



STORRS HALL

Keep the family amused with  
the Lakeside visitor attractions





Lakeside & Haverthwaite Steam Railway; The lakes Aquarium; The Lakeland Motor Museum.  
There is a pay & display carpark next to the Aquarium.

These are 3 very popular visitor attractions for families, especially on rainy days. We'd recommend combining it with a walk up Gummer's How on drier days, to easily experience different aspects of Lakeland life. Take in a vast panoramic view from the sea to the central mountains, across at least 3 counties, and contrast it with these diverse and entertaining attractions.

If it's too rainy to tempt the family outdoors you could add on a trip to Stott Park Bobbin Mill, as well as the three centres at Lakeside. [www.english-heritage.org.uk/visit/places/stott-park-bobbin-mill/history/](http://www.english-heritage.org.uk/visit/places/stott-park-bobbin-mill/history/)

The area: Picturesque as it is now, it's hard to imagine that the area around lakeside was a hardworking industrial area that utilised the natural resources of the location – the supply of water and power, and extensive woodland resources. The Furness Railway was developed in order to transport the coal and iron ore deposits from mines in the coastal areas of Cumberland and the Furness district of Lancashire to the heavy industries of the North West and North East of England. The L&H Railway is a surviving preserved stretch of that railway. The sea ports around the north end of Morecambe Bay, like nearby Ulverston, traded regularly with the major international city trading ports of the UK on the Northwest coast.

Industrial demand was high for Cumbrian products and natural resources, and historically always has been. It's the reason the Romans persevered with what was otherwise a god forsaken area. Leonardo Da Vinci rated the quality of Cumbrian graphite above all other reputedly. The work of extracting them was arduous and back breaking – long before the natural beauty of the area was recognised by all but its inhabitants, it was regarded as a place to avoid. Daniel Defoe thought it was too horrible to consider even for a fictional castaway!

**Directions:** Turn right out of Storrs and follow the A592 south to the roundabout at Newby Bridge, and join the A590 westbound for a short distance, turning right for Lakeside. You're basically looping around the bottom of the lake and a short way up the west side of the lake. Postcodes are supplied for your Sat Nav if required. *Or, park at Bowness on Windermere and take the Windermere Lake Cruises to Lakeside.*

Lakeside is home to...



1. THE LAKESIDE AND HAVERTHWAITE RAILWAY

Vintage steam trains operate a short route between the 2 stations, just under 20 minutes either way. The track follows the river that leads from the south end of Windermere out to sea and Morecambe Bay, through woodland historically harvested for bobbin making, past the site of the old 'Blue Mills' which made household detergents so intense in colour that workers were stained a deep blue for most of their working life. (Having had a Great Uncle who worked here we're not aware of any other side effect). Please be aware that Haverthwaite Station has a gift shop and café on site but there are no shops, cafes or other attractions in Haverthwaite village itself.

The trains run seasonally from Easter to October, but they do also feature the very popular Santa Express specials before Christmas. Watch out for news of when these will be resumed.

**Website:** [www.lakesiderailway.co.uk](http://www.lakesiderailway.co.uk)  
**Postcode:** LA12 8AL

2. THE LAKES AQUARIUM

Provides a simulated "under the lake" experience so you can walk alongside the fish to be found in Windermere; as well as showcasing diverse exhibits from habitats around the world – including Rainforest Tree Frogs and Axolotls, Harvest Mice, and Oriental Otters. It works closely with local groups on conservation projects, to support our local wildlife and their habitats which are vulnerable to invasive species, and the effects of climate change.

**Website:** [www.lakesaquarium.co.uk](http://www.lakesaquarium.co.uk)  
**Postcode:** LA12 8AS



3. THE LAKELAND MOTOR MUSEUM

With 30,000 exhibits, including a display devoted to Donald Campbell's various speed record attempts, both successful and sadly ultimately fatal on Coniston water. This museum appeals to the grown-ups too, focusing less on the luxury marques and concentrating instead on vehicles from affectionate memories - the everyday aspirational cars and bikes of your (or your parents), youthful dreams. Rich with historical motor accessories, pedal cars, Isle of Man TT exhibits, it's not just for petrol heads. There is free parking onsite.

**Website:** [www.lakelandmotormuseum.co.uk](http://www.lakelandmotormuseum.co.uk)  
**Postcode:** LA12 8TA



All of the attractions have cafes on site, so finding somewhere for snacks or lunch is not a problem.

It's under 7 miles for the journey from and to Storrs Hall, less than 20 minutes away, so these destinations make for an easy, family friendly day out.

Make a full day of it by adding... a short walk up the small but mighty Gummer's How. It's a small, conveniently located fell, achievable by even little legs, but you're rewarded with huge, spectacular views. Please see the guide to Gummer's How for directions and parking details, 5.3 miles from the hotel, just over 10 minutes away.



