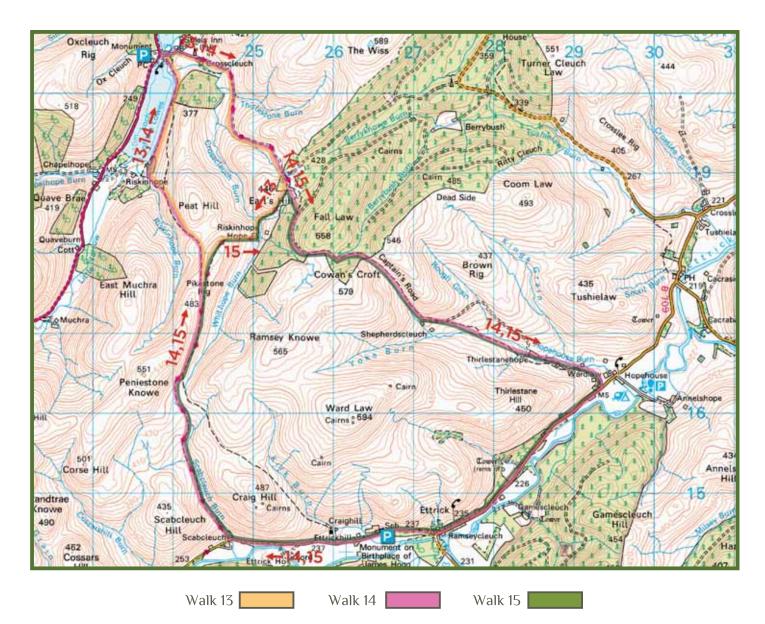
TIBBIE SHIELS CIRCULAR via PIKESTONE RIG & LOCH OF THE LOWES

5mls/8kms with 820ft/250m climb. Grade: Moderate

This is a good walk with beautiful views, following good paths/tracks and returning along the banks of the Loch of the Lowes

Start & Finish: There is plenty of parking opposite the monument to James Hogg between St Mary's Loch and the Loch of the Lowes, Grid Reference NT237205.

- 1. From the parking area, cross the small bridge and walk along the road past the Tibbie Shiels Inn towards Crosscleuch. From here, go through the gate and follow the Southern Upland Way climbing up towards Earl's Hill. After about $1\frac{1}{2}$ mls, you go through a gate.
- 2. Do not continue on the forest track, but take the marked path to the right. Continue on this path passing round the back of Earl's Hill (don't take the signposted Captain's Road). The path descends to cross a burn then rises again up to Pikestone Rig.



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- 3. Continue to the south end of Pikestone Rig, where you drop down to a path junction. The Southern Upland Way heads to the left, but you should turn right here and follow the path down to Riskinhope. There is a slightly marshy stretch where the path can be more difficult to find. Keep to the right and the higher ground before descending back to the left and down to Riskinhope.
- 4. From Riskinhope, turn right and follow the shore of the Loch of the Lowes back to the start.



Starting from the Loch of the Lowes



Path rises up to Pikestone Rig



Loch of the Lowes



Path descending to Riskinhope and Loch of the Lowes