

Home to all of NSW's ski resorts, Kosciuszko National Park is a wonderland for winter sports and the perfect place to hit the slopes. Ski or board the highest, steepest and longest runs in the country, test your skills at a terrain park, go on a backcountry tour or simply enjoy building a snowman with the family.

Feel the thrill of carving fresh tracks down snow-covered mountains at Perisher, which includes the areas of Blue Cow, Smiggin Holes and Guthega. Or enjoy exciting alpine adventures surrounded by Australia's highest peaks at Thredbo, Mount Selwyn or Charlotte Pass.

The winter ski season runs from the NSW June to October long weekends, so whatever adventures you choose, there's plenty of time to do it all.





Fresh mountain air.
Photo: John Spencer/DPE

Perisher area

perisher.com.au

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

Resort info

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

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 runs, with a great range of beginner, intermediate and advanced options to cater for all abilities. A whopping 47 lifts service the four resort areas, and there's plenty of runs that link the areas together, making it easy to traverse from one section to another.

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.

And the fun doesn't stop when the sun sets. Perisher's Front Valley offers night skiing and boarding, while Smiggins has night skiing for the kids. Check the resort website for details.

Terrain parks: With multiple terrain parks 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 Piper mini parks. Some of the best skiers and boarders in the world come to experience the features at Leichhardt and Slopestyle terrain parks.



Cross-country skiing.
Photo: John Spencer/DPE

Cross-country ski trails

Perisher

perisherxcountry.org

The Perisher Range has over 100km of cross-country trails, with around 15km that are groomed most days. 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 Kaaten 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 Tank. 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.

Guthega

Guthega is a perfect take-off point for backcountry skiing and boarding. From here you can access the Main Range and its extremely challenging western faces, recommended for experienced skiers and boarders only. If you aren't with an experienced group, consider going with a guide, which you can arrange in Guthega.





Snowshoe amongst snow gums. Photo: John Spencer/DPE

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 Perisher Valley 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 carpark 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

thredbo.com.au

A premier year-round alpine destination, Thredbo Resort is a vibrant skiing and snowboarding base in winter. Famous for its picturesque European-style village and alpine gondola, Thredbo boasts a large amount of terrain for all ages and abilities. Soak up the excellent snow conditions as you glide down the country's longest runs and enjoy an impressive line-up of on-mountain and village events.

Resort info

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

Ski and snowboard runs

In winter, skiers and snowboarders flock to Thredbo to ride its long runs and experience the wide variety of terrain on offer.

The beginner area at Friday Flat is a great place to find your snow feet and build your skills in a safe environment. Once you're feeling confident, you can try out green runs like Village trail that takes you all the way from the top of the mountain to the bottom.

Around two-thirds of Thredbo's terrain is suited to intermediate riders, so seasoned skiers and snowboarders are in for a treat. Head to Australia's highest lifted point, Karels T-bar (2037m), where you can ring the community bell before riding Australia's longest runs including Supertrail (3.7km) and High Noon (5km).

Advanced riders will find endless on and off-piste challenges including notorious black runs like Funnel Web and Cannonball, as well as powder bowls and natural features.

If you're a first-timer or keen to improve your skills and build confidence, book a ski or snowboard lesson with Thredbo's team of instructors.

Terrain parks: Thredbo has four terrain parks, ranging from an introductory park in the Cruiser area to more advanced options like Antons terrain park that features medium jumps, big booters, technical boxes, rails and wall-rides. If you're eager to test your techniques, there's also a rider-cross course, a mogul course and a race course. Alternatively, if spectating is more your style, you can watch the pros in action at one of the many on-mountain events throughout the season.



Snowboarding at Thredbo. Photo: Thredbo Resort

Backcountry tours

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 stunning Main Range. Trips range from beginner through to advanced, with a guide who'll show you the way and share backcountry safety tips. As part of the tour, you'll learn about the area's rich ski history, fragile ecosystem and Aboriginal culture.

For an adventure that's suited to anyone who can walk and has moderate fitness, Thredbo also offers guided snowshoe tours to explore the Main Range.

If you're heading out to the backcountry independently, a Backcountry Access Pass gives you one return trip on the Kosciuszko chairlift, taking you directly to the start of the Thredbo to Mount Kosciuszko track. There are no snow poles marking the route, so navigational skills and equipment are essential.

