



Overview

This walk is generally easy going, however it is around double the length of walk 1. It has a couple of slight detours for exploration, which take in additional scenery and points of interest. It gives good rewards for little overall effort and can be completed within three to four hours. Add in an extra hour or so to allow for any breaks in Grasmere or the photography and to fully appreciate the memorable scenery along the route.



One of the many Grasmere views showing clouds, hills and reflections

Directions and Route Options for walk 2

Leave Rydal Lodge and carefully cross over the busy road. Head up the pretty steep road past St. Mary's Church until you get just past Rydal Mount (Wordsworth's home) and look for a track with a gate set some 40 yards back on the left. This is the famous Coffin Trail. There are numerous gates and a few minor obstacles along the route, but generally it is readily accessible to walkers. It can be very busy with walkers heading both ways along the track and there are a couple of benches near to the mid point for those wishing to take a short snack break.

The path is obvious and undulates up and down, loosely following the road below. There are photographic opportunities along the route, though the tree growth often hides what would have been wide panoramas in years gone by.

There are a couple of slightly trickier sections, one boggy, another scrambly, but overall the going is straight forward.



Riverside views



Robert Carlyle
grave stone



Wordsworth's family
grave stones



Route 2b with
old cottages



Acer trees in formal gardens by the roadside



Grasmere at the start of Loughrigg Terrace

As you join with the main road, just shy of the roundabout you can see the road leading into Grasmere village.

You can head into St Oswald's Church and it is worth a few minutes to check out the grave stones of Robert Carlyle, Wordsworth and his family members. There are also a few sad stories of children dying of TB (known as consumption) and other such diseases before their time. At the top of the grave yard you will arrive at the famous Gingerbread shop. The queues for the shop may be a few deep, but if you like their produce, it is worth the wait. From here I'd suggest the small detour (2b) to pick up the cottages down the back street. I found them to be interesting when framed with the hills in the background. There is a fair trudge along the road to pick up the Grasmere path which skirts the far side of the waters. The ornamental gardens looked good and the Acer trees were lit with a brilliant light filtering through the leaves on the day I passed them by.

You pass by a cottage with a red Royal Mail postbox in the cottage wall. Soon after you arrive at a gated track that heads off on the left and back down to the water's edge. The water's edge has ample viewing points and photographic opportunities of Grasmere village and the opposite hills. A nice sunny and calm day makes for better photography, but heavy clouds can also make for a striking image.

The stroll down to the beach at the far end of Grasmere (the water) is easy enough to do. The beach area is often quite busy with parents and children playing, and has picked up a new trend with people undertaking wild swimming. There are often people in canoes and paddle boarding also.

From here you may decide to take an alternative walk and head off up to the Loughrigg Terrace or Loughrigg Fell. The Loughrigg Terrace (walk 4) is generally easy, but the same cannot be said for Loughrigg Fell (walk 3) as the steps are hard.

When leaving the beach walk 2a return to walk 2 at the bridge which is just after the weir. Both travel along side the River Rothay up to the start of Rydal Water, which has another bridge at the far end. You may return by any of the walk 1 options to Rydal Lodge.



A moody Grasmere from the beach area



A very similar Grasmere view looking across to the beach from the far side of the fence



St Mary's Church at the start of the Coffin Trail



Views from the Coffin Trail



More views from the Coffin Trail



More views from the Coffin Trail heading down into Grasmere village. The famous gingerbread shop



View from the common area just off the Coffin Trail in summertime



Moss covered wall



Same viewpoint from the common area just off the Coffin Trail, taken earlier in the year



The gate which leads to Grasmere



The woodland/riverside walk as seen from Loughrigg Terrace



A gate looking back on the Coffin Trail



The weir at Grasmere with paddle boarders



Down by the River Rothay between Grasmere & Rydal Water



A mossy tree

Quick Assessment Guide to Walk 2

The following icons represent the dangers and obstacles from the various route options in an easy to read graphical way. The numbers offer some clues as to the number or length of any technical sections which may be encountered during the walk.

