

WELCOME TO GLASS HOUSE MOUNTAINS NATIONAL PARK

Jinibara people and Kabi Kabi people welcome you to the Glass House Mountains. The areas within these forests are of traditional and contemporary cultural significance for both groups, who have an active role in looking after the values for future generations. We hope you will enjoy your visit and respect these sacred places.

Venture into the Sunshine Coast Hinterland and discover dramatic peaks, magnificent views and rock climbing adventures to make your heart beat faster.

Stand before giant monoliths rising up from a tapestry of eucalypt forest, macadamia orchard, and pineapple and pine plantations. Scenic walks wind through fragrant eucalypt forest and flowering heathland, offering spectacular views of the unique mountains and surrounding landscape. Hear the screeching sounds of vulnerable yellow-tailed black-cockatoos and look for peregrine falcons as they soar overhead.

Be humbled before glowing domes, cones and spires as sunrise breaks across the plains. With each step feel the spiritual significance of walking among remnants of a volcanic era—an intrinsic part of powerful creation stories and beliefs of the local Aboriginal people.

“The Glass House Mountains mean different things to different people. They are an iconic South East Queensland landscape feature, a valuable remnant of our native plant communities, one of eastern Australia’s premier rock climbing locations and a place for visitors to experience a challenging, but very rewarding, mountain climb within 30 minutes of the Sunshine Coast.

But first and foremost, they are highly significant for local Traditional Owners, with a great deal of importance for the Jinibara people and Kabi Kabi people. We ask visitors to consider this carefully while they are here. For the Traditional Owners, these are not summits to be conquered, but representations of their great cultural heritage and their place in this land. The Jinibara people and Kabi Kabi people request that visitors don’t climb Mount Beerwah and Mount Tibrogargan out of respect for the mountains’ sacred values.”



Photo: © Jody Smith

Ranger Nat, on behalf of the Glass House Mountains Park Rangers

VOLCANIC BEGINNINGS

Imagine the natural forces that forged these epic mountains. Masses of molten rock were forced up into the landscape over 25 million years ago, cooling to form hard rocky domes. As time has passed the softer surrounding rock has eroded away leaving behind these uniquely-shaped igneous intrusions. Uncover evidence of this incredible geological sculpting at Mount Beerwah day-use area ⑥, where you can see the Organ Pipes (pictured over page), a tessellation of hexagonal columns that formed as volcanic magma cooled and cracked.

The peaks inspired the name that Lieutenant James Cook gave them as he sailed along the Queensland coast in 1770:

“These hills lay but a little way inland and not far from each other, they are very remarkable on account of their singular form of elevation, which very much resemble glass houses which occasioned my giving them that name.”

Lieutenant James Cook

Mount Coonowrin (below); yellow-tailed black-cockatoo (right); sunset over the mountains (below right)

Photos: (anti-clockwise from right):
© Ross Naumann, QPWS volunteer;
© Tourism and Events Qld;
© Matthew Stewart



Photo: Tourism and Events Qld



TRADITIONAL LAND

These mountains and the surrounding plains are the ancestral home of the Jinibara people and Kabi Kabi people. Place your ear to the mountains and contemplate the dreaming stories and rich cultural history of the Traditional Owners of this land.

With plentiful resources, this area was a special meeting place for groups to perform ceremonies and trade. Crowds of people flocked to large gatherings and festivals at times when local food sources, such as the bunya nut, thrived. These mountains continue to be a place of spiritual significance, with many ceremonial sites still present and protected today.

BEERWAH—THE ANCESTRAL MOTHER

According to Jinibara peoples' lore and custom, Beerwah is the ancestral pregnant mother and Tibrogargan is the father with his faithful dingo, Ngungun, lying at his feet. Around the parents are their children—Coonowrin the eldest, Beerburrum, Coochin, Elimbah, Tibberooowuccum, Miketeebumulgrai, Tunbubudla and the youngest known today as Wild Horse Mountain.

As there is nothing more important than a mother giving birth, Jinibara people are taught to respect and protect Mount Beerwah, a deeply spiritual place. Their lore and custom teaches them not to climb this mountain out of respect for its great sacredness. Aboriginal people do not climb these mountains out of spiritual respect to Jinibara people. They ask that visitors refrain from climbing them also.



