

# Kosciuszko National Park

## Selwyn area walks and rides

Photo: Wolgal Hut (M.Vanderveer/OEH)



Located between Cooma, Tumbarumba and Tumut, the Selwyn area is the perfect base to explore the history, huts and summer wildflowers of central and northern Kosciuszko. Stay at Wolgal Hut or find a quiet campsite by beautiful Three Mile Dam, then discover the history of Australia's highest gold rush at Kiandra. Why not check out the majestic views from Wallaces Creek or Cabramurra lookouts, and enjoy easily-accessed walks and cycle trails.

In winter, some trails offer access to cross-country skiing and snowshoeing experiences set amongst the snow gums.

### **KIANDRA AND SELWYN WALKS AND RIDES**

Discover Kiandra's gold rush heritage, and enjoy summer wild flowers and birdwatching along easy tracks. Contact the Tumut visitor information centre for Kiandra Courthouse opening times.

#### **Topographic maps**

- Cabramurra 1:25 000
- Tantangara 1:25.000
- Dension 1:25.000
- Ravine 1:25.000

#### **01 Kiandra Heritage track**



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

1.2km loop, 30 mins – 1 hour

The self-guided Kiandra Heritage walking track is a must for history buffs, bringing the stories of the gold rush and early skiing days to life. This short,

easy walk gives you a window into the area's rich history. Kiandra was the scene of one of the shortest, not to mention highest gold rushes in Australian history - from November 1859 to March 1861. It's also the birthplace of Australian skiing.

The track begins at the former courthouse, in the Kiandra Heritage precinct, right next to Snowy Mountains Highway. There are plenty of signs along the way to learn about the major buildings and life during Kiandra's heyday, when up to 8000 people lived here, hoping to strike it rich.

#### **02 Goldseekers track**



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

3km loop, 1–2 hours

This lovely loop walk begins opposite the south western entrance to Three Mile Dam. The track meanders through snow gum woodlands, across snowgrass flats and past an abandoned ore-crushing battery. Stop to take in the views back to Three Mile Dam, which offers photographers a kaleidoscope of stunning landscapes to snap.

In spring, the area is carpeted with yellow buttons, white snow daisies, and pink-flowered trigger plants. Snow-lovers can cross-country ski or snowshoe this track in winter.

#### **03 Four Mile Hut walk and ride**



- Grade 3 walk

10km return, 3.5–4.5 hours

This moderate walk or ride begins at Selwyn Snow Resort carpark, along the access trail behind the resort. Follow the winding track through snow gum woodland for 1.2km to the



Photo: Kiandra Heritage trail (M.Vanderveer/OEH)

Mt Selwyn Radio Tower. Further along, the trees open out to vast sub-alpine grasslands, with views of Tabletop Mountain and Mt Jagungal.

Continue to the junction with Tabletop trail (3km), and turn right. Follow this trail south for 1.3km to the junction with Four Mile Hut access trail. Access to Four Mile Hut from here is by foot only. Walk your bikes down the foot pad and leave them near the creek crossing.

Follow the lightly marked foot track for 750m east to Four Mile Hut. The timber and tin strip hut is a scenic backdrop for a picnic before retracing your steps to the carpark.

**Four Mile Hut:** The hut was built in 1937 by Robert Hughes, the last active miner in the area.

**Alternative routes:** You can also take Tabletop trail from Kiandra to this hut.

## 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 Tumut Visitor Information Centre for more information, including maps and guide books.

## HIGH COUNTRY PLAINS WALKS AND RIDES

The high plains and mountain woodlands east of the highway boast a network of summer trails to explore on foot, by bike or by horse. Experience the pioneering heritage of the NSW high country. Discover the beauty of this sub-alpine environment, which in spring and summer is carpeted with native wildflowers stretching across the vast plains.

Topographic maps

- Tantangara 1:25 000
- Denison 1:25 000

### 04 Gooandra Homestead walk and ride



• Grade 3 walk

9.4km return, 3.5 hours

This day walk, or moderate ride, begins at the Gooandra trail-head, where it meets Snowy Mountains Highway, around 6km north of Kiandra.

