

Miles Without Stiles 31: Portinscale Riverbank Loop

Conditions update

The section alongside the bottom of the A66 embankment is overgrown and the fence has been damaged by the 2009 floods. It is currently too narrow for pushchairs. We are hoping to repair this section using funding from our flood recovery programme.

Details

Route type: For many. This is a pleasant short circuit along the banks of the River Derwent, taking in Portinscale village - OS Explorer Map OL4

Distance: 1.5 km or 0.9 mile circuit

Start and end point: Road end by suspension bridge - grid ref. NY 253237

Facilities: Pubs, shops and tea room in Portinscale village

Getting there: Bus: Honister Rambler 77 / 77A stops at Portinscale eight times a day from March to November and the 86 service three times a day in winter months. Car: From A66 follow signs to Portinscale. Parking is limited in the village so bus may be the best option

Route

Where the road through Portinscale splits by Harney Peak apartments, take the left fork past the Derwentwater Hotel to the suspension bridge. Do not cross the bridge, instead go left along a grassy but well drained path along the riverbank. This pleasant meadow area has benches for those who want to sit and watch the river wildlife. Look out for dippers, either flying low across the water, or bobbing up and down on stones. There are herons and mallards too.

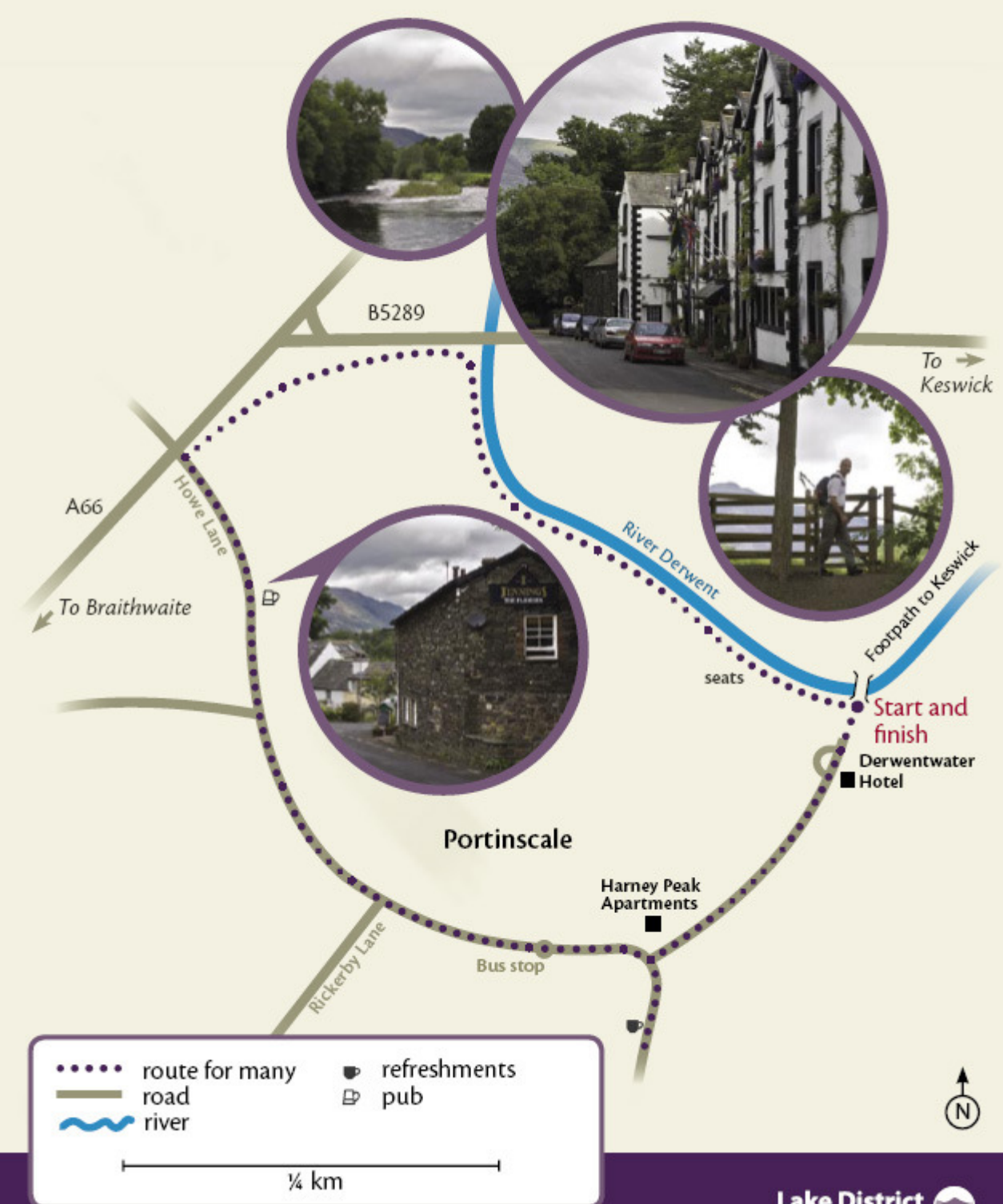
The path rises on a 1:10 gradient to a fully accessible kissing gate. It crosses further riverside meadows and is a popular place for local fishermen. Skiddaw provides an impressive backdrop.

Go through another kissing gate. The path turns left along the bottom of the B5289 road embankment. The path parallels the A66 for a short while, before turning left through a gateway into Howe Lane. This leads back to the main Portinscale road by the Farmer's Arms pub. Cross the road to use the pavement which leads back to Harney Peak apartments. The village tearoom is 75 metres to the right and has disabled toilets.

Map

Route 31: Portinscale Riverbank Loop route: for many

Route
31



Lake District
National Park