NATURAL BEAUTY

Wander through forests of stringybark, blackbutt, pink bloodwood and grey ironbark where koalas laze. Eastern grey kangaroos and whiptail wallabies graze the understorey, snoozing away the hotter hours in the shade.

Trace your fingers over the patterned bark of scribbly gums—see scaly-breasted and rainbow lorikeets peek out from the hollows of older trees. On the Mount Ngungun summit walking track ① montane heath plants cling to the exposed rock, forming a sparse shrubland where lizards and honeyeaters hide.

In spring a profusion of wildflowers colours the landscape—hovea, wattle and parrot pea provide bright splashes of purple, yellow and orange. Walk amid yellow flower spikes of mountain banksia and the coppery-red ribbons of bark peeling from Glass House Mountains tea-tree. Some species like the Mt Beerwah mallee *Eucalyptus kabiana* and Coochin Hills grevillea *Grevillea hodgei* are found only on the Glass House Mountains peaks.

At night, creatures of the darkness emerge—blossom bats, grey-headed flying foxes and feathertail gliders dip their tongues into luscious blossoms for nectar and pollen. Listen for the screeching siren call of rare sooty owls as they mark their territory on the hunt. Ringtail possums rustle in the trees while yellow-footed antechinus and brown bandicoots turn the earth for insects.

Learn more about the fascinating plants of Glass House Mountains National by purchasing a Ranger Field Guide. Visit www.npsr.qld.gov.au for sales outlet details.

Parrot pea (right); koala (centre); sooty owl (far right)

Photos: (left to right)
© Ross Naumann, QPWS volunteer; Adam Creed © Qld Govt; © Jodie Bray



OVERNIGHT ESCAPES

If you're keen to stay overnight then head to nearby **Beerwah State Forest** and pitch your tent at Coochin Creek camping area. From here you can launch your canoe, go boating or throw in a line and catch your dinner fresh from the creek. To book your camp site visit qld.gov.au/camping

SHARED TRAILS

For horse and mountain bike riding, visit nearby **Dularcha National Park** and **Glass House Mountains Conservation Park** in the Basin and Black Rock sections to explore an exciting shared trail network. For more information visit queenslandnationalparks.com.au. For a detailed map of the area's Horse Trail Network please visit npsr.qld.gov.au/experiences/horse-trails


RUNNING TRAILS


Go for an exhilarating forest run on three running trails and a shared trail in **Glass House Mountains Conservation Park** and **Beerburrum West State Forest**, just off the D'Aguiar Highway, between Wamuran and D'Aguiar townships.



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For help planning your holiday
visit queensland.com and
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Front cover photo: Mount Tibrogargan and
Mount Coonowrin © Tourism and Events Qld

Back cover photo: View from Mount Ngungun summit
© Jason Charles Hill Photography

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BUSHWALKING

Get that ‘on top of the world’ feeling on the **Mount Ngungun summit walking track**. Walk upwards through shaded forest to the summit, where blue-faced, scarlet and white-cheeked honeyeaters dart among the heath flowers. Here is your reward—admire 360 degree views of the surrounding Glass House Mountains, letting the fresh air rejuvenate your spirit. Experience an up-close vista of the majestic Mount Beerwah and Mount Coonowrin from here.

Families with children will appreciate the gentle walk around **Tibrogargan walking circuit**. Witness the unique forms of Mount Beerwah and Mount Coonowrin from Mountain View lookout as they appear nestled together, rising out of the earth. Wander around the base of Mount Tibrogargan through casuarina groves, open eucalypt and paperbark forest to take in more views of Mount Tibberoowuccum and Mount Tunbubudla. Look up through the forest—black-shouldered kites may be circling, hunting for prey.

Hike past spear-topped grasstrees and golden candlestick banksia blossoms on the longer **Trachyte walking circuit** at Mount Tibrogargan. Marvel at the spectacular mountains, including the glorious Mount Tibrogargan, from Jack Ferris lookout on Trachyte Ridge. On your return, look for ruby-coloured sundews sparkling on the forest floor.

Brag to your friends about your epic hike up **Mount Beerburum walking track**. While a smaller peak, this is one of the steeper bushwalks in the park so make sure you’re fit enough before setting out. Walk the steep track through open eucalypt forest and rainforest to reach the fire tower at the top where, once you catch your breath, you can behold hazy mountain silhouettes.

