

A walk in Grizedale Forest. Cumbria

Grizedale forest has eight marked trails of varying lengths and grades, we being, Babs, Stephen, John and myself chose to walk the red route. The Carron Crag trail is graded strenuous and aims for the highest spot in Grizedale (314 metres), from the top fine panoramic views of the Lakeland fells, Howgills and Morecombe Bay are promised on a clear day.



As we took the path up through the trees we were almost from the start diverted because of tree felling, the track was a stiff uphill trek on a very rough path. The sun shone down on us and we all felt pleasantly warm for this early in March.

We came out onto a broad metalled road and continued to steadily climb above the tree level. There were good views of the surrounding area but it was noted because of the trees the land appeared very flat. Further on round to the left there was evidence of more tree felling and we then had good views of snow-clad fells.

Lots of photos were taken but the tree stumps rather took away the beauty of the hills. When walking in a working forest like Grizedale there are always ongoing harvesting and planting of new trees. In times gone by the public were not allowed into the forest but now all are open to us to enjoy. As we made our way to the trig point Stephen spotted Morecombe Bay in the distance and he phoned our brother Dave to tell him what we were looking at, only to discover Dave and Josie (we were a party of eight on this holiday) could see the bay from their view point on Arnside Knot some miles to the north of us.



After a little more uphill walking we reached the crag that holds the trig point. We all chose our own route up to stand on the airy rocks and look down on the great views, the very clear weather we had enjoyed on this walk had given us many photo opportunities. We sat just below the summit to rest and eat our lunch before having to make our way down through the trees and back to the start point. A hard walk but a good one was the verdict of all.

You can see in Stephens's picture the glint of the sea in the bay.

