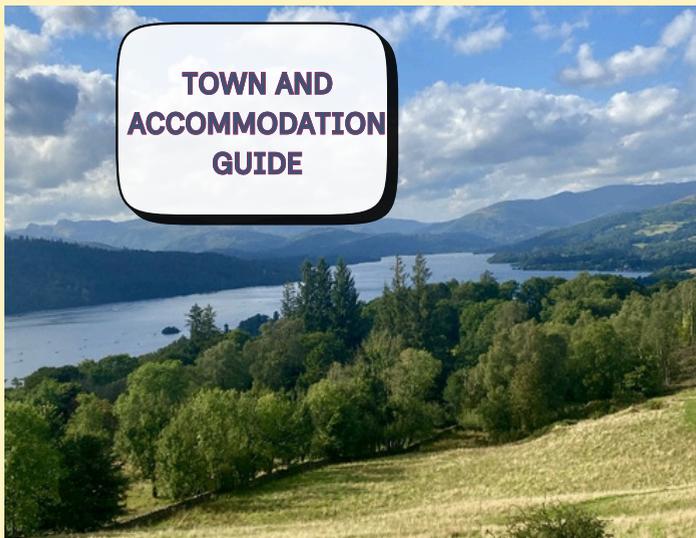


WHERE TO STAY IN THE

Lake District



**TOWN AND
ACCOMMODATION
GUIDE**



- Bowness**
- Windermere**
- Ambleside**
- Grasmere**
- Elterwater**
- Keswick**
- Hawkshead**



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PLACES TO STAY



Bowness- on Windermere

Bowness is the ultimate tourist hub of the Lake District, located right on the shores of Lake Windermere. Here you'll find everything you could need: restaurants, bars, cafés, ferries, small boat hire, the Beatrix Potter Museum (great for kids!) and The Old Laundry Theatre.

As well as beautiful views over Lake Windermere and convenient ferry links to Ambleside and Far Sawrey, Bowness offers a lively high street filled with big-name brands such as Mountain Warehouse and Joules, together with locally made products from shops like the Bath House.



***Best for:** A lively atmosphere with everything within easy walking distance. Ideal for ferries and boat hire on Lake Windermere*

My personal accommodation recommendations (click to view)

Budget Friendly:

[Elim Guest House](#), [Melbourne Guest House](#), [Fairfield House and Gardens](#), [Craig Manor Hotel](#), [Marina Boathouse](#), [Beechwood Guest House](#)

Middle Range:

[Macdonald Old England Hotel & Spa](#), [The Rockefeller Apartments](#), [Fellside Cottage](#), [Lakes Hotel and Spa](#), [Bowness Bay Suites](#), [Grade II listed cottage with hot tub](#)

Luxury:

[Gilpin Hotel and Lake House](#), [Brantlea](#), [The Den at The White House Windermere](#), [Maison on Windermere](#), [Linthwaite House Hotel](#), [Storrs Hall Hotel](#), [Jessica's Cottage](#), [Bounty on The Lakes](#)

PLACES TO STAY

Windermere



Windermere sits up the hill from Bowness and is about a 25–30 minute walk or a short bus ride away. Like Bowness, it is a key tourist hub for the Lake District, but it's smaller and a little quieter. It's ideal if you want everything close by without the hustle and bustle. Most accommodation is just steps from the main street, where you'll find restaurants, artisan cafes and art galleries.

The town is conveniently located a stone's throw from the train station, which has a direct link to Oxenholme. The nearby bus station offers easy connections to almost anywhere in the Lakes. A big perk of Windermere is the large Booths supermarket beside the station, perfect for those who are self-catering.



Best for: Food lovers, guest houses, and those seeking a slightly quieter town with everything you need.

My personal accommodation recommendations (click to view)

Budget Friendly:

**[Jerichos Boutique Accommodation](#), **[Rum Doodle](#), **[Holly Lodge](#), **[Rocklea Guest House](#)
[Denehurst Guest House- Adults only](#), **[Abby's Cottage](#),**********

Middle Range:

**[Little Herdwick](#), **[Woodland Cottage- pet friendly](#),
**[Applegarth](#), **[Charlotte's Cottage](#), **[Beaumont Guest House](#),
[The Howbeck](#), **[Windermere Boutique Hotel Spa Suites & Hot Tubs](#)************

Luxury:

[Langdale Chase Hotel](#), **[The Samling Hotel](#), **[Queen's Loft](#), **[Low Wood Bay Resort and Spa](#), **[Rosemount Lake District Townhouse with Hot Tub](#), **[Cherry Trees](#), **[Architect's Loft](#)************

Places to stay



Ambleside

Known locally as “The Amble Ramble”, Ambleside is one of the most popular places for visitors to stay in the Lake District. Its appeal comes from its range of outdoor clothing shops, cafés, restaurants, and its convenient location close to well-known spots such as Grasmere and Coniston. For keen walkers, Ambleside is home to Stock Gyll waterfalls, the famous Fairfield Horseshoe, a spectacular 16 km hike that takes in nine peaks and offers panoramic views of the Lakes.

Situated at the northern tip of Lake Windermere, you can take a ferry to Bowness or simply enjoy the lakeside views. The town also has a cinema for evening entertainment and even live jazz nights at Zeffirelli's.



Best for: Walking gear shopping, cafés and restaurants, and easy access to popular locations and walks.