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

Merritts Gondola

Thredbo Resort boasts Australia's only alpine gondola. The state-of-theart Merritts Gondola is a high speed, eight-person gondola that takes skiers, snowboarders and scenic passengers from the village to the base of the Cruiser area in around 6 minutes.

Charlotte Pass area

charlottepass.com.au

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 reached by oversnow transport from Perisher.





Skiers at Charlotte Pass. Photo: DPE

Resort info

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

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. Spend an action-packed day sliding down the Easy Starter, carving up Kosi Coaster, or getting an adrenalin rush on Sidewinder and Guthrie's Chutes, before exploring the village's off-snow facilities.

You can also take advantage of night skiing and snowboarding.

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

selwynsnow.com.au

Only 2.5hrs from Canberra, Selwyn Snow Resort has some of the bestvalue day skiing and snow play in NSW. Nestled between Tumut and Cooma in northern Kosciuszko, this family-orientated resort has forgiving slopes for skiers and snowboarders, plus Australia's largest dedicated toboggan park.

Rebuilt after being destroyed in the 2019-2020 bushfires, you'll find home base at the expanded Selwyn Centre, which houses all guest facilities and services in the one building. Head to the toboggan park and enjoy a ride on the 150m snow carpet, or learn to ski and board with experienced instructors on the progressive terrain.

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

Ski and snowboard

With 45ha of progressive terrain across a compact area, you won't have to worry about getting lost at this family-friendly resort.

First-timers can test their snow legs on the wide New Chum Bowl, below the Selwyn Centre. More confident skiers can pick up speed on the longer intermediate trails from the top of the Township triple chair. Pause at the top of the chairlift to admire the views of snowbound Mount Jagungal and Tabletop Mountain before carving it up on the Tunnel Run or Emu's Chase.

Seasoned skiers and boarders can head to the Race Course T-bar to experience the steepest runs at Selwyn.

Tobogganing

Selwyn Snow Resort is home to the largest toboggan park in Australia, where you can ride down a dedicated slope without bumping into skiers and boarders. Enjoy an easy downhill ride before making your way back up on the whopping 150m toboggan park snow carpet for effortless laps of fun.

Selwyn provides free toboggan hire with each toboggan ticket purchased.

Cross-country ski and snowshoe trails

You'll find around 45km of marked, ungroomed cross-country ski trails in the area that can be accessed from Selwyn Snow Resort, Three Mile Dam and at the former Dry Dam shelter site (near Cabramurra). Dry Dam has unmarked trails ranging from 2km to 15km, starting from the former 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, Goldseekers 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 and interpretive signs give an insight to the unique plants and animals of the snow country.



Accommodation

NSW National Parks have a number of quality, self-contained accommodation options in Kosciuszko National Park. Book a stay in your very own alpine lodge at Numbananga Lodge in Smiggin Holes. Or enjoy a getaway at Creel Bay cottages or Creel Lodge with views across picturesque Lake Jindabyne.

In the northern end of the park, self-sufficient travellers can stay close to Selwyn at Yarrangobilly Caves House or Lyrebird Cottage.

Check availability and book online at nswparks.info/staykosci or contact 1300 072 757.

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, chalets, luxury apartments, self-contained studios and 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 onsite at Selwyn Snow Resort. If you're not staying at nearby Yarrangobilly Caves or Providence Park at Providence Portal, the nearest towns for accommodation and services are Adaminaby (45km), Talbingo (62km), Tumbarumba (80km), 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 the 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 to October long weekends.

During this time many people visit the snowfields and ski resorts, and carparks fill fast, especially on weekends and school holidays. Transport for NSW may put temporary road closures in place during peak periods to manage parking capacity and for road safety. Please allow extra time for delays and consider carpooling or alternative transport options.

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 are recommended on the Snowy Mountains Highway between Adaminaby and Talbingo as well as on Alpine Way between Jindabyne and Thredbo.

Fit snow chains as advised by Transport for NSW (TfNSW). TfNSW 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 Snowy Region Visitor Centre for conditions.



Perisher access and parking

Car

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.

The ski resort carparks often reach full capacity during peak periods. Once full, there's no further parking and you'll have to return to Jindabyne or head to the Skitube for alternate parking and resort access.

Skitube

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.