ROPED SPORTS

Adrenaline seekers can revel in rock face climbing and abseiling some of the Glass House Mountains’ slopes. Equipment and expertise are essential as severe injury or even death could result from an accident. Consider visiting with a tour guide or club, especially if you are new to this area.

Mount Ngungun (253m) offers moderately-challenging rock face climbing and abseiling for 20m to 40m roped sports. More challenging and potentially dangerous rock face climbing can be found at Mount Tibrogargan (364m) and Mount Beerwah (556m).



Bushwalking on the Mount Ngungun summit walking track (far left); the rocky climb up Mount Ngungun (left); sundews (inset)

Photos (clockwise from left):
© Ross Naumann, QPWS volunteer;
© Cheryl Thomson;
Trevor Hatfield © Qld Govt

SUMMIT ROUTES

The sheer, rocky summit routes up Mount Tibrogargan and Mount Beerwah are suitable only for people with a high level of fitness and rock scrambling experience. Before you go, consider respecting the Traditional Owners request to not climb culturally-sacred Mount Beerwah and Mount Tibrogargan.

If you are looking for a bushwalk, visiting with young children, require assistance or you're unsure of your ability, these summit routes are not for you.



KNOW THE HAZARDS

- Falling rocks and loose rock debris—rock falls can occur anytime and in large amounts.
- Steep, exposed rock faces and slabs.
- Very slippery rocks in wet conditions.
- Heat exhaustion and dehydration.
- Strong winds.
- Poor visibility in mist or fading daylight.
- Becoming trapped on cliff edges from deviating off route.
- Slips and falls from inexperience, poor preparation and inappropriate gear.



CLIMB SAFELY

- Be aware of what is happening around you—don't climb directly below others and be careful not to dislodge rocks.
- Wear a helmet.
- If you choose to stop, don't wait in high risk rock fall zones and 'no waiting zones'.
- Take care near cliff edges.
- Look back regularly to make sure you are comfortable with the steepness. If not, climb down.

ADVENTURE SAFELY

Make your visit to the park memorable for all the right reasons. Rescues are costly and extremely risky, even for the rescue team.

- Choose activities that suit the skills, experience and fitness of you or your group.
- Never walk or climb in wet conditions or if it is likely to rain as tracks and rock surfaces become dangerously slippery.
- Wear sturdy, flexible-soled footwear with good grip.
- Let somebody know where you are going, when you plan to return and what to do if you're late or lost.
- Leave plenty of time to reach your final destination in daylight and always keep your group together.
- Plan your activity time to avoid heat exhaustion on hot days.

