

Naturefriends

— Great Britain —



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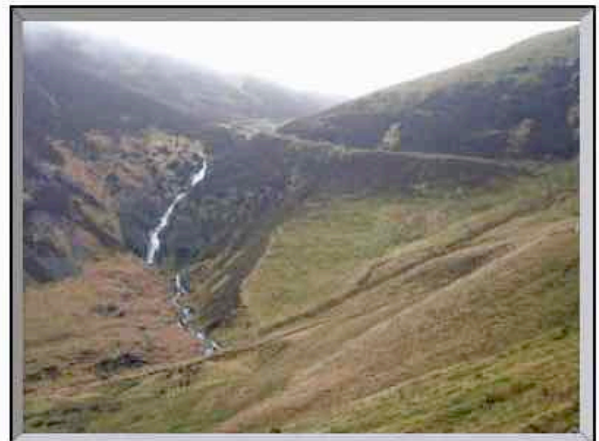


Skiddaw Friends of Nature House, Bassenthwaite, Keswick, Cumbria CA12 4QX

Welcome to Skiddaw Friends of Nature House!

Skiddaw House is a century-old cottage, formerly used by shepherds and gamekeepers. It is the highest hostel in Britain at 1550 feet/470 metres above sea level and is three miles/five kms from the nearest road. We look forward to seeing you up at Skiddaw Friends of Nature House soon!

Martin and Marie-Pierre



The House:

The rustic and cosy self catering house includes 20 beds in 4 dormitories, flush toilets, gas ring cookers, limited hot water and wood burning stoves. All of which help create a very special atmosphere in a unique landscape. The house is open for most of the year, but it is recommended that you make sure it is open before travelling, or make a reservation. Please see further down on this page for details of how to do this.

Opening Dates and Times for 2008:

- * The house will be CLOSED from 1st January to 29th February 2008.
- * The house will be OPEN EVERY DAY from 1st March to 31st October 2008.
- * From 1st November to 31st December 2008 the house is available to GROUPS ONLY.
- * Arrivals are welcome from 5.00 p.m., and we would be grateful if you could try to depart by 10.00 a.m.

Price List from 1st March 2008:

Prices are per person and include bed linen.

- * Over 21 £14.00 per night
- * 16 to 21 £10.00 per night
- * Under 16 £7.00 per night
- * Camping (all ages) £7.00 per night
- * Self Help Breakfast Trolley meal £2.75

Discounts are available for IFN members.

See the bottom of this page,

Facilities:

Skiddaw Friends of Nature House is a remote Youth Hostel, but can offer the following facilities:

- * The house opens at 5pm each day, but there is shelter available during the day if needed.
- * 20 beds in 4, 5 and 6 bedded rooms.
- * Hot water, shower and indoor toilets.
- * A gas-heated drying room.
- * A self-catering kitchen. 'Help Yourself' breakfast available for £2.75 per person.
- * A small shop selling basic supplies.
- * A comfortable common room with coal and wood burning stove.
- * 24v lighting. There is no mains electricity - please bring a torch.
- * Camping is available.

Smoking:

For the comfort of all our guests smoking is not permitted anywhere in the house.

Local Attractions and Activities

**** Skiddaw Friends of Nature House has It All ****

*** Walking in the area**

Skiddaw House makes an excellent base or stop-over point for those exploring the northern fells of the Lake District.

Skiddaw, one of Lakeland's four 'three thousand footers' can be climbed via the north-east ridge of Lonscale Fell - curiously named 'Burnt Horse' - then over Little Man to the summit. Descend via Sale How, which points you straight back towards the house. The landscape nearby is full of interest for naturalists, (including a S.S.S.I. - Site of Special Scientific Interest) and the fine series of waterfalls at Whitewater Dash are only 1.5 miles north-west.

The rest of the open fell country, known locally as 'Back o' Skiddaw', provides some delightful walking. A splendid introduction to the area is a walk over Great Calva and Knott, taking in the dramatic gorge and waterfalls of Roughton Gill en route to High Pike, and then returning via Grainsgill Beck and the Caldew Valley.

*** Inter-hostel walking routes**

Various walks from Skiddaw House link up with Keswick, Cockermouth, Borrowdale and Derwent Water hostels. Details of these routes are available from Skiddaw House. Please feel free to ask for advice.

*** The Cumbria Way**

Skiddaw House lies on the Cumbria Way, a 70-mile walk through the heart of the Lake District National Park, and makes an ideal out-of-the-way alternative to staying in Keswick. Starting at Ulverston on the shores of Morecambe Bay, the route goes north across green valleys and wild fells, through attractive villages and along lake shores, ending in Carlisle.

*** Mountain Biking**

Skiddaw House is situated at the intersection of bridleways linking Bassenthwaite, Mosedale and Threlkeld and Keswick. It is therefore an ideal place for an overnight stop on a mountain biking tour of the Northern Lakes. Bikes can be hired in Keswick and all backup services are available there. Your bikes can be securely stored overnight, and a welcome rest - and good company - can be enjoyed before continuing on your way in the morning.

How to find us:

Skiddaw House is situated at OS Grid Reference NY 288 291

Ordnance Survey:

1:25,000 Explorer Map Sheet OL4 - The English Lakes: NW Area

or:

1:50,000 Landranger Map Sheet 90 - Penrith & Keswick.

Geo-coordinates are: 54.652093 -3.1062439

Reaching us:

There is no access for vehicles and you must be prepared to walk for at least an hour.

Public Transport:

Bus: Public services X4 or X5 (Penrith - Workington) pass through Threlkeld (5 miles) and Keswick (6 miles).

Rail: The nearest stations are Aspatria (11 miles), Penrith (20 miles - then take X4 or X5 bus to Threlkeld or Keswick), or Windermere (24 miles - then take the 555 bus service to Keswick).

For further full information on accessing Skiddaw Hostel please go to:

[<http://tinyurl.com/arpufh>].

Reservations and Enquiries:

To make a booking or check availability:

By Post to: Skiddaw House, Bassenthwaite, Keswick, Cumbria CA12 4QX

E-mail enquiries to the Warden: skiddawhouse@yahoo.co.uk

Telephone: +44 (0)7747 174293 (Mobile)

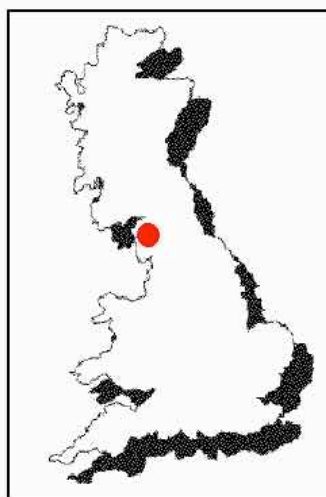
Please allow plenty of time to send and receive responses - postal mail can take up to a week. Also phone reception can be variable in bad weather.

To confirm bookings please send a letter along with full payment (cheques made out to 'Skiddaw House').

PLEASE NOTE:

Naturefriends GB and IFN members will be charged a reduced rate for accommodation providing their IFN membership card is shown at the time of check-in.

Also note that we have no credit or debit card facilities. All payments should be made in advance by cash or cheque.

**Directions**

For full directions to the house we suggest that you visit:

[<http://tinyurl.com/arpufh>]

