



Overview

This walk covers the history of the Rydal area, looking at the Wordsworth property (Rydal Mount) and Rydal Hall. Apart from the initial climb, it is very easy going and can be extended with walks of the surrounding areas. It can be completed in around 1 to 2 hours with an additional ½ hour for the photography or admiring the scenery.



Directions and Route Options for walk 5

Leave Rydal Lodge and cross the road. Head towards Grasmere for a few yards and enter the cast iron gate into Dora's Field. This garden was created by Wordsworth to commemorate his daughter's life when she passed away with Tuberculosis, or as they called it consumption.

In Spring, you can be greeted by snowdrops and daffodils, then slightly later by a colourful swathe of bluebells. This garden is worth a few minutes of contemplation when in full flower.

At the top of Dora's Field you can glimpse Rydal Mount and the formal gardens beyond the stone wall.

Upon leaving Dora's Field it is worth going through the church yard at St. Mary's Church. The gardens are also well kept with flowering shrubs and bedding plants.



St. Mary's Church & gardens



Wordsworth's house of Rydal Mount and the formal gardens

From either of the far gates a left turn takes you up the short and steep incline to Rydal Mount and the home of Wordsworth. There is a charge to enter the gardens and the property, payable in the cafe at the front.

The property is well laid out in the style of Wordsworth, though some of his original items won't have survived the passage of time. Most of the property is open to the public and you can see that there was ample room for the times. This isn't anything like the cramped and squalid conditions known by many of those same times. The tiny Bridge House at Ambleside sleeping 8 is one such occurrence.



The main lounge containing a Wordsworth bust and the red Acer tree in the gardens outside

From out of the gates you can look up to your left and see the start of the Coffin Trail, or look beyond and up to the steep ridge of Nab Scar as it heads off into the distance. The walk up Nab Scar is not for the feint hearted, it is a tough ascent, but leads to fantastic views.

Heading right and down the hill for only a few yards will bring you to the main entrance to Rydal Hall on your left. The moss covered trees and rocks just inside the gates make for some really nice images. Go down behind the hall and head down a gated area. This brings you to the private road and a left turn reveals the Grot and waterfall, which you have probably heard but not seen until now. The Angel sculpture is in the silent gardens, off to the bottom of the hall's formal gardens.

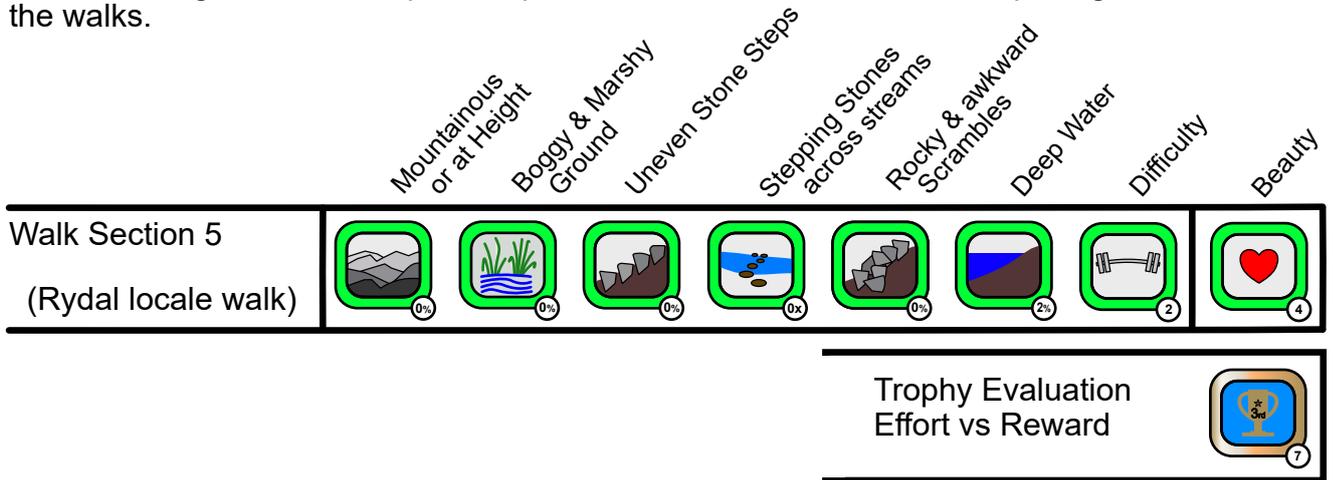


Rydal Hall with the Grot, waterfall, moss-covered trees, angel sculpture and the silent gardens

Quick Assessment Guide to Walk 5

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 each of the walks.



