

Information 2021-22: Hannels Spur, Kosciuszko NP

Adventure Facts:

Dates:	October to April
Start & Finish at:	Thredbo, NSW
Duration:	3 days
Meals provided:	2 Breakfast with accommodation package
Group Size:	3 per guide (National Parks mandated ratio)
Activity split:	1 travel day,
Cost, 3-day trip:	\$ 900 pp (min 2 people)
Accommodation Package:	Available on request

Highlights:

- Climb Mt Kosciuszko the “Hard Way” via Hannels spur; the single biggest ascent in Australia climbing 1800 metres to the summit of Mt Kosciuszko from Geehi Flats.
- Climb the two highest peaks in Australia, Mt Kosciuszko (2228 m) and Mt Townsend (2209 m).
- Expert leadership and safety with Australia’s most experienced guides who have intimate knowledge of Australia’s high country. (Keith Scott, Zac Zaharias or Mike Edmondson).
- Medical wilderness trained leader with 24hr phone access to advice from a Peak Learning Doctor.
- Bed and breakfast package available before and after the trek so you can enjoy the comfort of a Thredbo lodge with a warm shower at the start and end of the trip.



The summit of Mt Kosciuszko (2228 m) | Mike Edmondson

About Peak Learning Adventures

Peak Learning Adventures is a veteran owned and run small business focused on customised treks, tours and expeditions to the Himalayas, Papua New Guinea (PNG), South America and Africa. The Himalayas has been our adventure playground for nearly 40 years. PNG is at Australia's doorstep and offers genuine wilderness trekking in a landscape free from modern intrusions. Many of our PNG treks are battlefield study tours of the major campaigns during the Pacific War, including the world-famous Kokoda Track. Other PNG treks and battlefield study tours include Shaggy Ridge, Mt Giluwe, Mount Victoria and East New Britain.

Director and Head Guide is Zac Zaharias, who served 46 years in the Australian Army including service as a UN Military Observer in Kashmir. He holds a Certificate 4 in Outdoor Recreation. He is a highly experienced Expedition Leader and a veteran of over 100 expeditions and adventures worldwide including 21 major expeditions to the Himalayas. Peak Learning Adventures has an impeccable record for quality, safety, fun, adventure and learning. Our standard groups are small (between 4 and 12 people) and cater to your needs, whether it is the first time you are venturing into the mountains or jungle, or you are a seasoned climber returning for another challenge.

We have some of Australia's most experienced high-altitude climbers, qualified guides and military historians. We are expert at managing risk and supporting expeditions to remote areas. We ensure that our trips provide an enjoyable culinary experience and relatively comfortable accommodation as our clientele appreciate being looked after.

One of the underlying philosophies of Peak Learning Adventures is to educate, teach and allow individuals to learn and grow through the medium of adventure. We feel that by empowering our clients the experience is more meaningful, and long lasting. Many of our clients have come back from our expeditions fully recharged from previous hectic lifestyles. Others have found them positive life changing experiences.



Hannels Spur

Hannels Spur rises from around 450 metres near Geehi on the Alpine Way between Thredbo and Khancoban to Abbott Ridge running south-west off Australia's second highest peak, Mount Townsend (2,209 metres). The full Hannels Spur walk takes in all 1,800 vertical metres of the western fall of the Snowy Mountains to the top of Mount Kosciuszko. Hannels Spur is an iconic Australian walk used by Australia's top Himalayan mountaineers as a training climb. From the flats to the top of Mount Kosciuszko, it includes the greatest height gain of any

trek in Australia and climbs through the full range of vegetation on the western side of the main range, from mountain to sub-alpine and alpine tracts.

After parking our vehicle at Geehi Flats camping ground, we cross the Geehi River and shortly thereafter we reach the base of the Hannels Spur track. We commence our ascent and climb steadily for 4.5 km. After two hours we reach a knoll at 970 metres where we get glimpses of the higher sections of the track. We make a short descent through a fern gully before re-commencing our ascent for the remaining 2.5 km to Moira's Flat. Our overnight camp at Moira's flat (1400 metres) is one of the few flat areas on the spur that also has water and is a wonderful place to enjoy the remote western faces of the Kosciuszko National Park as we spin a yarn or two around a roaring fire.

The following morning, we climb a further 200 metres until we reach Byatts Camp at the top of Hannels spur on the north-western flank of Mt Abbott. From Byatts Camp the track turns south, crosses a creek and heads eastwards towards Wilkinsons Creek. Our nights campsite is on the alpine grasses next to the tranquil waters of Wilkinsons creek. After setting up our tents and having a bite to eat, we climb Mt Townsend, Australia's second highest peak.

The next morning, we leave the Wilkinsons valley and climb to Mueller's Pass and then upwards to the summit of Mt Kosciuszko. The final section of the walk from the summit of Mt Kosciuszko takes us down a metal walk-track that ends at the top of the Crackenback chairlift at Eagle's Nest. We finish the trip with a 15-minute ride down the chairlift right into the heart of Thredbo.

As this is a demanding trek with 1800 metres of climbing, a good level of fitness is required with a proven capability of carrying a pack continuously uphill for two days.

