

Kosciuszko National Park

Thredbo–Perisher area walks



nswnationalparks.com.au

Spring, summer or autumn, the Thredbo and Perisher areas spoil you with an incredible variety of walks. Climb Mount Kosciuszko, take a gentle stroll by a mountain stream, discover historic huts, or tackle a challenging overnight hike across the rooftop of Australia.

Snow can fall at any time of year, covering the tracks and bringing freezing conditions. Plan with weather and track conditions in mind.

ALPINE AREA WALKS

When the winter snow melts you'll discover an ancient landscape of granite tors, glacial lakes and summer wildflowers.

Topographic maps

- Perisher Valley 1:25 000
- Youngal 1:25 000
- Chimneys Ridge 1:25 000

01 Snow Gums boardwalk



- Grade 3 walk • Gentle hills • Formed track • Many steps
- Clearly sign posted • No experience required

400m return, 15–30mins

This summer walk starts at Charlotte Pass lookout and has some of the best, and easily accessed views of Australia's highest peaks. The boardwalk winds along the tree-line, past twisted snow gums and spring wildflowers. After 200m, climb the steps to Main Range lookout for sweeping views of the Main Range, Mount Kosciuszko, and the Snowy River.

02 Mount Stilwell walk



- Grade 3 walk • Short steep hills • Formed track, some obstacles
- Clearly sign posted • No experience required • Many steps

2km return, 1.5–2.5 hours

In summer, walk 850m from the turning circle at Charlotte Pass to the lookout at the top of Kangaroo Ridge chairlift. You'll enjoy unbroken views to Mount Stilwell, Mount Kosciuszko and the Main Range. For a longer walk, continue along an unmarked track to the summit of Mount Stilwell, which is marked by a trig (4km return from Charlotte Pass).

03 Mount Kosciuszko summit trail



- Grade 3 walk • Short steep hills • No experience required
- Formed track • Clearly sign posted • Occasional steps

18.6km return, 6–8 hours

Charlotte Pass to:

Snowy River:	4.5km one-way
Seaman's Hut:	5.9km one-way
Rawson Pass :	7.6km one-way
Mount Kosciuszko:	9.3km one-way

This summer-only walk follows the old road to Mount Kosciuszko, which closed to public vehicles in 1976 due to safety and environmental concerns. Pass through snow gums, heath and herb fields and enjoy expansive views of the Main Range. Cross the famous Snowy River and climb the winding trail to Seamans Hut, which was built in 1929 as a memorial to skiers Laurie Seaman and Evan Hayes.

Continue to Rawson Pass, a good rest stop with toilet facilities, before you climb the last 1.7km

to the top of Kosciuszko, Australia's highest mountain. Soak in the 360° views and fresh alpine air, refuel with a snack, and wallow in your sense of achievement, before returning the way you came.

04 Main Range walk



- Grade 4 walk • Very steep • Clearly sign posted
- Formed track, some obstacles • Many steps
- Some bushwalking experience recommended

22km loop, 7–9 hours

Charlotte Pass to:

Blue Lake lookout: 5km one-way

Carruthers Peak: 5.8km one-way

Mount Kosciuszko: 13km one-way



Photo: Main Range hiker (Thredbo Resort)

In spring and summer, Main Range walk and Mount Kosciuszko summit trail are linked as a loop walk. It's best walked in anti-clockwise direction, so the final section heads downhill along the summit trail. If the stepping stones across the Snowy River are covered, this walk is not recommended.

From Charlotte Pass, descend Main Range walk to the Snowy River. If water levels are safe, rock-hop across the river, then climb the track past Hedley Tarn lookout, to Blue Lake lookout.

The track then climbs Carruthers Peak, which has dramatic views of the Western Fall Wilderness and beyond. On a clear day, Mount Bogong and Mount Buffalo in Victoria can be seen in the distance.

Continue along the exposed ridge of the Main Range, above Club Lake and Lake Albina. The track meets the summit Mount Kosciuszko trail

before you reach Rawson Pass. Turn right to climb to the top of Mount Kosciuszko, or left to head downhill to Rawson Pass. Return to Charlotte Pass via Mount Kosciuszko summit trail.

05 Thredbo to Mount Kosciuszko walk



- Grade 4 walk • Short steep hills
- Formed track • Clearly sign posted
- No experience required • Many steps

13km return, 4–5 hours

Thredbo to:

Kosciuszko lookout: 2km one-way

Rawson Pass: 5km one-way

Mount Kosciuszko: 6.5km one-way

This summer-only track begins at the top of the Kosciuszko Express chairlift at Thredbo (fees apply). It runs beside the rocky outcrops of Ramshead Range and passes through alpine herb fields and heath to Kosciuszko lookout. Cross the headwaters of the Snowy River, then climb to a saddle above Lake Cootapatamba before continuing past Etheridge Range to Rawson Pass.

