

Human use of glaciated areas.

Revision points:

- Glaciated landscapes can present both difficulties and opportunities for human activity.
- Opportunities include HEP and water storage, farming, forestry and tourism.
- Difficulties include climate: short growing season, high precipitation, less sunshine, thin soils, steep land and poor accessibility.

Radio discussion about holidays in the Lake District.

Presenter: Our next guest is Miss Alison Strickland from the Lake District tourist board, here to tell us about holidays in this part of the UK. Good morning Alison, good of you to join us.

Alison: Good morning.

Presenter: So, holidays in the Lake District, probably not the first destination that springs to mind when planning your summer holiday.

Alison: Well, you'd be surprised at the number of people who do visit this beautiful part of the UK year after year. It does have a lot to offer the tourist.

Presenter: What makes it so attractive then?

Alison: The way the landscape has been shaped by ice attracts lots of visitors on educational visits. The scenery is spectacular; we have sharp knife edges, steep sided valleys, flat valley floors, and of course lots of lakes.

Presenter: So what can you do there?

Alison: Well, those steep valley sides are perfect for walking and climbing while the valley floors are popular locations for a gentle stroll. Lake Windermere is one of England's largest natural lakes and offers superb sailing facilities.

Presenter: I see. It sounds like the Lake District is a good family destination with activities for young and old.

Alison: Absolutely.

Presenter: What about accommodation? I'm not a big camping fan myself.

Alison: Well, we do have plenty of camping and caravanning sites to choose from, but there's also lots of luxury accommodation too. We've a wide range of hotels, bed and breakfasts and lots of self-catering cottages. You could even stay on a working farm and watch the animals being fed and the cows being milked.

Presenter: Staying on a farm sounds good, nice and homely.

Alison: Farm breaks appeal to lots of people, it's hugely popular. Farming in itself isn't that profitable these days. There's a limit to what you can do in this area. Some farmers grow crops on the inbye land on the valley floors where the thicker clay soils allow it, but many use the less hospitable land on the steep valley sides for rearing sheep. The soils there are too thin for much else and it gets very cold up there. Farmers here have diversified into providing holiday accommodation for additional income.

Presenter: What about travelling to the Lake District? What's the best way to get there?

Alison: We're not far from the M6 and views from the train are fantastic.

Most people tend to travel here by car though, which means our narrow roads can become pretty congested. There's a limit to where you can put roads in a landscape such as ours because it's so steep. Most roads tend to follow the valleys and lakes and connect the main settlements. Just be prepared to take your time when travelling around. It will give you a chance to fully appreciate this spectacular landscape carved out by the ice.

Presenter: Thanks for joining us today and maybe some of our listeners will be inspired to visit the Lake District and experience the wonder for themselves.