Follow the trail across the Eucumbene River and through sub-alpine frost hollows on the Kiandra Plain. You'll pass historic Six Mile Gold Diggings, circa 1864, and the headwaters of Gooandra Creek, before reaching the sign posted intersection with the footpad to historic Gooandra Homestead.

Gooandra was built in 1913. Around 12,000 sheep were held on this lease, along with a woolshed





Photo: Gooandra Homestead (M.Vanderveer/OEH)

and yards. The area's pioneering history goes back to the Kiandra gold rush, and you can still see the remnants of a miner's hut built in 1864, about 20m away. This structure is believed to be the oldest in Kosciuszko National Park.

**Alternative routes:** If you want to shorten the route by 1km each way, you can drive along Gooandra management trail (no winter access), and park near the Eucumbene River crossing.

### WINTER ACCESS

Walking tracks and riding trails may be affected by snow during winter. It's a good idea to contact:

Tumut Visitor Information Centre  
Ph: (02) 6947 7025

## 05 Gavels and Brayshaws Hut loop



• Grade 3 walk

27km loop, 9 hours (all huts)

Snowy Mountains Highway to:

Gavels Hut: 5.5km one-way, 2 hours

Brayshaws Hut: 16km one-way via Gavels Hut trail

Start at Boundary trail, off the Snowy Mountains Highway, near the park entrance. Gavels Hut is 5.5km north of the highway. Turn left at the junction onto Gavels Hut trail.

There are some narrow tracks with steep climbs and descents. In the southern part of the ride

you'll head through snow gums, mountain gum and alpine ash forests, that open onto the expansive Nungar Plain.

After reaching Gavels Hut you can return the way you came. The more adventurous can continue north on the trail that skirts the grassy plain, until you reach Circuits trail. Turn left towards Brayshaws Hut, which is 3.7km along the trail. Keep an eye out for red-necked wallabies, flame robins, and grey-shrike thrush, which are often seen in this area.

If you're equipped for an overnight walk, you can head directly back to Snowy Mountains Highway via Circuits shortcut trail, which is 10.8km from Brayshaws Hut.

**Gavels Hut:** Built 1931, this quaint timber and corrugated iron clad hut looks over the Nungar Plain. James T. Gavel leased the area in the 1930s as summer pasture for 4000 sheep.

**Brayshaws Hut:** Built in the 1950's, this tiny 2m x 3m weatherboard hut was originally a washroom and laundry for the Venables family, of Adaminaby.

## 06 Nungar walk and ride



• Grade 2 walk

23km return, 8 hours

Start at Nungar Creek trail, which is 8km along Tantangara Road from Snowy Mountains Highway. Witses Hut is 11.5km along the trail.

This undulating ride, or Grade 2 walk, travels alongside the winding Nungar Creek, to the





Tantangara Dam trail intersection. Keep an eye out for red-necked wallabies and wedge-tailed eagles. You'll pass through sub-alpine woodland and plains and see evidence of the 2003 and 2007 wildfires as you approach Witses Hut. Return the same way.

**Extra sections:** From Witses Hut you can experience a longer trip by continuing south-west along Nungar trail for an extra 11.5km, to Snowy Mountains Highway at Kiandra. You may get wet feet crossing the Eucumbene River near the highway.

**Witses Hut:** This vertical slab hut was built around 1952, on what was once Tantangara Station, using timber from Tantangara Homestead (circa 1880s).

## 07 Plain ride



• Grade 4 walk

21km return, 7 hours

Schofields trail-head to:

Schofields Hut: 6km one-way, 2 hours

Circuits Hut: 10.5km one-way, 3.5 hours

This easy to moderate ride, or Grade 4 walk, starts from the Schofield's trail-head on Tantangara Road. Schofield's Hut is 6km along Schofield's trail, crossing Nungar Creek. Circuits Hut is 10.5km from Tantangara Road, following Schofields then Circuits trails.

For a longer ride, continue along Circuits trail to the intersection of Pedens trail. From here you can start the moderately difficult Murrumbidgee ride or organise a car shuffle.

