



## Explore Keswick and Borrowdale by Electric Car

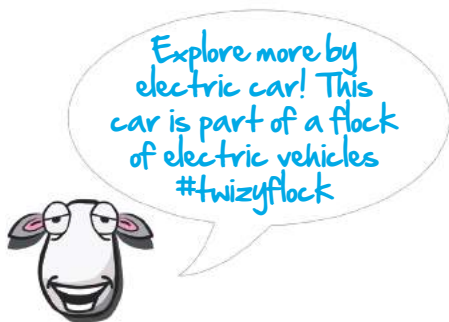
### Welcome to Keswick

This busy market town is the perfect place to start exploring Cumbria and the Lake District.

This itinerary will help you to explore by electric car, taking you off the beaten track to some amazing viewpoints, secret walks and spectacular sites. Just one day without a conventional car will help look after the Lake District.

Your electric car has a range of around 40 miles. Driving conditions and style may affect the driving range of the Twizy but the days out in this itinerary are less than 30 miles round trip. Why not try:

1. Bassenthwaite for Nature Lovers and Culture Vultures
2. Beautiful Buttermere
3. Outdoor Adventures
4. Borrowdale and Castle Crag by Boot



### Twizy Charge Points

These local businesses offer electric car charging:

- Castlerigg Caravan Park, CA12 4TE, Tel: 017687 74499
- Field Studies Council Blencathra, CA12 4SG, Tel: 017687 79601
- Hazel Bank Country House, CA12 5XB, Tel: 017687 77248
- Keswick Brewery, CA12 5BY, Tel: 017687 80700
- Kings Head, CA12 4TN, Tel: 0500 600 725
- Lakes Distillery, CA13 9SJ, Tel: 017687 88857
- Littletown Farm Guesthouse, CA12 5TU, Tel: 017687 78353



Your Renault Twizy is charged using a 13 amp (domestic) power point. It can be fully charged in just 3½ hours. Please do not use a fast or rapid charge point as these are not compatible with the vehicle. Further charge networks are being developed, check #twizyflock on Twitter and [www.co-wheels.org.uk/twizyflock](http://www.co-wheels.org.uk/twizyflock) for a full list. All information is correct at time of print. Nurture Lakeland cannot be held responsible in the unlikely event of injury or accident whilst undertaking any of these activities. Some areas may have been affected by recent floods, please check before you travel.





## 1. Bassenthwaite, Mirehouse and Ospreys

Take a trip to Bassenthwaite where you'll find something for everyone. Take the A591 north towards Bassenthwaite for five miles.

Visit **Mirehouse Historic House and Gardens** and discover a tranquil walled garden planted for bees. Follow the family nature trail to try and spot red squirrels, deer or woodpeckers. Enjoy live piano music while appreciating the unusual collections in this relaxed and friendly family home. The Sawmill Tea Room specialises in Cumbrian food. Parking and the cafe are on the right in Dodd Wood.  
**Open April – Sep.**  
**Tel: 017687 72287**  
**CA12 4QE**



Beautiful views over Buttermere

Cross the road from Mirehouse to **Dodd Wood** where you can admire breeding ospreys on their nest from around April to August. The nest site is set amongst fabulous scenery, with some of North Lakeland's most iconic fells and mountains providing the backdrop.

Head to the Lower Viewpoint where you might see ospreys fishing over the lake if you are lucky. Look out for resident red squirrels and a host of woodland birds too. The staff here will give you directions to the Upper Viewpoint, half a mile further into the forest. It should take about 30 minutes to walk, and is a steady climb, but is really worth the effort. The Upper Viewpoint is open from 10.30am until 4.30pm daily, and high powered telescopes and binoculars are provided.  
**Tel: 01768 778469**  
**CA12 4QD**



photo credit: Bjorn Einrem

The magnificent osprey

## 2. Beautiful Buttermere

The **Buttermere Valley** is a picture postcard of blue ribbon lakes (Buttermere, Crummock Water and Loweswater) 'knotted' together at the small villages of Buttermere and Loweswater, like 'a string of pearls each connected to the next'. Between these lakes, flat verdant fields radiate outwards contained by the encircling buttresses of Red Pike, High Stile, Fleetwith Pike, Robinson, Whiteless Pike, Grasmoor and Melbreak. The vehicular access into this valley is via the B5292 through Braithwaite.

The tiny village of **Buttermere** comprises two inns, a few farms, a great tea room, a cafe, and a small chapel and some isolated houses – its name meaning 'lake by the dairy pastures'.

A scattering of farms and houses make up **Loweswater**. Be sure to visit the famous Kirkstile Inn, a 16th century inn serving home cooked food and local ales. The traditional character of Buttermere and Loweswater is largely due to The National Trust, which owns much of the land and preserves its special qualities.





## 3. Outdoor Adventure

**Castlerigg Stone Circle** is perhaps the most atmospheric and dramatically sited of all British stone circles, with panoramic views and the mountains of Helvellyn and High Seat as a backdrop.

**Open any reasonable time during daylight hours**  
CA12 4RN



**Castlerigg Stone Circle**

Head into the Borrowdale Valley and visit **Honister Slate Mine** for tours, via ferrata, an infinity bridge, and a café serving locally sourced food. Located in Seatoller at the head of Honister Pass. Follow signs for the Borrowdale Valley on the B5289, 8 miles from Keswick.

