

Meadows Nature Track



1 hr 30 mins

Hard track

3.1 km Circuit

▲ 210m



This circuit walk offers an enjoyable way of exploring the diverse environments near Thredbo Village. Starting near the centre of town, you will follow the Merritts Nature Track partway up the hill. Then, following the Meadows Nature Track signs, you cross a series of open ski runs before heading back into the bush. Through this section of forest, you visit a delightful mossy creek with a small weir, then head down another ski run to return the valley terminal.



1361m

1527m

Kosciuszko National Park

Covered in snow & closed part of the year

This walk leads through an extreme alpine environment and all walkers must be well prepared. During summer, be prepared for both very hot and cold weather, high winds, rain, snow, extreme UV levels and some sections of snow or ice on the ground. Before starting this walk, check advice with [Snowy Region Visitor Information Centre](#) (02) 6450 5600, the [weather forecast](#) and the [snow conditions](#) then change your plans as needed. These notes, grades and walking times have been written for use in the summer months only. Part of this walk is used as a groomed winter ski run. This walk is closed and should not be attempted when there is a chance of significant snow on the ground.

Thredbo Bobsled

With a twisting and turning path more than 700m long, this luge-style track is a great summer activity for the family to enjoy whilst staying in Thredbo. Offering individual rides or day passes, allowing you to enjoy this fun ride as many times as you want as you whizz down the mountain on your cart, controlling your speed with a neat hand-break system. [More info.](#)

Birrallee Bush camp

Birrallee bush camp is a signposted clearing just on the other side of a small creek from Merritts Nature Track (north of Merritts chairlift). Accessed by a bridge, this flat clearing has a picnic table and a bench seat and access to the creek (treat water before drinking). This is naturally shaded, making a great place to cool off and rest on hot days.

Thredbo Village Weir

The Thredbo Weir can be found on the Merritts Nature Track, along a creek that flows from the Rams Head Range. The weir is used to supply water to the village below.

Creek Crossing

A wooded forest surrounds this gully, providing a shaded, moist environment that encourages the prolific growth of moss on the rocks. The small creek cascades down the many rocks and through the small pools. At this creek crossing, the walk crosses the unnamed creek using a flat timber bridge. One the western side is a bench seat, making a pleasant place to enjoy this serene spot. Just south of the crossing is a small stone and concrete weir.

Before You walk

Bushwalking is fun and a wonderful way to enjoy our natural places. Sometimes things go bad, with a bit of planning you can increase your chance of having an enjoyable and safer walk. Before setting off on your walk check

- 1) Weather Forecast ([BOM Snowy Mountains District](#))
- 2) Fire Dangers ([Monaro Alpine](#))
- 3) Park Alerts ([Kosciuszko National Park](#))
- 4) Research the walk to check your party has the skills, fitness and equipment required
- 5) Agree to stay as a group and not leave anyone to walk solo

Think before you TREK

The 'Think before you TREK' program developed by NSW Police & NPWS promotes the benefits of planning ahead for your bushwalking trip by using an easy to remember acronym:

- T** Take adequate supplies of food, water, navigation and first aid equipment.
- R** Register your planned route and tell friends and family when you expect to return.
- E** Emergency beacon (PLB's) should be carried on walks with significant gaps in mobile coverage (check terrain profile).
- K** Keep to your planned route and follow the map and walking trails.

