Kosciuszko National Park

Winter activities

Home to all of NSW’s ski resorts, Kosciuszko National Park is a wonderland for winter sports. Spend a day, or a week, at the resorts of Perisher, Thredbo or Charlotte Pass, and enjoy exciting alpine adventures surrounded by Australia’s highest mountains. Mt Selwyn is the ideal day resort for great-value snow adventures in the north of the park.

Feel the thrill of skiing and boarding the highest, steepest and longest runs in the country. Test your skills at a terrain park, build a snowman or enjoy other snow play activities. Head off on a backcountry tour, try cross-country skiing or snowshoeing.

Winter ski season runs from the NSW June long weekend until the NSW October long weekend, so there’s time to do it all.

PERISHER AREA

Perisher is the perfect snow holiday destination for families, first-timers and experts. There’s 1245ha (over 3000 acres) of skiing terrain across the 4 resort areas of Perisher Valley, Blue Cow, Smiggin Holes and Guthega, making it the largest ski resort in the southern hemisphere.

Ski and snowboard runs

As you’d expect, the country’s biggest snow resort offers skiers and boarders a huge choice of snow trails. In peak season there’s over 100 groomed trails across the vast skiable and linked terrain, with a great range of beginner, intermediate and advanced trails catering for all abilities. A whopping 47 lifts service the 4 resort areas, so you’re bound to find the perfect trail.

Warm up on the protected slopes of Smiggin Holes, popular with families and first-timers, or head to Perisher’s Centre Valley or Front Valley for easy trails. Experienced riders can jump on the Freedom chairlift in Guthega and enjoy the amazing views across the Main Range to Mount Kosciuszko.

Ski or board from Perisher to Blue Cow, or take the Skitube. There’s a huge variety of runs that link the 4 resort areas. Perisher’s Front Valley offers night skiing and boarding on Tuesdays and Saturdays, while Smiggins has Wednesdays nights for the kids.

Terrain parks: With multiple terrain parks, half pipes, and rider-cross courses, Perisher’s a great place to polish your rails, rollers, jumps and freestyle. First-timers can try some tricks at Yabby Flat or Mt Piper mini parks. Some of the best skiers and boarders in the world come to experience the Half Pipe and features at Leichhardt and Slopestyle terrain parks.

Resort info

- 1245ha terrain
- 47 lifts
- Lowest point 1605m
- Highest point 2034m

For more information visit perisher.com.au
Cross-country ski trails

The Perisher Range has over 100km of cross-country trails. Glide slowly along the undulating trails or pick up the pace for a heart-pumping workout. Choose your own adventure, from 2.5km, 5km, 7.5km and 10km groomed loops and linked trails accessed via the Valley trail, to longer, more remote trails venturing further afield.

The 1km Valley trail takes you along the side of Perisher Valley, while Beginners Loop and Sprint Loop are shorter trails starting from the Perisher Cross Country Centre (Sverre Katten Nordic Shelter). The centre is the start point for most of Perisher’s colour-coded cross-country trails, and has facilities and activities for cross-country skiers using the trails.

The 2.5km white trail is great for beginners or if you’re after a quick jaunt. For more of a workout, follow the 5km blue trail for some fun downhills and optional shortcuts. The long 7.5km green trail lets you take it easy and enjoy the scenery, while more adventurous skiers can glide along the 10km red trail loop.

Build your own loop with the series of interlinking touring trails marked orange, within the 2.5–10km trails, including Carl’s, Ted’s, Ross’, Coaches and Water Tanks. The scenic touring trail to Porcupine Rocks is a highlight in this area, taking you through snow gum woodland to granite boulders that overlook the Thredbo Valley. Several ungroomed trails, marked by snow poles, branch off Porcupine trail.

You can also cross-country ski along Kosciuszko Road, between Perisher and Charlotte Pass. Keep left on your way to Charlotte Pass, as this trail takes the oversnow transport route.

For more information visit: perisherxcountry.org

Snowshoe trails

The designated Rock Creek snowshoe track is a great introduction to snowshoeing. This gentle 3km loop starts around 400m along Kosciuszko Road past the NPWS Perisher Office. It follows Rock Creek through a treeless frost hollow, before heading into snow gum woodland.

Follow the yellow markers past snow-blanketed boulders and untouched powder, just waiting to be turned into a snowman or snow angel. Then head back down Perisher Valley towards your start point. The car park is about 300m from the end of the trail.

You can also snowshoe the Perisher Village loop. Half-day guided snowshoe tours are available.

