

Orrest Head 75 minutes 3.5 miles

Turn right out of Ivythwaite's front gate and walk to the end of Prince's Road. Cross Lake Road and follow the footpath through the small park with the Baddeley Clock and public toilets to your left. The clock tower marks the division between Windermere and Bowness-on-Windermere, and was built as a memorial to Mountford John Byrde Baddeley (1843 - 1906) who wrote a series of well-regarded Windermere walking guides. Turn right on New Road and head uphill towards Windermere village centre.

Pass Coppice Guest House, Hartley Hire and Windermere Park Guest House on your right. You will see Windermere village centre ahead. When you reach the village centre, the road forks at Café Italia. Take the road to the right, Crescent Road, past the post office. At The Queens public house, turn right into Victoria Street and head uphill. The Crafty Baa on your right is a must visit quirky local inn. Walk uphill towards the Tourist Information Centre and cross Victoria Street. Turn left at the Nat West bank onto the A591 Keswick-Kendal road then cross it using the pedestrian crossing.

Immediately in front of you is the white sign indicating the footpath to Orrest Head. Walk up the track. After 20m, take the path to the left following the wooden 'Orrest Head Viewpoint' sign. **P1** Follow the path uphill with a dry stone wall to the right and new properties behind. Soon you will find a dry stone wall to the left with woodland above to the right.

At the point where the footpath starts to go downhill, take the uphill path to the right following the yellow marker arrow and 'Public Footpath Orrest Head' sign. Cross over a small stream. When you reach a gate to the left to the sculpture trail (well worth a detour) and a footpath to the right, go straight on.

At the point where the footpath bends sharply to the right, you have a choice of two routes to the same point. The stone staircase to the left is the quickest and steepest route. The footpath to the right is longer and more gently sloping. You will come across a second point where you face the same choice of route, both heading to the same point. You pick up your first views over Lake Windermere at this point. **P2**

There are two options to reach the summit. You can go through a metal gate and follow the footpath steeply uphill, with stone stairs at points. There is a final scramble over the rocks to reach the summit. Alternatively, go straight ahead for the longer, gentler path. From the summit (239m), you have splendid views of Lake Windermere and Belle Isle. Heald Wood, Arthur Wood and the high fells of the Langdales can be viewed across the lake. **P3 P4 P5** The rolling fells of the Troutbeck valley and the summits of Yoke (706m) and Ill Bell (757m) can be seen to the north. **P6**

Retrace the route to Ivythwaite from this point. Alternatively, there are a number of footpaths to explore beyond the summit of Orrest Head into the open fells, many that lead downhill towards the shore of Lake Windermere.