If you wish to extend your walk, then from the bridge overlooking the Grot and waterfall, you can head through the gate and follow the path down into Ambleside. It keeps off the main road for much of the trek into Ambleside.

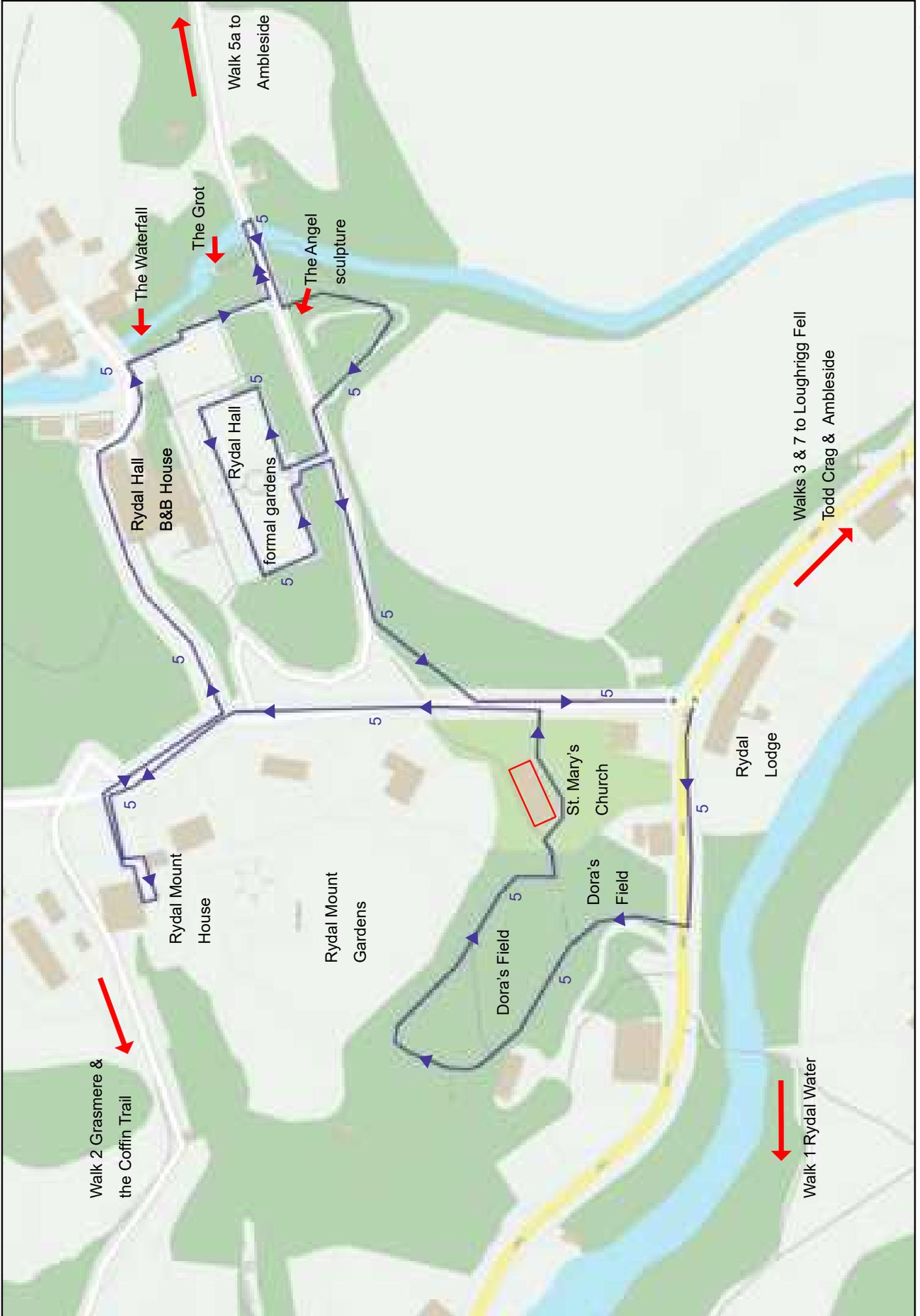
Feel free to check out walk 7 Todd Crag and Ambleside for the things of interest in Ambleside and the surrounding areas.