**Open 7 days a week, 9am-5pm.**  
Tel: 017687 77230  
CA12 5XN

For a forest adventure head West out of Keswick on the A66, left turn left through Braithwaite onto Whinlatter Pass to **Whinlatter Forest**. Here you'll find walking trails, mountain bike hire and trails, and a fabulous shop and cafe.

**Open 7 days a week.**  
Tel: 017687 784469.  
CA12 5TW



**Outdoor Adventure at Whinlatter**

In the heart of the Jaws of Borrowdale, the narrowest part of the valley bounded by Grange Fell and Castle Crag and High Spy, lies the **Bowder Stone**. The Bowder Stone rock is about 30 feet high, 50 feet across and 90 feet in circumference, and weighs 2,000 tons. Resting in a state of delicate balance, it did not, like many people assume, topple down the mountainside. It was most likely carried here from Scotland by Ice Age glaciers. A popular Victorian attraction, the ladder to the top dates back to the 19th century.

This route is short and undulating with brief steep sections.

**Start/Finish:** National Trust pay and display car park - grid ref: NY253168  
**Distance:** 0.5 miles (1km)  
**Facilities:** None close to site, but toilets and refreshments are available in Keswick, Rosthwaite and Grange  
**Maps:** OS Explorer Map OL4

Driving from Keswick, the car park will be on your left. From the car park, take the steep but short and well surfaced track past an old quarry. Look out for groups practising abseiling. The track undulates with short, steep sections, but the surface is consistently good. It leads to a small plateau and the impressive Bowderstone.



## 4. Borrowdale and Castle Crag by Boot

Slap bang in the middle of Borrowdale is **Castle Crag**. It's rather small, this perfectly formed little peak, but it nevertheless managed to resist the erosive forces of the valley glacier and remains today with its head high above the trees. A walk round and up it is a unique experience as no other valley in the area has a similar feature. From its summit you can peer up and down the valley and take in the grand views that are on offer; then from its flanks you can experience the intimacy of the surrounding woods and river banks. This is essentially a low level walk but the ground under foot is rough in parts and shelter can take some time to get to so dress as you would for higher fells.

**Grade:** Time / Effort 1, Navigation 2, Technicality 2

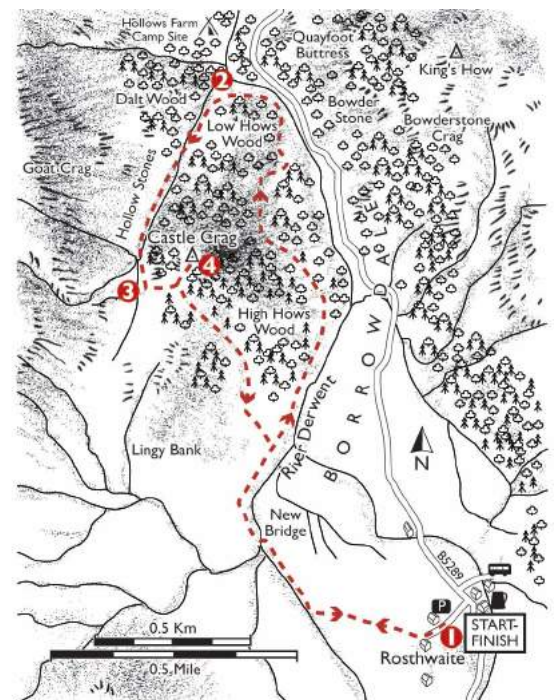
**Start/Finish:** Rosthwaite, GR NY257148 - parking at Rosthwaite or bus service from Keswick to Rosthwaite.

**Distance:** 3.7 miles (6km)

**Time:** 2 hours

**Height gain:** 263m

**Maps:** OS Landranger 90, OS Explorer OL4, Harveys Superwalker (1:25 000) Lakeland West, British Mountain Maps Lake District (1:40 000).



1. Turn right out of the car park and head west along the lane to the side of the River Derwent. Follow the path on the east side of the river northwest to New Bridge. Cross the bridge and follow the path along the west side of the river northwest then northeast into the woodland. The path leaves the river and climbs steadily through the trees on the east side of Castle Crag. After 1km through the trees you will reach a junction with a bridleway.
2. This bridleway climbs to the col between Castle Crag and High Spy. Follow the stony bridleway as it climbs south for 600m until just past the foot of the crags of Castle Crag to a steep path on the left.
3. Turn left along this path and follow it steeply east to a ladder stile. Continue along the path as it climbs to a col then follow it as it zig-zags north to the summit of Castle Crag - taking care near the quarry edges.
4. Back-track to the col then take the path that descends southeast. This leads down to the path on the west side of the River Derwent. Join the path and follow it southwest then southeast to New Bridge. Cross the bridge then retrace your steps back to Rosthwaite.

The walking routes shown are for guidance only. Please ensure you have an up-to-date map and a compass with you, and you know how to use them, before undertaking any of the trails. Let people know where you are going, and what time you expect to be back. All information is correct at time of print. Nurture Lakeland cannot be held responsible in the unlikely event of injury or accident whilst undertaking any of these activities. Some areas may have been affected by recent floods, please check before you travel.

