



## ▶ A Train Lover's Tour of the Coast

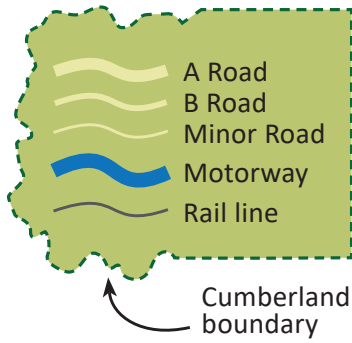
The Cumbrian Coast Line is a fantastic route to explore by train, with beautiful views from your window and stations offering access to some of the coast's most interesting sights and attractions. Get inspired with this itinerary, taking in history, heritage and a whole lot more.

### ★ Highlights

- Heritage attractions
- Stunning coastal views
- Roman history



## MAP & KEY



- Points of interest
  - Open all year
  - On public transport route
  - Parking
  - Accessible Parking/ Drop off point
  - Wheelchair access
  - Accessible toilets
  - Hearing loop
  - Refreshments available
  - EV Charger
  - Wifi
  - Dog Friendly
- ACCOMMODATION ONLY:**
- Star Rating
  - Price indicator
- VE/AA Visit England / AA



Please note, this map is for illustrative purposes only. Not all routes are suitable for all vehicles.

## Good to know

The Cumbrian Coast Line is operated by **Northern**, with tickets available online and via the Northern app, as well as through third party operators. Northern offers group travel tickets, with discounts available for groups of 10+. A partnership scheme is available for tour operators and travel agencies, with monthly invoicing and a dedicated support team.

Start / finish: Ravenglass / Carlisle

- Ravenglass station can be reached via direct services from Carlisle and Lancaster, which connects with major destinations across the UK.
- Carlisle station is well connected with the UK, with direct services from major cities in England and Scotland.

*Travelling from the north?  
Simply reverse the itinerary!*





© Ravenglass & Eskdale Railway Co

## DAY 1

### 1 Ravenglass

Your journey begins in Ravenglass: the only coastal village in the Lake District National Park. It is home to the ruins of a Roman Bath House - among the tallest Roman structures surviving in northern Britain - and offers outstanding estuary views.

#### The Ravenglass & Eskdale Railway Station, Main St, Ravenglass CA18 1SW

Affectionately known as La'al Ratty, this iconic route is one of the oldest and longest narrow gauge railways in England and transports passengers on a stunning seven-mile journey. Hop on board at Ravenglass and chug across the estuary, through the hills and up the line to the spectacular Eskdale Valley.

A number of special experiences are available to groups, including behind the scene tours with a museum guide; cream teas; an engine shed tour; and upgraded first class travel.

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- [www](http://www.ravenglass-railway.co.uk)

#### Ravenglass Railway Museum Station, Main St, Ravenglass CA18 1SW

Based at Ravenglass railway station, this free museum tells the story of La'al Ratty's 150 year history and delves deeper into the history of the local area.

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- [www](http://www.ravenglass-railway.co.uk)

**DID YOU KNOW?** Ravenglass is uniquely located in not one, but two UNESCO World Heritage Sites - Hadrian's Wall and the English Lake District!

### Group Travel

**Group Size:** 10 - 250 people.  
**Open:** March - October.  
**Parking Facilities:** Free on-site parking; please pre-book.  
**Food & Drink:** Cafe on site. Group catering available, with options including breakfasts, lunches and cream teas. Pre-booking required.  
**Accessibility:** Autism friendly, Disabled access, Disabled toilets, Facilities for hearing impaired, Facilities for visually impaired, Menus in audible format, Wheelchairs available. A Changing Places facility at Ravenglass station.  
**Languages:** English only tours.  
**Rate Information:** FIT trade rate. Group rates available.

**DID YOU KNOW?** Some of the museum's locomotive collection takes to the tracks during the summer months - call ahead for availability.