THE ESSENTIAL PACKLIST

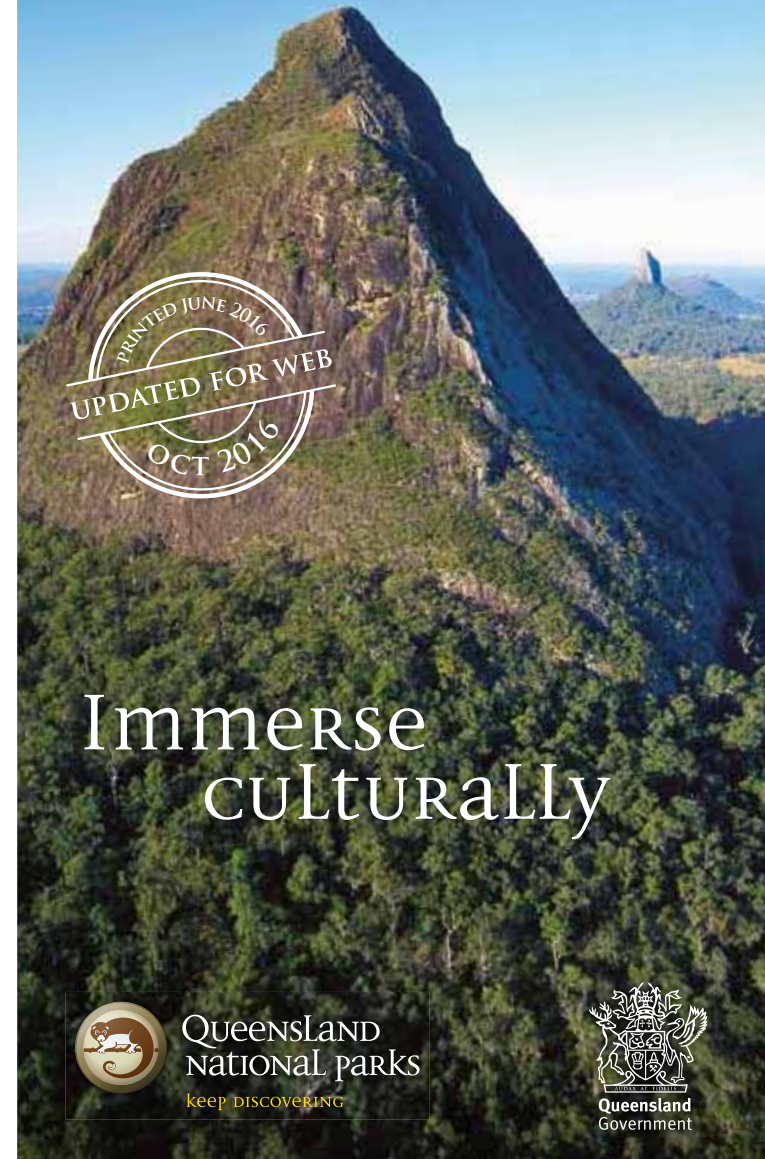
- Mobile phone. Reception may be poor in places.
- First-aid kit.
- Adequate drinking water—safe drinking water is not provided in the park.
- Suitable footwear, clothing and equipment for the activity you are planning.
- A camera to snap the amazing views!

TREAD SOFTLY

Help maintain this pristine environment and leave no trace of your visit. It's easy—here's how:

- Take all your rubbish home (including food scraps, cigarette butts and sanitary and hygiene items).
- Leave your pets at home—domestic animals are not permitted in national parks.
- Stay on the tracks—don't cut corners or create new tracks.
- Leave wildlife to hunt and forage—human food can be harmful to animals and cause aggressive behaviour.

GLASS HOUSE MOUNTAINS NATIONAL PARK



Immerse culturally

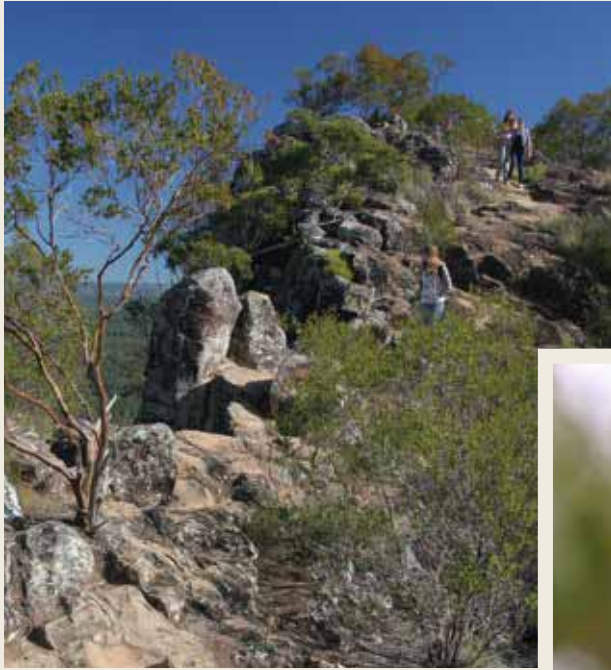


QUEENSLAND
national parks
keep DISCOVERING



RANGER FAVOURITES

“I love sitting on top of Mount Ngungun
 ① and enjoying the view.”
 Ranger Liz



“I love exploring the park’s diverse vegetation with my Glass House Mountains Ranger Field Guide in hand. There are many unique plants to discover, like the vulnerable Glass House Mountains tea-tree *Leptospermum luehmannii*, which only grows in the Glass House Mountains area.”
 Ranger Shelley



