

Private Charter Guide

1 April 2026
to 31 March 2027



Enjoy your own special cruise on England's largest lake

Welcome

Special events, celebrations, corporate functions and evening cruises - a cruise on Windermere is perfect for any occasion.

Give your guests a trip to remember on board a private boat whilst enjoying the finest views of the Lakeland Fells. Our cruises can range from 1 to 4 hours and can be adapted for groups of all sizes. As well as receiving the best of Lakeland hospitality from our uniformed crews, we can offer refreshments, entertainment, catering and decor to perfectly suit the occasion.

We hope you find this pack useful and informative in planning your perfect cruise with us. Please call us to speak to our dedicated booking team on **015394 43360** for more information or to book a show-round of any vessel in our fleet.

Planning your private charter

- **Pages 3 - 6** Picking a vessel that best suits the size and needs of your party
- **Pages 7 - 10** Refreshments & catering - Pick from the finest local catering to be served on board
- **Page 11** Drinks on board
- **Page 12** Conference venues with piers around Lake Windermere
- **Page 13** Decorating your boat and recommended suppliers
- **Page 14** Entertainment
- **Page 15** How to contact us



Explore more of our boats online at
www.windermere-lakecruises.co.uk



PHOTO
GALLERY

Every vessel has its own
image gallery online



VIRTUAL
TOUR

Use your mouse to move
around some of our boats

Our 'steamer' fleet

Our iconic 'steamers' are available to hire during the summer months from 7pm onwards for a minimum of 2 hours



MV Teal

The Teal is one of the largest of our traditional 'steamers' and has been carrying passengers on Windermere since 1936. The ship has three decks that include a refreshment bar, licensed bar, view stations, centrally heated saloons and toilets. All facilities excluding toilets and licensed bar are wheelchair accessible on this boat. The outdoor promenade top deck is perfect for entertainment and a dancefloor area.

Capacity

- With catering/entertainment: around **180 people**
- Without catering/entertainment: around **220 people**



SEATING
PLAN



VIRTUAL
TOUR



PHOTO
GALLERY



MV Swan

The sister ship to the Teal joined the fleet in 1938 and is identical except for internal furnishings, layout and lower deck windows. The ship has three decks that include a refreshment bar, licensed bar, view stations, centrally heated saloons and toilets. All facilities excluding toilets and licensed bar are wheelchair accessible on this boat. The outdoor promenade top deck is perfect for entertainment and a dancefloor area.

Capacity

- With catering/entertainment: around **180 people**
- Without catering/entertainment: around **220 people**



SEATING
PLAN



PHOTO
GALLERY



MV Tern

Our oldest 'steamer' has been operating since 1891 and has a design based upon a Canadian Canoe. Often referred to as our most beautiful 'steamer' it includes 2 decks both indoors and outdoors. Passenger facilities include a licensed bar and refreshments, a centrally heated saloon and toilets. Unfortunately the facilities on this boat are not wheelchair accessible.

Capacity

- With catering/entertainment: around **80 people**
- Without catering/entertainment: around **100 people**



SEATING
PLAN



VIRTUAL
TOUR



PHOTO
GALLERY



MV Swift

MV Swift is our newest ship and was custom-built to our designs in 2019. The boat has three decks but is shorter than our other steamers allowing it to access many more hotel piers around the lake. This boat is fully accessible for wheelchairs, can operate 364 days a year and has toilets and a licensed cafe/bar on board.

Capacity

- With catering/entertainment: around **80 people**
- Without catering/entertainment: around **180 people**



SEATING
PLAN



VIRTUAL
TOUR



PHOTO
GALLERY

Our 'steamer' prices

Prices valid | April 26 - 31 Mar 27

Our best value rates are during off-peak times when are boats are not on timetabled tourist cruises on Lake Windermere. 'Off-peak' is generally most evenings and out of school or bank holidays.

All prices below are our off-peak rates. Please call us for a quote if you would like a boat at any other time.