© Muncaster Castle

## Where To Stay

### THE PENNINGTON HOTEL

Main St, Ravensglass CA18 1SQ

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www

#### Group Travel

**Group Size:** Small groups.

**Nights:** No minimum stay.

**Parking:** Car parking on site.

**Food & Drink:** Dining available at The Estuary Bar & Grill on site.

**Languages:** English.

**Rates:** Please contact to discuss bespoke requests for small groups.

## DAY 2

### 2 Muncaster

Visit one of Britain's most haunted castles - now home to much more than just ghosts and ghouls! A day out in its own right, Muncaster Castle is a 1.5 mile walk from Ravensglass Station.

**TOP TIP:** Keep an eye out for events throughout the year, from live music and medieval celebrations to an annual sausage festival.

#### Muncaster Castle

Ravenglass, CA18 1RQ

Owned and inhabited by the Pennington family for centuries, you can wander through the extensive gardens, explore the castle and catch a bird of prey show. It's not uncommon to see the family working in the cafe or playing dress up at the various events which take place throughout the year.

2024 saw the opening of the Medieval Weapons Hall, where you can try your hand at becoming a medieval knight with activities like axe throwing, archery and jousting!

Heritage Experiences: meet the Pennington family with a private tour and formal dining in the castle. Special events, festivals, group bookings and weddings.

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www

#### Group Travel

**Group Size:** 1 - 500 people.

**Open:** March - October.

**Parking Facilities:** Free car parking (accessible car park by Muncaster Church). Free coach parking - please get in touch to book.

**Food & Drink:** Two cafes on site. Catering packages and dining option for groups in cafe, function suite and castle.

**Accessibility:** Wheelchair accessible.

**Languages:** English.

**Rate Information:** FIT trade rate.

Group rates available.



## DAY 3

# St Bees & Whitehaven

Explore the pretty village of St Bees, with its expansive sandy beach and striking red cliffs; and Whitehaven, where you can explore the port town's rich history and heritage.

**DID YOU KNOW?** St Bees Head is the only heritage coast between Scotland and Wales. It's home to a wide variety of wildlife, including puffins, razorbills and herring gulls.

## 3 St Bees

### St Bees Village

The pretty village of St Bees has a rich history dating back more than 1,000 years. Don't miss a trip to St Bees Priory Church: dating from 1120, it's open daily and features history displays, including the story of 'St Bees Man'.

### St Bees Beach

The sandy beach of St Bees is great for a walk, as well as for making sandcastles and paddling. There's lots of fun to be had exploring its tidal rock pools, too! Enjoy a stroll along the wide beachside promenade.

#### TOP TIP:

Be sure to check tide times before you visit.

## Where To Stay

### STONE HOUSE FARM B&B

133 Main St, St Bees CA27 0DE

 [www](#)

#### Group Travel:

Group Size: Up to 16 people / 10 Rooms.

Nights: No minimum stay.

Parking: 30 metres from the train station.

Languages: English.

### THE MELBREAK HOTEL

Winscales Road, Great Clifton,  
Workington CA14 1XS

 [www](#)

#### Group Travel:

Group Size: Up to 30 people / 37 Rooms.

Nights: No minimum stay.

Parking: Large car park, 6 EVC points.

Food & Drink: Restaurant and bar offering lunch and dinner.

Accessibility: Not fully accessible.

Languages: English.

### St Bees Head Nature Reserve

Beach Rd, St Bees, CA27 0EN

St Bees Head is home to an RSPB nature reserve which features the only cliff-nesting seabird colony in north-west England and is the only place in England where Black Guillemot breed. The sandstone cliffs offer sweeping sea views and a fascinating array of flora and fauna.



## DAY 3

# St Bees & Whitehaven

From St Bees, it's a short train ride to the town of Whitehaven: once the third largest maritime port in the UK, with trade links around the world. It's also home to the final resting place of the first U.S President George Washington's grandmother, Mildred Gale, who is buried in St Nicholas Gardens.