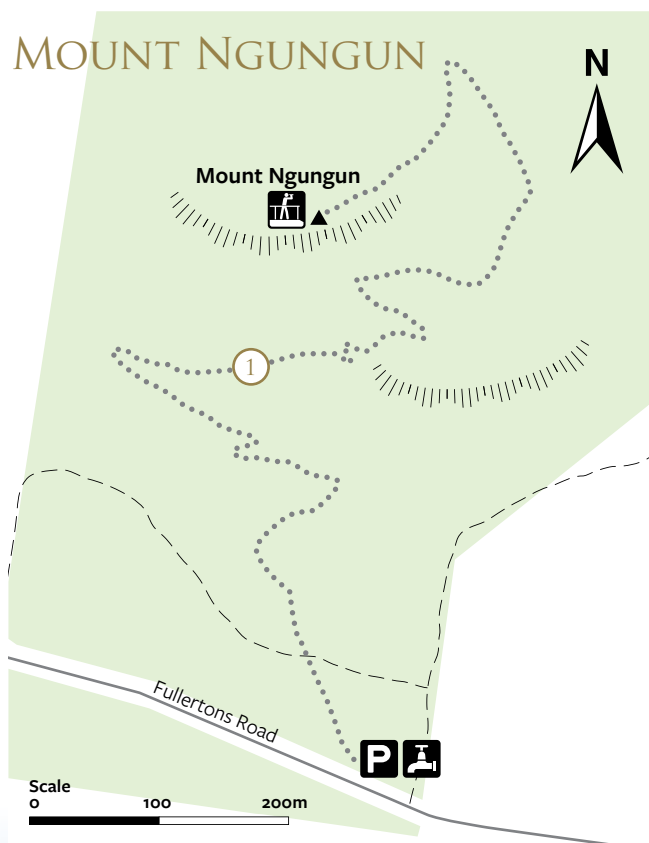
“The park’s best kept secret is Mount Beerwah day-use area ⑥. On a weekday it is a quiet place with a spectacular mountain view to soak up while sharing a picnic and relaxing.”
 Ranger Liz

GLASS HOUSE MOUNTAINS AND SURROUNDS





Photo: © Nick Thorp



Legend

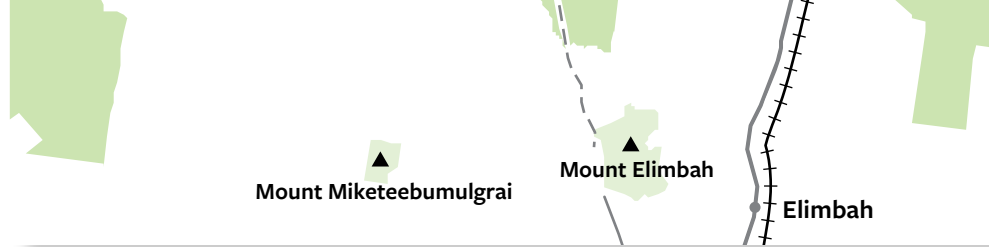
- Glass House Mountains National Park
- State forest
- Mountain
- Township
- Highway
- Major road
- Minor road
- Unsealed road
- Management road
- Railway line
- Walking track
- Shared trail (mountain bike riders and walkers)
- Summit route
- High risk rock fall area
- Cliff edge
- Visitor information centre
- WIFI access
- Toilets
- Parking
- Lookout
- Picnic table
- Drinking water provided
- Camping
- Rock falls
- No waiting zone

The Organ Pipes (above).

Photos: © Ross Naumann,
QPWS volunteer



My favourite thing to do in the park is walk through the wildflowers that bloom in August along the Soldier Settlers track ⑤.
Ranger Dave



TRACKS AND TRAILS AT A GLANCE

Track name	Class	Distance	Walking time
① Mount Ngungun summit walking track	4	2.8km return	2hrs
② Tibrogargan walking circuit	3	800m to Mountain View lookout; 3.2km full circuit	10mins to Mountain View lookout; 1hr 30mins full circuit
③ Trachyte walking circuit	4	6km return	2-3hrs
④ Mount Beerburrum walking track	4	1.4km return	1hr
⑤ Soldier Settlers Trail (walkers and mountain bikes)	4	5km return	2-3hrs

WALKING TRACK CLASSIFICATION

Class	Suits	Track description
3	Families with young children	No bushwalking experience required. The track is a hardened or compacted surface and may have a gentle hill section or sections and occasional steps.
4	People with some bushwalking experience	Suitable for most ages and fitness levels. Tracks may have short steep hill sections, a rough surface and many steps.