From Ambleside, Bowness or Lakeside piers	MV Swan/Teal	MV Tern	MV Swift
Saturday, Sunday & Bank Holidays			
7pm - 9pm	From £2,900 [^]	From £2,300*	From £2,600
7.30pm - 9.30pm	From £3,200	From £2,500	From £2,850
8pm - 10pm	From £3,500	From £2,700	From £3,100
Extra hour	£1,250	£1,050	£1,150
Monday to Friday (not Bank Holiday)			
7pm - 9pm	From £2,500 [^]	From £2,000*	From £2,250
7.30pm - 9.30pm	From £2,800	From £2,200	From £2,500
8pm - 10pm	From £3,100	From £2,400	From £2,750
Extra hour	£1,050	£850	£950
Ambleside departure surcharge	£200	£300	£200
Bowness departure surcharge	-	£200	-
Lakeside departure surcharge	-	-	£200
Additional charge to specify Swan or Teal	£350	-	-

* MV Tern available at Bowness from 6:30pm, Ambleside from 7pm and Lakeside from 7:30pm

[^] MV Swan/Teal available at Ambleside from 7:15pm

Additional charges may apply on Bank Holidays & other peak times. Even

Prices subject to change without notice & all subject to availability and sunset times.



Our 'launch' fleet

Prices valid
1 April 26 - 31 Mar 27

Our best value rates are during off-peak times when are boats are not on timetabled tourist cruises on Windermere. 'Off-peak' is generally most evenings and out of school or bank holidays.
All prices below are off-peak rates.



Miss Lakeland I / Miss Lakeland II

Our Miss Lakeland vessels are extremely popular for charters and comfortably seat up to 70 people indoors. Other facilities include outdoor seating/viewing deck, licensed bar, refreshments, heated lower deck and toilets.

Capacity

- With/without catering or entertainment: around **70 people**

Cost

- First hour (departing after 6pm): From £1000
- Each additional half hour: £250
- Lakeside Pier departure surcharge: £170



SEATING
PLAN



VIRTUAL
TOUR



PHOTO
GALLERY



Miss Cumbria I/II/III/IV or Miss Westmorland

Our Miss Cumbria/Westmorland vessels are perfect for admiring the Lakeland views with huge glass windows and can comfortably sit up to 50 people indoors with tables. Other facilities include a licensed bar, refreshments, heated lower deck and toilets.

Capacity

- With/without catering or entertainment: around **50 people**

Cost

- First hour (departing after 6pm): From £750
- Each additional half hour: £195
- Lakeside departure surcharge: £170



SEATING
PLAN



VIRTUAL
TOUR



PHOTO
GALLERY

Additional charges may apply on Bank Holidays and other peak times.
Prices subject to availability and subject to change without notice

Additional charges may apply on Bank Holidays and when multiple boats are on charter at the same time
Last sailing times: 1 hour after sunset (1 April - 30 September), 30 mins after sunset (1 October - 31 March)



Traditional wooden launches

Prices valid
1 April 26 - 31 Mar 27



Queen of the Lake / Princess of the Lake

These beautiful traditional wooden launches were built in 1949/1950 and have been ferrying passengers on Windermere ever since. They have no bar or toilets on board but are perfect for smaller groups or calling into hotel piers at the north of the lake.

Capacity

- Around 25 people

Cost

- First hour (departing after 6pm): From £500
- Each additional half hour: £150
- Bowness departure surcharge: £120
- Lakeside Pier departure surcharge: £240
- Beech Hill departure surcharge: £180



Muriel II / Sunflower

With their distinctive white hulls, these pretty traditional wooden launches are popular with small groups. There are no toilets or bar on board but are great for accessing smaller hotel piers in the south of the lake.

Capacity

- Around 25 people

Cost

- First hour (departing after 6pm): From £500
- Additional half hours £150 per hour
- Ambleside Pier departure surcharge: £120
- Beech Hill departure surcharge: £60



Additional charges may apply on Bank Holidays and other peak times.
Prices subject to availability and can change without notice



Catering

2025-2026
prices shown

Updated rates
coming soon

Café
Ambio

www.cafeambio.co.uk

Choose from a selection of fine local food, all served fresh on board.

Elevate your corporate cruise with exquisite catering from Café Ambio. Experts at catering on the water, they offer a stunning array of fresh, delectable dishes, tailored to your group size. From focused business meetings to impactful corporate events, let them create a productive and memorable culinary experience. You are welcome to provide your own caterer, but there will be a £2 per person surcharge if you decide to do this.

Box Options (any group size)

Indulge in freshly prepared boxes brimming with the finest local produce. Our dedicated on-board crew will serve them to you at your convenience during your cruise.

