



Down to Earth

"Earth science learning for all"

Western Lake District July 4-11 2020

**Lots
of single rooms
available!
The Lake District
on a budget!**

Beautiful Wasdale Head (Photo: Chris Darmon)

A word from your leaders...

Think of the Lake District and almost the last place you would think to base yourself is Whitehaven, but Summergrove Halls, is hardly typical of the place either. We'll be based on the leafy campus of what was built as the conference centre for British Nuclear Fuels on the eastern side of the town and within easy reach of much of the beautiful Lake District National Park.

Best of all, Summergrove offers lots of en-suite single rooms with clean, simple facilities. This enables us to offer you a week packed full of some of the best geology that the Lake District has to offer, at a fraction of what it would be were we to be based in the heart of the Lakes! Don't worry if you want to come as a couple, we can also offer the same rooms for two people. We take all our meals on site too, where we can enjoy home cooked food in a relaxing environment.

We last visited Summergrove in 2017, as it was the base for our first Summer School. Colin and I are looking forward to visiting again and sharing the Lake District Geology with you. We'll have our own 17-seater minibus which will be driven by Colin.

We expect this trip to book up well, so we advise you to book early.

Chris Darmon & Colin Schofield
Joint leaders & organisers

downtoearth@geosupplies.co.uk

Getting to Whitehaven

The nearest railway station is Whitehaven less than 2 miles from Summergrove Halls, our base in Hensingham. Taxis are available at the railway station. In completing this booking form, I/we accept full personal responsibility for my/our safety, and that of my/our possessions, whilst attending this study tour and declare that I/we, am/are fit to travel and take part. (If you have a mobility problem, cardiovascular disease or other serious infirmity you must declare it now. It may not prevent you from attending this tour however.) I/we understand that the arrangements for travel and accommodation and the itinerary for this tour may be subject to alteration and accept this situation. I/we confirm receipt of, and are in agreement with, the terms and conditions attached to these trips. In the event of any dispute I/we accept Geo Supplies choice of English Law. For some, the best route is via Carlisle and for others via Lancaster and Barrow in Furness. For those of you coming by car, there's the

Walking

Everything should be within the capabilities of all of the party. We will always try to get as close as possible to the sites, but this may mean that there are some walks of a mile or so, to see the best exposures. There will be some short sections of steep ascents and descents. However, if at any time you wish to 'opt out' that will be fully acceptable and understood. In view of the uncertainties of the weather you are strongly advised to bring all waterproofs and walking boots – particularly as you will be walking over rough ground.

The Geology & landscape

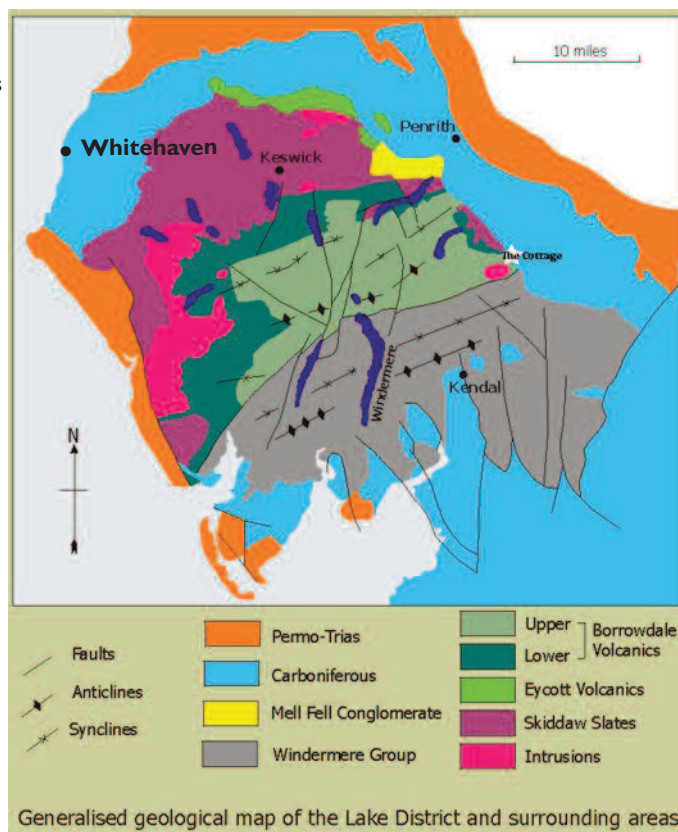
What do I say in a few words about the enormous variety that constitutes the geology of the Lake District and its western fringes? The core comprises rocks from the Ordovician and Silurian with rocks predominantly at the 'grey end' of the colour spectrum. Expect to see slates, tuffs and greywackes. To add colour and variety, add in the odd Devonian granite, some Carboniferous limestone and the bright red Triassic sandstone of St. Bees. All of this variety comes with a rich and diverse geological heritage, indeed it's a veritable 'feast of rocks'! We'll also see reminders of the former iron mines.

