BOWHILL

Walks

Enjoy the peace and tranquility Bowhill has to offer on one of our four waymarked walks...

Welcome to Bowhill

There are four waymarked walks for you to enjoy, ranging from the gentle Lochs Walk to the seven mile hike around the Duchess' Drive.

Bowhill House sits within the remains of the ancient Ettrick Forest, once used as hunting grounds for Scottish royalty. Today the estate is managed for farming and forestry with the areas surrounding the house maintained as a designed landscape and policy woodlands for our visitors to enjoy.

The Buccleuch Ranger Service operates on Bowhill Estate. Our Ranger will be only too pleased to help and advise visitors.

ENJOY SCOTLAND'S OUTDOORS RESPONSIBLY

Bowhill welcome responsible visitors.

Please follow the Scottish Access Code while visiting Bowhill. When you're in the outdoors, the key things are to:

- Take responsibility for your own actions
- Respect the interests of other people
- Care for the environment and take your litter home, or put it in one of the bins provided
- Keep your dog on a short lead or under close control, this is a working estate
- Pick up and remove your dog's waste

KNOW THE CODE BEFORE YOU GO
outdooraccess-scotland.com

bowhillhouse.co.uk

Bowhill House Selkirk Scottish Borders TD7 5ET

The Buccleuch Living Heritage Trust Registered Charity No: SC014915

Design pmgd

Lochs Walk

LEVEL:

DISTANCE: 2 miles

Easy woodland walk - firm path.

The most popular walk on the estate with stunning views of the lochs and the house.

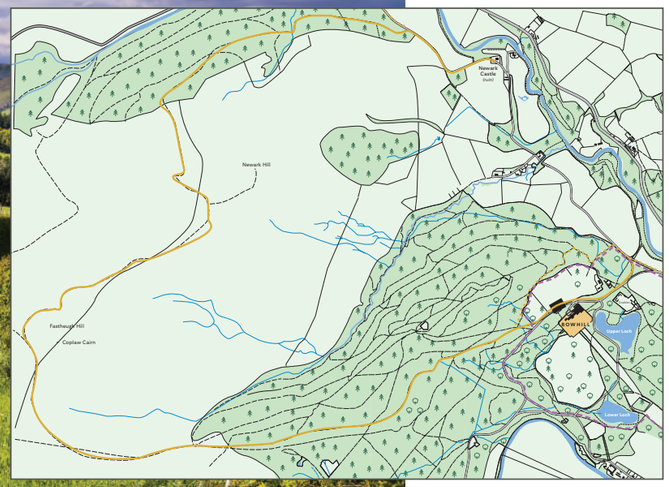
The Lochs Walk takes in many areas of beauty and interest, the path itself follows some of the Victorian walking routes on the estate. The Upper Loch is one of many man made landscape features of the grounds. Following advice from Sir Walter Scott the loch was excavated and a dam constructed with the spoil in 1816. The lower loch was altered and enlarged to the size it is today. It is currently stocked for fishing as well as providing a habitat for a variety of wildlife. Keep an eye out for birds nesting on the island.

Duchess' Drive

LEVEL:

DISTANCE: 7 miles

Long hill walk - rough but firm track, exposed hillside.



A moderate hike taking in some of the wonderful Border hills.

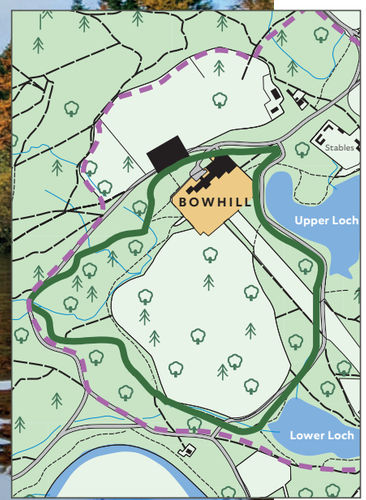
The Duchess Drive takes you up through the mixed and plantation woodland of Pernassie hill. As you climb the woodland opens in areas to give fantastic views back down to Selkirk. Patches of this woodland have been growing naturally here since the 1820's as part of the Howebottom Experiment. Once on to the moorland you can see across the whole of the Borders from St Marys Loch to the south west to the Eildon Hills in the north east. The final descent brings you down through Black Andrew Wood and past the ruins of Newark Tower.

Bell o' the Woods

LEVEL:

DISTANCE: 1.5 miles

Moderate woodland walk - firm path, steep in places.



A leisurely walk around the woodland and lochs of Bowhill.

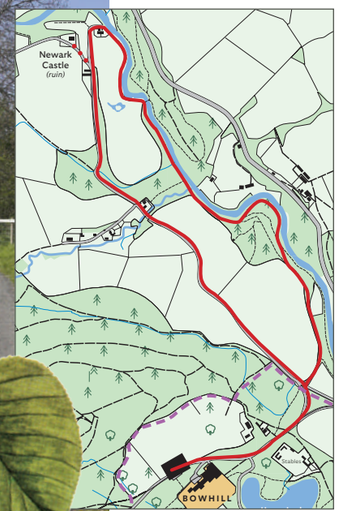
The Bell o' the Woods winds its way around the beautiful mixed woodlands surrounding Bowhill House. As you head down the path listen out for the call of nesting Buzzards and watch out for them swooping through the trees. On approach to the lower loch you can get a sense of how the house fits into the landscape as you look back up the hill. The walk continues past both lochs with fantastic views out over the water. Keep an eye out for the wildlife that calls the lochs home. You can usually see a pair of Swans nesting on the lochs or through the summer the Swallows pick insects from the surface. If you are very lucky you may even catch a glimpse of the ever elusive Otter.

Lady's Walk

LEVEL:

DISTANCE: 3 miles

Moderate low level walk - undulating path, rough in places.



A peaceful walk following the Yarrow River to the ruins of Newark Tower.

The Lady's Walk leads you down through Lime Walk, a feature still present from the Victorian era when new footpaths were lined with trees, before following the course of the Yarrow River. The Yarrow River runs for 13 miles from St Marys Loch to 'The Meetings' where it flows into the Ettrick and eventually into the Tweed. The river provides a peaceful habitat for a variety of wildlife such as Dippers or Kingfishers. At the furthest most point a short detour can be taken to see the ruins of Newark Tower. The Tower was built in 1423 buy the Douglas family as their defensive home.