Route 5a heads into town and picks up the Bridge House built over the river. This small property on two floors used to sleep 8 people. Though it must have been rather cramped.



Bridge House over the Rothay and a footbridge over the Rothay in Ambleside adjacent the park.

WALK 5 RYDAL LOCALE



Route Information



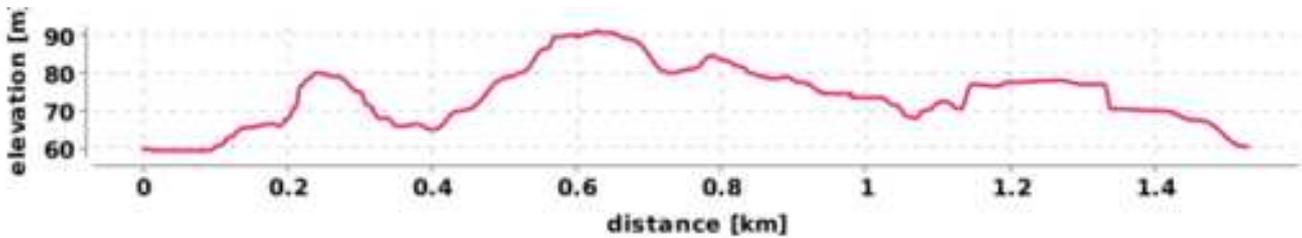
Walk 5 Rydal locale ~ This walk takes in Dora's Field, St Mary's Church, Wordsworth's Home at Rydal Mount and lastly Rydal Hall, with the Grot viewing point on the waterfall, the quiet gardens and the formal gardens. It is short and easy easy apart from the initial climb from St Mary's up to Rydal Mount.

Route Summary

Total Distance 1.53 km (0.95 mi)
Elevation 59 m at lowest point
91 m at highest point
Total Ascent 62 m

Distance 1.53 km
Duration 00:30
Difficulty: Easy
Activity Type Hiking
Total Ascent 62.09 m

