Stunning Silverdale station, taking in ancient woodlands and picture perfect views across Morecambe Bay.



Start: Silverdale railway station Grid ref: SD475751 OS Map: OL7 Distance: 5 miles Time: 3 hours Moderate with some strenuous or rocky climbs Pedometer count: 12000



The Pepperpot at the summit of Eaves Wood



6. Retrace steps down final scramble and turn L to follow a rough path through trees, until you meet a wall on your R. Follow wall 'til it meets a fence, then follow fence downhill. Pass through squeeze stile and continue in same direction to join a tarmacked drive. After bench on L, pass through a gateway and turn R down a lane to join a walled path, follow this to the end and turn R on to Cove Road.

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Red Bridge

Road

Silverdale

Green

5. After passing limestone outcrops and another ruin, scramble up the final section to the Pepperpot to enjoy a breathtaking view!

View over the Lots towards Grange over Sands

4. After 160m, take the R fork up the hill. As the path levels, pass the remains of a building on the R then take the L fork to pass through the beech tree ring and pick up signs to the Pepperpot.

> 3. Cross over into the National Trust Eaves Wood car park. Follow the main path for 100m, then turn L at the signpost.

2. Turn R on to the Row and pass Bank Well on the L - continue to the end of the Row.

> 1. START Turn right out of Silverdale Railway station. After 100m. cross over to follow signed footpath across golf course, keeping to the marked route and taking care.

11. On reaching Stankelt Road, turn R, then take the second turning on the L – The Green. Turn R to continue on the Green, then L at the end of The Green. Turn R on to a footpath marked Burton Wood and The Row. Follow well marked path, going through the gate into Lambert's Meadow at the end. Continue for 100m, then cross the dyke using the wooden footbridge. Cross the meadow to the gate facing you and follow path back to the Row. From here turn R to return to the station across the golf course.

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8. Leave the Lots, turn L and walk up to the road junction, cross and continue in the same direction up Stankelt Road for 20m, then follow footpath signed Woodwell down a side road on R. Follow clear path for roughly half a mile finally passing through a gap in the wall on L into National Trust Bottom's Wood.

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9. On reaching Woodwell, you can choose to climb the cliff path, or take the slightly longer route, signed Hollins Lane. If you take the longer route, turn L just before the road, and follow a path signed The Green. If you take to the cliff path, please take care. At the top of the cliff, bear L through trees. When you meet the path again, turn L to head down the hill through the avenue of trees.

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10. The two routes converge at an avenue of trees with a kissing gate at the end. Pass through the gate and bear R, following the path up to another meadow - then turn L to follow signs to The Green. Follow path through squeeze stile and on to a wide path.

Discover Arnside & Silverdale Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty

Your day out in Silverdale

- Silverdale was a collection of isolated farms as recently at 1857 when the railway arrived, but has a history of tourism and industry dating much further back, as well as fascinating geology and biodiversity.

- Bank Well is an interesting place to pond dip from the decking on the far side of the pond if you've brought your net (the water is deep so keep an eye on children). The RSPB has a good pond dipping spotter sheet on its website.

- At the top of Eaves Wood, you will see the Pepperpot, which marks the golden jubilee of Queen Victoria. It was erected in 1887.

- On leaving the Lots, you can take a short diversion into the village, which has a local butcher, Coop and public toilets.

- As you pass through Bottoms Wood, you are walking amongst the oldest living things in the British Isles. The lime trees' trunks are slim, but due to the thin limestone soil, the trees fall, only for new trunks to grow up from the existing stumps – so some of the trees you see today may have been here for upwards of 2000 years.

- A diversion after Woodwell will take you to Gibraltar, home to the Wolfhouse for delicious locally sourced food, cake and coffee. Then on past Lindeth Tower where novelist Elizabeth Gaskell stayed to work on many of her novels nearby. Finishing at Jenny Brown's Point for views across Morecambe Bay and the most stunning sunsets in the UK. Morecambe Bay Partnership's Headlands to Headspace project has been working with local people to research the history and archaeology of Jenny Brown's point and you can find out the most up-to-date information about this project on their website.

- Back on the route, if you take a short diversion a little further down Bottoms Lane, you will see one of the lime kilns restored as part of the Limestone Heritage Project, managed by Arnside & Silverdale AONB and funded by the Heritage Lottery Fund. There are 36 lime kilns around the AONB, which were used to make fertiliser for local farms before the arrival of the railway made it cheaper to bring in fertiliser from elsewhere.

- Close to Silverdale station is RSPB Leighton Moss, home to some fantastic wildlife; bitterns in the spring, murmurating starlings dancing over the reedbed in autumn and it's the only place you'll see bearded tits on the west coast of the UK. The reserve is also home to red deer and otters, and a fabulous café serving locally sourced food.



Bittern at Leighton Moss



Lime Kiln at Bottoms Lane



The Countryside Code

Respect Protect Enjoy

Respect other people

- Consider the local community and other people enjoying the outdoors
- Leave gates and property as you find them and follow paths unless wider access is available

Protect the natural environment

- Leave no trace of your visit and take your litter home
- Keep dogs under effective control

Enjoy the outdoors

- Plan ahead and be prepared
- Follow advice and local signs

Arnside & Silverdale AONB is recognised for its distinctive landscape and extraordinary diversity of habitats, and of plants, birds and butterflies. Well-maintained and signposted footpaths lead you through stunning limestone hills and pavements, ancient woodlands, wetlands, intimate orchards and meadows, and an impressive coastline. Panoramic views, amazing wildlife and an intriguing history lie waiting to be discovered. For more information on the area, or other walks in the series, please visit www.arnsidesilverdaleaonb.org.uk

or contact the AONB office at:

The Old Station Building Arnside Cumbria LA5 0HG t: 01524 761034 e: info@arnsidesilverdaleaonb.org.uk



Images: Adam Donaldson, Ruth Ainsworth, Mariochin.