

Lake District Scrambles

Area	Scramble route	Grade	Distance	Assessment
Blencathra	Halls Fell Ridge Sharp Edge	1 1/2	7km / 4.4 miles: This route is steep and interesting throughout	Exposed ridge walking and scrambling with some of the best views in the northern Lakes.
Borrowdale 1	Nitting Haws	1/2	14km/ 9 miles via Dale Head and Hindscarth	A delightful scramble up an easily accessible ridge, providing an outstanding view over Borrowdale and an interesting route to the fell tops.
Borrowdale 2	Sourmilk Gill Rabbit's Trod	1/2 3	10km / 6.5 miles with a lot of ascent and descent	Two contrasting scrambles combined with a strenuous walk over high fells amongst some of the grandest rock scenery in the Lake District.
Borrowdale 3	Dovenest Crag - Attic cave Intake Ridge Outake Ridge Ashness Gill	2/3 3 3 3s	8km / 5 miles	A combination of two very contrasting scrambles hidden in one of the most delightful valleys in the Lake District, steeped in history.
Buttermere	Harrow Buttress Chockstone Ridge	3 3s	7km / 4.5 miles via Scarth Gap and 10.5km / 6.5 miles via Fleetwith Pike	Continuous exposed scramble combining two routes up a fine, firm buttress, marking the technical limit of scrambling. Good belays and ledges.
Coniston 1	Brim Fell Low Water Beck	2	12km / 7.5 miles: A delightful round	Two scrambles that gain a height of over 430m / 1419ft through impressive scenery in an area rich in history.

Coniston 2	Dow B Buttress Dow F Buttress	3s 3s	10km / 6.2 miles Easily extended to take in the Old Man and other fells.	Two exposed scrambles on a major cliff that provide exhilarating situations. Easily incorporated in a round of the Coniston Fells or added to a scramble up Low Water and Brim Fell.
Crummock	Lorton Gully	3	9km / 5.5 miles with plenty of climbing to Grasmoor	A steep, continuous gill scramble, at times enclosed, at times exposed, finishing with a flourish up a rocky ridge and a round that includes some of the best bits of ridge walking in the area.
Deepdale	Link Cove Gill Greenhow End Slabs	2/3 3	11km / 7 miles via Fairfield and Hart Crag	High quality gill scrambling followed by an open and exposed buttress route that leads to the fell top and a fine walk down open ridge country.
Duddon	Tarn Beck Great Blake Rigg	1/2 2/3	14km / 8.5 miles	A thundering gill followed by an open buttress scramble giving access to high fells and a fine round of the Old Man and Dow.
Eskdale	Esk Gorge -Cam Spout	2/3	15.5km / 9.7 miles via Stony Tarn	A scramble up the loveliest mountain stream in Cumbria followed by steeper climbing up Cam Spout and the logical option of Broad Stand to Scafell summit.
Grasmere / Easedale	Belles Knot Easedale Gill Sourmilk Gill - Easedale	2 1 1	10km / 6.2 miles	A delightful round that avoids the well worn paths amongst some of the Lake District's most popular fells.
Great Gable	Arrowhead Ridge Napes Needle Westmorland Crag Eagle's Nest Gully	2 2 2 2/3	11km / 6.9 miles via Kirk Fell and Black Sail Pass	A classic route amongst the best mountain scenery in the Lakes. A fine contrast between an enclosed gully, open ridge and buttress below summit.

Grisedale	Pinnacle Ridge	3	7km / 4.5 miles in a round from Patterdale	A fine ridge scramble, almost Alpine in style, that is all too short.
Helvellyn	Swirral Edge Striding Edge	0.5 1	9km / 5.6 miles via Catstycam	The Lake District's classic ridge walk; open and exposed but no route finding difficulties once on the ridge.
Honister	Honister Crag	3s	22km / 14 miles via Floutern Tarn or 16.5km / 10 miles via Red Pike and Scale Beck	A serious and steep scramble through impressive and, at times, loose terrain that can nevertheless be well protected with a rope; followed by a long, high level ridge walk on the south side of Buttermere.
Langdale 1	Dungeon Ghyll, Upper Jack's Rake Harrison Stickle - SW Face Dungeon Ghyll, Lower	1 1 2 3	5km / 3.1 miles	A classic scramble up one of the most famous ghylls in the Lake District, followed by exposed scrambling to the summit of Harrison Stickle.
Langdale 2	Pike o' Stickle - Face route	2	16km / 10 miles	An intricate scramble on a high, exposed mountain buttress; well worth the effort of gaining the first rocks.
Langstrath	Cam Crag Ridge	2/3	8km / 5 miles via Tarn at Leaves or 12km / 7.5 miles via Glaramara	A fine approach walk followed by a long, open scramble up clean, solid rock with good views of the central fells.
Little Langdale	Tilberthwaite Gill	1/2	13km / 8.1 miles	A fine open buttress scramble followed by a ridge walk to Wetherlam and a rocky descent to Tilberthwaite Gill.
Mardale 1	Hopgill Beck Rowantreethwaite Gill	2 3	3km / 1.9 miles descending by the Corpse Road	The best of two complimentary gills; steep, interesting with a fair share of vegetation and slippery rock. A very worthwhile route.