Topo Maps

The maps provided on wildwalks are helpful, but there are times where you may need maps covering a broader area. Maps that cover this walk include;

1:25 000 Map Series:85252S PERISHER VALLEY, 85241N CHIMNEYS RIDGE

1:100 000 Map Series:8525 KOSCIUSZKO, 8524 JACOBS RIVER

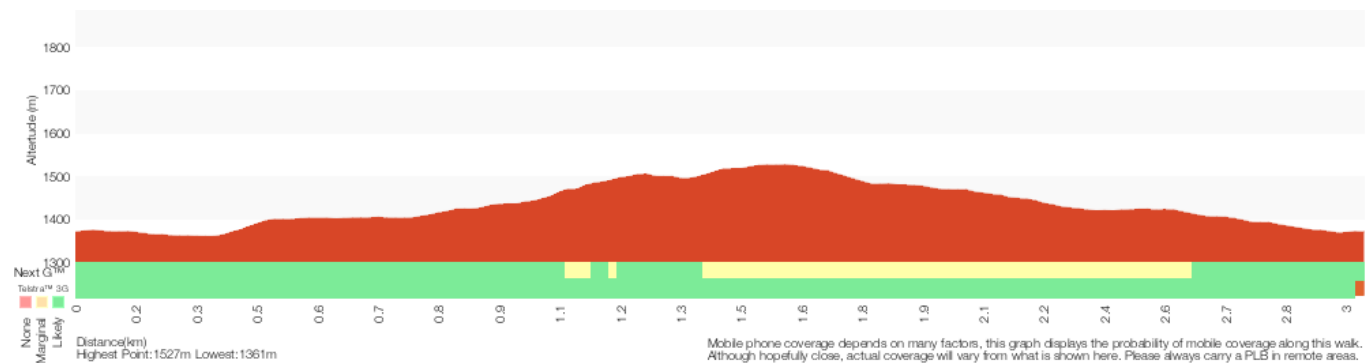
Grade

This walk has been graded using the AS 2156.1-2001. The overall grade of the walk is determined by the highest classification along the whole track.



Grade 4/6
Hard track

Length	3.1 km Circuit
Time	1 hr 30 mins
Quality of track	Formed track, with some branches and other obstacles (3/6)
Signs	Directional signs along the way (3/6)
Experience Required	Some bushwalking experience recommended (3/6)
Weather	Forecast, unforecast storms and severe weather may impact on navigation and safety (4/6)
Infrastructure	Limited facilities, not all cliffs are fenced (3/6)



Are you ready to have fun?

Please ensure you and your group are well prepared and equipped for all possible hazards and delays. Check park closures, weather information and Fire Danger Rating before setting out. Optional side trips and alternate routes noted are not included in this walk overall grade, length or time estimate. Please allow extra time for resting and exploring areas of interest. The authors, staff and owners of wildwalks take care in preparing this information but will not accept responsibility for any inconvenience, loss or injury you may experience. Please take care, have fun - Happy Walking.

Getting there Traveling by car is the only practical way to get to Bottom of Kosciuszko Express chairlift (gps: -36.504, 148.304). Car: A park entry fee is required for driving into the park.

This is a circuit, so you will finish back at the start.

Find up to date and more information including; travel directions, weather, park closures and walker feedback at <http://wild.it/mnic>

0 | Covered in snow & closed part of the year

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0 | Bottom of Kosciuszko Express chairlift

(230 m 5 mins) From the entrance to the ticket sales for the Kosciuszko Express chairlift, this walk follows the 'Merritts Nature Track' sign. The walk leads around the car park and past the picnic area to follow another 'Merritts Nature Track' sign along the footpath, leading beside the tennis courts. The footpath continues past the tennis courts and then heads up a ramp and to the other side of the building at the bottom of the bobsled run.

0.23 | Thredbo Bobsled

With a twisting and turning path more than 700m long, this luge-style track is a great summer activity for the family to enjoy whilst staying in Thredbo. Offering individual rides or day passes, allowing you to enjoy this fun ride as many times as you want as you whizz down the mountain on your cart, controlling your speed with a neat hand-break system. [More info.](#)

0.23 | Bottom of bobsled run

(110 m 2 mins) Continue straight: From the bobsled building, this walk follows the paved footpath along side the bobsled run (to your left) whilst keeping the valley to your right. Soon the footpath leads into the bush and then comes to a three-way intersection marked with a 'Merritts Nature Track' sign (pointing up to the left).