Green indicates low risk, amber indicates low to medium risk and red indicates medium to high risk. The trophies represent the visual rewards for completing the walk, ranging from bronze to gold with 10 marks each running consecutively..

	Mountainous or at Height	Boggy & Marshy Ground	Uneven Stone Steps	Stepping Stones across streams	Rocky & awkward Scrambles	Deep Water	Difficulty	Beauty
Walk Section 2 (Main route)								
Walk Section 2b (Detour in Grasmere)								

Main Walk route 2
Trophy Evaluation
Effort vs Reward



Route Information

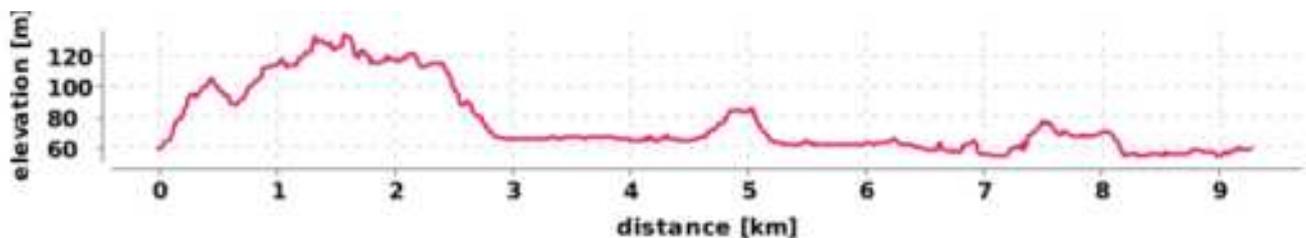
Grasmere Walk 2 ~ via the Coffin Trail

Route Summary

Total Distance 9.28 km (5.77 mi)
Elevation 55 m at lowest poi
133 m at highest poi
Total Ascent 180 m

Distance 9.28 km Duration 02:40 Difficulty: Moderate
Activity Type Hiking Total Ascent 179.82 m

Elevation Profile





One of the many viewpoints across Grasmere from the far bank



Approaching Grasmere from the Coffin Trail



Grasmere village centre

Route Information for short routes 2b and 2c

Distance 0.39 km	Duration 00:05	Difficulty Easy	Grasmere alternate route 2b ~ to take in the Gingerbread Shop and some pleasing Lakeland cottages. On the highway and footpaths with no additional difficulties.
Activity Type Hiking	Total Ascent 0.00 m		

Distance 0.43 km	Duration 00:11	Difficulty Easy	Grasmere alternate route 2c ~ route to meet up with Walk 3 Loughrigg Fell or Walk 4 Loughrigg Terrace
Activity Type Hiking	Total Ascent 40.79 m		

	Mountainous or at Height	Boggy & Marshy Ground	Uneven Stone Steps	Stepping Stones across streams	Rocky & awkward Scrambles	Deep Water	Difficulty	Beauty
Walk Section 2 (Main route)								
Walk Section 2a (Road & riverside)								
Walk Section 2c (To pick up Walks 3 or 4)								

Shorter Walk 2a Trophy Evaluation Effort vs Reward	
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Directions and Route Options for the shorter walk 2a

As you join with the main road, just shy of the roundabout you can see the road leading into Grasmere village. Instead of heading into Grasmere village cross the main road and turn back along the main road towards Rydal and Ambleside. You follow the road for around a kilometre and then as the road turns left head through an opening in the stone wall. You follow the path round to the weir and to a wooden bridge. You need to cross the bridge if it is your intention to do Walks 3 or 4. Otherwise you may select to cross the bridge or stay on this side of the River Rothay. You follow a track for around 800m to another wooden bridge where you pick up the main route of walk 2 again.

Route Information

Grasmere alternate route 2a ~ This route takes a leg back down the road with somewhat limited views of Grasmere through the shrubs and trees and then takes the path off to the weir and River Rothay.

Route Summary

Total Distance	1.93 km (1.2 mi)	Distance	1.93 km	Duration	00:31	Difficulty:	Easy
Elevation	55 m at lowest point 75 m at highest point	Activity Type	Hiking	Total Ascent	23.24 m		
Total Ascent	23 m						

Elevation Profile

