

Access land around the Borrowdale Valley allows you to explore, on foot, one of England's most spectacular and unique landscapes. Together with the local rights of way network there are many opportunities to enjoy this remarkable area. The map on this board shows nearby access land

## The Borrowdale Valley Area

The wild exposed moorland above the Borrowdale and Bretherdale valleys link the Cumbria High Fells to the Howgill Fells. Nowhere else in England do two National Parks (the Lake District and Yorkshire Dales) lie so closely together, giving a vast tract of upland countryside.



Wainwright remarked that Borrowdale "is the finest valley in the former county of Westmorland outside the Lake District National Park." The Friends of the Lake District agreed, and purchased land in the valley where they are involved in tree planting and hay meadow creation.

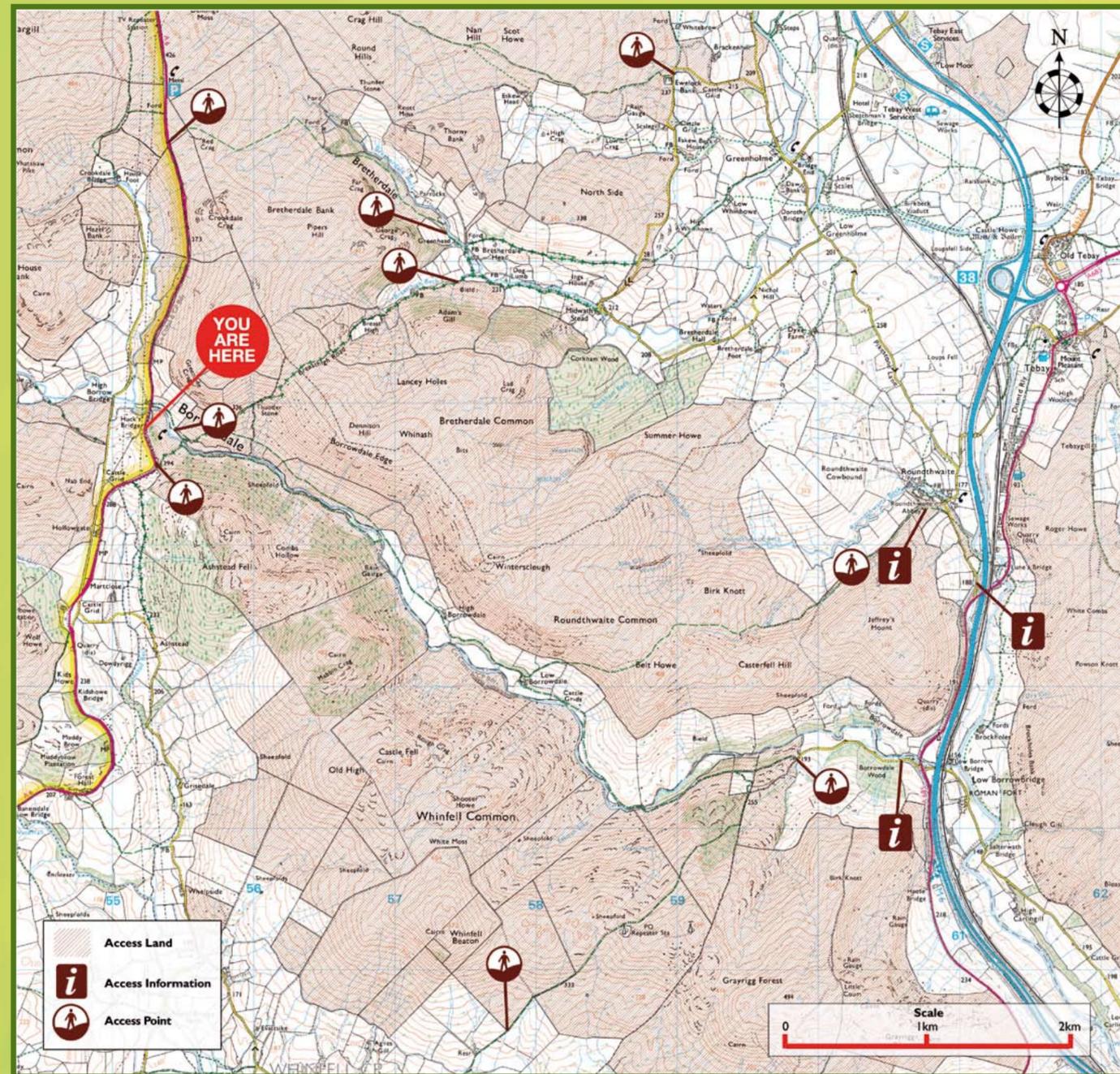


The scattered hamlet of Bretherdale, with its many derelict farm buildings has a pastoral charm of its own.

The fells are a mosaic of habitats: rough grassland, dwarf shrub heaths, wooded gills, blanket peat, upland woodland, bracken and rocky outcrops. These are home to a variety of animals, such as: fell pony, red squirrel, and several species of ground nesting birds.



Several species of sphagnum moss have been identified, and these with their associated flora (eg Cottongrass, Bilberry, Heather, Cranberry, Sundew and Butterwort) form areas of blanket peat, which is an internationally rare habitat.



When you see this symbol it shows that land may be open for public access on foot. Access rights for other activities may also exist



This symbol shows there are no public access rights beyond the point where it is displayed



The right of access on foot also applies to wheelchair users. Where reasonably possible gates have been provided to allow access although please note that open country is often very rough terrain

For further information contact Cumbria County Council on 01228 601052

## The Countryside Code

Respect ... Protect ... Enjoy

- Be safe – plan ahead and follow any signs
- Keep dogs under close control
- Prevent uncontrolled moorland fires
- Protect plants and animals, and take your litter home
- Leave gates and property as you find them
- Consider other people



## With rights... ...come responsibilities

You are welcome to explore the access land around the Borrowdale Valley, but remember that the area is privately owned, of importance for wildlife and a place of work for many people. Please exercise your rights responsibly.

- Please use the Public Rights of Way Network or other signposted routes to get to access land – look out for the access symbol.
- Be careful. Access land can be rough to walk over. Keep your eyes open for hidden holes and other hazards.

## Dogs in the countryside

On access land:

- Keep your dog on a fixed short lead between 1 March and 31 July. This is to protect ground nesting birds from disturbance.
- Local restrictions may include a ban on dogs.
- Note that dog restrictions do not apply to guide or hearing dogs.

On Rights of Way:

- Dogs must be kept under close control, preferably on a fixed short lead

## Plan ahead

Avoid disappointment by getting the latest information. Your rights to access open country can be restricted while work is carried out, and for safety or nature conservation reasons.

- Follow local signs and advice – any restrictions will be posted at access points.
- Visit [www.countrysideaccess.gov.uk](http://www.countrysideaccess.gov.uk) or call the Open Access helpline on 0845 100 3298 for up to date information on any restrictions.
- Restrictions can be short or long term.
- Public Rights of Way are not affected by restrictions to open access country.
- Access land is shown on new series OS Explorer maps.