

# THE LAKE DISTRICT WILDLIFE PARK



The Lake District Wildlife Park  
Bassenthwaite Lake  
Nr Keswick  
Cumbria  
CA124RD

[www.lakedistrictwildlifepark.com](http://www.lakedistrictwildlifepark.com)

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## Yoga with Lemurs

The Lake District Wildlife Park has a small troop of Ring-Tailed Lemurs (11 in total), which are individually known by name and were born here at the Park. Our Ring-Tailed Lemurs are friendly, gentle and curious animals that live in a large purpose built enclosure specifically designed to meet their needs. Their welfare is of utmost importance.

Lemur encounters have been a part of our educational and fundraising programme for many years. During an encounter with up to 4 people, a Lemur has the freedom to stay or leave. Our encounters must be booked in advance and are of limited availability. We are very lucky that, due to their inquisitive and friendly nature, Lemurs generally interact with people in their enclosure. Interactions are always managed by an experienced Keeper and is entirely different to a walk-through exhibit.

Lemurs can also be seen at any time warming themselves in a typical yoga pose – the Lotus position. This is something the Lemurs adopt themselves. Yoga with Lemurs is a quirky twist on what we already offer in a Lemur encounter. It gives us a wider audience to raise awareness of how people can help to protect Lemurs in the wild. (It is also a very relaxing experience).

During a Lemur encounter or yoga session, Keepers have a prime opportunity to talk to visitors about conservation and make them aware of the plight of Lemurs in the wild. It gives us a chance to engage with the public, explain the threats and reinforce why Lemurs are unsuitable as pets. Whilst interacting with these gentle, inquisitive creatures a real impact can be made about how important conservation is and how the captive population within UK collections is managed for the good of the overall species. The Lake District Wildlife Park donate 10% of every encounter to the charity SEED Madagascar. We support the work that SEED does in Madagascar, which includes working with local communities to live sustainably and conserve Lemurs in the wild. Anything that we can do to encourage conservation surely must be a positive thing.