

# walks from the railway in the western lake district

## *Black Combe Walk*

As the train makes its way around the Duddon Estuary the impressive profile of Black Combe dominates the skyline. Between sea and mountains, this modest peak has some of the best long distance views in the country.

**Start/Finish:** Silecroft Railway Station (GR SD 130 819)

**Distance:** 15.2km (9.5 miles)

**Time:** 5 hours

**Height gain:** 665m

**Maps:** OS Landranger 96, OS Outdoor Leisure 6,  
Harveys' Superwalker (1:25 000) Lakeland South & Western Lakeland,  
British Mountain Maps Lake District (1:40 000)

1. Turn left out of the station, through the village, past the Miners' Arms to a junction. Turn left along the A5093 for 250m to a junction. Turn right; follow the A595 to a lane on the left for Kirkbank.
2. Take the lane at the side of the church to a small group of houses, head around the back of the houses to a junction.
3. Follow the bridleway on the right as it climbs steeply up by the side of Moorgill Beck. The track levels at the top of the gill by Townend Knotts.
4. Climb north to the summit of Black Combe (shelter and trig point). For a shorter walk retrace your steps back to Silecroft.
5. Descend to the northeast; follow the vague path as it skirts the top of Black Combe Scree and swings north. Go north then northwest down the steep grassy slope past the head of Hentoe Beck to pick up a track.
6. Follow this west then north then southwest across fellside for 2.5km to cross a ford. Follow the good track south for 3.2km past Whitbeck to join the A595 at Townend Hall.
7. Go south east for 2.4km to the turn off for Silecroft and back to the station.
8. If the A595 is busy a high level path is available. At Townend Hall turn left and follow the path beside Townend Gill. Above the intake wall the path climbs across the fellside to a level shoulder. Continue south east across the shoulder then follow the path down a steep hairpin bend to the Black Combe bridleway. Turn right and retrace your steps to the station.

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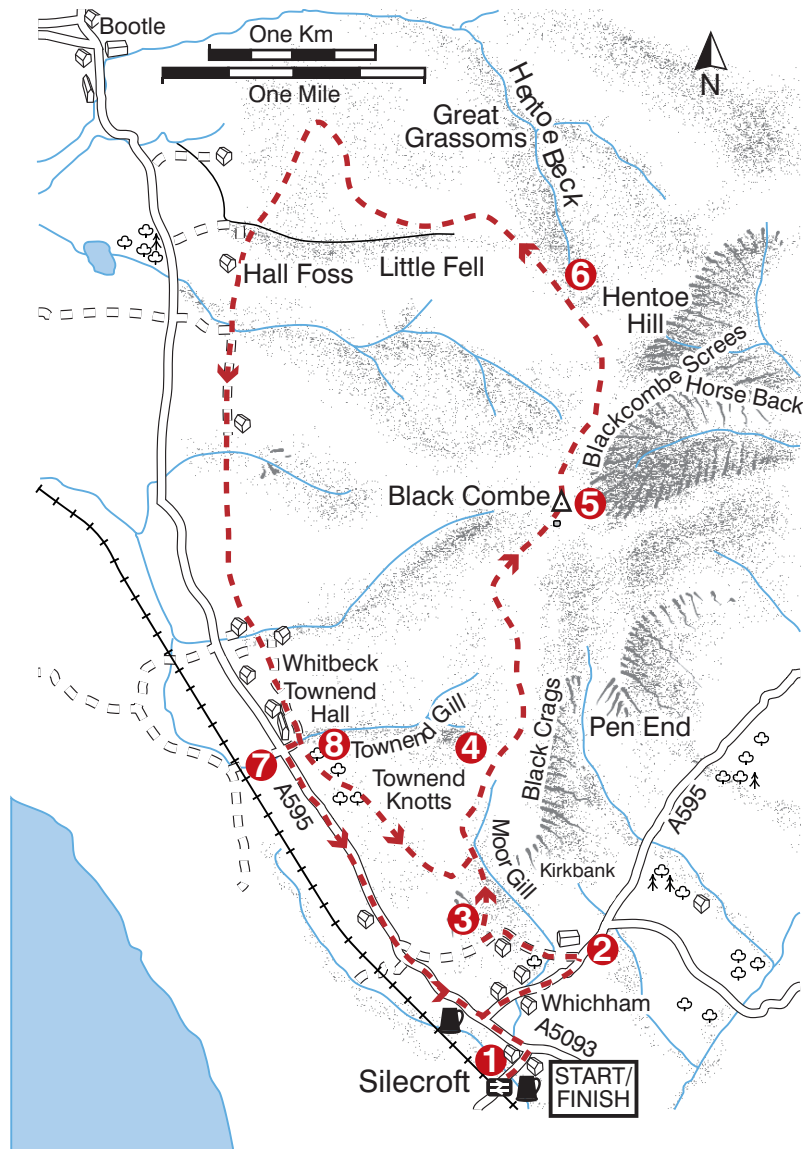
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Before setting off on any of these walks please make sure you have plotted the route using the appropriate map.

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