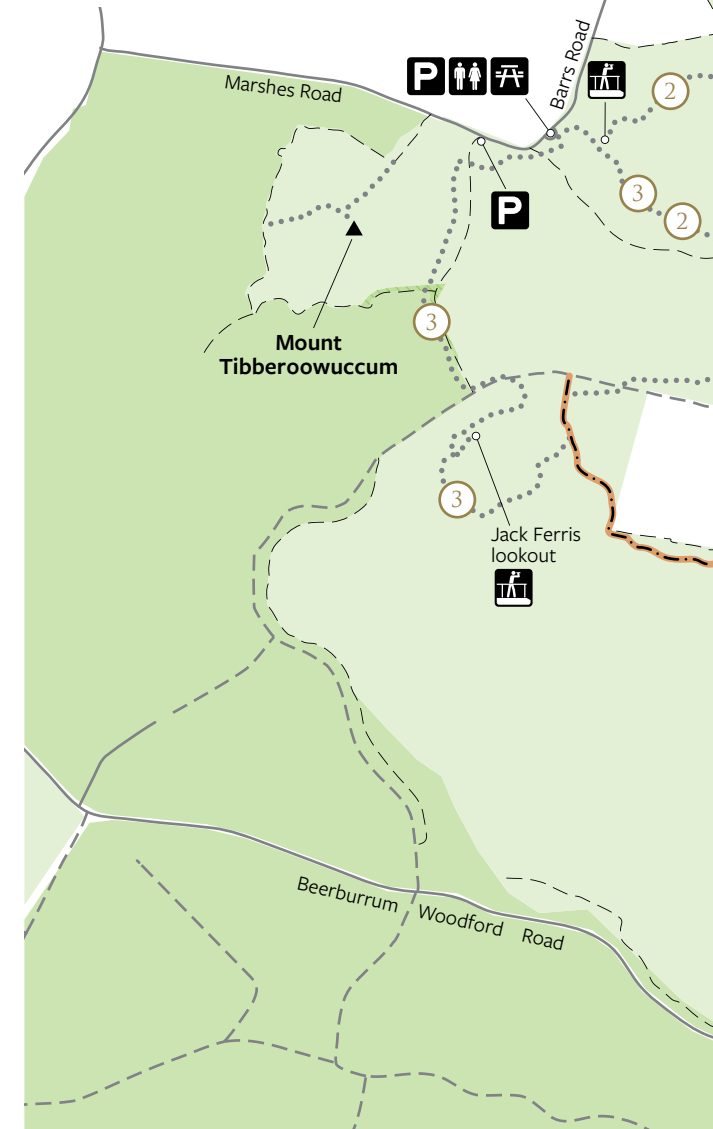
MOUNTAIN BIKE TRAIL CLASSIFICATION

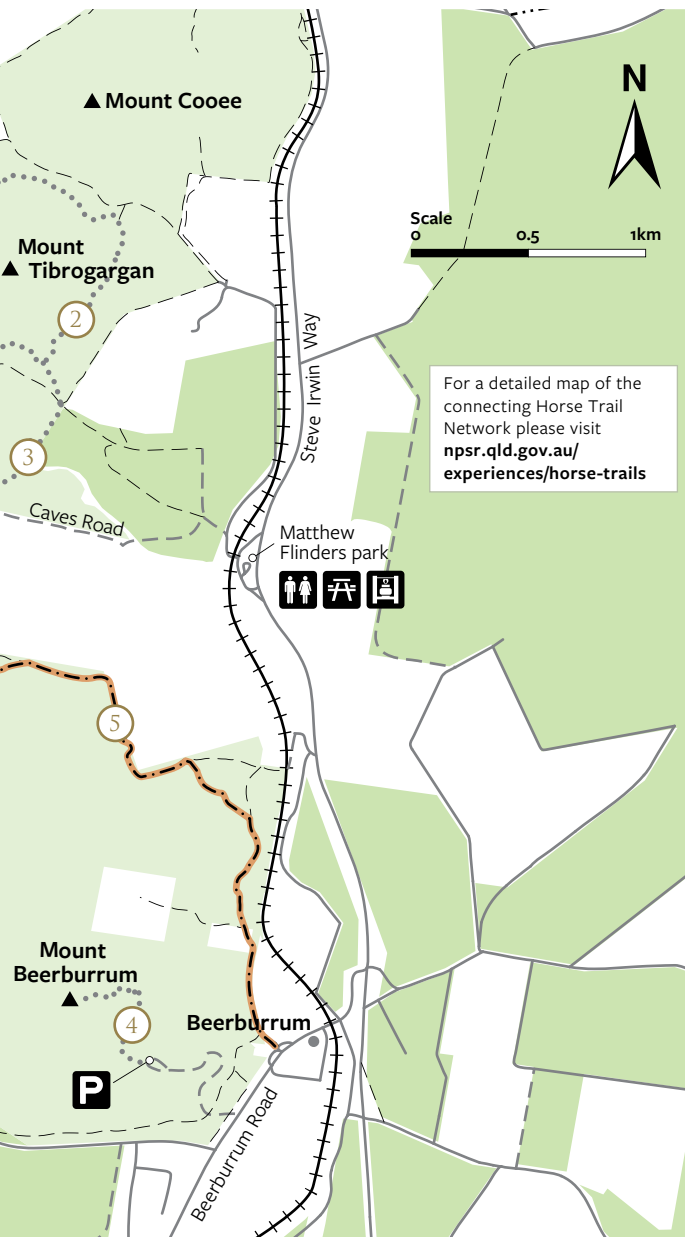
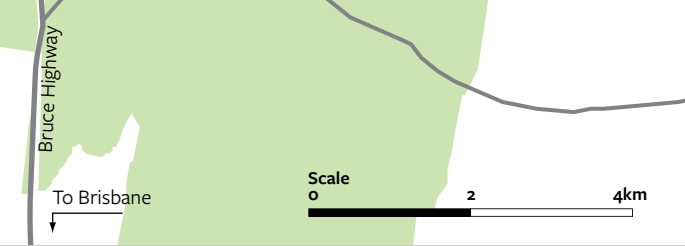
Class	Suits	Track description
Intermediate	Skilled mountain bikers with mountain bikes	Moderate gradient, obstacles and some steep sections.