Brunch Box - £16.50 per person

- Overnight Oats
- Mulled Berry Compote Croissant, Jam and Butter
- Smoked Bacon, Cream Cheese and Chive Bagel
- Orange Juice
- (Add Prosecco for an extra £6.50 per person)

Ploughman's Lunch Box - £23.75 per person

- Homemade Huntsman Pie
- Cumbrian Farmhouse Cheddar
- Honey and Mustard Glazed Cumberland Sausage
- Apple
- Pickled Onions
- Chutney
- Crusty Bread and Butter
- (Add Prosecco for an extra £6.50 per person)

Afternoon Tea Box - £23.75 per person

- Ambio's Famous Fruit Scone, Clotted Cream, Jam and Butter
- Roast Ham and Piccalilli Roll
- Homemade Sausage Roll
- Chocolate Brownie
- Carrot Cake
- (Add Prosecco for an extra £6.50 per person)

Hot Food (30+ people)

Our delicious pie and pea supper will be kept warm and served onboard by our friendly Café Ambio team.

Pie and Pea Supper* - £21.00 per person

Your guests will love our selection of Homemade Pies served with Mushy Peas, Pickled Beetroot and Red Cabbage, Homemade Gravy.

Choose from:

- Meat and Potato
- Steak and Vegetable
- Chicken, Bacon and Leek
- Cheese and Onion

Add a choice of 2 desserts from the dessert list (see next page) for £27.50 per person

Buffet Options (30+ people)

Enjoy a delectable array of freshly made dishes, served by our attentive Café Ambio team. Guests may select from a diverse menu, and all necessary tableware, including plates, cutlery, and napkins, will be provided.

Deck Hands Lunch - £21.00 per person

Selection of Sandwiches on Wholemeal or White Farmhouse Bread:

- Egg and Watercress
- Roast Ham and Piccalilli
- Cheese Savoury
- Tuna Lemon Mayo

Continued on next page..

Deck Hands Lunch (continued)

- Coronation Chickpea
- Honey and Mustard Glazed Cumberland Sausage
- Homemade Red Cabbage and Apple Coleslaw
- Dressed Salad
- Root Vegetable Crisps

Add a choice of 2 desserts from the dessert list (see below) for £27.50 per person.

Boat House Buffet - £29.00 per person

- Cajun Spiced Chicken Fillet
- Homemade Huntsman Pie (Pork, Chicken and Stuffing)
- Cumbrian Cheese and Onion Flan
- Dressed Summer Salad
- Spiced Rice, Fruit and Roast Veg Salad
- Homemade Red Cabbage and Apple Coleslaw
- Silver and Green Pesto and Cherry Tomato Pasta Salad
- Indian Potato Salad
- Red Onion and Garlic
- Crusty Bread
- Butter, Mayonnaise, Dressing, Chutney

Add a choice of 2 desserts from the dessert list (see below) for £35.50 per person.

Anchors Away Buffet - £34.00 per person

- Homemade Huntsman Pie (Pork, Chicken and Stuffing)
- Indian Spiced Chicken Fillet
- Coronation Mayonnaise
- Homemade Cumberland Sausage Roll
- Selection of Cumbrian Cheeses
- Honey and Mustard Glazed Cumberland Sausage
- Cumbrian Cheese and Onion Flan
- Pickled Beetroot Salad
- Dressed Summer Leaves
- Indian Potato Salad.
- Red Onion and Garlic
- Homemade Red Cabbage and Apple Coleslaw
- Tomato, Feta and Olive Greek Salad
- Crusty Bread
- Butter, Mayonnaise, Dressing, Chutney

Add a choice of 2 desserts from the dessert list (see above) for £40.50 per person.

Dessert Options

- Salted Caramel and Ricotta Cheesecake
- Lemon Tart
- Berry Compote
- Chocolate Fudge Cake
- Biscoff and Apple Custard Tart



Catering Terms and Conditions

- Dietary requirements can be accommodated where possible - just speak to us about your requirements.
- Final numbers for diners must be provided up to 5 days before the charter including any dietary requirements.
- Cancellation policy as follows - cancel within 7 days of the charter - 25% charge, cancel within 5 days of the charter - 50% charge, cancel within 2 days of the charter - 100% charge.



Drinks

Relax and unwind with a fine selection of beer, wine and soft drinks that are available from our larger vessels' bars. Alternatively supply your own welcome drink, we'll chill it beforehand and have a glass ready for your guests to pick up as they board the boat.

We also can provide a fine selection of house wines to be served on your cruise, just call us for a wine list or more information.

