Lake District Christmas Markets 2026

Every market worth the drive, with dates and drive times from High Biggin, Bowness-on-Windermere.

Market / event	2026 date	Drive from High Biggin	Best for
Coniston Festive Fayre + lights switch-on	Sat 14 Nov	30 min	Crafts, early start
Keswick Christmas lights switch-on	Wed 18 Nov	40 min	Atmosphere
Ambleside Christmas Lights	Sat 21 Nov	15 min	Families
Kendal Christmas lights + market	Usually late November*	25 min	Shopping
Swarthmoor Hall Winter Art & Craft Fair, Ulverston	Fri 27 Nov, 3:30pm to 7:30pm	35 min	Crafts
Ulverston Dickensian Christmas Festival	Sat 28 and Sun 29 Nov	35 min	Atmosphere, families
Beetham Nurseries Christmas Market Weekend	Thu 3 to Sun 6 Dec	30 min	Gifts, wreaths
Kirkby Lonsdale Christmas Fair	Usually first full weekend of December*	40 min	Atmosphere
Hawkshead Christmas Fair	Sat 5 and Sun 6 Dec, 10am to 4pm	20 to 25 min	Families, crafts
Taste Cumbria Christmas Market, Cockermouth	Sat 5 and Sun 6 Dec	55 min	Food
Keswick Victorian Fayre	Sun 6 Dec	40 min	Atmosphere
Bowness Glebe Christmas Market	Usually an early December weekend*	5 min	Lakeside setting
Carlisle Christmas Markets	Usually December Saturdays*	1 hr 15 min	Longer day trip

* Organiser had not confirmed the 2026 date at the time of writing. Check the organiser's website or Facebook page before you travel. Drive times are approximate, from Bowness-on-Windermere in normal winter traffic. Outdoor events can be cancelled in bad weather, so check on the morning.

Stay at High Biggin: sleeps 8 in 4 bedrooms, private hot tub, open fire, on-site EV charging. Book direct at highbiggin.com/booking