

Northern Fells 2025 Winter Choc-O

The course, is approx 6 miles in length and 400m of ascent. Estimated average time for completion 2 hours.

Parking/Start is recommend on the fell verges at GR **266 371** near Bagger Yeat or GR **266 359** at Longlands Fell gate.

The first checkpoint is located at GR **272 364** and is a **Disused Pit**. There are 10 checkpoints in total, the last one is a hidden cache which contains a log book and chocolates.

All checkpoints are features on the **Ordnance Survey OL4 map: English Lakes - North-western Area** and are located between Eastings 26 to 28 and Northings 34 and 39.

The terrain is mostly open fell, with some paths and trods to be found. You will not need to cross any fences or stiles, but you will need to cross or use minor roads so take care on roads.

Please take enough clothing and food to be warm and fed for several hours as conditions in winter can be bleak and change quickly. Check the weather forecast before going out as these fells can be quite exposed. Take a head-torch in case you get caught out in the dark and remember you do the Choc-O at your own risk and you are responsible for your own safety.

The course descriptions and GR are written on a large white stake fixed into the ground expect for the last control which is a hidden cache.

The course will remain in place until the end of January 2026.

The Choc-O is part of the Northern Fells Winter Championships. In order to qualify you must record your completion time and submit your time to Steve Rhodes via the members WhatsApp group. You can only submit your first attempt - in other words you can not go back and re-run the course once you know where all the checkpoints are! Time to submit is from your parking start to final control/cache.

Tips for Novices:

You need to take with you the OS OL4 Map as detailed above. A compass is useful for the course but not essential. The aim is to find each control in order. The description and grid reference for the next control will be at the control when you find it.

Some of the detail on the OS Map is small so if you need glasses to read, then take them. You will need a pen/pencil, to mark the Grid References on the map. It is a good idea to write the GR number down before leaving the control in case you need to check it. Always read the control description.

A **Bield** is a low section of wall; usually a Y- or T-shape.

A **Disused Quarry** or **Pit** is usually a large hollow in the ground that is overgrown with grass and may have some crag features.

A **Reentrant** is a small indent in a hill that creates a small valley.

A **Grouse Butt** is a small man made hole, overgrown, often in lines (used for grouse shooting)

There is a log book at the finish. Please record that you have been, where you are from, and any comments.

Any problems with the course, please email Natalie Hawkrigg natalie@razzetti.com