



## Short Walks in the Resort

**1> The Aqueduct Trail** **4.8 km return** **EASY**

This flat grassy trail is the starting point for many hikes out of Falls Creek. Flanking the Resort's iconic aqueducts, the trail passes through the top of the village & accesses hiking and cross country bike trails.

**How do I get there?**  
**Village Bowl** – From the tennis courts take the access track by the Eagle Chair line for about 50m.  
**Village** – Head to Schuss street at the top of the village and follow Ory's Trail opposite Milch Café.  
**Slalom Plaza** – Follow the Falls Express chairlift line to the Last Hoot Bar and turn left onto Wombats Ramble (wide grassy ski run). Continue uphill until the aqueduct trail intersects.

**2> Rocky Valley Lake** **4.8 km return** **EASY**

Australia's highest lake (1,600m) is perfect for a relaxing walk followed by a picnic, fishing or a dip in the clear blue waters. Rocky Valley is the stage for some of the Resort's most popular Summer events and a great feature of Falls Creek's natural beauty.

**How do I get there?**  
 Follow the Aqueduct Trail left (East) from the village as it curves its way into grassy woodland and crosses the Bogong High Plains Rd. The trail then continues on to Rocky Valley Lake. Return via the same path or follow the Walking on Water Trail back to the village.

**3> Falls Creek Falls** **0.3 km return** **MED IUM**

These picturesque falls are just a short walk from the entrance to the village. Completely scorched by the 2003 bushfires, this area provides a valuable insight into the regenerative ability of the alpine flora with native snowgums, ferns and grasses rapidly restoring the greenery. The falls are a great place for a dip after a long mountain walk.

**How do I get there?**  
 From the Gully Carpark head along the main road towards Bogong. After 150m the trail-head descends from the right-hand side of the road via steep steps into the valley. Cross the small bridge until a fork in the road where the right-hand trail leads you to the falls.

**4> Wishing Well** **6.2 km return** **MED IUM**

This moderate trek brings you to a small pool at the end of the aqueduct, affectionately known as the "Wishing Well". Return from this point or continue along to a viewpoint overlooking Mt Spion Kopje.

**How do I get there?**  
 Access the Aqueduct Trail and follow it to the right (West) above the village and past the Village Bowl. It will soon narrow to a single track as you get closer to the Wishing Well.

**5> Walking on Water Trail** **4.8 km return** **MED IUM**

Take in Falls Creek's renowned Cross Country ski trails, the Nordic Bowl and spectacular panoramic views of Rocky Valley Lake.

**How do I get there?**  
 From Slalom Plaza follow the Falls Express lift over the road then turn onto Wombats Ramble. Once you pass the Aqueduct Trail, take the track to the left (East) signposted 'Aitken's Trail'. Follow this until the Pipeline Trail where you turn left and continue until crossing over the McKay/Pretty Valley Road. Follow the markers to the Lake Foreshore and continue looping left over the grassy knoll. Soon you will reach the Bogong High Plains Road - beyond this is the Aqueduct Trail leading home.

**6> Home and Away Trail** **6.0 km return** **MED IUM**

Experience the Summit ski area as this trail takes you into the High Plains. An optional extra to this trail exists with the Frying Pan Spur Trail. You can also avoid the initial climb by accessing via the Summit Chairlift during its Summer operation (check with Visitor Information for dates)

**How do I get there?**  
 Begin your walk at Ory's Trail (enter via Schuss St. opposite Milch Café), continuing uphill past the large brown water tank and onto the old Summit home trail. From there the trail becomes steep and rocky as it winds uphill 1km uphill to the top of the Summit chair. Markers lead you past the ski patrol hut to the end of the first snow fence and then down a gently undulating trail to a T-intersection. Veer right across the rocky plateau and downhill to the "Wishing Well" and Aqueduct Trail return.

