

Passport 2 Pedalling

Great cycling activities for all the family in the Lake District and Cumbria.

With mountains and valleys, miles of mature forest, endless lake and coastal shores, the landscape of Cumbria makes an amazing place to go cycling.

Complete novice or seasoned cyclist, family and friends, individuals and groups, there are great routes across the county for everyone to discover and enjoy.

Inspired by the London games, Passport 2 Pedalling aims to make it easy to get involved in cycling in the Lake District and Cumbria and for everyone to have great fun on two wheels!

for more information visit www.golakes.co.uk/p2p

take up the 2012 challenge!



Can you ride 2012 Cumbrian miles before the London games?

A few miles here and there or a weekend 'epic', join in at www.golakes.co.uk/p2p, record your rides and you could win new bikes worth up to £1,000!*

It's **FREE** to take part and open to everyone!

*Terms and Conditions apply. For full details of the 2012 Challenge, entry details and prizes, visit www.golakes.co.uk/p2p



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Cumbria

passport 2 pedalling

Hodge Close Quarry mountain bike route

Route 5 - Hodge Close Quarry



An enjoyable mountain bike ride on gravel and stony tracks with views across the Langdale Pikes and down into the depths of Hodge Close.

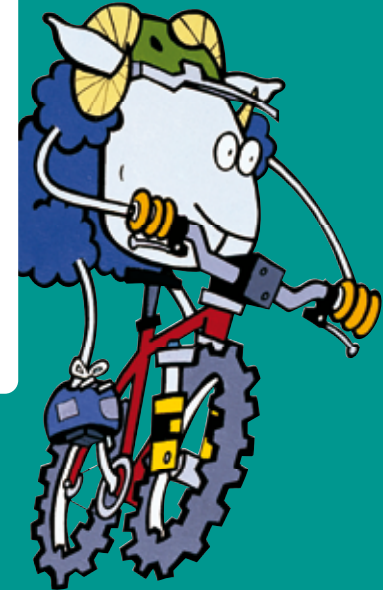
Distance: 3.85 miles (6.2km)

Nearest Town: Ambleside

Start Location: Tilberthwaite Car Park

Directions to Start (by car):

From Ambleside head out on the A593 towards Coniston. Go through Skelwith Bridge. Look out for a sign on your right to Hodge Close, but do not take this right turn; instead, take the next turn signed to Tilberthwaite. The car park is on the left.



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Hodge Close Quarry mountain bike route

the route

From the car park turn left up the road to the farm. Walk through the farmyard, go through the gate on the right next to the stone barn and past the sign reading "Public Bridleway, no vehicles".

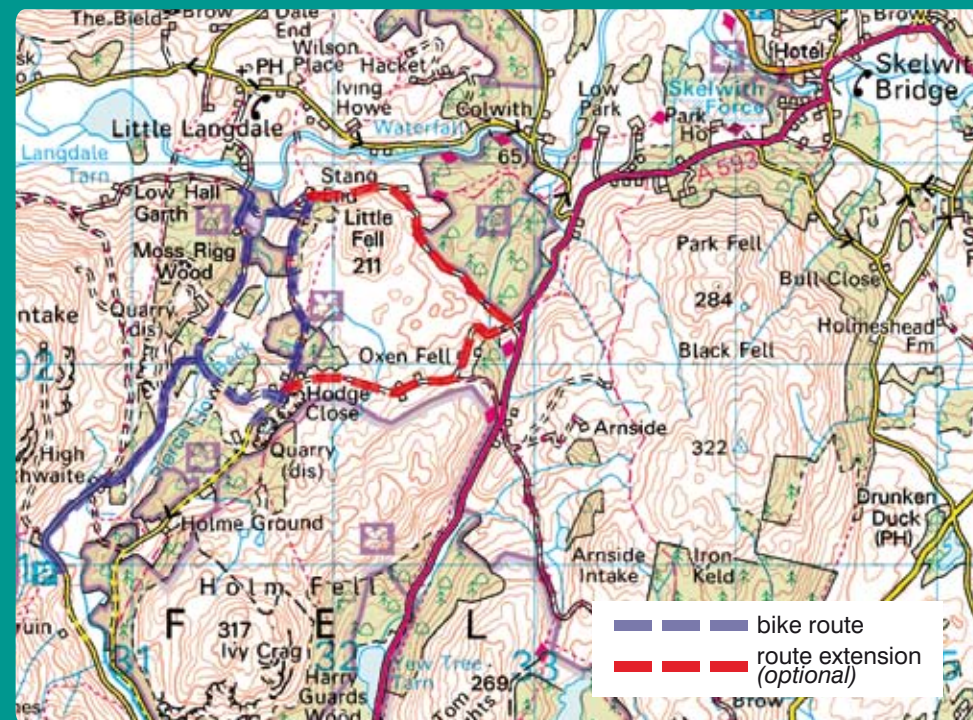
This stony track first climbs then descends to a gate 500m from the farm. Just after this gate on the left is a large heap of slate left over from the old quarries. A further 200m brings you to a path junction. Take the right path and beware of the short rocky descent to another path junction. Here you find a small bowl to the right which you can ride your bike in. (Take note of this junction for your return as you will pass it again later).

Take the left main path and, if you are using a compass, follow a bearing of 17°. This path is rocky with a fast start. You then come to another gate across the path. 330m from this gate you come to a junction with a ford crossing and bridge. At this point you can go left, following the river but not crossing it, and have a look at Cathedral Quarry, 30m further up the path. You will see stone steps in the wall and a small green sign. Climb up the slate path and enter the quarry (this may be slippery – proceed at your own risk).

Go back to the ford junction and as you look back the way you came you see the path forks – take the left, signed to 'Coniston via Hodge Close route 37'. The path bends round to the left and then continues on tarmac after the bridge.

Beware of cars as you climb up the road and over the cattle grid to the white house. Look for the sign to Hodge Close on the path up to the right. This is also the point where you can bolt the extension loop on (carry on up the road, signed to "Colwith"). The extension has steeper and longer tarmac climbs and has longer rocky descents.

Staying on the main route, take the right turn signed to Hodge Close. Stay on this track past a slate house called the Wythe Home. Go through the gate and immediately take the path to the right (main track). The surface is tarmac but be careful of slate on the road as you weave through the houses right then left.



for more routes visit www.golakes.co.uk/p2p

Stop just before the houses where you "S" weaved through. Look right and you will see 3 gates. Take the gate in the middle with the sign on saying "Please Close The Gate, No Vehicle Access".

Before taking this turn you can go 200m further along the road to look down into Hodge Close Quarry on your left - be careful as there are steep drops with no railings so take special care with young children.

From the gate the path twists downwards to the next gate, then a junction where your middle track goes through an alley of slate. In wet weather water flows down this path and can make it look like a small stream! After 30m the slate stops and the path is smoother again, twisting down then back up to the bowl junction you passed earlier.

Turn left and retrace your ride back to the car park.