0.33 | Int of Bobsled service trail and Merritts nature t

(230 m 6 mins) Veer left: From the intersection, this walk follows the 'Merritts Nature Track' sign up the steps which bend to the right. The steep steps and track leads up through the bush and pass beside the bobsled run, then lead to a clear intersection with a management trail, marked with an arrow post.

Turn left: From the intersection, this walk follows the arrow marker gently uphill along the management trail, keeping the bobsled run to your left. Just near the top of the bobsled run, the trail leads to a three-way intersection marked with a 'Merritts Nature Track' sign (and track on your right).

0.56 | Int of Merritts nature track and Bobsled service t

(170 m 4 mins) Turn right: From the intersection, the walk follows the 'Merritts Nature Track' sign up along the track leading through the bush (and away from the bobsled). The track leads up some gentle steps and soon comes to a clear intersection with another management trail, marked with an arrow post.

Turn right: From the intersection, this walk follows the wide management trail down the hill and across the flat timber bridge. The walk then follows the trail up the hill for a short distance, coming to a three-way intersection with a couple of 'Merritts Nature Track' signposts.

0.73 | Int of Merritts nature track and Merritts chairlif

(130 m 3 mins) Turn left: From the intersection, this walk follows the 'Merritts Nature Track' sign uphill along the narrow track and immediately passes under Merritts Chairlift. The track then leads into the denser forest with tall snow gums. The track leads up near the creek to a signposted intersection marked with both a 'Birrlee Bush Camp' and 'Merritts Nature Track' sign (with a bridge to the left).

0.86 | Optional sidetrip to Birrlee Bushcamp

(50 m 2 mins) Turn left: From the intersection, this walk follows the 'Birrlee Bush Camp' sign across the creek using the footbridge. The bridge bends over the mossy creek then the track bends left to reveal the campsite and picnic area. At the end of this side trip, retrace your steps back to the main walk then Turn left.

0.86 | Birrlee Bush camp

Birrlee bush camp is a signposted clearing just on the other side of a small creek from Merritts Nature Track (north of Merritts chairlift). Accessed by a bridge, this flat clearing has a picnic table and a bench seat and access to the creek (treat water before drinking). This is naturally shaded, making a great place to cool off and rest on hot days.

0.86 | Int of Merritts nature track and Birrlee bushcamp

(80 m 2 mins) Continue straight: From the intersection, this walk follows the 'Merritts Nature Track' sign up the gentle hill whilst keeping the mossy creek to your left. The track heads up a series of gentle steps, then a last short climb leads to a wide clearing with the Sundowner ski run, opposite a large water tank.

0.94 | Int of Merritts nature track and Sundowner service

(150 m 4 mins) Continue straight: From the intersection (with the water tank on your right and safety barriers to your left), this walk follows the blue arrow marker uphill along the track. The track winds gently up through the tall snow gum and mossy forest, keeping the creek a short distance through to your left. Just before a metal bridge, the track comes to a three-way intersection (with a short track on the right, leading to a weir).

1.08 | Optional sidetrip to Weir

(20 m) Turn right: From the intersection, this walk heads up the narrower track, keeping the creek a short distance to your left. The track leads a short distance to the concrete weir (no swimming). At the end of this side trip, retrace your steps back to the main walk then Veer right.

1.08 | Thredbo Village Weir

The Thredbo Weir can be found on the Merritts Nature Track, along a creek that flows from the Rams Head Range. The weir is used to supply water to the village below.

1.08 | Int of weir track and Merritts nature track

(230 m 6 mins) Turn left: From the intersection, this walk crosses the creek

using the metal bridge. At the bench seat, the track bends left and starts to climb steeply up the steps through the tall stringybark forest. The track winds and passes a couple of switch-backs, passing another bench seat partway up. The track continues to climb, then flattens out at yet another bench seat (a good hint to take a rest). Here, the track heads along the now fairly flat track for a short time, to come to a well signposted three-way intersection with the 'Merritts Nature Track' and the 'Meadows Nature Track'.