## 4 Whitehaven

### The Beacon Museum

West Strand, Whitehaven CA28 7LY

Overlooking the harbour, this fascinating museum tells the story of the local area, with interactive exhibits on its social, industrial and maritime heritage. There's also a viewing gallery offering breath-taking views of the Solway Coast.



www

### The Rum Story

27 Lowther St, Whitehaven CA28 7DN

Learn more about Cumbria and Whitehaven's role in the spice and rum trade at this immersive and thought-provoking indoor attraction, which features exhibits in the original cellars and bonded warehouses of 1785.



www



### DID YOU KNOW?

Whitehaven's street layout was the blueprint for the expansion of New York!

## Group Travel

### The Beacon Museum

**Group Size:** 1 - 500 people.

**Open:** All year.

**Parking Facilities:** Pay & Display car park on site. Nearby coach parking.

**Food & Drink:** Cafe situated on ground floor.

**Accessibility:** All floors except the Pop Gallery Mezzanine are accessible to wheelchair users. Accessible toilets, changing facilities.

**Languages:** English.

**Rate Information:** FIT trade rate.

Group rates available.

### The Rum Story

**Group Size:** 15 - 50 people.

**Open:** All year.

**Parking Facilities:** Pay & Display car parking within a few minutes walk. Loading bay outside museum for coach drop off.

**Accessibility:** Wheelchair accessible. Lift access to all floors. Accessible toilet, changing facilities.

**Languages:** English.

**Rate Information:** Group rates available.



## DAY 4

### 5 Maryport

The harbour town of Maryport offers plenty to explore, from Roman history to sea creatures. Look out to sea from the recently installed boardwalk and see if you can spot a harbour porpoise! Check out the Lowry Art Trail, browse independent shops and delve into a treasure trove of history and heritage at the Maryport Maritime Museum (seasonal opening times).

#### Senhouse Roman Museum

The Battery, The Promenade,  
Maryport CA15 6JD

Stood atop Maryport's cliffs (with Rome conveniently signposted), The Senhouse Roman Museum tells the story of the Romans in Cumbria. It's home to an internationally significant collection of Roman artefacts including military altars, sculptures and objects which highlight the area's rich history and heritage.

Guided tours of the Roman fort are available on a pre-booking basis.

 [www](http://www.senhousemuseum.com)

#### The Lake District Coast Aquarium

South Quay, Maryport CA15 8AB

Home to 75+ displays showcasing a diverse collection of marine life from across the Cumbrian and UK coastline. Explore the SeaLab extension with a microscope, visit the lobster hatchery project and see a coral display that kids can climb inside. There's also a 14-hole mini golf course, an adventure playground, and a fishing tackle shop.

Guided tours are available, these are free for pre-booked groups and can be adapted to suit all ages and interest levels.

 [www](http://www.lake-district-aquarium.com)

### Group Travel

#### Senhouse Roman Museum

**Group Size:** 10 - 60 people.

**Open:** All year.

**Parking Facilities:** Free car and coach parking on site.

**Food & Drink:** Light refreshments available.

**Accessibility:** Autism friendly, wheelchair accessible, accessible toilets.

**Languages:** English only tours.

**Rate Information:** Group rates available.

Free entry for guide, complimentary refreshment for coach driver.

#### The Lake District Coast Aquarium

**Group Size:** 20 - 40 people.

**Open:** All year.

**Parking Facilities:** Free parking on site.

**Food & Drink:** Light refreshments available including hot drinks, cakes and scones. Meals for groups can be pre-booked outside of school holidays.

**Accessibility:** Wheelchair accessible, accessible toilets, wheelchairs available.

**Languages:** English.

**Rate Information:** Group rates available.



Once you've explored, hop back on the train and head for Carlisle to spend your final night on your train tour of the western Cumbrian coast.

## Where To Stay

### The Halston Hotel, Carlisle

Stylish, modern apart-hotel in the city centre.