My personal accommodation recommendations (click to view)

Budget Friendly:

[Ambleside Fell Rooms](#), [Compston House B&B](#), [Lacet House](#),
[Brathay Lodge](#), [Brantfell House](#), [Ambleside Townhouse](#)

Middle Range:

[Ambleside Townhouse](#), [Bakestones](#), [Salutation Hotel and Spa](#),
[Buttonhole Cottage](#), [Ambleside Manor- Vegetarian B&B](#), [River Falls View](#), [Rock Lea](#) , [Chapelside Cottage](#)

Luxury:

[Garth Hill House](#), [The Retreat- Luxury Home](#), [Take Five](#),
[Highfield House](#), [Rothay Manor Hotel](#)

Places to stay

Grasmere



Grasmere is a true jewel of the Lake District. Best known as the home of William Wordsworth, Dove Cottage is one of the village's proudest attractions in this charming, picture-perfect town.

The village sits on the shores of the smaller lake, Grasmere, and offers lovely walks to nearby Rydal Water, Loughrigg Tarn, or the more challenging Helm Crag.

Grasmere also has comfortable hotels, gastro pubs, quaint cafés, and the famous Grasmere Gingerbread shop.



Best for: Literary history, scenic walks, cosy accommodation, and traditional Lake District treats.

My personal accommodation recommendations
(click to view)

Budget Friendly:

[The Swan at Grasmere](#), [Victorian House](#),
[Heidi's Grasmere Lodge](#), [The Traveller's Rest](#),
[Bridge House Hotel](#), [YHA Grasmere](#)

Middle Range:

[The Grasmere Hotel](#), [Moss Grove Organic](#), [The Inn at Grasmere](#),
[Poet's Corner](#), [Tweedies Bar and Lodge](#)

Luxury:

[The Daffodil Hotel and Spa](#), [Bellfoot Rural Retreat and Hot Tub](#),
[Underheron](#), [Forest Side Hotel](#),
[Rothay Garden by Harbour Hotels](#), [Acorn Cottage](#), [Croft](#)

Places to stay

Elterwater



Elterwater is a charming little village near Ambleside, full of the character that makes the Lake District so special. Picturesque slate cottages line the village, and a Grade II listed packhorse bridge crosses the River Brathay at its centre.

The village is ideally placed for peaceful riverside walks, such as the route from Elterwater to Skelwith Bridge. For those seeking more of a challenge, Langdale is nearby, offering scrambles like Jack's Rake and peaks including Pike o' Stickle.

Ambleside is just a 13-minute drive away, making Elterwater perfect for anyone who wants the conveniences of a busier town close by but prefers to stay somewhere quieter.



Best for: A quiet, quintessential Lake District experience, easy riverside walks, and proximity to Langdale and Ambleside.

My personal accommodation recommendations (click to view)

Budget Friendly:

[The Britannia Inn](#), [Eltermere Inn](#),
[Rosegate Cottage](#), [Elterwater Hostel](#)

Middle Range:

[Devoke Water](#), [The Lawns](#)

Luxury:

[Le Chalet](#), [Riverside House](#)

Places to stay



Keswick



Keswick is a major town in the northern Lakes, situated on the shores of Derwent Water. It is a lively base for exploring the northern Lake District, including climbs of Skiddaw, Blencathra, Cat Bells, and even Scafell Pike from Seathwaite. Bassenthwaite Lake is also close by.

The town has everything you could need for a holiday: excellent bus links, restaurants, bars, cafés, and supermarkets. Keswick has a different atmosphere from the Southern Lakes, with bigger, bolder mountains. Blue and green slate and ancient sites such as the 5,000-year-old Castlerigg stone circle reflect the area's heritage.

With so many fantastic walks on your doorstep, Keswick is ideal for exploring dramatic mountains, spectacular views, and historic landmarks.



Best for: Exploring the northern Lake District.

My personal accommodation recommendations (click to view)

Budget Friendly:

[Highfield Hotel](#), [Dalkeith Guest House](#), [Fellside Lodge](#),
[Ravenstone Manor Hotel](#), [Brookfield B&B Guest House](#),
[Laurel Bank Guest House](#)

Middle Range:

[The Byre](#), [Redwood Rise](#), [Fellpack Guest House](#), [Style Cottage](#), [Forge Cottage](#)

Luxury:

[Greta House](#), [The Ridgeway](#), [Blencathra](#), [Deer Close Cottage](#),
[Wordsworth House \(with hot tub!\)](#), [Briarwood House](#), [Latrigg View](#), [The Lookout](#), [Oak Lodge](#)

Places to stay

Hawkshead



Hawkshead is a small, quieter town near the western shores of Windermere. Mainly residential, it offers a peaceful stay with local attractions such as Esthwaite lake, Go Ape and Grizedale Forest, which is popular for its bike trails.

Nearby, the villages of Far Sawrey and Near Sawrey provide charming experiences and attractions, including Hill Top, the former home of Beatrix Potter.



Best for: A peaceful Lake District stay, cycling, and exploring nearby charming villages.

My personal accommodation recommendations
(click to view)

Budget Friendly:

[Old School House](#), [Hawkshead Hideaway](#), [Ivy Guest House](#),
[Treeside Wood House](#), [The Hive at Poppi-Red](#), [Queens Head Inn and Restaurant](#)

Middle Range:

[Lakeland Lodge](#), [Honey Bee Shepherd's Hut](#),
[Hannakin Barn](#), [Gingerbread Cottage](#)

Luxury:

[Croftlands](#), [The Farmhouse](#),
[Hawkshead suites](#), [Roger Ground House](#)