The Old Sawmill tearoom is always popular with walkers, bird-watchers and visitors to Mirehouse. Specialising in homemade Cumbrian cooking. Cakes, scones, sandwiches and hot drinks are made on the premises.

Mirehouse & Gardens

Set in stunning landscape between fellsides and Bassenthwaite lakeshore, Mirehouse is a privately owned family-run historic house which specialises in a relaxed welcome.

Bassenthwaite Lake with the opportunity to provide visitors to the Lake District Osprey Project, whose expert staff show visitors the magnificent Bassenthwaite ospreys from the specially designed viewpoint (April-September).

The return of ospreys to Bassenthwaite Lake in 2001 was the culmination of several years’ hard work to encourage them to breed. The Lake District Osprey Project, whose expert staff show visitors the birds, and educate them about their natural re-colonisation. The Forestry Commission manages Dodd Wood to produce timber and to encourage wildlife.

The network of walking trails will take you deep into the woodland, and if you are up for it, you can access the paths that lead to the Skiddaw mountain range. Walk to the top of Dodd Summits for spectacular views over the fells and mountains. You can also see the magnificent Bassenthwaite ospreys from the specially designed viewpoint (April-September). These fish eating birds of prey are protected by the Lake District Osprey Project, whose expert staff show visitors the birds, and educate them about their natural re-colonisation.

The project aims to ensure the continued success of breeding ospreys at Bassenthwaite, and to provide visitors to the Lakes with the opportunity to see and understand more about ospreys.

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Organisations working to conserve them.

Commission is one of a number of organisations working to conserve them. Once very common, the range of the red squirrel has declined, and now only a few colonies remain. Good numbers can be located at Dodd Wood, and the Forestry Commission is one of a number of organisations working to conserve them.

Red Squirrels

Dodd Wood is a fantastic place to view the very rare, red squirrel. A feeding station, located at the osprey viewpoint, attracts these native squirrels throughout the year. Once very common, the range of the red squirrel has declined, and now only a few colonies remain. Good numbers can be found at Dodd Wood, and the Forestry Commission is one of a number of organisations working to conserve them.

Join today

Enjoy Dodd Wood throughout the year with a Discovery Pass

Support the forest and get free parking at Dodd Wood car park, as well as other great discounts. Income generated by the pass goes back into maintaining the forest for everyone. Buy online or at Whinlatter Visitor Centre.

forestry.gov.uk/pass

Discover our walking trails...

Dodd Wood Walking Trails

All trails start from the car park

Sandbed Gill trail

Distance: 2.5km (1.5 miles)
Time: Allow 2 hours
This trail gently traverses northwards through areas of conifer and broadleaved woodland crossing Sandbed Gill. There are fine views to be seen of the northern end of Bassenthwaite Lake. The trail returns to the car park and teatoom through areas of semi-natural and mixed woodland.

Skill Beck trail

Distance: 2.5km (1.5 miles)
Time: Allow 2 hours
Skill Beck provides water to the Old Saw Mill Teatoom and Mirehouse. The trail climbs over 300 metres crossing the beck and following its course back to the car park and teatoom. Excellent views of Bassenthwaite Lake and surrounding fells can be seen along this trail.

Dodd Summit trail

Distance: 4.75km (3 miles)
Time: Allow 3 hours
The summit of Dodd Wood gives unvailed panoramas which encompass Derwentwater, Bassenthwaite Lake, the Solway Coast and even the hills of Dumfries and Galloway. This steep circular trail passes through wooded slopes, dramatic open hills and spectacular scenery.

Douglas Fir trail

Distance: 1.5km (1 mile)
Time: Allow 1 hour
The magnificent Douglas Fir trees on the lower slopes of Dodd Wood are the prominent feature of this trail. These trees are selectively thinned to create gaps on the forest floor so that natural regeneration of Douglas Firs takes place. This is called continuous cover, which means there is no clear felling required.

Spectacular views await you from the summit of Dodd Wood

Follow the Forest Code

Guard against all risks of fire
Protect and respect wildlife, plants and trees
Keep dogs under control & tidy after them
Take your litter home
Make no unnecessary noise
Take only memories away

Enjoyed your visit?

Explore our other forests in the Lake District; Grizedale and Whinlatter

Get in touch

Whinlatter Forest:
Bassenthwaite Keswick,
CA12 5TW.
T: 017687 78469
E: forestry@ymail.com

Grizedale Forest:
Dodd Wood
Grizedale Forest Park
Cumbria CA12 5TW.
Tel: 01229 821141
www.grizedaleforest.co.uk

The Forestry Commission looks after Dodd Wood. We care for forests and woodlands throughout England. For more information, sign up at forestry.gov.uk/moreinfo or visit forestry.gov.uk

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