Shuttles and buses

From June to October the Snowy Mountains bus service runs daily return trips from Jindabyne to Perisher, Thredbo and Bullocks Flat Skitube. Visit: coomacoaches.com.au/snowy-mountains-bus-service

There are also many commercial shuttle operators that run daily shuttle and bus services from Jindabyne to the Skitube.

If you're travelling from Perisher Valley to Smiggin Holes, you can take advantage of the free shuttle service that leaves from the Perisher Skitube terminal.

Contact the Snowy Region Visitor Centre for more information on buses and shuttle services.

Oversnow

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 Resort 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.

Since there's no overnight parking at Perisher, you'll need to 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.

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





Backcountry adventures. Photo: Thredbo Resort

Did you know?

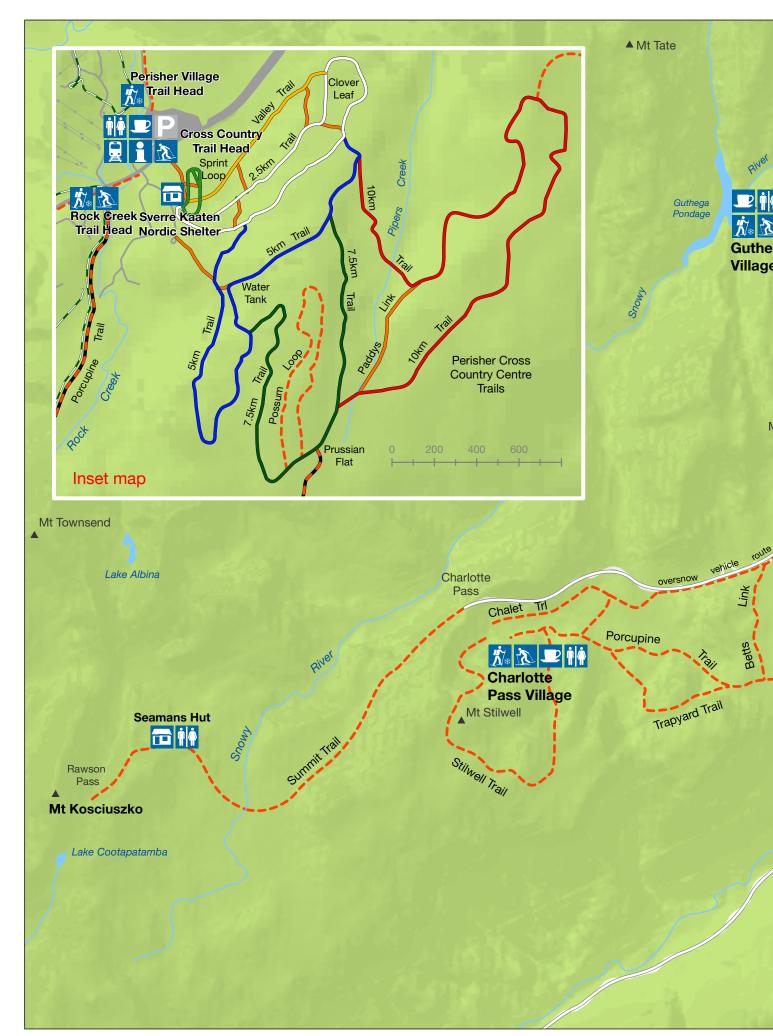
In 1861, nearby Kiandra became the birthplace of skiing in Australia, when Norwegian gold miners fashioned skis from fence palings. By the 1870s, regular ski carnivals were arranged, and Australia had its first official ski slope there.