Please avoid snowshoeing on cross-country ski trails as snowshoe indentations are hazardous to skiers.
THREDBO AREA

Nestled in a picturesque valley, Thredbo is NSW's only year-round alpine resort. In winter, this European-style village is a favourite with skiers and boarders of all levels, and makes a scenic setting to strap on snowshoes, cross-country skis, or a split board and head off-piste.

Resort info
- 480ha terrain
- 14 lifts
- Lowest point 1365m
- Highest point 2037m

For more information visit: thredbo.com.au

Ski and snowboard runs

In winter, Thredbo’s slopes buzz with excited skiers and snowboarders lured by 280ha of long, wide, tree-lined trails. The purpose-built beginner’s area at Friday Flat will help you build up your experience before trying the green trails around the Cruiser and the Basin areas.

Around 65% of Thredbo’s terrain is suited to intermediate riders, so experienced skiers and boarders are in for a treat. Head to the highest lifted point in Australia, Karels T-bar (2037m), where you can ring the community bell before riding Australia’s longest and steepest runs, including the 3.7km Supertrail and 5km High Noon-Cruiser. Advanced riders will rate challenging black runs like the notorious Funnel Web and Cannonball.

Weekly twilight riding means you can continue cruising, or take part in the great Thredbo tradition of the Saturday Supertrail flare run.

Terrain parks: Thredbo has 4 terrain parks, from introductory Easy Does It and next-level Cruiser Park, to the more advanced Antons Park with large jumps, rails and a wall ride. There’s also a rider-cross course on the mountain, but if you really want to test your techniques try the Meadows Moguls course. If this all sounds too much for you, you might prefer to watch the pros in action at the many special events during the season.

Cross-country ski and snowshoe trails

If you’re feeling fit, Kosciuszko Express chairlift will whisk you to the start of the Thredbo to Mount Kosciuszko track, which you can cross-country ski or snowshoe. There are no snow poles marking the route so navigational skills and equipment is essential.

If you’re thinking of heading into the backcountry, make sure you’re familiar with alpine safety. Visit nationalparks.nsw.gov.au/alpine-safety

Thredbo resort offers backcountry tours for split boarders and ski tourers that are a great way to escape the crowds, and enjoy the untracked chutes and faces of the Kosciuszko Main Range. Trips are graded green, blue and black and include a guide who’ll show you the way and share backcountry safety tips. There are also guided snowshoe tours around the Ramshead Range and to the top of Mount Kosciuszko.
CHARLOTTE PASS AREA

At 1765m, Charlotte Pass is Australia’s highest resort. Completely snowbound in winter, this intimate ski-in ski-out village boasts crowd-free skiing, snowboarding, snowshoeing, snow play and cross-country skiing at the foot of the Main Range.

In winter, Charlotte Pass can only be accessed by oversnow transport from Perisher.

Resort info
- 50ha terrain
- 5 lifts
- Lowest point 1765m
- Highest point 1964m

For more information visit: charlottepass.com.au

Ski and snowboard runs

The isolation and small size of Charlotte Pass snow resort is part of its charm. It also means no big lines at the 5 lifts, and 50ha of uncrowded slopes for skiers and snowboarders.

Try not to be distracted by the unobstructed views of Australia’s highest peaks from the Top of the World trail. After an action-packed day sliding down the Easy Starter, carving up Kosi Coaster, or getting an adrenalin rush on Sidewinder and Guthrie’s Chute, explore the village’s off-snow facilities.

You can also take advantage of night skiing and snowboarding, and a sunrise experience to carve the first trails on the mountain.

Terrain park: The resort’s small Freestyle Terrain Park offers challenging features for the adventurous to test their aerial skills on.

Cross-country ski and snowshoe trails

Charlotte Pass village’s superb location provides access to remarkable cross-country skiing and snowshoe opportunities at the rooftop of Australia. Cross-country ski or snowshoe the long Mount Kosciuszko summit trail or short Mount Stilwell track. Snow poles mark the summit trail between Charlotte Pass and Rawson Pass. Both tracks start from Charlotte Pass, above the village.

SELWYN AREA

Only 2.5hrs from Canberra, Selwyn Snow Resort offers some of the best-value day skiing and snow play in NSW. Located in northern Kosciuszko, between Tumut and Cooma, this family-orientated resort has gentle slopes for skiers and snowboarders, plus dedicated toboggan and snow tube areas.

Selwyn Snow Resort is open 8am to 5pm daily, during the winter ski season.

Resort info
- 45ha terrain
- 10 lifts
- Lowest point 1492m
- Highest point 1614m

For more information visit: selwynsnow.com.au
Ski and snowboard runs

Selwyn Snow Resort offers 45ha of progressing terrain across a compact area, meaning it’s hard to get lost.

