

Wheatley Circuit



3 hrs

7.3 km Circuit

Hard track

▲ 251m



This snowshoe walk follows a winter-only route. From Perisher Valley, you walk up along the Kosciuszko Rd to a gap, just past the last ski lift. Here you leave the road to follow the snow pole line up along the Wheatley Link among the snow gums and crossing some open plains. This link leads up to a valley below Porcupine Rocks, where you follow the snow poles and valley back down towards Perisher. A great walk for people comfortable on snowshoes and wanting to explore a more remote area near Perisher Valley.

1721m

1893m

Kosciuszko National Park

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 walks 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 Int Kosciuszko and Porcupine Rds (gps: -36.4058, 148.4119). 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.tl/1n>

0 | Share the Snow

Here are some tips to help you share the snow with skiers. Please avoid snowshoeing on ski trails, whether groomed or ungroomed - it is fine to walk right next to the ski trail. When crossing a ski trail, please do so in a single file and on a flat, more visible, section. These tips aim to minimise trail ruts and collisions. Visit [Wilderness Sports](#) for snowshoe hire.

0 | Winter only route

This walk follows an over-snow only route. During the warmer months, this walk crosses important and sensitive bogs that can be significantly damaged, even by light footed walkers. Please only walk this track when it is well covered with snow.

0 | Perisher Valley Village

Perisher Valley village is centred about the Skitube building, Perisher Centre and the National Park Visitor Centre. Just outside the Skitube is the shelter for the shuttle bus service to Smiggins. Perisher Centre is accessed by the long metal bridge - inside, you will find food shops, toilets and skiing-related shops. Inside the Skitube building is the train station, kiosk, medical centre and some other services. The National Park Visitor Centre provides a warm shelter, toilets, seats and information about the park. Most of these services only operate during the ski season, but the NPWS visitor centre is open most of the year and a food outlet is generally open for lunch Monday-Friday.

0 | Int Kosciuszko and Porcupine Rds

(180 m 3 mins) From the intersection, this walk heads west along the main Kosciuszko Rd, away from the 'The Man from Snowy River Hotel' and keeping the main valley to your right. The walk soon crosses Rock Creek, then continues beside the road to an intersection marked with a 'Rock Creek Snowshoe Track' sign just after the 'Rock Creek Ski Club' hut(both on your left).

0.18 | Rock Creek Ski Club

This building was first opened for use in 1948 then destroyed by a lighting strike in January the next year. In 1959, a few men drove down from Sydney most weekends over a few years to build the current lodge. Still owned by the builders' families, the lodge is

available to the public for hire. The lodge has two bedrooms and sleeps 6 people. The lodge can be hired in winter or in summer and makes for a great base with its central location in Perisher Valley. rockcreek.org.au info@rockcreek.org.au [More info.](#)

0.18 | Rock Creek Ski Club intersection

(2.1 km 40 mins) Continue straight: From the Rock Creek Ski Club intersection, this walk follows Kosciuszko Rd gently uphill, away from the main village. After about 50m, this walk continues along the road, passing a track (which leads to bridge over Perisher Creek, on your right) and continuing for about another 60m to find an intersection with Wheatley Rd, just before 'Corroboree Restaurant & Bar' (on your left).

Continue straight: From this intersection, this walk follows the Kosciuszko Rd east gently uphill, out of town. The walk immediately passes 'Corroboree Restaurant & Bar' (on your left) and continues up the hill past a series of other lodges (up to your left). The road steadily begins to climb a bit more steeply, then soon after passing the last ski lift (in the valley on your right), the road comes to a high point and a clearing with a large metal sign and map (on your left).

2.3 | Int Wheatley Link Track and Kosciuszko Rd

(1.9 km 39 mins) Turn left: From the grassy clearing on the south side of Kosciuszko Road, this walk follows the 'Wheatley Link' sign uphill following the snow-poles. The track leads through a narrow grove of snow gums, then climbs up to a flat clearing to follow the line of snow poles up through the trees. After dipping down a bit, the poles wind up the hill to pass through a gap in the ridge, revealing a large fairly flat plain (with a view back over Perisher, behind you). The walk continues to follow the poles down and across the plain. The poles soon lead right, rounding a rocky outcrop (on your right) and passing an open section, where the poles then tends left and up the hill. The walk soon comes to a intersection in a large saddle, near a sign pointing back down 'Wheatley Link' track.

4.19 | Optional sidetrip to Porcupine Saddle

(320 m 8 mins) Turn right: From the intersection, this walk follows the 'Porcupine' trail signs north-west over the top of the saddle and towards the large rocky pinnacle. The track soon begins to steepen through a rocky area and, just after passing a large rocky outcrop (on your left), the track leads up to a three-way intersection beside the gap (on your left) between the two main peaks. At the end of this side trip, retrace your steps back to the main walk then Continue straight.

4.19 | Porcupine Rocks

The Porcupine Rocks are a large granite outcrop on the ridge, south of Perisher Valley. There are two main peaks, and a rock scramble leads to the top of the southern peak, providing fantastic views of Perisher Valley, Mt Duncan, Thredbo River Valley and Bullocks Flat. The gap between the two summits provides some shade and protection from the wind. An amazing place to visit - allow time to just relax and enjoy this place. The summit can be slippery and icy, and there is a shear drop and other hazards. Much care is required.

4.19 | Int of Porcupine Trail and Wheatley Link Track

(1.3 km 31 mins) Turn left: From the intersection, this walk heads

north-east, downhill, following the old timber 'Perisher Valley 3km' sign. The track leads down through the wide valley past the newer sign (pointing back up to 'Porcupine Trail'), over some metal grates and through a grove of old dead snow gums to come to a signposted intersection with the Porcupine Link Track (on your right).

5.52 | Int of Porcupine and Link Track

(1.1 km 22 mins) Continue straight: From the intersection, this walk follows the 'Perisher Valley 2km' sign north-east along the track that soon leads across an flat timber bridge over Rock Creek. Now, the walk leaves the creek for a while and heads downhill, following the series of snow-poles on a groomed trail towards the Perisher Valley Resort. After about 1km and just before the Perisher Valley Reservoir, the snow poles lead left across a valley (near the stone pump house building) to head up the rise to a three-way intersection with another snow-pole line, near the pole with the second yellow sign.

6.62 | Perisher Reservoir intersection

(680 m 12 mins) Veer right: From the intersection, this walk follows the snow-pole line (with the yellow signs, facing away) over the gentle rise, whilst keeping Rock Creek a short distance to your right. The track leads over the hill, keeping the poles to your right, and soon passes a large green timber lodge. The walk leads down closer to the creek and continues following the snow-poles, soon passing straight through an intersection (ignoring the bridge over Rock Creek to your right). The poles lead over another small rise past the Rock Creek Ski Club building, then under the power-lines to find the 'Rock Creek Snowshoe Track' information sign. Here, the walk heads the short distance towards the main ski field to an intersection with Kosciuszko Rd.

Turn right: From this intersection near the 'Rock Creek Ski Club' hut, this walk follows the main road gently downhill towards the resort centre, where the road soon crosses Rock Creek. The walk crosses the creek and passes a few buildings to come to an intersection with Porcupine Road (on your right), just before 'The Man from Snowy River Hotel' (and the ski tube station on your left).