

The George Starkey Hut



The George Starkey Hut is in Patterdale, in the heart of Lakeland's Eastern Fells. It is ideally placed for the High Street range to the East, whilst from the front there is a splendid view of Helvellyn and its neighbouring fells: to reach them, all you have to do is put on your boots and walk from the Hut. There is convenient local rock climbing at Castle Rock and Raven Crag in Thirlmere, Dove Crag in Dovedale, Scrubby Crag in Deepdale and Gowbarrow by Ullswater. Langdale and Dow Crag in the South West and Borrowdale to the North West are easily accessible. There are mountain biking opportunities from the front door, canoeing and sailing on Ullswater and pony trekking locally.

The Hut is run jointly by the Association of British Members of the Swiss Alpine Club and the Tuesday Climbing Club. The Hut had major improvements in the early 2000s to bring the washrooms and kitchen up to a higher standard and to improve the general comfort throughout.

There is accommodation for 28 in bunk beds. The Men's Room has 14 places, the Ladies' Room has 6 places and there is a Members' Room with 8 places. The Members' Room is normally reserved for members of the host clubs but may be let, particularly for mid-week bookings.

Inside the front door, the entrance hall has boot racks and gives access to the large drying room equipped with a heater and de-humidifier. An inside door leads through to the large communal area with a welcoming open fire.



The communal area combines a comfortable seating area and a dining area. The Hut notice boards are also in this area and include useful local information and details of the Hut services.



The Front Door



The Communal Area

Leading through from the communal area is the newly refurbished kitchen.



The Kitchen

This is equipped with two cookers, two double hobs, a large fridge, two microwaves and two sinks with drainers. Constant hot water is provided and there are assorted kettles and toasters. All cooking utensils, crockery and cutlery are provided. There is also a large new storage area for food boxes.



The Kitchen – new storage racks

Also leading from the communal area are the washrooms and stairs up to the dormitories.

The men's washroom has four washbasins, two showers and two loos; the ladies' washroom has two washbasins, one shower and two loos. Both washrooms have fan heaters and constant hot water.

The Hut is now heated throughout by night storage heaters.

The George Starkey Hut has the benefit of a private car park with space for about 10 cars. This is a significant benefit as parking is at a premium throughout the valley. In the car park are two large wheelie bins for refuse and two coal bunkers.



The Car Park

The Hut is equipped with a modern fire alarm system and appropriate fire extinguishers and blankets. All electricity, hot water, consumables and cleaning equipment is included in the hut fee. Most people staying at the Hut bring sleeping bags but there are plenty of blankets available. If using blankets guests will need to bring a sheet sleeping bag.

The local shop in Patterdale, open every day, is five minutes walk away as is the local pub and hotel. Other hotels, pub and shops are located in Glenridding, about twenty minutes walk or five minutes by car.



View from the Hut

Bookings for the George Starkey Hut are welcome from British Mountaineering Council affiliated clubs, other clubs, business and training organisations. Weekends tend to be booked well in advance but mid-week bookings are often available at short notice.

Applications for use of the Hut should be made to the Hut Bookings Secretary, preferably by e-mail.

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