**Schofields Hut:** The simple hut is best known for its 16-pane window.

**Circuits Hut:** Built in 1938, this pretty weatherboard hut is more like a house, with 4 rooms and a verandah. It sits among mature black sallees overlooking Gulf Plain. Circuits Hut was part of only 3 freehold grazing properties in what is now Kosciuszko National Park.

## CARING FOR YOUR PARK

- Mountain biking and horse riding are permitted on all public roads and most management trails in the Selwyn area.
- Bike riders please slow down. Give way to walkers and horses. Wear a helmet.
- Please stay on formed trails.
- Take water to the horse – hard hooves destroy stream banks.
- Use only weed-free feed.
- Small groups, 4–8 horses, is best.
- Observe all fire restrictions and never leave fires unattended. Consider using gas stoves instead of solid fuel for cooking.
- Bury toilet waste well away from water courses and public areas.
- All plants and animals in the national park are protected. Damage to, or removal of any plants or animals is an offence.
- Domestic pets, firearms and chainsaws are not permitted in the national park.



Photo: Three Mile Dam campground (E.Sheargold/OEH)

## ACCOMMODATION AND CAMPGROUNDS

Wolgal Hut, in historic Kiandra, offers lodge accommodation for self-sufficient travellers. It has the look and feel of a 1960s retro ski lodge, and makes a great base for exploring central and northern Kosciuszko National Park.

You can also book the historic Currango Homestead (closed winter) or Yarrangobilly Caves House.

For availability and to book, visit:  
[nationalparks.nsw.gov.au](http://nationalparks.nsw.gov.au)

There are plenty of campgrounds in this area of the park, including:

- Three Mile Dam campground
- Bullocks Hill campground
- Denison campground
- Rocky Plain campground
- Wares Yards campground
- Ghost Gully campground
- Old Snowy campground
- Long Plain Hut campground
- Cooinbil Hut campground
- O'Hares campground

Access roads to some campgrounds may be closed in winter, between the June and October long weekends.

## NEAREST SERVICES

The nearest fuel and food supplies are located at Adaminaby, Cooma, Talbinga, Tumut and Tumbarumba. Limited services in Cabramurra.

### STAYING SAFE

Be aware of the risks and take responsibility for your own safety and the safety of any children in your care. Remember to plan ahead. Choose your walks and activities to match your capabilities. Travel with others and tell someone where you're going and when you'll be back.

Always check the weather before leaving and change your plans if bad weather is approaching.

Visit: [nationalparks.nsw.gov.au/alpine-safety](http://nationalparks.nsw.gov.au/alpine-safety)

### General enquiries

Tumut Visitor Information Centre

**Ph: (02) 6947 7025**

Yarrangobilly Caves Visitor Centre

**Ph: (02) 6454 9597**

Snowy Region Visitor Information Centre, Jindabyne

**Ph: (02) 6450 5600**

Khancoban Visitor Centre

**Ph: (02) 6076 9373**

Visit: [nationalparks.nsw.gov.au/kosciuszko](http://nationalparks.nsw.gov.au/kosciuszko)