  (public)      ££

[www](#)

### The Crown & Mitre Hotel

City centre hotel with Edwardian grandeur.

       ££

[www](#)

### Group Travel:

**Rooms:** 22 self catering apartments.

**Nights:** No minimum stay.

**Parking:** Parking available at nearby Pay & Display car parks.

**Food & Drink:** Dining available at the on-site bar / restaurants. Event spaces cater to large groups and events.

**Languages:** English.

### Group Travel:

**Rooms:** 91 rooms.

**Nights:** No minimum stay.

**Parking:** Parking available at nearby Pay & Display car parks.

**Food & Drink:** Dining available at the on-site bar and restaurant.

**Languages:** English.

## Save the date...

### The Egremont Crab Fair & World Gurning Championships

If you're visiting in September, keep an eye out for this quirky event, founded by Royal Charter in 1267 and held on the third weekend of the month. There are traditional sports, entertainment, local stalls, and the popular World Gurning Championships - which see participants compete to see who can pull the most grotesque face!





## DAY 5

### 6 Carlisle

For your final day, it's time to explore Carlisle: the only city in Cumbria, and a place steeped in history. Its centrally located train station is well connected with national destinations.

#### Carlisle Castle Castle Way, Carlisle CA3 8UR

Standing proud in the city centre, Carlisle Castle is testament to the city's storied past: it was once the home of an imprisoned Mary Queen of Scots, and endured the last siege suffered by a fortress in England. Indeed, it was the most besieged fortress in Britain! Today, it's managed by English Heritage and is open to the public who can step back in time and explore.



www

**TOP TIP:** Keep hold of your train ticket, as there's a 20% discount for anyone arriving car-free.

### Group Travel

**Carlisle Castle**  
**Open:** All year.  
**Parking Facilities:** No coach parking on site. Parking available in Devonshire Walk car park (Pay & Display), approx. 5 minute walk to Castle entrance.  
**Accessibility:** Accessible toilets, wheelchair access to some parts of the castle.  
**Languages:** English.  
**Rate Information:** Group rates available.

## Watch out for...

The Settle - Carlisle railway line weaves its way across Cumbria via an incredibly scenic route. Trains are operated by Northern, and it's a great way to get to Cumbria's only city.





© Carlisle Cathedral

## DAY 5

### 6 Carlisle

#### Carlisle Cathedral

The Abbey, Carlisle CA3 8TZ

Discover over 900 years of history at Carlisle Cathedral. Built in 1122, it's one of England's smallest ancient cathedrals. Marvel at the architecture, learn more about its rich history, and enjoy a moment of calm in the middle of Cumbria's only city. Be sure to look up: the Cathedral's blue starry ceiling is a key feature, and one which plays a role in events like the popular "Rest Under the Stars" installation.

Bespoke tours from dedicated guides are available, with the change to enjoy a special interest tour tailored to your preferences.

There's also a monthly Farmer's Market, which takes place in the Cathedral grounds on the first Saturday of the month.



www

#### TOP TIP:

**How about Afternoon Tea in the Cathedral?**  
Afternoon Teas are served in the majestic Fraternity Hall, or in the popular Cathedral Cafe. Must be booked 48 hours in advance.

## Group Travel

### Carlisle Cathedral

**Open:** All year.

**Parking Facilities:** Parking is available at various Pay & Display car parks nearby, including English Damside, Viaduct and Devonshire Walk.

**Food & Drink:** Cafe on site. Refreshments can be pre-booked, private dining space is available on request.

**Accessibility:** Wheelchair access is available to the Cathedral itself, including a wheelchair lift to the Treasury Exhibition. A visual story is available to download.

**Languages:** English.

**Rate Information:** Group rates available.

## Where to Eat

### Carlisle Cathedral Cafe

Carlisle Cathedral, Carlisle CA3 8TZ

A modern cafe set in the grounds of Carlisle Cathedral, with indoor and outdoor seating.

www