



▶ Industrial History & Heritage

This innovative region has known industry and mining for centuries - iron ore was mined as far back as Roman times and more recently by the Victorians. Explore the area's proud industrial heritage, with interesting museums and heritage attractions.

★ Highlights

- England's last working slate mine
- Locally made art supplies
- A working water mill



MAP & KEY

A Road
B Road
Minor Road
Motorway
Rail line

Cumberland boundary

- Points of interest
- Open all year
- On public transport route
- Parking
- Accessible Parking/ Drop off point
- Wheelchair access
- Accessible toilets
- Hearing loop
- Refreshments available
- EV Charger
- Wifi
- Dog Friendly
- ACCOMMODATION ONLY:**
- Star Rating
- Price indicator
- VE/AA** Visit England / AA





DAY 1

Keswick & the surrounding area

Home to the pencil, Keswick has a rich industrial heritage. Its story is told through interactive museums and a working slate mine.

1 Threlkeld Quarry & Mining Museum Quarry, Threlkeld, Keswick CA12 4TT

In an extensive former quarry complex just three miles east of Keswick, this museum explores the relationship between local geology and primary industry processes like quarrying and mining. It's home to vintage excavators and mining equipment - you can even take a ride on the quarry's own steam railway!

[www](#)

2 Derwent Pencil Museum Southey Works, Keswick CA12 5NG

Graphite was first discovered in the Borrowdale area in the 1560s, giving Keswick claim to being the home of the pencil. This museum tells the tale. It's also home to secret WW2 pencils with hidden maps; the Guinness World Record for the largest colour pencil; Queen Elizabeth's diamond Jubilee pencil; miniature pencil sculptures; and more!

[www](#)

GOOD TO KNOW: The museum also has a Derwent Fine Art retail shop and runs art workshops.

Where to Eat

The Round

21 Main St, Keswick CA12 5BL
Creative burgers & expertly crafted cocktails.

[www](#)

The Square Orange

20 St John's St, Keswick CA12 5AS
Quirky cafe-bar serving up stone-baked pizzas and tapas dishes.

[www](#)

The Dog & Gun

2 Lake Rd, Keswick CA12 5BT
Traditional pub in Keswick, known for its goulash.

[www](#)

The Bait Cabin Cafe at Honister

Honister Pass, Keswick CA12 5XN
Home cooked food from breakfast to lunch atop Honister Pass.

[www](#)

Yew Tree Pub

Honister Pass, Keswick CA12 5XN
Hearty dishes and quality ales at this welcoming pub in the Borrowdale Valley.

[www](#)

© Honister



© Yew Tree Pub



Where To Stay

The Inn on the Square

Market Square, Keswick CA12 5JF

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[www](#)

Allerdale House

1 Eskin St, Keswick CA12 4DH

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[www](#)

Laurel Bank

Penrith Rd, Keswick CA12 4LJ

📅 🚗 P 📶 🐾 ☕ VE 4★ ££

[www](#)

Keswick Country House Hotel

Station Rd, Keswick CA12 4NQ

📅 🚗 P 📶 🐾 ☕ AA 3★ ££

[www](#)

The Royal Oak, Keswick

Main St, Keswick CA12 5HZ

📅 🚗 P 🚰 ♿ 📶 🐾 ☕ ££

[www](#)

Sunnyside Guest House

25 Southey St, Keswick CA12 4EF

📅 🚗 P 📶 📞 ☕ £

[www](#)

3 Honister Slate Mine

Honister Pass, Keswick CA12 5XN

Home to the last working slate mine in England, Honister is the perfect place to learn about Cumbria's slate mining history. Venture into the heart of Fleetwith Pike with a guided tour of the mine through underground tunnels and caverns. Honister Slate Mine is famous for the production of Westmorland Green Slate and you can buy unique items made from this beautiful stone in the gift shop.

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[www](#)



GOOD TO KNOW: Honister also offers a great range of adventure activities, from Via Ferrata and Climb the Mine, to high-wire bridges.