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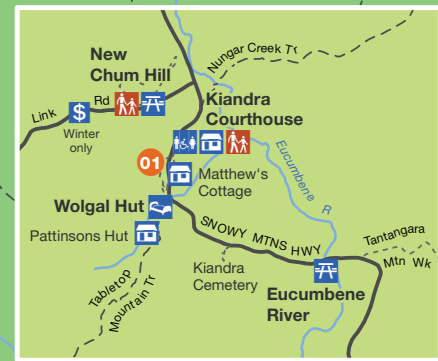
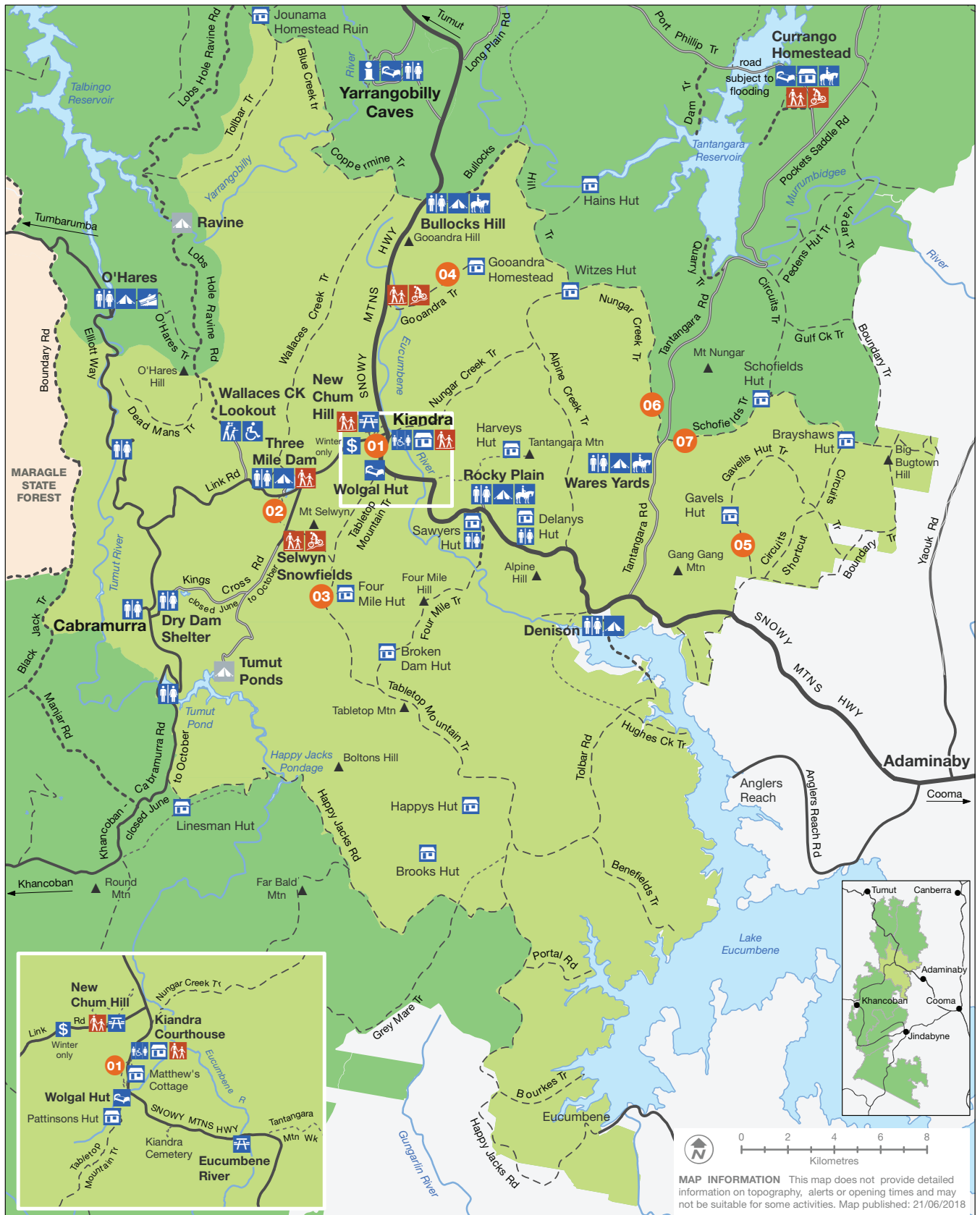


# Selwyn area

Kosciuszko National Park



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|-----------------------------|--|--|----------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| Selwyn area                 | Unsealed road - may not be accessible in wet weather | Featured walking track or mountain bike trail      | Accommodation              | Lookout                               |
| NPWS reserves               | 4WD trail - may not be accessible in wet weather     | Visitor information                                | Campground                 | Historic hut                          |
| Other reserves/State forest | Management trail - no public vehicular access        | Toilets/accessible toilets (inc. non-NPWS toilets) | Campground (no facilities) | Campground with facilities for horses |
| Highway/Sealed road         | Walking track  | Wheelchair access                                  | Picnic area (day use only) | Walking track                         |
|                             |  | Visitor entry station                              | Boat ramp                  | Mountain bike trail                   |