Distance:

Approx 4.5 miles

Time Taken:

Approx 2-3 hours

Terrain:

Mostly rocky mountain paths and tracks. Small amounts of road / path.

Total ascent / descent: 2251 ft

686 m

Dog Friendliness:

This walk is very dog friendly and dogs can be off the lead for almost all the walk. They should be kept on the lead from the car park until you pass New Dungeon Ghyll hotel. Be mindful of any sheep on the fells and keep dogs under close control if there are any around.

Toilets / Refreshments:

Toilets are available to use for customers of New Dungeon Ghyll, Sticklebarn and the Old Dungeon Ghyll

Parking:

Available at the New Dungeon Ghyll, Sticklebarn or Old Dungeon Ghyll. There is also a regular bus service from Ambleside.

OS Maps:

OL6

The Langdale Pikes

Background:

The Langdale Pikes are in Great Langdale in the English Lake District. The epithet Great distinguishing it from the neighbouring valley of Little Langdale. Great Langdale was an important site in during the Neolithic period for producing stone axes and was also one of the centres of the Lakeland slate industry. Among the best-known features of Great Langdale are the Langdale Pikes, a group of peaks on the northern side of the dale. The Langdale Pikes consist of Pike of Stickle, Loft Crag, Harrison Stickle and Pavey Ark.

Route Description:

We parked in the large field opposite New Dungeon Ghyll Hotel and started our walk from here. There was plenty of space and cost around £5 for the full day. Cross the B5343 and head past the New Dungeon Ghyll hotel following the footpath along the left-hand side of Stickle Ghyll then crossing the Ghyll around halfway up across a footbridge. The path follows the Ghyll all the way up to Stickle Tarn.

Once you reach Stickle Tarn, follow the path anti-clockwise around the tarn heading to the back side of Pavey Ark. You can take the route up Jack's Rake which, when facing Pavey Ark from Stickle tarn runs from the lower right to the upper left. This is marked on the OS Map as a black dotted line. The path around Stickle Tarn and up to Pavey Ark is clear and in good condition. The views from here are some of the best in the Lake District and on a clear day you can see, Scafell Pike, Helvellyn and Grisedale Pike.

From Pavey Ark the route across to Harrison Stickle is clear and easy to follow. Once you have 'bagged' Harrison Stickle, follow the path down the back and head westerly towards Pike of Stickle. You have to descend around 100 meters from Harrison Stickle and then ascend around 80 meters to reach the summit of Pike of Stickle. That's another Langdale ticked off. Once you've enjoyed Pike of Stickle head downwards and easterly towards Loft Crag. There is another short ascent to Loft Crag, but this is the final summit. The paths on the Langdale Pikes are very clear and easy to follow, but as will all hillwalking it is very easy to get lost should the weather come in, so make sure you have a map and compass with you at all times.

Once you have finished enjoying the views descent Loft Crag, following the path back down to the start at Stickle Ghyll. The path down again is very clear and easy to follow, it passes Dungeon Ghyll Force, which is worth a visit on the way down, especially on a hot day.

Points of Interest:

There are 360-degree views of the Lake District, Stickle Tarn, Jacks Rake if you're feeling daring and want to try a scramble and Old Dungeon Ghyll Force.

Recommended:

These are places we've stayed / drank / eaten and enjoyed.

Accommodation:

Great Langdale National Trust Campsite.

Refreshments:

New Dungeon Ghyll Old Dungeon Ghyll

Outdoor Gear:

None in Langdale

