



Youth group residentials at Derwentwater Independent Hostel

We have been welcoming youth groups to Derwentwater for over 50 years, and we are delighted that many come back year after year.

You are welcome to lead your own itinerary, or we can help you design and deliver a bespoke itinerary. We do not have our own adventurous activity instructors, but we work very closely with experienced local activity providers Glaramara and Plattyplus, and we can help you make bookings with them.

If you would like a local orientation session, to get to know the house and grounds, then our Education Officer, Katy Moore, would be very happy to provide one. Some groups find this is a good way to start the residential.

Our website www.derwentwater.org contains lots of ideas, resources, and information about the hostel, but please get in touch to discuss your specific requirements. You will also be able to have one free leader orientation visit to help you plan the residential.

Brief hostel information

- 88 bed spaces across 11 bedrooms. Rooms contains bunkbeds, cupboards, and sinks. We can provide you with a room plan to help allocate bed spaces. You would not share rooms with other groups and individuals.
- No ensembles. There are single sex bathrooms, as well as some unisex toilets and showers.
- Pool and table football room, table tennis room, lounge with books and magazines, small TV lounge, self-catering kitchen with seating for up to 30 people, and a large dining room with space for up to about 70 people (this can be used as a meeting place outside of meal times).
- We pride ourselves on our homemade food and can offer a very reasonable full board service (breakfast, packed lunch, and 3 course evening meal) but we understand if you would like to self-cater for some of the meals. If you want to self-cater then it would be good for you to visit us beforehand so that you can see what facilities we have. To keep costs down you can also talk to us about having a more basic evening meal.
- 17 acres of grounds, with a large grass play area, woodland, and a waterfall. Derwent Water is just across the road at the bottom of our driveway, and it is possible to launch canoes and kayaks from there.
- Plenty of space at the hostel for coach and car parking. We are set back from the road and so there is no passing traffic through our grounds.
- 3 miles from Keswick on the Borrowdale Road. Keswick has lots of shops and things to do, including Theatre by the Lake and Keswick Museum. We have a bus stop at the bottom of the driveway and Ashness Jetty (a stop for the Keswick Launch) is a 5 minute walk away.

Our partners

These are the activity providers and organisations that we work most closely with. However, we are able to recommend many other local activity providers and places of interest.

[Keswick Museum](#) (Station Road, Keswick – 3 miles from the hostel): educational sessions and tours of the museum are available, covering a wide variety of topics. A good range of activities in school holidays.

[Platty+](#) (Lodore - 20 minute walk from the hostel): water sports on Derwent Water and Viking activities.

[Wordsworth Trust](#) (Grasmere - 15 mile drive from the hostel): Dove Cottage, Wordsworth Museum, Jerwood Centre, and on and off-site workshops (education officer can come to the hostel).

[National Trust](#) (Borrowdale officers come to the hostel): farm visits and woodland management.

[Glamara](#) (instructors come to the hostel): adventure activities with minibuss transport and equipment provided.

[Classrooms in the Forest at Forestry Commission Whinlatter](#) (7 mile drive from the hostel): a wide range of programmes for Key Stages 1 – 4.

[Low Bridge End Farm](#) (St John's in the Vale - 7 mile drive from the hostel): a Higher Level Stewardship farm which offers free groups visits for farm and forest trails, with talks/activities on particular topics if required.

[Honister Slate Mine](#) (7 mile drive from hostel): a range of guided tours above and below ground, tailored to group interests and ages.

Group prices

Per person per night:

	Under 18	Over 18	Adult group
Full board	£34.80	£42.30	£45.60
Overnight	£16	£22.50	£22.50
Evening meal (3 courses)	£8.50	£8.50	£11.80
Breakfast	£5.50	£5.50	£5.50
Packed lunch	Junior - £4.80	Adult - £5.80	£5.80

One free leader place is available for every ten full board Under 18 bookings. Full board includes bed, evening meal, breakfast and packed lunch.

Adventurous activity with Glaramara = £20 per person (+ VAT) for ½ day activity.
£35 for a full day.

Water sports with Platty+ = in the region of £145 per group of 10 for ½ day activity.

Visits to places like Mirehouse and Keswick Museum = prices vary

Half day activity session with our Education Officer = £2 per person

1 hour orientation session with our Education Officer = free

Enquiries and bookings

- Explore our website www.derwentwater.org.
- Look at the Our Hostel section of the website for detailed information about the hostel facilities.
- Get in touch by phone, email, or a personal visit so that we can discuss your itinerary, accommodation, catering, and travel requirements:
contact@derwentwater.org 017687 77246
- You will be offered a free leader-orientation visit so that you can familiarise yourself with the hostel and the activity areas.
- Our address: Derwentwater Independent Hostel, Barrow House, Borrowdale Road, Keswick, Cumbria, CA12 5UR.