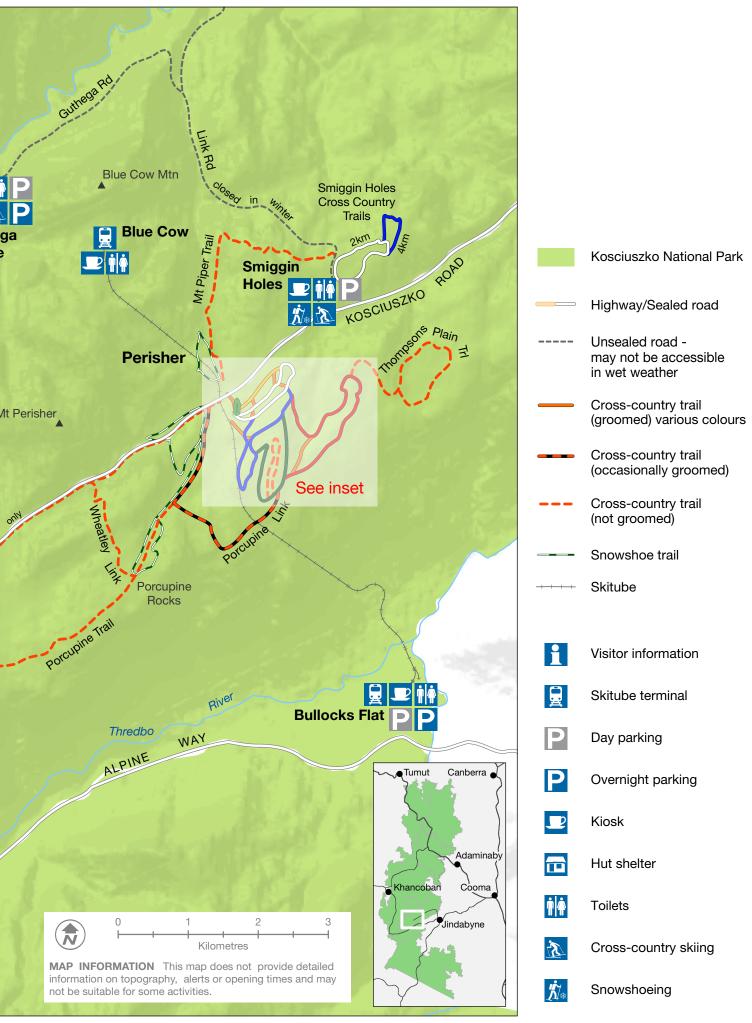
Snow safety

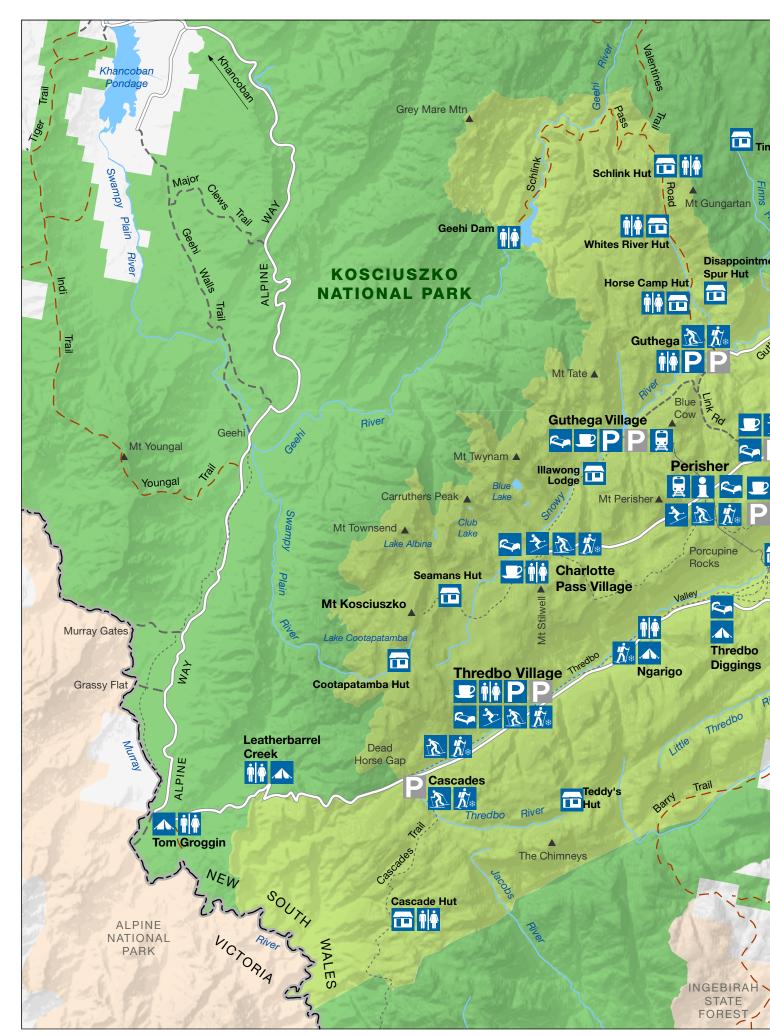
Be aware of the risks associated with winter conditions and recreational snow activities. Take responsibility for your own safety and the safety of any children in your care.

