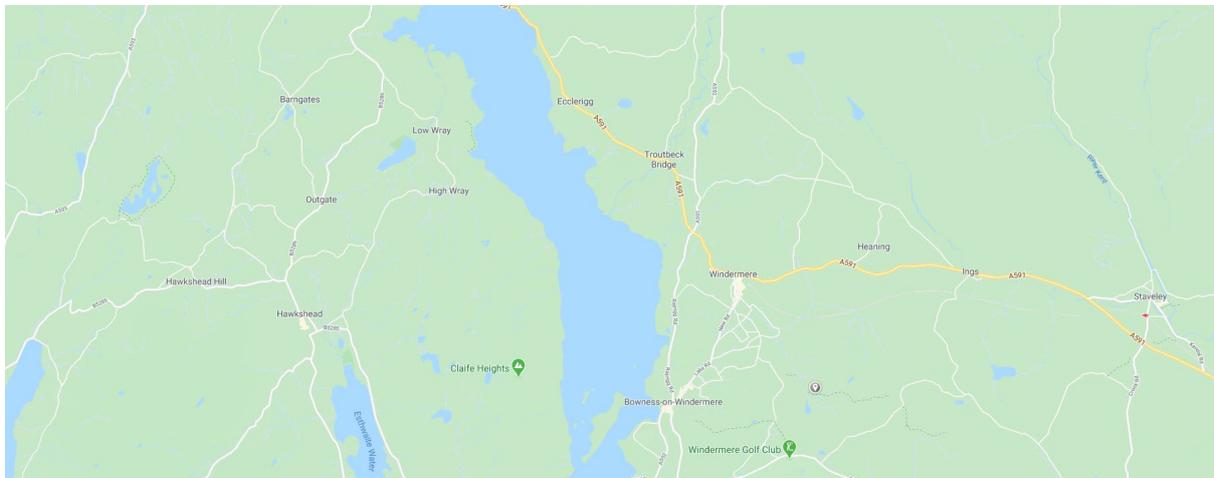# Lake Windermere

Windermere lake, at 10.5 miles long, one mile wide and 220 feet deep, is the largest natural lake in both the Lake District and in England, and is fed by numerous rivers.

Arthur Ransome based his book 'Swallows and Amazons' partly on Windermere lake and it's easy to see why! Stunning scenery, miles of open water ahead of you and endless islands to sail around it invokes the inner adventurer in everyone. Keep your eyes peeled for the 'Bownessie' too, Lake Windermere's version of the Loch Ness Monster.

With plenty of water, no tide and easy launching Lake Windermere is the perfect spot for a potter in your favourite boat.

Map & Chart
Click here to check out a map of Lake Windermere. Click here to access a chart for basic route planning, it's not to be used for navigation.

Launching
The Slipway at Ferry Nab, Ferry Nab, Bowness is the best spot for launching on Lake Windermere.

Location: Ferry Nab, Bowness on Windermere, Cumbria LA23 3JH

Daily charges: All untrailered non motorised craft which are carried to the water's edge: free. All other craft up to 11m or 3.5 tonnes: £13

Parking facilities
Car parking at Ferry Nab (multi tariff applies 8am to 8pm) from £1.50 for up to one hour through to £8 all day. All day with a trailer is £10.

Tide
Windermere obviously does not have 'tides', however water levels rise and fall depending on the weather. Long periods of rain can raise the level by 0.5m or more.

Useful links

- South Lake District Council
- RYA Website – Secret Water - Windermere
- Visit Cumbria – Windermere Lake

Top Safety Tips from the RNLI
- Always wear an appropriate lifejacket – it's useless unless worn!
- Always carry a means of calling and signalling for help.
- Have an onboard safety briefing
- Always check the weather and tide times.
- Make sure someone ashore knows where you are going and who to call if you don't return on time.
- Always sail in weather conditions appropriate for the conditions, your ability and to the environment you are operating in.