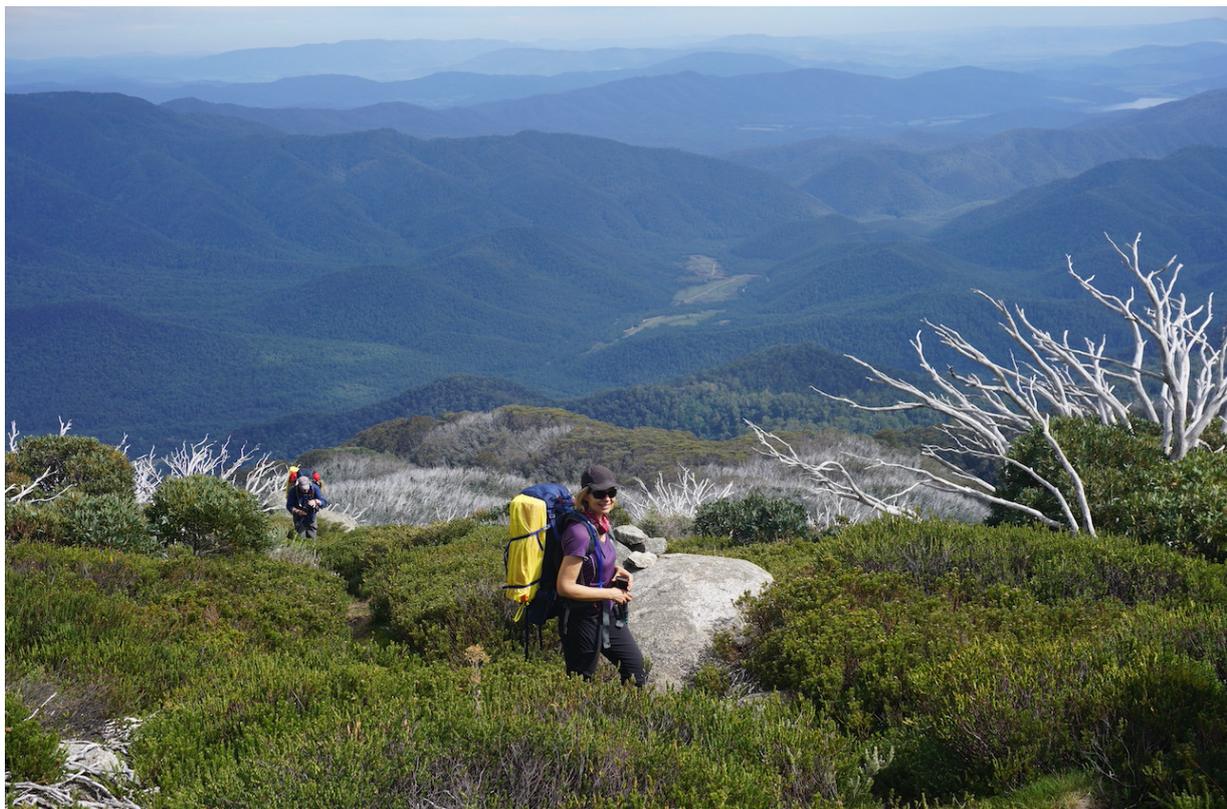


A map of the Hannels Spur walking route

The outline of our trek and distances travelled are show below.

Day	Event	Dist	Remarks
0	Arrive Thredbo		Settle in & welcome drinks for those taking the accommodation package
1	Walk Geehi to Morias Flat	7.4 km	Brief, gear check. Drive Thredbo to Geehi Flats
2	Moira's Flat to Wilkinsons valley	11.2 km	Set up camp. Side-trip to Mt Townsend
3	Wilkinson's valley to Mt Kosciuszko (2228m). Return to Thredbo.	8.0 km	Walk to Eagles Nest and descend Crackenback chairlift
TOTAL		26.6 km	

The itinerary is flexible as we may alter overnight camping locations and side trips to consider prevailing weather conditions and the needs of the group.



The upper part of Hannels Spur near Byatts camp, looking towards Geehi Flats

Accommodation and meals

This package doesn't include accommodation and meals; however, we can offer a two-night bed and breakfast option at one of the many ski-lodges in the Thredbo Village. Lodges are close to restaurants, the golf course and chairlift. Thredbo Village has a wonderful charm and is a great place to relax after a hard day's walk. There is a small supermarket, bakery and limited bottle shop in Thredbo, so it is advised that you bring your own alcoholic drinks that you require. Please discuss your requirements with Peak Learning Adventures.

What's included

Your trek cost includes the following:

- National Park fees (but does not include Visitor/car entry pass)
- Full Guiding services with a maximum ratio of 1 guide to 3 participants
- Satellite phone coverage and rescue
- Full public liability insurance
- Hannels spur achievement certificate

What's not included

- Travel to and from Thredbo
- National Parks Visitor/Car Entry fees
- Alcoholic drinks, eating out.
- Personal clothing and equipment
- Trek food, stoves, tent, cooking gear
- Accommodation and meals (not included in the standard package – available as an optional extra)

Contact and Information

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Campsite at Moiras Flat