To finish things off, the whole area has been subjected to enormous erosion during the Ice Ages of the last 2 million years, leaving us with scenery to die for! You can overdose on U-shaped valleys, corries and the like.

The itinerary

At this stage, this is meant to be indicative of the course content. Some of what we do will depend on the weather and your preferences.

- The Carboniferous rocks and hematite mines around Whitehaven
- Rocks and glacial landscapes of Keswick
- Wastwater and England's highest peak
- Underground visit to Honister Slate Mine
- A cruise on Ullswater
- St. Bees Head, Triassic sediments
- Carrock Fell gabbro and metal mines
- The Skiddaw granite around Threlkeld
- Rocks & glacial landscapes of Wasdale Head
- Eskdale, it's granite and its railway
- Rocks and landscapes of Ennerdale



Accommodation & Food



Good food and a good night's rest are important elements to our tours and we have worked hard to bring you good value in local accommodation. "Summergrove Halls", is a former halls of residence campus built for British Nuclear Fuels as a conference centre, on the outskirts of Whitehaven. It is now run by a local hotel company and is perfect for our needs!

All the rooms are en-suite and are available for use by one or two people, being fitted with a three quarter sized bed. The

rooms are clean and simple. Hospitality trays are provided as standard. With an on-site chef, they provide us with excellent meals, including a packed lunch. The staff are most obliging and friendly. The complex is in a nice semi-rural setting on the outskirts of Whitehaven. We will have the use of several public rooms that can be used for our talks, meetings etc.

There's a really nice outside terrace, adjacent to a pleasant bar. We'll even try to get some real local beer i for you to try!



Cost

For 2 people sharing a room, the cost of the 7-night tour will be £925.00 per person; for single occupancy, the cost will be £995.00 per person. N.B. There are no twin bedded rooms available for this trip, rooms are fitted with 3/4 beds.

What's included in the cost?

- The services of Chris Darmon and Colin Schofield as tutor/organisers, who will be available to you at all reasonable times
- All transport used during the trip
- Accommodation and meals as specified in the brochure
- Excursions and admissions to all museums and attractions as visited by the group

What's excluded from the cost?

- The cost of travel between your home and Whitehaven and return
- Travel insurance
- Incidental expenses

Insurance

Everyone booking a place and paying a deposit is strongly advised to take out holiday insurance. This can cover you against loss of money in the event of cancellation etc. Cover is often included in with your credit card or bank account.

Booking

Please fill in and return a completed booking form.. Your booking will be confirmed upon receipt of either a deposit of £300.00 per person or the full payment. The balance of the brochure price will be due by April 30th 2020.

This trip will run provided a minimum of 15 people have booked by March 31st 2020.

Your money...

Upon receipt, all monies paid for these trips are placed in a specific 'client trust account' where it cannot be drawn by us until after completion of the tour. This is in accordance with EU Directives and ensures that your money is safe in the unlikely event of corporate failure by Geo Supplies.

What happens next?

As soon as we are in a position of confirming that the trip will run - we will let you know. You will then be free to start making your own travel plans and to take advantage of any early deals on train tickets.

Please don't make any travel arrangements until we have been in touch with you.

Any Questions?

Please ring Chris Darmon on 0114 2455746 or email: downtoearth@geosupplies.co.uk

if you have any questions or queries. I'll do my best to help you.

Further information can be found in "Residential Field Trips 2020" which can be found on our website: www.geosupplies.co.uk