	'Steamer'	Modern Launch	Wooden Launch
Bar	Fully licensed bar with draught lager and ale (pay & account bar options available).	Fully licensed bar serving bottles (pay & account bar options available).	No bar.
Hot drinks	Wide selection of hot drinks.	Hot drinks.	Not available
Provide your own welcome drink	A drink of your choice will be chilled and ready for when you board. A £15 wine/sparkling wine and £20 champagne per bottle corkage fee applies. We can provide glasses too.	A drink of your choice will be chilled and ready for when you board. A £15 wine/sparkling wine and £20 champagne per bottle corkage fee applies. We can provide glasses too.	Bring your own drinks and glasses. Please serve yourself and take your empties home. No corkage fee.
House wines	A large selection of house wine is available on request, please ask us for a wine list.	A large selection of house wine is available on request, please ask us for a wine list.	Not available
Bar snacks	A selection of bar snacks, crisps and ice-cream is available on board.	A small selection of confectionary and snacks.	Provide your own picnic style nibbles. Please note there are no tables on these vessels.



Venues

The following venues are perfect locations to choose when planning a function on our boats and many have function rooms and conference facilities.

Venues with piers

- 1 **Brockhole (Lake District Visitor Centre)**
015394 46601 www.brockhole.co.uk
- 2 **Cragwood Country House Hotel**
015394 88177 www.lakedistrictcountryhotels.co.uk
- 3 **Fell Foot**
015395 31273 www.nationaltrust.org.uk/fell-foot-park
- 4 **Lakeside Hotel**
015395 30001 www.lakesidehotel.co.uk
- 5 **Langdale Chase**
015394 32201 www.langdalechase.co.uk
- 6 **Low Wood Bay**
015394 33338 www.englishlakes.co.uk
- 7 **Silverholme Manor** (short walk to YMCA Pier)
015395 31248 graythwaite.com/silverholme-m Manor
- 8 **Storrs Hall**
015394 47111 www.storrshall.com
- 9 **Town Head Estate**
07951 763590 www.townheadestate.com
- 10 **Windermere Jetty Museum**
01539 637940 lakelandarts.org.uk/windermere-jetty-museum/
- 11 **Windermere Motor Boat Racing Club**
015394 43284 www.wmbrc.co.uk

Venue further away?

For convenient travel to any of our piers, it makes sense to go by goat. Mountain Goat offers minibus travel across the Lake District. www.mountain-goat.co.uk



Decoration



Decorate the boat in your own style and to compliment your event or party theme.

Please feel free to bring your own individual touches and ideas. We normally arrive 15 minutes before your allocated hire time for any decoration needed. Call us for more information or to discuss your ideas.

If you would rather leave it to the experts, please contact our preferred supplier below:



Timeless Balloons & Blooms

Timeless Balloons & Blooms are an established local business who provide first class service.

Lynne and Sue at Timeless will work with you to provide a bespoke package for your special occasion with Windermere Lake Cruises, always ensuring a keen eye for detail.

We will work to your budget whilst only using the finest quality products available.

Telephone - Lynne on 07702 780778

Telephone - Sue on 07475 168986

Email info@timelessballoons.com

Website: <https://timelessballoons.com/>



Entertainment

Many of our boats can accommodate musicians and acts to keep your guests amused during the duration of their cruise. We have a number of local entertainers to suit any budget or size of vessel ranging from 5 piece jazz bands, solo performers, magicians or comedians. Just call us to discuss the style of music or act required.

Many of our boats are also fitted with high quality PA systems that can provide an informative commentary to your lake cruise or play your own music via digital music player or iPod.

Vessel	Live entertainment	Bring your own entertainment
MV Teal & MV Swan	Space for a medium/large group or performers. Seats can be moved on top viewing deck to provide a large, dancefloor area.	Commentary can be provided upon request or iPod/MP3 audio player can be plugged into the main PA system.
MV Tern	Space for a medium group or performers. Space for a small dancefloor on board	Commentary can be provided upon request or iPod/MP3 audio player can be plugged into the main PA system.
Modern launch	Space for a 2-3 person group on outside deck	Commentary can be provided upon request or iPod/MP3 audio player can be plugged into the main PA system.
Traditional wooden launch	Limited space for possible solo act. Please call us to discuss.	No electric on board, but battery powered audio system can be brought on board.





Contact us



For more information about booking a cruise with us or to arrange a visit to see our boats, please contact our Events and Reservations Team.

Windermere Lake Cruises
Glebe Road
Bowness on Windermere
Cumbria LA23 3HE

Tel 015394 43360
info@windermere-lakecruises.co.uk
www.windermere-lakecruises.co.uk

Credits

Many thanks to the following for their contributions to this booklet:

03 - Langdale Estates | 02 + 04 Victoria Sedgeick Photography | Page 13 | + 2 - Richard Nixon / Glass Passport page 14 - Skylark Imagery