

Best hotels in the Lake District

21. Howtown Hotel, Ullswater

Stone-clad and creeper-covered, this secluded hotel on Ullswater's eastern edge is defiantly old-fashioned. Faded prints and oil paintings line the walls, grandfather clocks tick away in the lounge, and bedrooms are a relic from a bygone age — brass knockers, pink wool blankets, wooden wardrobes and all. Some are en suite, others have bathrooms across the hall (soap is provided, but you must bring your own shampoo). Not everyone's taste, certainly, but it all adds up to an endearingly quaint experience — and the outlook over Ullswater is utterly glorious. Better still, while high-speed internet is available in the hotel, it's preferred that guests don't use it in public rooms. Reservations are made by phone, with confirmation by post courtesy of the owner Mrs Baldry, who's run the place for decades.



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