

## Lochs 1

### Lochs and Reservoirs - Gunknowe Loch in Tweedbank and link to Abbotsford House and Visitor Centre

Hard path all the way around the pond. Level tarmac paths in park area around park. A wide variety of wildfowl. The nature trail was created by Tweedbank Primary School.

**Start and finish:** Gunknowe Loch car park, Tweedbank or Abbotsford House Visitor Centre car park.

**Distance:** 1.5km/1 mile

**Terrain:** Flat hard surfaced tarmac paths.

**Parking:** Car park by loch. Ramp access is on left of car park if facing pond. Wide tarmac ramp to pondside.

**Toilets:** Nearest Wheelchair access RADAR lock toilets - Galashiels, Melrose.

**Facilities:** Bench seats, café, information boards.

- 1a. From Abbotsford follow the paths to reach the pond and walk around the pond with the pond on your left.
- From the Gunknowe Loch car park turn left to go down the gentle slope to the pond.

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1. Tweedbank Family Nature Trail 2. Walkit walks at Gunknowe Loch 3. Tweedbank Park 4. Tufted Duck.



- Turn right and walk around the side of the pond.
- After an open area with bench seats by the pond, turn right, walk past the play area and take the second left.
- Go straight on (The full nature trail turns left here).
- Follow the tarmac path with the large grass area on your right. You join the trail again at the end of the grass area.
- Turn left towards the pond.
- Walk around the pond to the right, and back to the start of your walk. Turning left here would bring you back to the play park.
- A path link can form a longer route on tarmac paths from point 6 turn right then when you meet the Borders Abbeys Way stay on the tarmac path to the left and turn left to follow the path beside the A6091 and return to your start point.

**Further information:** please see the Paths around Galashiels booklet at [www.scotborders.gov.uk/walking](http://www.scotborders.gov.uk/walking)



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#### Route Information

- suggested route - mainly hard surfaced, wide, level path
- other mainly hard surfaced, wide, level path
- other path
- steps
- caution, take care
- viewpoint
- Borders Abbeys Way

#### Facilities

- visitor information
- car parking
- toilets
- bus stop
- cafe or area with vending machines
- picnic area
- seat
- playpark
- gardens
- wildlife interest



#### Abbotsford House

Built in 1824, Abbotsford House was the home of writer Sir Walter Scott. A new visitor centre adjacent to the house was opened in 2012.

## Lochs 2

### Lochs and Reservoirs - Lindean Loch, near Selkirk



A short wheelchair access path takes you to a loch-side platform for views over the loch. The loch has interesting flora and birdlife. The path around the loch is 1.5km/1 mile long and is a low level rough countryside path.

**Facilities:** Bench seats on main path, information panels.

**Parking:** Area with wheelchair access.

**Toilets:** Nearest wheelchair access RADAR lock toilet - Selkirk, Galashiels.



Lindean Loch

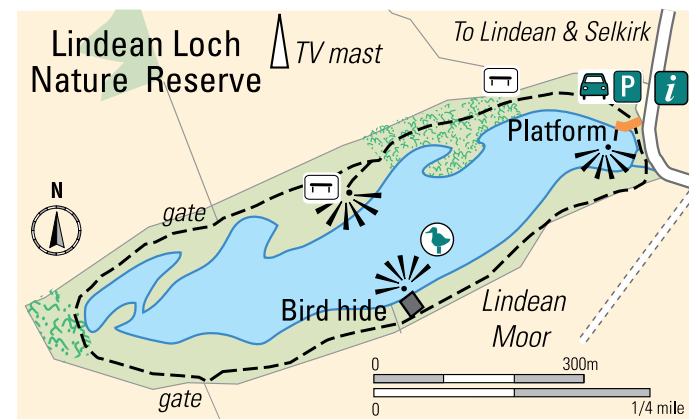
The reeds and sedges provide cover for water rail, reed bunting and sedge warbler and other frequent the area. Look out for Northern marsh orchid, bogbean, Greater spearwort, Tufted duck, dragonflies, Mute swan and moorhen.

**How to get there:** From the A7 between Selkirk and Galashiels, take the road at Lindean past Lindean Village Hall and continue for about a mile or so. Go straight on at a junction and you will reach Lindean Loch.

The Grasslands and wetlands are rich in plant species and the open water contains a diverse mix of aquatic invertebrates. There is a platform for a view of the loch and where pond dipping can be done.