It's a gradual 1.7km climb (40 mins) along the Summit trail to reach the top of Mount Kosciuszko. Return the same way.

06 Dead Horse Gap track



- Grade 4 walk • Very steep • Formed track, some obstacles
- Some bushwalking experience recommended • Many steps
- Clearly sign posted

5km one-way, 1.5–2.5 hours

This summer-only walk forms part of the Australian Alps walking track. It's best to start from the top of the Kosciuszko Express chairlift (fees apply). The track passes through alpine herb fields and heath below the craggy peaks of the Ramshead Range. It then winds down a ridge through snow gums to the Thredbo River, near Dead Horse Gap, on Alpine Way. You can return to Thredbo along the 4km Thredbo River walk.

ACCESS-FRIENDLY

Kosciuszko National Park provides a TrailRider all-terrain wheelchair for hire free of charge, from the Snowy Region Visitor Centre in Jindabyne.

The TrailRider offers visitors with mobility restrictions more opportunity to experience our park, with family and friends.

Contact Snowy Region Visitor Information Centre, Jindabyne on **(02) 6450 5600** or visit: nationalparks.nsw.gov.au/trail-rider



Photo: Thredbo wildflowers (Thredbo Resort)

Snowies Iconic walk



• Grade 3 to 4 walks

44km loop, 4 days

Snowies Iconic walk will offer visitors to the Snowy Mountains a world class, multi-day alpine trek across the rooftop of Australia.

This epic 44km, 4-day hiking experience will link the existing Main Range, Summit and Porcupine walks with alpine resorts, accommodation and services at Charlotte Pass, Guthega, Perisher, Lake Crackenback and Thredbo.

With each track section around 10–15km long, hikers will have the option to try any section as single day walks or longer overnight walks.

The walk will be delivered in stages over several years, with final completion in 2022. The first stages of construction are currently underway.

Visit: nswparks.info/snowies-iconic-walk

THREDBO AREA WALKS

Stroll beside cool mountain rivers or walk to historic huts. Some walks can only be enjoyed when there's no snow – always check with one of our visitor centres before setting out.

Topographic maps

- Chimneys Ridge 1:25 000
- Tom Groggin 1:25 000

07 Thredbo Village walks



• Various Grades

Discover Thredbo at your own pace on one of the many self-guided walks in and around the village. Take in the resort's history, its art works, memorials, and fragile environments.

Guided summer walks to the alpine lakes and mountains are also available.

08 Bullocks track



- Grade 3 walk • Gentle hills • Formed track, some obstacles
- Occasional steps • Clearly sign posted • No experience required

2.5km one-way, 45mins–1hour 15mins

This track begins from either Thredbo Diggings campground or from Bullocks Flat Skitube carpark 'D'. The main track follows the Thredbo River to Bullock's Hut, which was built in 1934 as a holiday cottage for Dr H. Bullock. Return the same way. From Bullocks Hut you can also continue 1.4km to Lake Crackenback.

Open year-round for walking.

09 Thredbo River walk



- Grade 3 walk • Short steep hills • Formed track, some obstacles
- Limited signage • No experience required • Many steps

4km one-way, 1–2 hours

This track begins from Thredbo Village Golf Course, or opposite the Cascade Hut trailhead on Alpine Way, near Dead Horse Gap. It crosses the Thredbo River several times on bridges as it follows the river. Along the way it passes cascades and still pools which provide habitat for both introduced trout and native platypus.

You can also combine this track with Dead Horse Gap walking track, for a more difficult 9km loop.



Photo: Bullocks Hut (E.Sheargold/DPIE)



Photo: Cascade Hut (M.Vanderveer)

10 Cascade Hut trail



- Grade 4 walk • Short steep hills • Formed track, some obstacles
- Limited signage • Experienced bushwalkers • Occasional steps

20km return, 7–10 hours

Alpine Way to:

Bob's Ridge: 4.8km one-way

Cascade Hut: 10km one-way

Starting from Dead Horse Gap, on Alpine Way, Cascade Hut trail follows the Thredbo River upstream before crossing it and climbing to the top of Bob's Ridge. Enjoy the views over the Murray River valley into Victoria. Then continue to Cascade Hut, which was built in 1935.

The hut is in the Pilot Wilderness Area. You can camp overnight near the hut (toilet facilities only) then return the same way.