Mardale 2	Blea Water Crag Gill	3	7km / 4.5 miles via High Street and Longstile Ridge	Apart from the initial deep cleft, open and exposed scrambling follows the course of Blea Water Crag Gill and its overflow channels as they tumble for over 200m over slabby rocks, draining the summit of High Street.
Newlands	Dale Head Pillar Lowthwaite Crag	1 1/2	12km / 7.5 miles via Hindscarth and Scope End or 13km / 8 miles via Robinson and Little Dale	A delightful round of the Newlands skyline that connects some easy and enjoyable scrambling, with the finest views in the north-western fells.
Pillar Rock	Slab and Notch	3s	11km / 7 miles with a lot of ascent and descent	A Lake District classic, steeped in history, to one of the most inaccessible summits in the country
Scafell	Broad Stand	3	Best combined with any walk or scramble that takes you close to Mickledore or the Scafell massif	A short, sharp scramble that was the first recorded rock climb in Britain; a milestone in mountaineering history.
St John's in the Vale	Mill Gill	3s	8km / 5 miles via Watson's Dodd and Stake Pass	A hidden gill scramble that is surprisingly long with some difficult pitches; best done in dry conditions. Taking a rope is advisable.
Swindale	Mosedale Beck Force	2/3	9km/ 5.6 miles via Willy Winder Hill	A varied and interesting scramble amidst fine scenery in one of the quietest, least-known valleys in the Lake District.
Thirlmere 1	Launchy Gill Dob Gill	3s 1	7km / 4.5 miles but hard tramping when boggy and a good test of map reading and navigation skill.	A classic gill scramble of considerable interest, beauty, and difficulty that is best done in drier conditions. It can be followed by an interesting round of tarns and pools on the Wythburn Fells.

Thirlmere 2	Helvellyn Gill Browncave Crags	1/2 2/3	13km / 8 miles via Nethermost and Grisedale Tarn	Contrasting scramble; an enclosed uncomplicated gill followed by an exposed crag, with intricate route finding that leads to Lower Man and Helvellyn.
Upper Eskdale	Ill Crag - Eskdale	3	13.5km / 8.4 miles with a lot of ascent and descent	One of the longest continuous scrambles in the Lake District with an enjoyable but fairly long approach. Open slab scrambling with plenty of route options.
Wasdale 1	Bowderdale Boulder Iron Crag - Middle Fell Nether Beck Gorge Pike Crag - Buckbarrow Bell Rib - Yewbarrow	- 2 2 2 2/3	Low level scrambles around Wasdale and all are close to the road.	A varied selection of low level scrambles suitable for a short day or when the higher fells are out of condition. There are plenty of options at all grades.
Wasdale 2	Ill Gill - Kirkfell	3s	15km / 9.4 miles via Yewbarrow or 10km / 6.2 miles via Wind Gap and Mosedale	A long and difficult gill scramble, if taken direct, in a superb situation; followed by one of the finest ridge walks in the Lakes and an optional, refreshing descent via Nether Beck Gorge before the road walk back to Wasdale Head.
Wetherlam	Great Carrs Buttreass	2	13km / 8.1 miles	A fine, open buttreass scramble followed by a ridge walk to Wetherlam and a rocky descent to Tilberthwaite Gill

Routes graded 3s have all the difficulty associated with a grade 3 route but are also serious undertakings. This is usually because they are exposed or more sustained and escape is unusually difficult. These are still not as technically difficult or sustained as true rock climbs. Having said that, many scrambles have individual moves that are far harder than 'moderate' rock climbs. Indeed, you will find problems on scrambles - especially in gills where difficult moves have to be made on lichened rock, that, high above the ground, would become 'severe' in every sense!