**Try the 'Frying Pan Spur' Side Trip**  
 For a little more out of your hike, take this extra side trip at the T-intersection. Less than a kilometre each way, Frying Pan Spur provides panoramic views of the Kiewa Valley and surrounding mountains.

**7> Mountain & Castle Adventure Trail** **7.0 km return** **MED IUM**

A great Summer trek, this trail takes you past Sun Valley and some of Falls Creek's most popular ski runs to the base of Mt McKay. Another great feature of this hike is passing the columnar outcrop of basalt rock from which Ruined Castle draws its name.

**How do I get there?**  
 Begin your walk at Ory's Trail (on Schuss St opposite Milch Café), following it up until you reach the large brown tank containing Falls Creek's water supply. Continue uphill along the vehicle track until it crosses onto the old Summit home trail to where the trail forks. Veer left following the trail markers until you reach Pretty Valley Road. From here head right along the road until you reach the Ruined Castle rock feature. Keep following the winding trail uphill to a vehicle track and across Pretty Valley Road before reaching the base of Mt McKay (1,872m). Follow this road up and you'll be rewarded with spectacular views across to Mt Hotham, Mt Feathertop and Mt Bogong.

# Longer Treks in the National Park

## 1> Wallaces Heritage Trail 6.0 km return MED IUM

Experience a piece of history in visiting Wallace's Hut - the oldest cattleman's hut in the National Park (circa 1889). With a steady trail and grassy surrounds, this hike is perfect for a picnic with the family. Nearby Cope Ski Hut was built in 1929 and is a great addition to your trek. You can reach both Wallace's and Cope Huts with an easy return walk from the road or take in the 6km loop and Rover Chalet to complete the Heritage Trail.

**How do I get there?** 0.5 km return EASY

### Wallace's Hut

Drive along the Bogong High Plains Rd approximately 8km past the Rocky Valley Dam wall. A signpost marks the starting point where you can park your car. Follow the well-graded track to Wallaces Hut. Return via the same path or for some extra exercise, continue along the path and turn right to extend to Cope Hut or left to hike to Langfords Gap. Both of these extensions will bring you to the Bogong High Plains Rd.

**How do I get there?** 1.5 km return EASY

### Cope Hut

Travel past the dam wall on the Bogong High Plains Rd for around 10km (2km past the Wallaces Hut signpost) until you see the trail entrance on the left hand side of the road.

To get there from Wallaces Hut, continue on to the aqueduct trail and turn right. Look out for Rover Chalet before the T junction, then turn right and follow the track to Cope Hut and through to the Bogong High Plains Rd.

## 2> Ropers Lookout 5.0 km return MED IUM

Trek the regenerating fire-damaged snowgums beyond the dam wall to a lookout with incredible views of the Resort and surrounding Kiewa Valley.

### How do I get there?

Walk or drive along the Bogong High Plains Rd over the Rocky Valley Dam wall (Eastern side) to the car park directly after the wall. From here follow the grassy trail beside the aqueduct for 1.5km, climbing through a small gully up to the lookout on a small basalt knoll.

## 3> Mt Cope

Mt Cope (1837m) is one of the highest peaks in the High Plains and a relatively easy hike to the peak. You can also combine this walk with visits to nearby Wallace's and Cope huts.

### How do I get there?

Drive approximately 11km past the dam wall to the Mt Cope sign post. The track starts on the right hand side of the road and returns via the same path.

## 4> Heathy Spur Circuit 3.5 km return MED IUM

A 10km return that takes you through alpine herbfields and regenerating snowgums damaged by the 2003 and 2006 bushfires. This trek is ideal for those wishing to test their fitness with a challenging climb to Marums Point (1819m).

### How do I get there?

Drive 500m beyond the dam wall to a sign marked "Heathy Spur - Mt Nelse". The track climbs to Heathy Spur for 4.5km until the Australian Alpine Walking Track (AAWT). Turn right along the AAWT and down the Big River fire track back to the Bogong High Plains Rd. Turn right and walk 2km to return to your starting point.

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