This trail is part of the Australian Alps walking track. It's open to bike riders and walkers in summer and for cross-country skiing and snowshoeing in winter.

AUSTRALIAN ALPS WALKING TRACK

The Australian Alps walking track is a 655km long-distance walk from Walhalla, in Victoria, to Tharwa, near Canberra. Recommended for experienced, self-sufficient hikers only.

There are several points in Kosciuszko National Park where you can access the Australian Alps walking track, to walk a shorter section. Contact Snowy Region Visitor Centre for more information, including maps and guide books.



Photo: Waterfall track (M.Vanderveer/DPIE)

PERISHER AREA WALKS

The first three walks listed below are suitable all year. The higher you go, the more chance snow will cover the track during the winter months. Always check with one of our visitor centres before setting out on your walk.

Topographic maps

- Perisher Valley 1:25 000
- Geehi Dam 1:25 000
- Kalkite Mountain 1:25 000
- Nimmo Plain 1:25 000

11 Sawpit walk



- Grade 3 walk • Gentle hills • Formed track, some obstacles
- Clearly sign posted • No experience required • Occasional steps

2km loop, 45mins–1.5 hours

You can start this walk from the southern end of the Kosciuszko Education Centre or from the Sawpit Creek picnic area.

The track follows Sawpit Creek downstream through woodland. The thick shrub growing beside the creek is predominantly woolly tea tree. After around 1km, Sawpit track takes a sharp turn to the right while Pallaibo track continues following the creek. Sawpit track climbs back to Kosciuszko Tourist Park. Walk through this complex of tourist cabins and camp sites to return to the picnic area.

12 Pallaibo walk



- Grade 3 walk • Short steep hills • Many steps
- Clearly sign posted • Formed track
- Some bushwalking experience recommended

5.5km one-way, 1.5–2.5 hours

This track connects Sawpit Creek picnic area with

Thredbo River picnic area, and can be walked in either direction. Most visitors start from Sawpit Creek and arrange to be picked up from Thredbo River picnic area.

The first part of the walk follows Sawpit track. After around 1km, Sawpit track branches to the right while Pallaibo track continues along the creek, past two small cascades locally known as Sawpit Falls and Charlie's Cascades.

As the track drops down towards Thredbo River it crosses former grazing land. Cross Sawpit Creek and follow the river downstream to Thredbo River picnic area.

13 Waterfall walk



- Grade 3 walk • Gentle hills • Formed track, some obstacles
- Clearly sign posted • Occasional steps
- Some bushwalking experience recommended

6km loop, 1.5–2.5 hours

This track starts at Sawpit Creek picnic area and passes under Kosciuszko Road. It runs roughly parallel to the left bank of Sawpit Creek until it crosses the creek below a picturesque waterfall.

The tall trees with fibrous bark growing near the falls are alpine ash. Alpine ash was logged in this area late in the 19th century.

The track passes between huge granite boulders before returning to the picnic area.

14 Rennix walk



- Grade 3 walk • Short steep hills • Formed track, some obstacles
- Clearly sign posted • Occasional steps
- Some bushwalking experience recommended

13km return, 4.5–5.5 hours

This walk provides views over the Snowy River to the west and Lake Jindabyne to the east. There

are some steep sections as you walk up a shallow sub-alpine valley and across several forested ridges, to a rock outcrop called Giants Castle.

Turn back at the Snowy Hydro radio repeater tower and return the same way.

15 Rainbow Lake trail



- Grade 3 walk • Short steep hills • Formed track, some obstacles
- Clearly sign posted • Occasional steps
- Some bushwalking experience recommended

2.5km return, 45min–1.5 hours

Start from Dainer's Gap, downhill from the chain bay on Kosciuszko Road, around 1.7km past Sponar's Chalet. The walk winds through snowgrass and snow gums to Rainbow Lake. Return the same way.

The lake is created by a dam which was built to supply water to the Hotel Kosciusko. Sponar's Chalet had been the staff quarters for the hotel, which was built in 1909 and burnt down in 1951. You'll see old fences near a large boulder just before you descend to the lake. These are a reminder of the period when this area was leased for grazing.

This walk is especially radiant in spring, when wildflowers bloom. In summer, you can also try fishing in the lake (licence required).

16 Porcupine walk



- Grade 3 walk • Short steep hills • Formed track, some obstacles
- Clearly sign posted • Occasional steps
- Some bushwalking experience recommended

5km return, 1.5–2.5 hours

This summer walk starts at the Perisher Valley reservoir. To reach the start of the track, turn off Kosciuszko Road beside the Man from Snowy River and follow the road until you reach the reservoir.

