

## Kirkby Lonsdale Family Trail – Just for Fun!

*Route suitable for most, but some small steps and cobbles/gravel paths to follow and swing gate to pass through –  
may be difficult with some pushchairs/wheelchairs*

1. Starting at the TIC, make your way along Main Street towards Platos, taking in the shops as you go. Can you spot the shop named after a favourite sweetie treat – mmm, those little packets of flowery purpleness, but what are they called? Parma Violet



2. Follow the road around towards the Sun Inn, take the right turn after the pub towards the church(see picture). Go through the gates here and take the path to the left of the church towards Ruskins View. You will walk past the Garden of Remembrance – take a look at what is flowering, each section is a month of seasonal planting so each month looks good at the appropriate time. What's flowering this month? Can you draw it or take a picture?

3. Follow the path towards Ruskins View and stop to take in this gorgeous vantage point. There are a few plaques with interesting information about the view and how it came to take its name – but who famously painted it?

J M W Turner



4. Turning around, follow the path back towards the church, past the 'Radical Steps', staying to left of the church. This beautiful graveyard has lots of interesting stories to tell, like that of 'John Smith'. Can you find his gravestone and tell me, what nationality was he? Italian
5. Follow the path out of the churchyard, bearing left into Swinemarket and continue to walk down the hill down towards the river. At the bottom of Mill Brow, there's lots to learn about this town, so read on and tell me, who was responsible for building those 'Radical Steps'?



6. Follow the river path towards Devils Bridge, a gorgeous walk taking in the river bank - keep your eyes peeled for the occasional deer on the island, the storks, the ducklings and of course take in the amazing pebble trail on your way past. Which is your favourite?

7. Before you get to the end of the path and the gate onto the bridge, there's a couple of benches where you can sit and rest, but a closer look at the trees here reveals a famous book character - can you spot the Cheshire Cat grinning at you from the tree trunk???

8. Go through the gate and after admiring the view from the bridge, turn right past Jubilee Park and up the hill towards the junction back in town. You will be pasting a rather special bench. Our second reference to John Ruskin on this trail, it's metalwork legs were described in one of his books - but what creature is it? Dragon
9. Turn right and make your way back towards the town centre down Main Street from Town End. On the way you'll see a mile marker, but how many miles is it to London? \_\_\_\_\_
10. Before you arrive back at the TIC, walk around the square. Look around and decide, which building do you suppose was once slept in by an actual Queen? \_\_\_\_\_

**Well done, you have completed the trail**

Answers

1. Parma Violet of course – yum!



3. Famously painted by JMW Turner in 1822, it last sold for more than £215,000 in 2012, and into private ownership. The picture so impressed the 19th century art critic, social theorist, painter and poet John Ruskin, that he wrote: 'I do not know in all my country, still less in France or Italy, a place more naturally divine.' In 1875, Ruskin described the panorama as 'one of the loveliest views in England, therefore in the world'.

4. 'John Smith' was Italian. His real name probably wasn't known to his co-workers, but they had this headstone made in his memory.

5. The steps were built by Dr Francis Pearson, to direct people around his property according to the 'Riverside Path' history board!



8. It's a Serpent, kind of! Supposedly it's the tail of the devil and a goose's head according to Ruskin's description in his 'Fors Clavigera'.

9. Its 250 miles to London according to the marker outside Milestone House.

10. The Royal Hotel – The Dowager Queen Adelaide slept at what was then the Rose & Crown Inn in 1840, an auspicious occasion which subsequently led to the building's change of name to the Royal Hotel (according to their website).

