into field with church on left.

Q4. What is the name of the church (sign on gate at far end of churchyard?)

Continue in the same direction through several fields and kissing gates to emerge at Briars Brow Cottage. Turn right and walk along the road for a short distance. At road junction turn right and continue on road with 6'6" width restriction. Ignore left turn instead follow the road downhill until first drive on left (signed Bryers Cottage, but currently broken), turn sharp left. Ignore private signs this is a permissive path. Continue on this path to the Lakeside and then with the Lake on your right continue to the road.

Q5. Just before road, what is the name of the nature reserve on the left?

Turn right on road and return to the ferry. Cross, and re-trace your steps through the car and boat park. Do not turn left through metal gate to follow the lake shore path but go ahead on path between fences to road. Cross the road and ahead on Rectory Road, eventually passing the mini-golf and tennis courts on left to return to the Lake side and information centre.

When you have completed this trail please use the [Permanent Trail Entry Form](#)

The organisers are not liable for accidents, thefts and/or damage to property. Every effort will be made by the organisers to make this a safe, enjoyable and memorable event.

All Permanent Trails Registered with BWF