The track wanders through snow grass and snow gums until a large group of granite boulders is reached. These boulders provide extensive views of the Main Range and down to the Thredbo Valley and Bullocks Flat. Return the same way.

17 Perisher–Blue Cow walk



- Grade 5 walk • Gentle hills • Occasional steps
- Formed track, some obstacles • No directional signage
- No experience required

8km return, 3 hours

This easy to moderate walk is graded difficult as it's not sign posted. You can walk from Perisher to Blue Cow SkiTube Terminal during summer, where there are views of the Main Range. Return

along the same management trail. Watch for traffic. Please note that the Blue Cow Terminal is closed during summer.

GUTHEGA AREA WALKS

The cultural heritage of the Snowy Mountains comes alive in this area. You'll discover historic huts previously used by graziers, the mighty hydro-electric scheme and scenic walks amongst the snow gums.

Topographic maps

- Geehi Dam 1:25 000
- Scammells Lookout 1:25 000
- Youngal 1:25 000

18 Illawong walk



- Grade 3 walk • Short steep hills • Many steps
- Formed track, some obstacles • Clearly sign posted
- Some bushwalking experience recommended

5km return, 2–3 hours

This summer-only walk starts from Guthega Village. Follow the Snowy River Valley through alpine heath and majestic snow gums, up to one of the oldest buildings in the park - Illawong Hut (formerly Pounds Creek, Tin Hut 1). You'll cross the Snowy River on a suspension bridge, but there's no marked track beyond this point.



Photo: Illawong track (M.Vanderveer/DPIE)



Photo: Schlink Hut walk, Horse camp Hut (J.Spencer/DPIE)

19 Schlink Hut overnight walk



- Grade 5 walk • Very steep • Formed track, some obstacles
- No directional signage • Experienced bushwalkers
- Occasional steps

22km loop, 2 days

Guthega Power Station (1320m) to:
 Horse Camp Hut (1560m): 4km one-way
 White's River Hut: 8km one-way
 Schlink Hut (1780m): 11km one-way

From Guthega Power Station (Munyang) the road zig-zags steeply for about 2.7km. Take care as vehicles may use this road to service infrastructure.

After another 1.3km an unmarked track to the left leads to Horse Camp Hut. Built in the 1950s by the Snowy Mountains Authority, it housed surveyors before being abandoned in the 1960s. This is a good place to camp overnight, if starting late. You'll need to take your own tent though, as huts are for emergency use only.

From here, it's around 4km to White's River Hut, which was built as a shepherds' hut in 1934, then used by ski tourers. There's a track to the left over a shallow river. Head back up Schlink trail for 3km to Schlink Hut. Schlink Hut, also called the 'Hilton' because of its size, was built in 1961 by the Snowy Mountains Authority to house maintenance workers. Look for galaxias, a small native fish, in the creek that runs by the hut. You may see these fish climbing on the rocks.

Camp overnight, then return the same way.

Alternative routes: On your return, you can veer left onto Disappointment Spur trail, below White's River Hut. Walk past Disappointment Spur Hut (no toilet facilities) and down to Guthega Power Station. Disappointment Spur Hut was built as a survey shelter by the Snowy Mountains Authority in the 1950s. This side trip adds only a few kilometres to your walk. Check for closures.

STAYING SAFE

The Australian Alps may not be as high or steep as mountain ranges overseas but strong winds, rain and low temperatures can make our exposed alpine areas dangerous. Weather can change quickly so always be realistic about the current and approaching conditions as well as your own abilities.

Travel with others and tell someone where you're going and when you'll be back. Check weather before leaving and change plans if bad weather's approaching – at any time of year.

Take layers of warm, waterproof clothing – even in summer and even on day trips – as well as plenty of food as it helps provide heat for the body.

Think about hiring a Personal Locator Beacon from one of our visitor centres as phone coverage in the park is patchy and cold can affect batteries.

