

3.10 Pavey Ark 6

Images from the walk to the waymarker tree.



Looking northwest to Pavey Ark, across Stickle Tarn. The rockface is approximately 150m+ (500') high. Jack's Rake begins from the obvious bare scree area at the base of the cliffs of East Buttress, at lower-centre, middle-right. Jack's Rake can be traced as a thin green line rising diagonally upwards to the left, directly across the face of the crag, undulating towards a finish near the skyline pinnacle seen at upper mid-left. From there, the summit is easily reached. Beware Wainwright's warning that, once started, it is easier to go forwards than to retreat.

From the dam outflow walk westwards around Stickle Tarn, gradually ascending the scree, to arrive at the base of East Buttress, rearing up in front of you, more awesome with every step you take towards it. This is the start point for the ascent of Jack's Rake.



Left: the scramble begins, moving steadily upward towards the first rowan (the 'first ashtree') seen on the skyline above which, as your primary objective, entices you forwards. Around the halfway mark to the tree encounter and negotiate the perpendicular rock of the steep rock groove then keep ascending.

Right: there is little space to stand adjacent to the first rowan, especially if that involves blocking the progress of others coming up behind you. It is best to move above the tree and find a firm stance from which to look back. The situation is airy. Be aware of the drop.



Steady scrambling up the mid-section of the rock groove brings you to the second rowan (the 'second ashtree') appearing to stand out from the near-vertical cliff behind it.

Left: everywhere around the ground is sloping and uneven. Move carefully. There is enough space to pick a safe line upwards to the tree.

Right: the second rowan rises from a rock plinth, but all around irregular rock rears about and below you. Take your time to deliberately place yourself on a firm footing before appreciating the view.



The third rowan (the 'third ashtree') beckons, at the end of a narrow path, close to the edge of a vertical drop.

Left: the tree seems squeezed and restricted against the rock. It's coping, but this is a difficult place for it to exist where both room to develop and resources to sustain growth are limited.

Right: due to the confined space, with no other option, you must climb the awkward near-vertical rock groove to the tree's right, hard up against the cliff itself. There are good handholds. Go slowly. Plan where you will place your hands and feet.



As you pass the third rowan, notice how its growth is configured to the same profile as the rock it stands beside.



Looking down to the third rowan, from where you can just make out its upper crown jutting above the lower-middle rocks and groundcover grasses. Notice the anonymous fourth rowan, standing on a tiny ledge several metres higher, above and left.



From the top of the rocky groove, on steep but easier ground, the crown of the third rowan is seen just where the rocky path appears to finish, with the unknown fourth rowan standing discreetly above on a patch of grass, almost clinging to the sheer rockface.