1.31 | Int of Merritts and Meadows nature tracks

(150 m 5 mins) Continue straight: From the intersection, this walk follows the 'Meadows Nature Track' sign south along the track, keeping the valley to your left. Soon the walk comes to a clearing (ski run) and another 'Meadows Nature Track' sign where this walk turns right and heads up the grassy hill. At the crest, this walk passes another 'Meadows Nature Track' sign and comes to an intersection with a gravel management trail (just before the chairlift).

1.47 | Snowgums midstation int

(580 m 13 mins) Continue straight: From the intersection, this walk follows the 'Meadows Nature Track' sign (behind the 'Merritts Nature Track' sign) across the grass and under Snowgums Chairlift. Heading a bit uphill, this walk soon passes an arrow post then another 'Meadows Nature Track' sign beside the trees. Following this sign, the walk crosses another ski run and heads under Kosciuszko Express chairlift, passing yet another 'Meadows Nature Track' sign. Here the walk starts heading gently downhill, and just after passing a line of trees, the track bends left to head downhill. The walk then follows an arrow post across the ski run and under Ramshead chairlift to find a grassy management trail beside the trees and an intersection marked with a 'Meadows Nature Track' sign, up to the right (next to a snow making pole).

Continue straight: From the intersection, this walk follows the 'Meadows Nature Track' sign along the narrow track to follow the timber duckboards. The timber duckboards (interestingly, made from recycled signposts) lead though the snow gum forest. The timber soon gives way to dirt track for about 80m, then the walk crosses a timber bridge over a small mossy creek to a bench seat, inviting you for a rest.

2.05 | Creek Crossing

A wooded forest surrounds this gully, providing a shaded, moist environment that encourages the prolific growth of moss on the rocks. The small creek cascades down the many rocks and through the small pools. At this creek crossing, the walk crosses the unnamed creek using a flat timber bridge. One the western side is a bench seat, making a pleasant place to enjoy this serene spot. Just south of the crossing is a small stone and concrete weir.

2.05 | Creek Crossing

(130 m 3 mins) Continue straight: From the bench seat, this walk follows the track away from the bridge, heading downstream. The main track soon bends right at the arrow post (the short track on the left leads to the small weir). The track leads down a few steps and after about 60m, crosses a small timber bridge. The track then leaves the forest to find a three-way intersection with a management trail, where a 'Meadows Nature Track' sign points back into the forest.