Visit: nswparks.info/alpine-safety

General enquiries

Snowy Region Visitor Information Centre, Jindabyne.
Ph: (02) 6450 5600

Perisher Visitor Office, Perisher Valley.
Ph: (02) 6457 4444

Tumut Visitor Information Centre.
Ph: (02) 6947 7025

Visit: nswparks.info/kosciuszko

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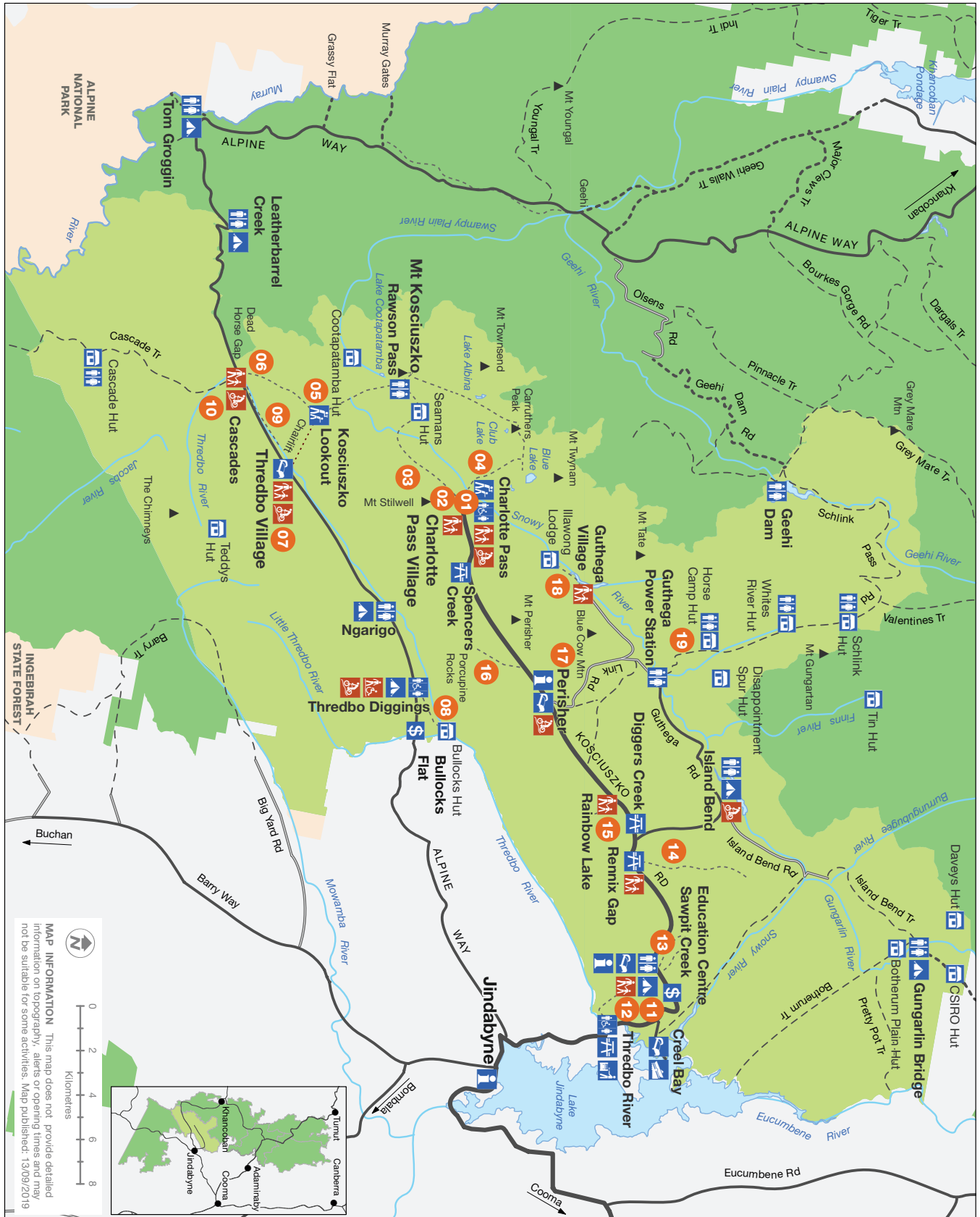


Thredbo - Perisher area

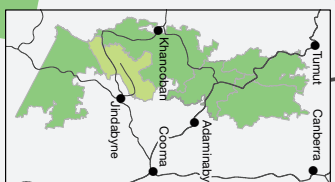
Kosciuszko National Park



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MAP INFORMATION This map does not provide detailed information on topography, alerts or opening times and may not be suitable for some activities. Map published: 13/09/2019



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|-----------------------|--|----------------------------|----------------------------|---------------------|
| Thredbo-Perisher area | Unsealed road - may not be accessible in wet weather | 01 Featured walking track | Accommodation | Lookout |
| NPWS reserves | 4WD trail - may not be accessible in wet weather | Visitor information | Campground | Historic hut |
| Other reserves | Management trail - no public vehicular access | Toilets/accessible toilets | Picnic area (day use only) | Walking track |
| Highway/Sealed road | Walking track | Visitor entry station | Barbeque | Mountain bike trail |
| | | | Boat ramp | Accessible path |