



Route 6

Low Wood Bay to The Wild Boar Inn

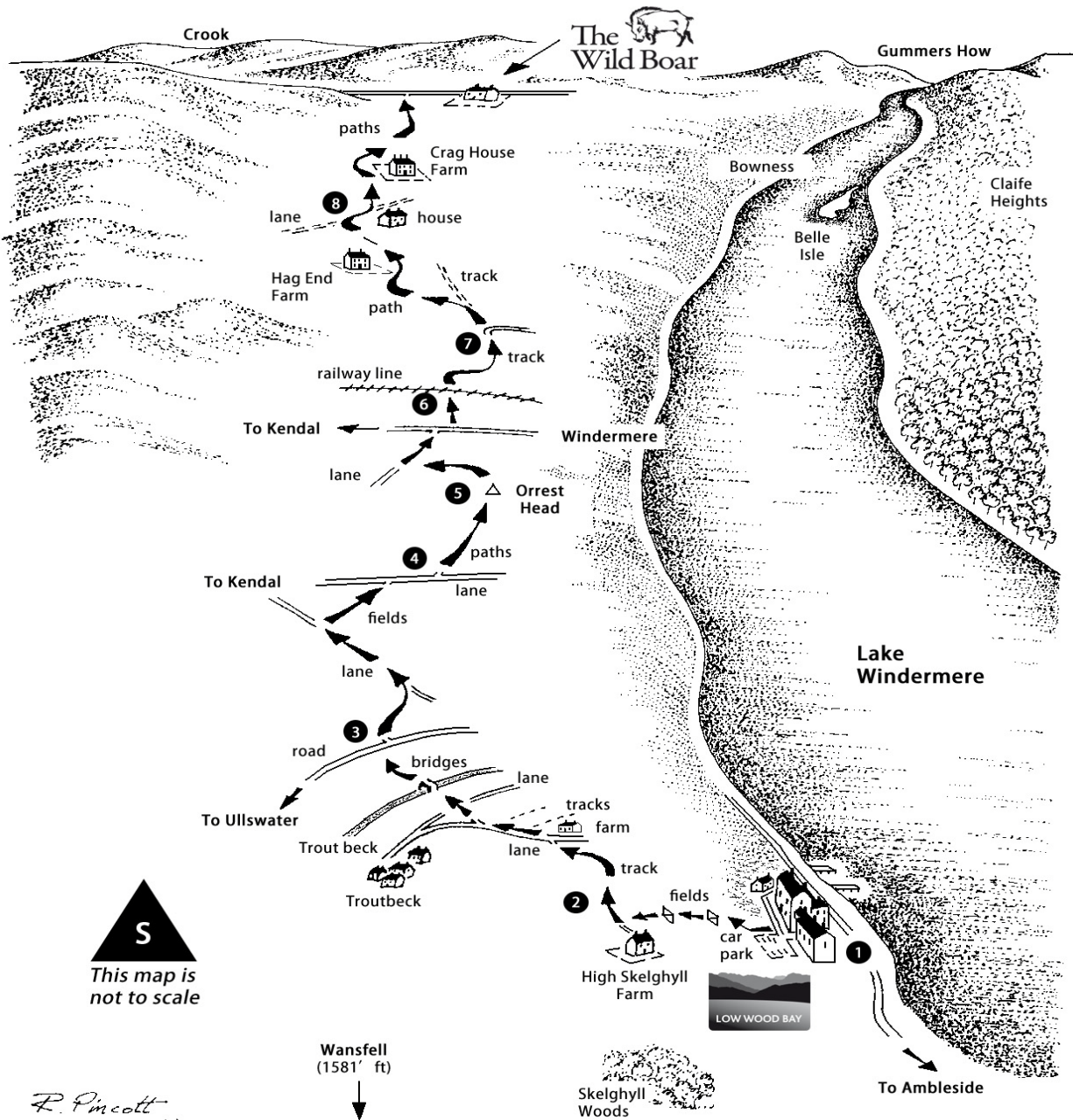
Description: On a clear day with good views, there is nowhere in England that could compare with this walk. With lush grass and well-defined stony tracks under your feet, there is just an over-powering sense of being in harmony with nature. Halfway along the walk is 'Orrest Head' ; a significant outcrop where the fabulous panorama from the top takes in virtually the whole of the South Lakes mountain range. Continue through splendid countryside and the journey finally ends with a warm welcome at The Wild Boar Inn.

Distance: 8 miles (12.8 km)

Time required: 5 – 5 ½ hours.

Start from: Low Wood Bay near Ambleside.

Safety: Most of the paths will be rough, stony or muddy, therefore, stout boots with a good grip on the soles are absolutely essential. Waterproof clothing is recommended for your own comfort along with energy-giving food and drinks.



1. With Low Wood Bay reception entrance behind you, face the lake and **turn right**. Walk along the road for 30 yards, and then **turn right again**. Ascend the driveway for 100 yards, to locate a swing-gate/large gate just to the right of the large car park. Follow a grassy track for 30 yards, then **turn left** at the end of the wire fencing. Ascend alongside the left-hand wall for 200 yards and in the next corner of this field, pass through a swing-gate/large gate. —Continue uphill (parallel to the left-hand wall) to pass through a swing-gate seen 175 yards away. Now **bear right** and after 150 yards, cross over a stile/gate. **Turn right** and follow the right-hand wall for 50 yards and cross over another stile/gate. **Turn sharp left** and ascend alongside the left-hand wall for 65 yards, then **bear right** and continue up the double-rutted track for approximately 300 yards, to pass through a large gate. 150 yards further on, join onto a hard-surfaced farm track. **Turn right** signposted [Public Bridleway. Troutbeck] and follow this track for 300 yards, to pass by the farmstead of *Low Skelghyll*.

