

SUGGESTED DAY TRIPS

Day Trips

Yarrangobilly Caves, Thermal Pool, and Tumut 3 Power Station

Drive via the Kiandra Goldfields to the Tumut 3 Power Station, Australia's largest Hydro Power Station. Drive through Talbingo, the birth place of Miles Franklin and then on to the power station and discover the enormous scale of this engineering marvel. The whole scheme consists of 16 major dams, 7 power stations, 145kms of underground tunnels and 80kms of aqueducts, taking 25 years to complete. With only 2 of the 6 turbines, Tumut 3 is able to generate enough electricity for the whole of the ACT. Spend time in the interpretive centre and learn about other alternate power sources. Drive to the spillway for a spectacular view.

Have lunch at Yarrangobilly Village then head to the Yarragobilly Caves for a guided tour. 400 million years ago, the whole area was under the sea. The limestone through which the water percolates and creates the caves is really the remnants of sea-life all those millions of years ago. You will even see a fossil to prove it. Visit the Jillabenan Cave which is one of the most decorated caves in Australia with many exquisite stalactites and stalagmites. With only 4 steps, it is even accessible by wheelchair.

Mt Kosciuszko and Charlotte Pass

Take a scenic drive through rolling hills, past Jindabyne to the world famous "all-year" resort, Thredbo. Have morning tea beside the Thredbo river before venturing on to the chairlift for a spectacular ride of your life to the "top of the world". Take a walk on a gentle paved walkway over gurgling streams, through alpine meadows. In Spring and Summer, alpine flowers abound. At over 1,800 metres above sea level, we are above the tree line. See Mt Kosciuszko in the not too far distance. For those not wanting to take the chairlift, there is plenty of browsing and shopping in the village or short walks along the river.

After lunch drive up to Charlotte Pass with spectacular views of Mt Kosciuszko and surrounding mountains.

Visit Adaminaby and see first hand the houses that were moved to make way for Lake Eucumbene. Time for shopping at Charlie's Craft Shop and browsing the historical museum.

Cooma and Happy Valley

Cooma is the gateway to the Snowy Mountains. Travel from the Park along the Snowy Mountains Highway to "Happy Valley" where there is a wealth of fascinating memorabilia. Learn about the history of the area from people whose forefathers have been here for generations. Find out who the real "Man From Snowy River" is.

After morning tea at Happy Valley head down to Cooma and drive past some of the historical buildings before having lunch. After lunch, visit the Snowy Mountains Scheme Info and Educational Centre where you will discover the enormous scale of this engineering marvel through the many models on display. The whole scheme consists of 16 major dams, 7 power stations, 145kms of underground tunnels and 80kms of aqueducts, taking 25 years to complete.

Drive to the top of Mt. Gladstone for a panoramic view of Cooma and the Snowy Mountains before heading back to the Park.

Tumut and Blowering Dams

Head to Tumut and the beautiful Tumut Valley via three spectacular dams (not including our own Lake Eucumbene). The first is pretty Journama Pondage at the foot of Talbingo, birthplace of Miles Franklin. Continue on past the mighty Tumut 3 Power Station. Just two of its six turbines can create enough electricity for all of the ACT. Drive up to the spillway of Talbingo dam and see how the power station is powered by water flowing through massive pipes. Before Tumut, pass the Blowering Dam which we will visit on the return leg.

Tumut is a very pretty town. The early settlers planted poplars and willow trees resulting in spectacular displays in summer and autumn. Tumut has a large number of historic buildings notably its collection of fine hotels, the Court House and the very fine Anglican Church. Visit the local millet broom factory where you will see straw brooms made by hand as people have done for centuries. If time permits you can visit the violet farm, home to over 1,000 species. Many are for sale. After your to Tumut, head back to the Blowering Dam and drive up to the 120 metre high spillway for a spectacular view. Many water speed records have been set on this dam including the world record for fastest water skiing.

Kiandra Goldfields and Tumut 3 Power Station

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The whole scheme consists of 16 major dams, 7 power stations, 145kms of underground tunnels and 80kms of aqueducts, taking 25 years to complete. With only 2 of the 6 turbines, Tumut 3 is able to generate enough electricity for the whole of the A.C.T. Spend time in the interpretive centre and learn about other alternate power sources. Drive to the spillway for a spectacular view.

After lunch at the picturesque Yarrangobilly River, travel to Cabramurra, Australia's highest town. Here you will see some of the best panoramic views of the mountains. Time to browse the General Store and see the historical photo display showing many work and domestic scenes. From Cabramurra, head down to Tumut Pond at the bottom of a spectacular gorge. Walk across the spillway and explore the area before heading to Kiandra via Mt Selwyn, Australia's premier family ski resort.

Kiandra, Batlow and Tumbarumba

Head out on the highway past Kiandra, site of the 1859 gold rush where 10,000 people spent a very cold winter under canvas. At one point there were over 60 buildings at Kiandra. Within a couple of years, the population was down to 300 with many disappointed miners. Continue on past Talbingo and Blowering Dam to Tumut for morning tea, continue via Batlow to Tumbarumba.

The highlight of the day is the "Tribute to the Man From Snowy River" show. Both entertaining and educational, you'll see sheep, dogs, pigs, whip-cracking, cattle mustering and shearing as well as have plenty of laughs. Sample real "billy-tea" during lunch. After the show head back to Tumbarumba with its old-style charm and a number

of beautifully preserved old buildings, which make it an attractive destination. The major attractions are the Court House and Police Residence. These two single-storey buildings were constructed in the 1880's.

Turn off on to the Elliot Way for a spectacular drive down a gorge to the Tumut river. As you go back up into the mountains, watch out for wild brumbies. Drive past Cabramurra, Australia's highest town before returning to the Lodge.

Jindabyne and Adaminaby

Jindabyne and Adaminaby were drowned by lakes created for the Snowy Hydro Electric Scheme. Travel via Berridale to Jindabyne where we will visit a working trout farm. Continue on to Charlotte Pass with spectacular views of Mt Kosciuszko and surrounding mountains. Head back into Jindabyne for a delightful lunch provided by the Jindabyne Uniting Church ladies.

Next stop is Old Adaminaby, adjacent to where the old town is now under water. Here you can get a panoramic view of lake Eucumbene and really appreciate its size. Head back to "New" Adaminaby and see the old buildings that were moved to the new town. Virtually the whole town was moved in the early 1960's to its present location. Imagine what Adaminaby could have been if it were re-located on the lake. Visit Charlie's Craft Shop or browse the old photos and newspaper cuttings at the Historical Society to see what life was like in the early days of Adaminaby.

Mountain Train (June to early October)

The Kosciuszko region and snow country is your destination and an exciting day is planned amongst our beautiful mountains. Travel directly to the Skitube, which is the world's fastest rack railway and Australia's highest train ride. The Swiss styled system will take you over the Thredbo River, across the giant viaduct and through magnificent National Park scenery.

The train delivers you to Mt Blue Cow ski resort for stunning views of the main range and snow covered peaks. Take a short walk through the snow to a vantage point which affords magnificent panoramic views of the five of Australia's highest peaks including Mt Kosciuszko... not to be missed. You then return by train to Perisher Valley for some sight seeing. During the latter part of the ski season you will be in the midst of the snow.

Time to explore and shop in Jindabyne and visit the new National Park Headquarters, with its extensive interactive displays on the mountain region, before returning to the Park.