© Honister / katietailorphotography.co.uk



DAY 2

Head to The Western Lake District and Coast

Whitehaven was once a major industrial town with the third largest trading port in Britain. Uncover its story through interactive museums and attractions.

4 The Beacon Museum West Strand, Whitehaven CA28 7LY

Overlooking Whitehaven's harbour, this fascinating museum tells the tale of the local area, with interactive exhibits on its social, industrial and maritime heritage. There's also a stunning viewing gallery offering breath-taking views of Whitehaven and the Solway Coast.

[www](http://www.beaconmuseum.co.uk)

GOOD TO KNOW:

A 'quiet hour' is held on the first Sunday of the month.

5 Florence Arts Centre Florence Mine, Egremont CA22 2NR

Once the last working deep iron ore mine in Europe, Florence Mine closed in 2007 and was repurposed into the Florence Arts Centre. Today it is a fantastic hub for the arts, with regular events and a gallery featuring a changing programme of exhibitions from local artists.

[www](http://www.florenceartscentre.co.uk)

Where to Stay

Moresby Hall,
Whitehaven CA28 6PJ

[www](http://www.moresbyhall.co.uk)

Georgian House Hotel
8-11 Church St, Whitehaven
CA28 7AY

[www](http://www.georgianhousehotel.co.uk)

Where to Eat

Howling Wolf Cafe
West Strand, Whitehaven CA28 7LY
Family run bakery and coffee house beneath the Beacon Museum.

[www](http://www.howlingwolfcafe.co.uk)

Florence Arts Centre Cafe
Florence Mine, Egremont CA22 2NR

A small, cosy cafe complete with a sunny wildlife garden, serving drinks and snacks.

[www](http://www.florenceartscentre.co.uk)

Deja Brew
57 Main St, Egremont CA22 2DB
All day breakfasts, ramen noodles, bubble tea and more at this colourful cafe in Egremont.

[www](http://www.dejabrew.co.uk)



Where to Stay

The Inn at Ravenglass

Main St, Ravenglass CA18 1SQ



[www](#)

The Pennington Hotel

Main St, Ravenglass CA18 1SQ



[www](#)

DAY 3

The Western Lake District and Coast

Spend the day exploring the area's industrial heritage with a trip to a working watermill and a heritage centre.

6 Eskdale Mill

Boot Mill, Boot, Holmrook CA19 1TG

Dating back to 1574, Eskdale Mill is the last working water-powered corn mill in the Lake District. Sitting in a beautiful wooded location, there are interactive exhibitions to enjoy, as well as historic gardens and grounds complete with nature trail and picnic area.



[www](#)

TOP TIP: Use the historic Ravenglass and Eskdale Railway to visit the mill. Disembark at Dalegarth and follow the signs for Boot village - the mill is a 10 minute walk.

7 Millom Heritage & Arts Centre

Station Buildings, Station Rd, Millom LA18 5AA

The coastal town of Millom is steeped in industrial heritage, from the Bronze Age right through to WW2. At this museum, located in the town's beautifully restored railway station, discover the important role Millom played in the manufacture of iron and steel.



[www](#)

8 Walk the sea wall at Hodbarrow

Unnamed Road, Millom

Stretching from Haverigg to Millom beach, Hodbarrow's impressive sea wall was built in the early 1900s to protect the local mine from flooding. Today, it's part of the RSPB Hodbarrow Nature Reserve. Visitors can walk along the wall - be sure to stop halfway to admire Hodbarrow Lighthouse.

Where to Eat

The Inn at Ravenglass

Main St, Ravenglass CA18 1SQ

Seasonally inspired dishes, served overlooking the estuary.

[www](#)

The Boot Inn, Eskdale

Eskdale Valley, Boot, Holmrook CA19 1TG

Home cooked food served with a smile at this cosy country inn, nestled in the Eskdale valley just a short walk from Dalegarth for Boot station.

[www](#)

Silecroft Beach Cafe

Silecroft, Millom LA18 4NY

Modern beach cafe located at Silecroft, overlooking the Irish Sea. New externally accessed toilet facilities include a Changing Places room for visitors with additional needs.