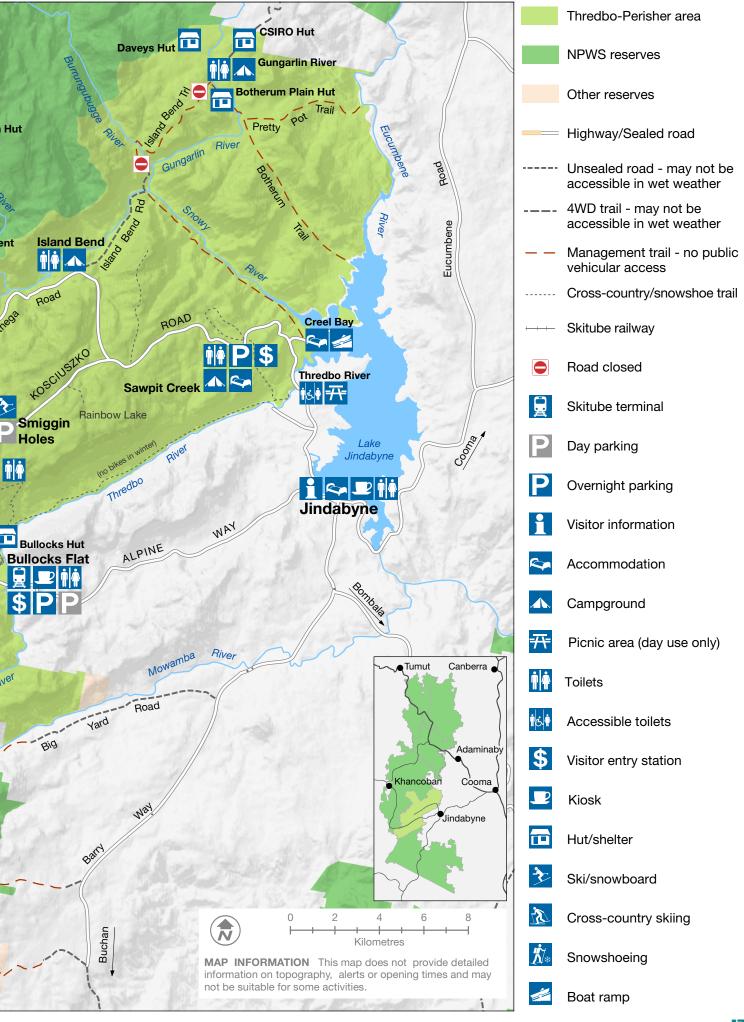
- Think about filling in a trip intention form at nswparks.info/trek and hiring a Personal Locator Beacon from one of our visitor centres for all backcountry winter activities.
- Take extra care when driving in snow and ice. Check conditions before you set out.
- Weather, visibility and surface conditions can change quickly in 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.
- Always park in designated parking areas at ski resorts. If parking away from the resorts, make sure you're in a safe and visible location and park well off the road.
- 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.
- Wearing helmets for skiing and snowboarding activities is highly recommended.