Elevation Profile



Daffodils and log in Dora's Field



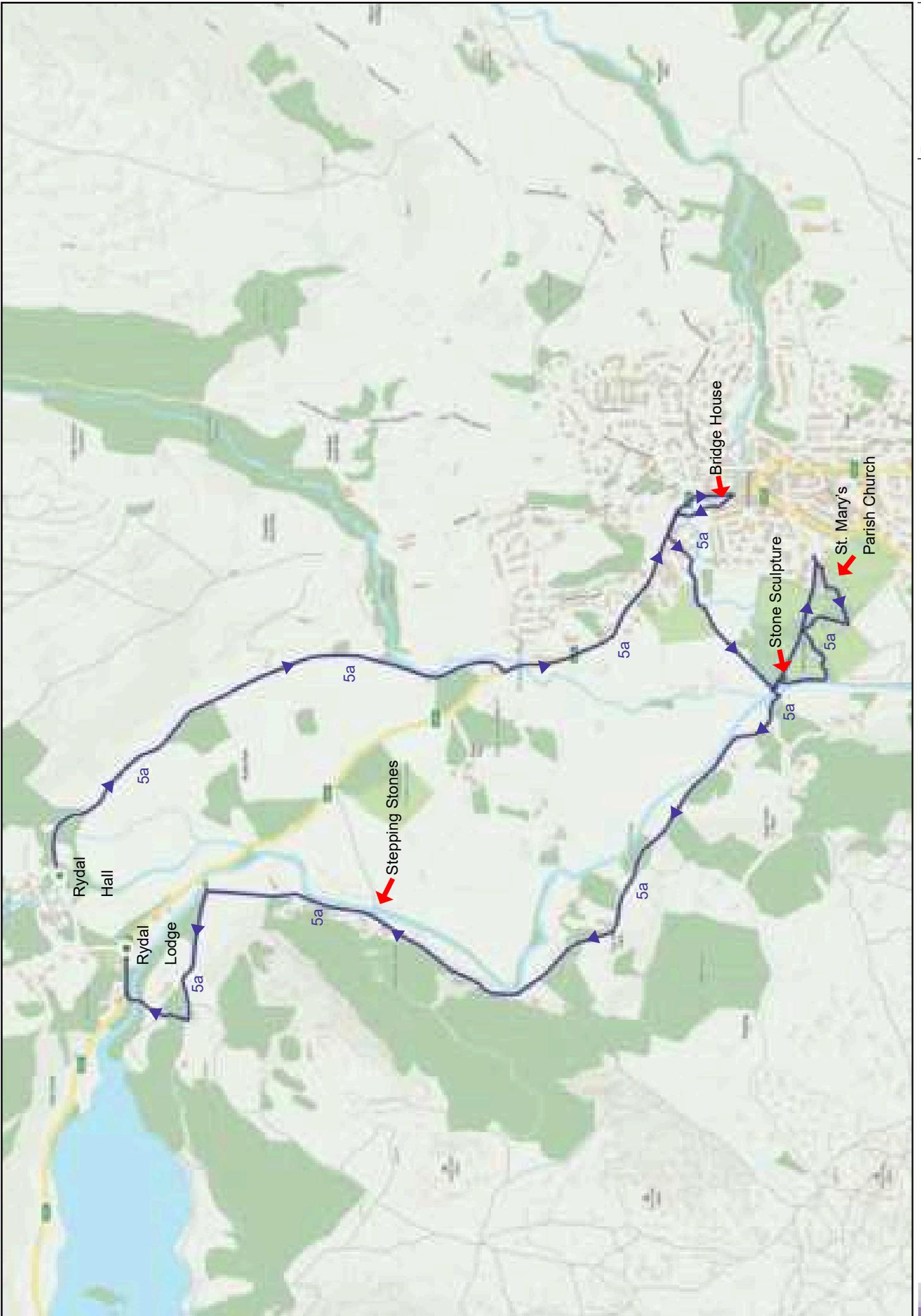
Daffodils in Dora's Field



Ornamental steps & church viewed from Dora's Field

Bracken & bluebells in Dora's Field

WALK 5A EXTENDED RYDAL TO AMBLESIDE WALK



Route Information

Walk 5a extended Rydal to Ambleside walk ~ This walk takes in more of the Rydal area, keeping off the main road as much as is possible. It takes in St Mary's Parish Church, Bridge House, the stone sculpture and more in Ambleside.

Route Summary

Total Distance 6.64 km (4.13 mi)
 Elevation 43 m at lowest point
 81 m at highest point
 Total Ascent 75 m

Distance	Duration	Difficulty:
6.64 km	01:48	Easy
Activity Type	Total Ascent	
Hiking	74.51 m	

Elevation Profile



Walk Section 5a

(Ambleside detour)

0%	0%	0%	1x	0%	5%	1	3
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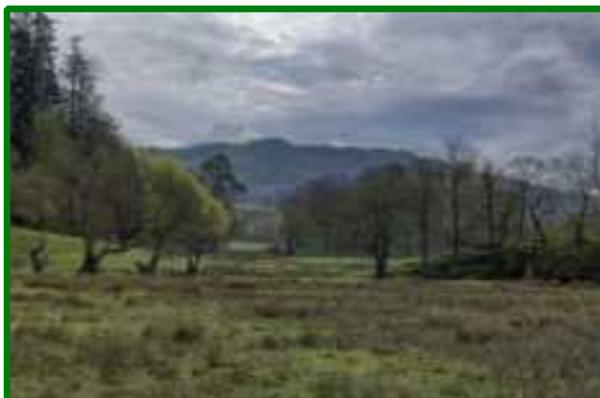
Log & Bluebells in Dora's Field



Stone sculpture in park



Stepping stones on Rothay



Wet meadow down by Under Loughrigg



Crag opposite the wet meadow