Photo: Adam Creed © Qld Govt

MOUNT TIBROGARGAN AND MOUNT BEERBURRUM



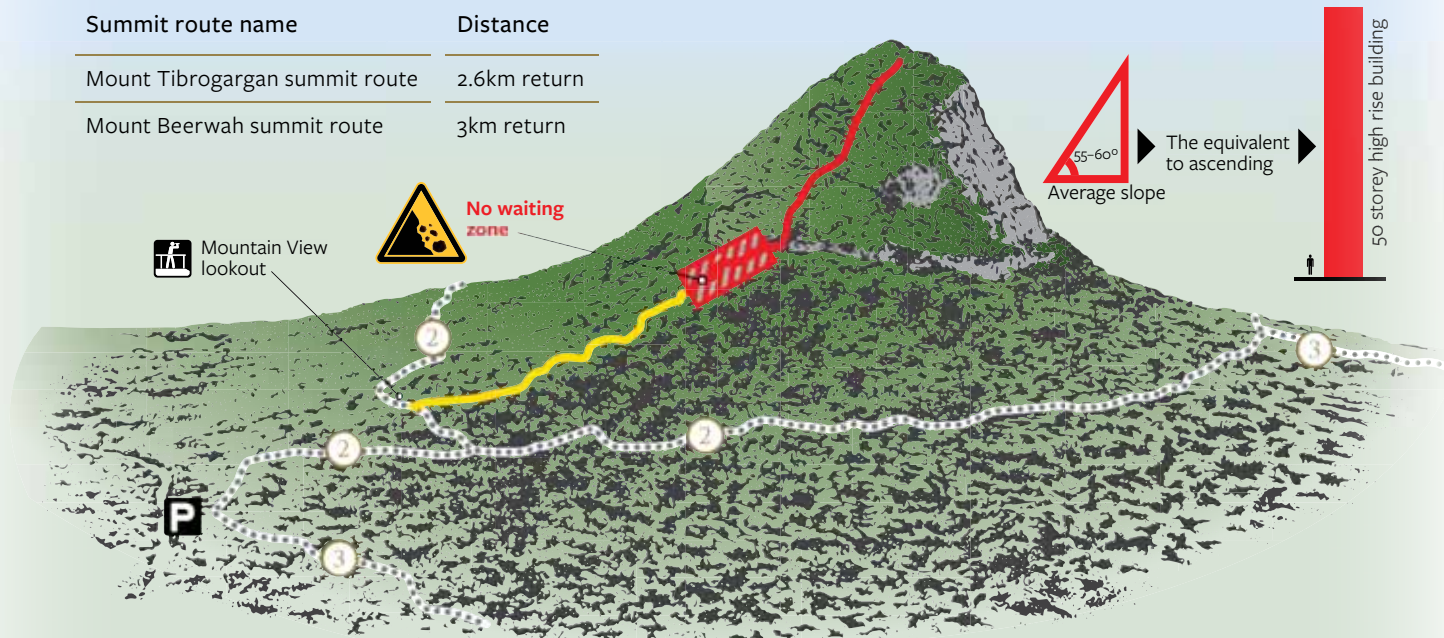


SUMMIT ROUTES AT A GLANCE

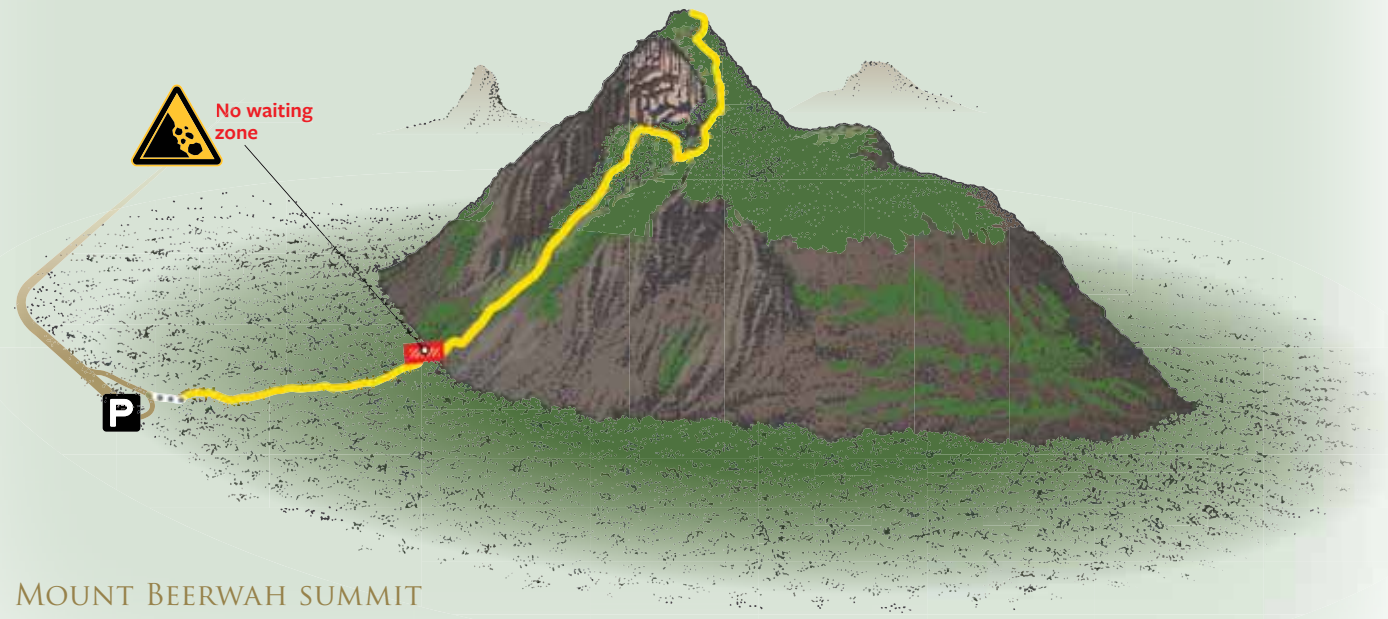
These are suitable for fit and experienced rock scramblers only.

For your first journey on these summit routes, start early in the day and allow at least 3-4hrs.

Summit route name	Distance
Mount Tibrogargan summit route	2.6km return
Mount Beerwah summit route	3km return



MOUNT TIBROGARGAN SUMMIT



MOUNT BEERWAH SUMMIT