2. Continue downhill and after $\frac{2}{3}$ mile, this hard-surfaced track will terminate at a lane. **Turn left** and after 250 yards, pass by a farm on your right. Continue along the lane and after $\frac{1}{4}$ mile, pass by a wide track on your right. Proceed for a maximum of 150 yards, then **bear right** onto a narrow, stony track [Public Bridleway]. Descend for 200 yards and pass through a large gate. Proceed between the cottage buildings, to reach a tarmaced lane. Go straight across [Public Bridleway] and descend a stony track for 250 yards, to cross over the *Trout Beck*. Within 25 yards, pass through a gate to enter a field. Ascend the slope, and in the top right-hand corner, join onto the Ullswater/Bowness road.

3. **Turn right**, but within 75 yards, **turn left** (across the road) to link up with a lane. Ascend for $\frac{1}{3}$ mile, (facing the oncoming traffic) to pass by a lane on your right. 150 yards further up, pass by a farm-track on your left. After another 150 yards, pass by a broad, tarmaced track on your left. Continue along the lane for a further $\frac{1}{3}$ mile, to locate a gate & stile on your right, signposted [Public Footpath]. Climb over the stile and observe the direction of the finger-post. Walk straight across the field, to climb over a ladder-stile. Now **bear left** towards a gate seen 75 yards away. In the next field, go straight ahead to climb over a ladder-stile in a corner wall. In this last field, **bear right** and walk for 250 yards, to cross over a small beck via a flat footbridge. 40 yards further on, climb over a stone stile in the wall, to link up with a lane.

4. **Turn right** and proceed along the lane for a maximum of 350 yards, then **turn left** across a stone stile, (next to a gate). Follow the right-hand wall for 75 yards and cross over a beck. Continue alongside the wall for a further 75 yards, then go straight ahead and ascend the steep path for $\frac{1}{3}$ mile, (parallel to the wall on your right) to climb over a stone stile in the top right-hand corner wall. 50 yards further up, the path forks **go straight ahead** to reach the summit of *Orrest Head*.

5. With *Lake Windermere* on your right, descend a broad, grassy path for 100 yards, to approach a stone wall. **Turn left** and walk (alongside the wall) for 250 yards, to cross over a stone stile. **Turn right** and immediately pass through a swing-gate. Follow the wooded path for 250 yards, to reach a 3-way junction. **Turn left** [Common Lane] and after $\frac{1}{4}$ mile of descent, the path leads to a gate on the edge of a field. Cross over the field and join onto a lane. **Turn right**, to arrive at the main Kendal/Windermere road. Cross over the road (with care) and **turn right**. Ascend for 100 yards, then **turn left** through a gate [Public right of way]. Follow the cart track for 300 yards, to reach a Y-junction.

6. **Bear right** and within 40 yards, enter the next field. Continue along the cart track for 200 yards, and then **turn left** through a tall swing-gate. Walk alongside the right-hand wall for 100 yards, then **curve right**, to aim for a large swing-gate. **Go straight across** the railway line (with care), to link up with a narrow footpath. Walk alongside the left-hand fence for 50 yards, then **turn left** and descend to a tarmaced track. **Turn right** and after 100 yards, (just prior to a stone bridge), **bear left** onto a stony track [School Knott]. Proceed for 100 yards, and then cross over a residential road, to link up with a tarmaced track. Follow this [gated single-track road] for $\frac{1}{4}$ mile, to pass by a cottage on your left. Pass by a barn, (behind this cottage) then proceed for a maximum of 125 yards, to reach a sharp right-hand bend. **Stop!**

7. Go straight ahead and pass through a large gate [waymarker], to enter rough pastureland. Follow the stony track, to aim for a gate seen 150 yards away. Continue straight ahead and after 350 yards, the track forks. **Bear left** [Dales Way] and ascend the rocky path for $\frac{1}{4}$ mile, to pass through another gate. Proceed for only 60 yards, and then **turn right** through a gate, to enter the adjacent field. **DO NOT** follow the farm track straight ahead! Instead, turn left (alongside the left-hand wall) for 75 yards, then **bear right** and follow a grassy path uphill for 250 yards, to pass by a [waymarker]. 25 yards further on, cross over a derelict wall. Go straight ahead for 100 yards, then **curve left** for a further 150 yards, to go through a gate in a stone wall. Continue along the well-defined path and after $\frac{1}{4}$ mile, arrive at the farm of *Hag End*. Pass between the farm buildings and exit via a large gate. Follow a stony track for 150 yards and join onto a tarmaced lane.

8. **Turn right** and after 150 yards, pass through a gate by the side of a house. Within 15 yards, pass by another gate on your left. **Proceed** for a maximum of 30 yards, then **bear left** through a swing-gate [Dales Way]. Walk parallel to the left-hand wall and after 300 yards; pass through a gate in a corner wall. Walk for a maximum of 75 yards, and then **turn left**. With a wall on your left and the farmstead of *Crag House* on your right, descend for 100 yards, to arrive at 3 gates. Go through the right-hand gate and descend a stony track for 200 yards, then **curve right**. Go straight ahead for 150 yards, then **curve left**, and the path leads to a gate in a wall with a beck on the opposite side. Cross over the stepping stones and follow a winding path between the gorse bushes for $\frac{1}{4}$ mile, to pass through a gate. Continue straight ahead, and (passing through several more gates) this track will eventually terminate at the Kendal/Bowness road. **Turn right** and walk along the road (with care) for 150 yards, to arrive at The Wild Boar Inn.