First-timers can test their snow legs on the wide New Chum Bowl, below the Selwyn Centre. If you’re after a little more speed and a longer run, the more confident can try the intermediate trails from the top of The Township triple chair. Take time at the top to admire the views of snowbound Mount Jagungal and Tabletop. Seasoned skiers and boarders can also head up here for the steepest runs in Selwyn, in the Race Course area.

Terrain parks: Set off to the side of New Chum Bowl, Selwyn’s mini terrain park offers boxes, rails, jumps and bumps that aren’t too daunting. It’s a great place to learn basic tricks or boost your confidence riding freestyle.

DID YOU KNOW?

In 1861, the nearby Kiandra area became the birthplace of skiing in Australia, when Norwegian gold miners fashioned skis from fence palings. By the 1870s regular ski carnivals were arranged, and Australia had its first official ski slope there.

Cross-country ski and snowshoe trails

There’s around 45km of marked, undergroomed cross-country ski trails in the area that can be accessed from Selwyn Snow resort, Three mile Dam and Dry Dam shelter (near Cabramurra). Dry Dam has marked trails ranging from 2km to 15km, starting from the shelter. If snow cover permits, you can cross-country ski from Selwyn Snow Resort to Dry Dam on Kings Cross Road (15km return). A map, compass and Personal Locator Beacon (PLB) are recommended.

Starting opposite the western entrance to Three Mile Dam, Goldseeker’s track, is a 3km ungroomed loop that’s a favourite with cross-country skiers and snowshoers. The track meanders through snowgrass flats, snow gum woodland and past an abandoned ore-crushing battery. There are views back to Three Mile Dam. Information signs also give an insight to the unique plants and animals of the snow country.

Toboganning and snow tubing

Tobogganers can enjoy their very own slope for endless fun without bumping into skiers and boarders. No need to bring toboggans - all you need is a full-day or afternoon toboggan pass. The resort provides a free toboggan to use with each pass. You can bring your own hard plastic moulded toboggan, which meets regulations.

Next to the toboggan slope you’ll find Selwyn’s Snowflake Tube Park. Feel the thrill of flying downhill on a round rubber tube – at double the speed of a toboggan. The carved tube trail with its snow walls dives down the hill then bends right, to bring you to a smooth stop. There’s a dedicated snow tube lift to take you back up the hill to do it all again. Multi-ride tube passes aren’t linked to one person, so if you’re willing to share, the whole family can use the same pass.
ACCOMMODATION

NSW National Parks have a number of quality, self-contained accommodation options in Kosciuszko National Park. Why not stay in your very own alpine lodge at Numbananga Lodge, in Smiggin Holes, or Creel Lodge, looking over Lake Jindabyne.

In the northern end of the park, self-sufficient travellers can stay close to Selwyn at Wolgal Hut, in Kiandra. Only 33km north, along the Snowy Mountains Highway, enjoy the comforts of Yarrangobilly Caves House or Lyrebird Cottage.

Check availability and book online at nationalparks.nsw.gov.au or contact 13000 72757

Perisher: Whether you stay in the thick of all the action at Perisher Valley, Guthega or ‘Smiggins’, Perisher resort has a range of lodges, hotels and self-contained apartments to suit all budgets. Visit perisher.com.au

Thredbo: This year-round village offers the largest variety of accommodation in the park. Choose from a range of hotels, lodges and chalets, luxury apartments and self-contained studios, even backpacker-style accommodation. Visit thredbo.com.au

Charlotte Pass: The Kosciuszko Chalet Hotel is the centrepiece of Charlotte Pass. There’s also several lodges with a variety of accommodation and facilities. Visit charlottepass.com.au

Selwyn: There’s no accommodation on-site at Selwyn Snow Resort. If you’re not staying at nearby Wolgal Hut or Yarrangobilly Caves, the nearest towns for accommodation and services are Adaminaby (45km), Talbingo (62km), Tumbarumba, (78km) Tumut (100km) or Cooma (around 95km).

Jindabyne: Jindabyne is a great off-snow option for day-trippers. Located 33km from Perisher, 35km from Thredbo, and only 22km from Bullocks Flat Skitube terminal, Jindabyne has accommodation options to cover all bases.

WINTER ACCESS

Winter season in Kosciuszko National Park runs from the NSW June long weekend to the NSW October long weekend.

