



## Two Cumbrian heritage attractions shortlisted for National Coach Tourism Awards

Two award-winning Cumbrian visitor attractions - [Ullswater 'Steamers'](#) and the [Ravenglass and Eskdale Railway](#) have been shortlisted in the British Coach Tourism Awards (BCTAs).

Ullswater 'Steamers' has been recognised in the ***River and Inland Cruise Operator*** category with the Ravenglass and Eskdale Railway being successful in the ***Heritage Railway*** category.



The British Coach Tourism Awards recognise the very best coach tour operators in the business, along with the most coach-friendly attractions, destinations, hotels and suppliers. This year's entries were judged by Group Tourism & Travel Editor Jessamy Chapman, along with the Coach Tourism Association's Chris Wales, former Epsom Coaches MD Steve Whiteway, UKinbound's Antony Amos, and Blue Badge Guide Leon Preston.

*Rachel Bell, Head of Marketing at Lake District Estates says;*

*"To be shortlisted in such prestigious awards for both of our heritage visitor attractions, is a fantastic achievement and shows how hard the teams have worked and contributed, to be recognised in these respective categories. We look forward to*

*finding out the results in March, and to yet another exciting year ahead for tourism in Cumbria.”*

Winners of the British Coach Tourism Awards will be announced on the 21 March 2018 at the National Motorcycle Museum in Birmingham. The evening is highly regarded amongst the industry and attended by over 400 coach tour operators and suppliers every year.

**-ENDS –**

**Notes to Editors & Press trip opportunities:**

Ullswater ‘Steamers’ are happy to host press visits for journalists with commissioned pieces. Please contact Sarah Jones on 01539 825052 or e-mail [sjones@cumbriatourism.org](mailto:sjones@cumbriatourism.org)

Ravenglass & Eskdale Railway are also happy to host press visits for journalists with commissioned pieces. Please contact Lisa Braithwaite on 01539 721626 or e-mail [lisabraithwaite@lakedistrictstates.co.uk](mailto:lisabraithwaite@lakedistrictstates.co.uk)

**About Ullswater ‘Steamers’:**

Ullswater ‘Steamers’ is a family-owned business that has been operating in the tranquil Ullswater Valley since 1859. Today, the company provides a sustainable and environmentally friendly way of linking some of the most iconic walking routes and views in the Lake District National Park. Ullswater ‘Steamers’ has one of the largest heritage passenger vessel fleets in England, including the oldest working passenger vessel in the world, Lady of the Lake. The business’s awards include Gold at CREA’s 2014 and 2015 Green at Heart Award, Gold for the 2013 and 2014 GTBS Visit England award and winner of Cumbria Tourism’s 2011 Sustainable Tourism award and 2016 Large Visitor Attraction of the Year award among many others.

**About Ravenglass & Eskdale Railway:**

Ravenglass & Eskdale Railway is a family-owned business operating a heritage, narrow gauge steam railway on the Western Coast of the Lake District. The railway is surrounded by stunning views and walks and is based in Ravenglass, the only coastal village in the Lake District National Park. The business’s awards include a Silver Green Tourism award, Coach Tourism’s 2015 Heritage Railway award, Cumbria Tourism’s 2015 Large Visitor Attraction of the Year award among many others.