2.18 | Upper Riverside link intersection

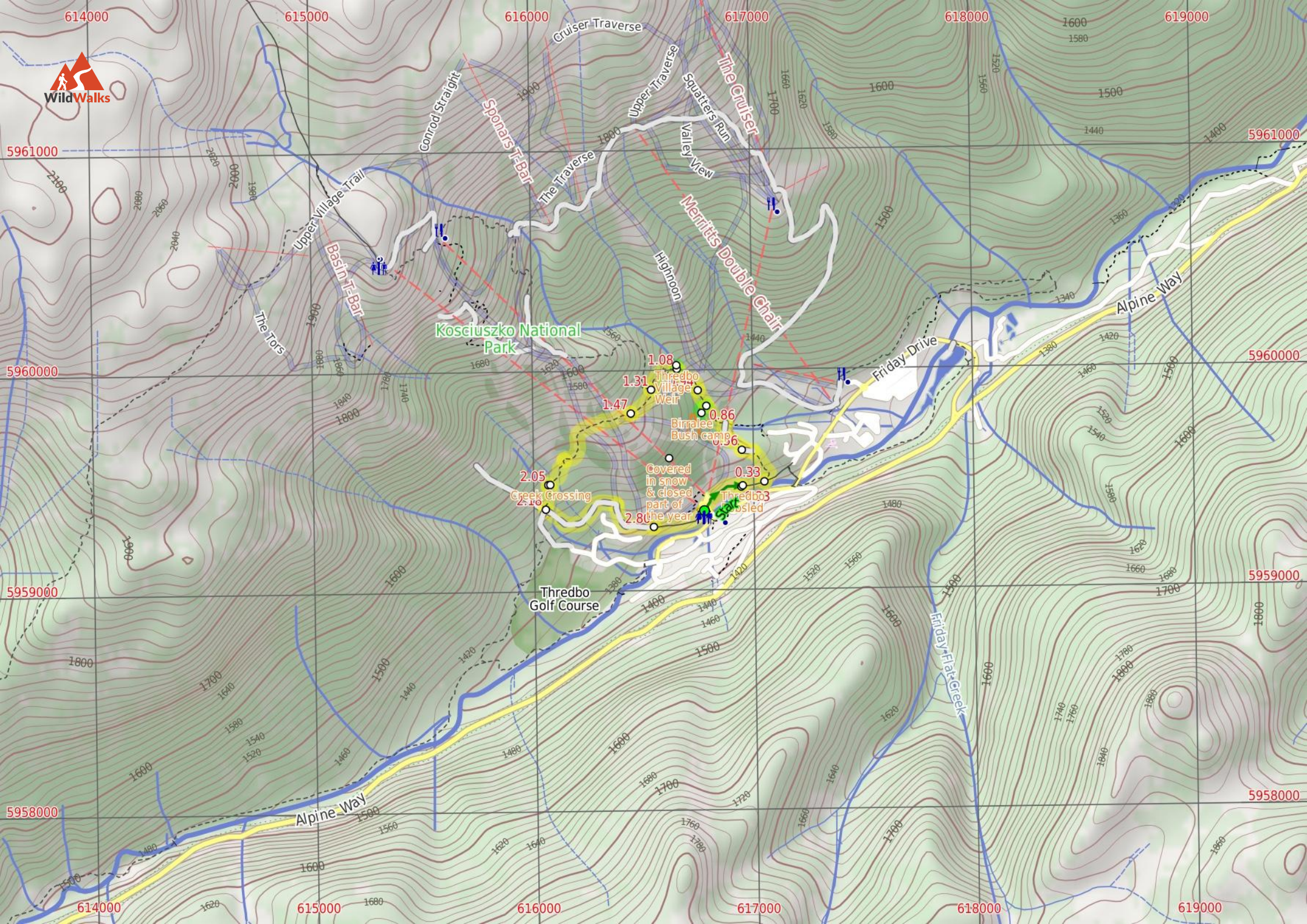
(630 m 13 mins) Turn left: From the intersection, this walk follows the 'Meadows Nature Track' sign downhill and across the bridged creek, following the grassy management trail. The trail gently undulates around the side of the hill and after crossing a smaller creek, the walk stays left, following the main trail uphill. The trail soon leaves the bush and comes to a 'T' intersection with a ski run, marked with an arrow post.

Turn right: From the intersection, this walk heads downhill along the wide grassy ski run towards the houses. The trail leads past a couple of arrow posts as the trail bends left, passing the houses to come to an intersection with a metal footpath (on your right) where the metal railing meets the timber fence. This intersection is marked with a 'Meadows Nature Track' sign.

2.8 | Top of Village trail footpath

(260 m 5 mins) Veer right: From the intersection, this walk heads downhill along the metal footpath, keeping the timber fence (and ski run) to your left. The path leads down a series of steps and past a platform with a seat, soon coming to a paved path at the end of the timber fence. This walk follows the path down in front of some buildings to find some large maps and the entrance to the chairlift station.