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1. Lindean Loch 2. Mute Swan 3. Platform, Lindean Loch 4. Northern Marsh Orchid 5. Ranger Keith Robeson recording birds at Lindean Loch 6. On the path 7. Easy Access path to Loch 8. Fishing for water invertebrates



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#### Route Information

— suggested route - mainly hard surfaced, wide, level path

- - - other path

☼ viewpoint

#### Facilities

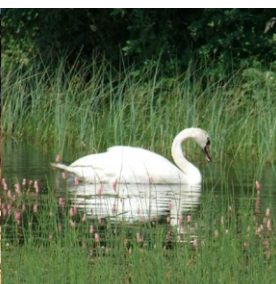
📍 visitor information

🚗 car parking

🪑 seat

🦋 wildlife interest

**Further information:** please see Paths around Selkirk booklet at [www.scotborders.gov.uk/walking](http://www.scotborders.gov.uk/walking) or for wildlife info visit [www.scotborders.gov.uk/biodiversity](http://www.scotborders.gov.uk/biodiversity)



### Lochs 3

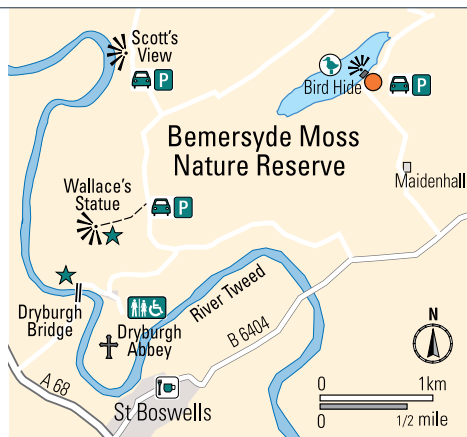
#### Lochs and Reservoirs - Bemersyde Moss

Bemersyde Moss near St Boswells is a large marsh area with birds. Geese roost here in winter. You can birdwatch from an easy access bird-hide, the ramp is on your left from where you park. There is information on birds inside the hide.

**Toilets:** Nearest RADAR lock wheelchair access toilet is in Melrose.

**How to get there:** from Scotts View go south into Bemersyde village and turn left. Go straight on at the first junction with the Moss visible below the road. Turn left past Whitrighill. Park on road verge adjacent to the nature reserve.

**Further information:**  
**Scottish Wildlife Trust**  
 Tel: 0131 312 7765  
[www.swt.org.uk](http://www.swt.org.uk)



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- Facilities
- 👁️ viewpoint
- 🚗 car parking
- ♿️ toilets
- 📺 cafe or area with vending machines
- 🍃 picnic area
- 🪑 seat
- 🦉 wildlife interest
- ★ James Hogg Ettrick Shepherd monument

1.	2.	3.	4.	5.	6.	7.
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1. Bemersyde Moss 2. At the Bird-watching Hide 3. Cuckoo Flower 4. Black-headed Gull 5. Oxcleuch Haugh 6. St Mary's Loch 7. Megget Reservoir 8. Foxglove

### Lochs 4&5

#### Lochs and Reservoirs - St Marys Loch and Megget Reservoir

##### St Marys Loch

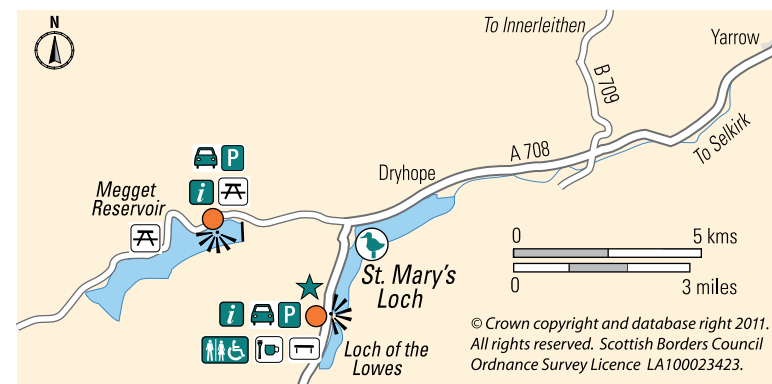
Lochs with views of surrounding hillsides. St Marys Loch is the largest loch in the Scottish Borders. It was formed during the last ice age by glaciers. Loch of the Lowes is at the South end of the loch. There is a café, views and picnic area at this area.

**Toilets:** RADAR wheelchair access toilets adjacent to the Glen Café, Loch of the Lowes. Ramp is fairly steep.

##### Megget Reservoir

Megget Reservoir is nearby. It is possible to drive a car up to the reservoir where there is a car parking area.

The road between Megget and Talla is not suitable for coaches. There are information boards, which are on a grass area, with a kerb, adjacent to the car park. Information on the water supply and local wildlife. Views across the reservoir.



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