Snow chains: It’s compulsory for all 2WD vehicles to carry snow chains in winter on:
- Kosciuszko Road (to Perisher)
- Guthega Road
- Alpine Way between Thredbo and Tom Groggin
- Elliott Way and Selwyn Link Road
- Chains recommended on Snowy Mountains Highway between Adaminaby and Talbingo.

Fit snow chains as advised by the Roads and Maritime Service (RMS). RMS recommends snow chains are carried by all vehicles driving in the park in winter, including 4WD and AWD, in the event of extreme weather. Visit livetraffic.com or contact the local visitor centre for conditions.

Perisher access and parking: Perisher is a 33km drive from Jindabyne. Day-trippers can park at designated day carparks in Perisher Valley, Smiggin Holes or Guthega. Some Perisher and Guthega resort accommodation may offer limited parking, so check options before you arrive. Daily park entry fees apply for vehicles.

Your best bet is to use the day and overnight parking at Bullocks Flat Skitube terminal, off Alpine Way. No park entry fees apply along this section of Alpine Way, from Jindabyne. The Skitube rack-rail train travels to Perisher Valley, then on to Blue Cow. It’s Australia’s longest transport tunnel at 6.3km long, and is 550m underground at its deepest point. Fees apply on the Skitube.

Daily shuttles and buses run from Jindabyne to the Skitube. There’s a free shuttle between Perisher Valley and Smiggin Holes. Oversnow transport services many of the lodges in the Perisher Valley area (fees apply). Some lodges may provide their own transport service.
Thredbo access and parking: Thredbo alpine village is 35km from Jindabyne, or 74km from Khancoban, along Alpine Way. There’s several day and overnight parking areas. Some Thredbo accommodation may offer limited parking, so check options before you arrive. Daily park entry fees apply for vehicles.

A free Thredbo resort shuttle bus makes it easy to get around the village, while daily winter shuttle services run from Jindabyne (fees apply).

Charlotte Pass access and parking: Charlotte Pass is 12km from Perisher. Kosciuszko Road is closed between Perisher and Charlotte Pass in winter, so there’s no road access to the resort. There’s no overnight parking at Perisher, so park at Bullocks Flat Skitube terminal, and take the Skitube to Perisher Valley. Charlotte Pass oversnow transport departs from the Perisher Skitube terminal. Bookings required.

Selwyn access and parking: Selwyn Snow Resort is 95km from Cooma or Tumut via the Snowy Mountains Highway, or 80km from Tumbarumba via Elliott Way. There’s a large day-only carpark at the resort, though it can be busy on weekends. Daily park entry fees apply for vehicles.

The Cabramurra Road from Khancoban, and Kings Cross Road to Cabramurra, are closed in winter.

SNOW SAFETY

Be aware of the risks associated with winter conditions and recreational snow activities. Take responsibility for your own safety and the safety of any children in your care.

• Take extra care when driving in snow and ice. Check conditions before you set out.

• Weather, visibility and surface conditions can change quickly in the exposed alpine areas. Make sure you’re well-equipped for unpredictable conditions and choose trails to match your capabilities.

• It’s a good idea to check trail reports, and ensure lifts, terrain or tube parks are open before you head off, as they may close in poor or unsafe conditions.

• Use the dedicated tubing and tobogganing areas to avoid the dangers of ungroomed and roadside slopes, and don’t collide with skiers or snowboarders.

• Please avoid snowshoeing on cross-country ski trails as snowshoe indentations are hazardous to skiers.

• Remember to wear appropriate clothing for the snow, especially gloves.

• Sunscreen and sunglasses are recommended, even on overcast days, as UV is high and new snow reflects sunlight.

• Some resorts recommend wearing helmets for all skiing and snowboarding activities. Accredited helmets may be required for programs and lessons.

For more information visit nationalparks.nsw.gov.au/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
Khancoban Visitor Centre.
Ph: (02) 6076 9373
Visit: nationalparks.nsw.gov.au/kosciuszko

Published by:
NSW National Parks and Wildlife Service
Office of Environment and Heritage
59 Goulburn St, Sydney, NSW 2000
Perisher Range cross-country and snowshoe trails
Kosciuszko National Park

This map does not provide detailed information on topography, alerts or opening times and may not be suitable for some activities. Map published: 20/05/2019

Unsealed road - may not be accessible in wet weather

Cross-country trail (groomed)

Cross-country trail (not groomed)

Snowshoe trail

Visitor information

Skitube terminal

Skitube railway

Day parking

Overnight parking

Cafe/Kiosk

Hut/shelter

Toilets

Cross-country skiing

Snowshoeing

Thredbo-Perisher area

NPWS reserves

Other reserves

Highway/Sealed road

Kilometres