Summary navigation sheet for the Meadows Nature Track



km	From	Up/Dwn	Length	Initial directions (Use full tracknotes and maps for more detail)
0.00	Bottom of Kosciuszko Express chairlift -36.504,148.304 (GR Chimneys Ridge, 168594)	6 -13	230 m 5 mins	From the entrance to the ticket sales for the Kosciuszko Express chairlift, this walk follows the 'Merritts Nature Track' sign.
0.23	Bottom of bobsled run -36.503,148.3058 (GR Chimneys Ridge, 169595)	1 -5	110 m 2 mins	Continue straight: From the bobsled building, this walk follows the paved footpath along side the bobsled run (to your left) whilst keeping the valley to your right.
0.33	Int of Bobsled service trail and Merritts nature track -36.5028,148.307 (GR Chimneys Ridge, 170595)	43 0	230 m 6 mins	Veer left: From the intersection, this walk follows the 'Merritts Nature Track' sign up the steps which bend to the right.
0.56	Int of Merritts nature track and Bobsled service trail -36.5015,148.3059 (GR Chimneys Ridge, 169596)	6 -6	170 m 4 mins	Turn right: From the intersection, the walk follows the 'Merritts Nature Track' sign up along the track leading through the bush (and away from the bobsled).
0.73	Int of Merritts nature track and Merritts chairlift service trail -36.5004,148.305 (GR Chimneys Ridge, 169598)	20 0	130 m 3 mins	Turn left: From the intersection, this walk follows the 'Merritts Nature Track' sign uphill along the narrow track and immediately passes under Merritts Chairlift.
0.86	Int of Merritts nature track and Birralelee bushcamp tracks -36.4997,148.3041 (GR Perisher Valley, 168598)	7 -1	50 m 2 mins	Optional sidetrip to Birralelee Bushcamp. Turn left: From the intersection, this walk follows the 'Birralelee Bush Camp' sign across the creek using the footbridge.
0.86	Int of Merritts nature track and Birralelee bushcamp tracks -36.4997,148.3041 (GR Perisher Valley, 168598)	12 0	80 m 2 mins	Continue straight: From the intersection, this walk follows the 'Merritts Nature Track' sign up the gentle hill whilst keeping the mossy creek to your left.
0.94	Int of Merritts nature track and Sundowner service trail -36.499,148.3036 (GR Perisher Valley, 168599)	34 0	150 m 4 mins	Continue straight: From the intersection (with the water tank on your right and safety barriers to your left), this walk follows the blue arrow marker uphill along the track.
1.08	Int of weir track and Merritts nature track -36.4982,148.3026 (GR Perisher Valley, 167600)	2 0	20 m	Optional sidetrip to Weir. Turn right: From the intersection, this walk heads up the narrower track, keeping the creek a short distance to your left.
1.08	Int of weir track and Merritts nature track -36.4982,148.3026 (GR Perisher Valley, 167600)	37 -8	230 m 6 mins	Turn left: From the intersection, this walk crosses the creek using the metal bridge.
1.31	Int of Merritts and Meadows nature tracks -36.499,148.3013 (GR Perisher Valley, 165599)	23 -5	150 m 5 mins	Continue straight: From the intersection, this walk follows the 'Meadows Nature Track' sign south along the track, keeping the valley to your left.
1.47	Snowgums midstation int -36.5,148.3002 (GR Chimneys Ridge, 164598)	17 -66	580 m 13 mins	Continue straight: From the intersection, this walk follows the 'Meadows Nature Track' sign (behind the 'Merritts Nature Track' sign) across the grass and under Snowgums Chairlift.
2.05	Creek Crossing -36.5029,148.296 (GR Chimneys Ridge, 161595)	0 -20	130 m 3 mins	Continue straight: From the bench seat, this walk follows the track away from the bridge, heading downstream.
2.18	Upper Riverside link intersection -36.5039,148.2959 (GR Chimneys Ridge, 161594)	8 -61	630 m 13 mins	Turn left: From the intersection, this walk follows the 'Meadows Nature Track' sign downhill and across the bridged creek, following the grassy management trail.
2.80	Top of Village trail footpath -36.5046,148.3014 (GR Chimneys Ridge, 165593)	3 -25	260 m 5 mins	Veer right: From the intersection, this walk heads downhill along the metal footpath, keeping the timber fence (and ski run) to your left.