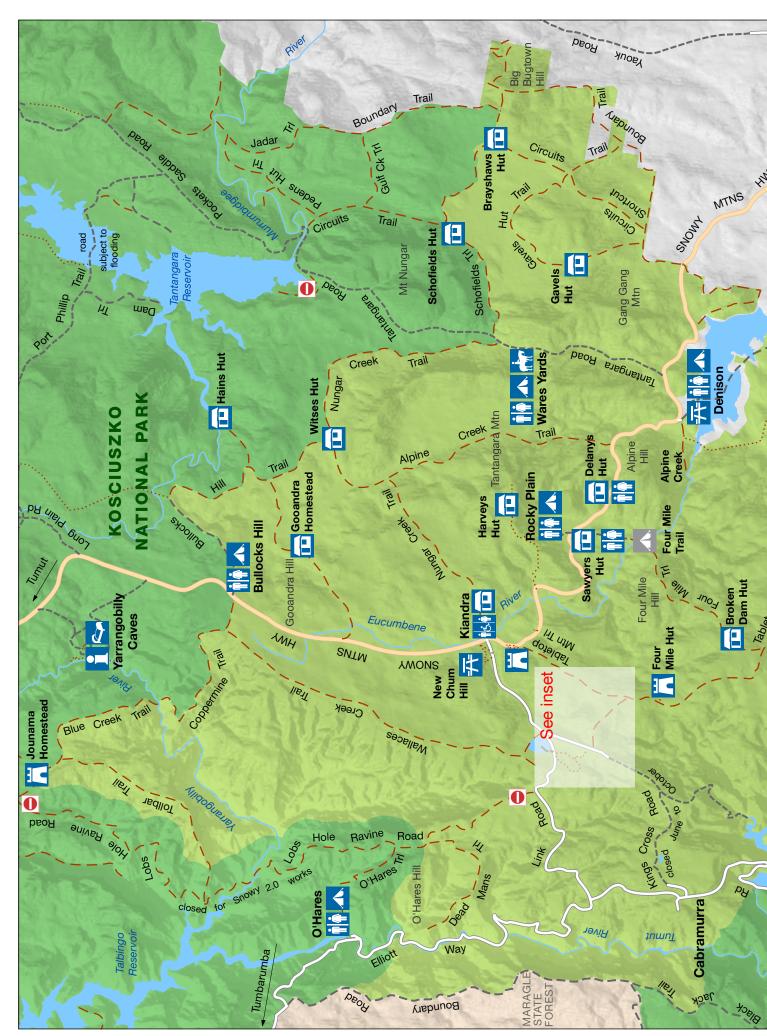
For more information visit nationalparks.nsw.gov.au/alpine-safety

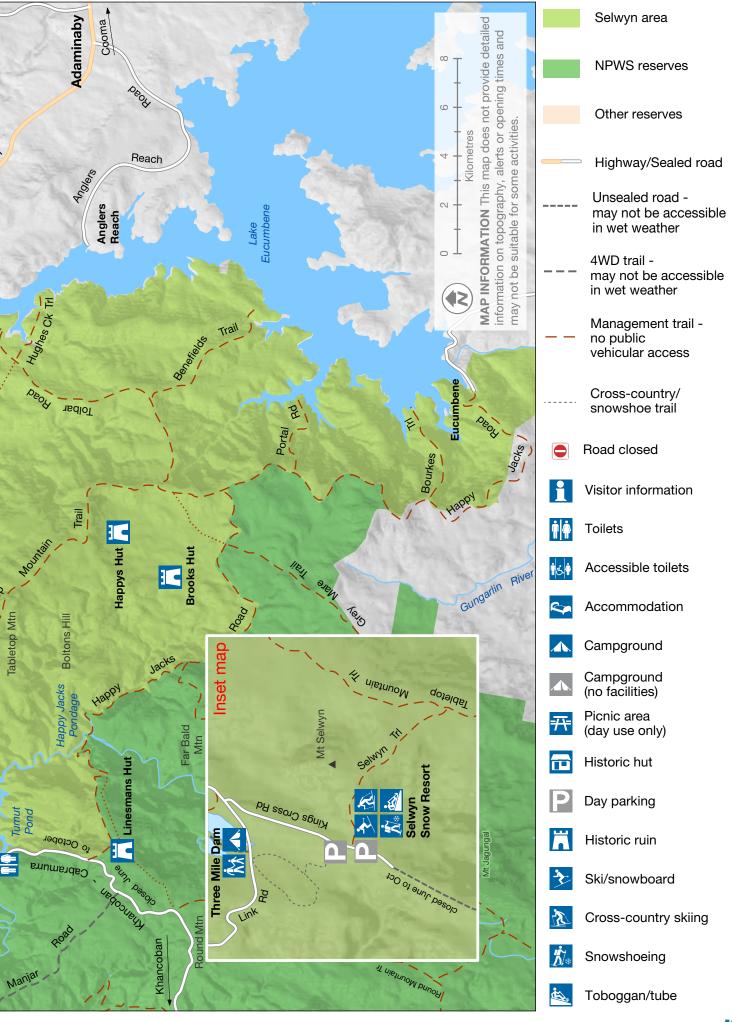












General enquiries

Snowy Region Visitor Centre - Ph: (02) 6450 5600

Perisher Valley office – Ph: (02) 6457 4444 Tumut Visitor Centre – Ph: (02) 6947 7025

Khancoban Visitor Centre – Ph: (02) 6070 8400

Visit: nswparks.info/kosciuszko

For more information visit nationalparks.nsw.gov.au or call 1300 072 757 (13000 PARKS)

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