## Old Geehi Hut tour

### 2 hrs 5.5 km Return

HUUT

640

Alio Merio

**WildWalks** 

# Hard track

**5.5 km Return 1 82m** This walk takes you on a tour of some of the historic huts north of Geehi Flats. Starting from the northern end of Geehi Flats Camping area near Geehi Hut, you will cross Swampy Plains River and walk across the plain to an intersection just before Keebles Hut. Here the walk heads up on the higher section of Behrs Flat and then down and across Swampy Plains River again. You will then follow another trail to the

418m

Kosciuszko National Park

old Geehi Hut, once used as a youth hostel.

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Kosciuszko Nationa Park

411

2:09

#### 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 Geehi Hut car park (gps: -36.378, 148.1795). Car: A park entry fee is required for driving into the park.

This is a return, so you will finish back at the start.

Find up to date and more information inlcuding; travel directions, weather, park closures and walker feedback at <a href="http://wild.tl/oght">http://wild.tl/oght</a>

#### 0 | Snow & Ice on walk

This walk leads through an alpine environment and all walkers must be well prepared. During summer, be prepared for both hot and cold weather, high winds, rain, extreme UV levels and some sections of snow or ice on the ground. Before starting this walk, check advice with <u>Snowy Region</u> <u>Visitor Information Centre</u> (02) 6450 5600, the <u>weather forecast</u> and the <u>snow conditions</u> then change your plans as needed. These notes, grades and walking times have been written for use in the summer months only. Between May and the end of October, there is a much higher change of snow, ice and extremely cold conditions.

#### 0 | Geehi Picnic Camping Ground

This is a very large campsite with plenty of space for roaming about and with some interesting things to explore. The campsite sits on the bank of the Swampy Plain River, which offers some opportunities for fishing. There are plenty of toilets scattered around (with access for people in wheelchairs). There are several stone shelters, historic huts, and walking tracks in the area. The individual campsites are not marked out, but there are plenty of spots to choose. There is no charge for camping (although vehicle entry fees apply).

#### 0 | Optional sidetrip to Geehi Hut

(70 m 1 mins) From the car park, this walk heads north away from the face of 'The Western Fall' sign along the paved path. The path soon turns away from the road and crosses a small ditch to find a book-like 'Geehi's recent past' information sign. Here the walk heads across the grass to Geehi Hut a short distance away.

#### 0 | Geehi Hut

Geehi Hut, also known as Airstrip or Nankervis Hut, was originally built in 1952 by Jim Nankervis and his brother, to assist with grazing. The 11m x 9m river stone building has three rooms, including a fireplace (not for use). Near the hut is a wheelchair-accessible toilet and plenty of space for camping. The hut was restored in 2004 by the NPWS. The remains of the older Tyrrell's Hut can be seen nearby. <u>More info.</u>

#### 0 | Geehi Hut car park

(190 m 3 mins) Turn right: From the car park, this walk heads west along the dirt road away from the toilet whilst initially keeping the hut a short distance to your right. The trail soon leads past a locked gate (on your right) and the down to a few campsites just before Swampy Plain River crossing and a 'To Behrs Flat - 4 Wheel Drive' sign.

Continue straight: From the intersection, this walk crosses the rocky ford

Swamp Plain River crossing. This river is impassable after rain or snow melt, take care not to cross when the river is too high or too fast. Once on the other bank, this walk heads through the gate (locked to vehicles in wet conditions) and comes to a clear, three-way intersection with another 4WD trail (on your left).

#### 0.19 | Alternate Route Geehi Rest Area Entrance to Int of

(1.2 km 23 mins) Turn left: From the entrance to Geehi Rest Area, this walk follows the 'Jindabyne' sign along the Alpine Way. The road soon leads across a bridge, over Swampy Plains River and comes to an intersection with a 4WD trail (on your right), just on the other side of the bridge.

Turn right: From the western side of Geehi Bridge, this walk follows the 4WD trail off the main road, down the short hill and along the side of Swampy Plain River (keeping the river to your right). The walk soon passes a short side trail (on your right, that leads down to the river), continuing instead parallel to the river along the clear trail through the trees. The trail soon passes a 'To Behrs Flat - 4 wheel drive - Dry weather only' sign and continues through the forest for about 400m to a large turning circle (on your right), just before a gate (locked to vehicles in wet conditions). From this turning area, this walk continues along the trail steeply uphill, through the gate. As the trail reaches the high point, there are good views down to Swampy Plain River and across Geehi Flats. The trail then leads down the hill to a three-way intersection with the Bicentennial National Trail at Behrs Flat (to your left) and a gate and creek crossing (to your right). Now Veer left to rejoin the main walk .

#### 0.19 | Int of Swampy Plain and Bicentennial Trails

(60 m 1 mins) Veer right: From the intersection, this walk follows the flat trail north-west into Behrs Flat clearing (directly away from Swampy Plain River). After a short distance, the trail comes to a 'Y' intersection with a grassy trail (on your right), just before a couple of trees standing by themselves.

#### 0.25 | Keebles Loop intersection

(790 m 12 mins) Continue straight: From the intersection, this walk heads north further into Behrs Flat clearing, initially keeping the grassy trail to your right. The clear trail soon passes two shrubby trees then continues to wind through the open, grassy clearing. The trail crosses a small, culverted creek, then about 150m later, comes to a 'Y' intersection (with a trail leading steeply up to the left).

#### 1.04 | Optional sidetrip to Keebles Hut

(160 m 3 mins) Continue straight: From the intersection, this walk heads north towards the hut along the wide trail. The trail soon bends right and leads past the 'Keeble's Hut' information sign, coming to a large, open area in front of the hut. At the end of this side trip, retrace your steps back to the main walk then Turn sharp right.

#### 1.04 | Keebles Hut

Keebles Hut was built in 1948 as a fishing lodge by Arthur Keeble, for Arthur and Flo Nankervis. The hut has been under the management of NPWS since 1970, with upkeep maintained by family members. A renovation was organised in 2002, by Kosciusko Huts Association and the Range Rover Club of NSW. The hut offers a fireplace and a woodpowered stove, as well as a large indoor table. Around the hut is a popular camping area, with picnic tables, a toilet and a river nearby. <u>More info</u>.

#### 1.04 | Int south of Keebles Hut

(1.1 km 18 mins) Veer left: From the intersection, this walk heads west up

the short rise to soon bend right (keeping Keeble's Hut below and some distance to your right). Following the clear main trail, this walk ignores the side tracks and after about 650m, the trail bends right (ignoring the fainter left branch) to lead down a short but fairly steep bank and through a clearing where the trail bends left. This trail then leads along this flood plain, soon coming to another clearing (and camping area on the left) just before the Swampy Plain River crossing.

#### 2.09 | South side of Swampy Plains River

(360 m 7 mins) Continue straight: From the clearing, this walk follows the trail across the rocky ford Swamp Plain River crossing. This river is impassable after rain or snow melt, take care not to cross when the river is too high or too fast. Once on the other side, this walk follows the trail as it bends left and leads up through the open forest for about 300m to find a clear three-way intersection marked with a 'No Garbage Collection' sign (on your left).

#### 2.45 | Int east of Old Geehi Hut

(280 m 5 mins) Veer left: From the intersection, this walk heads north-west along the flat 4WD trail, towards the long range, initially keeping the 'No Garbage Collection' sign to your left. The trail leads through the open forest and soon comes to a grassy clearing and the stone Old Geehi Hut.

#### 2.73 | Old Geehi Hut

Old Geehi Hut (aka Youth Hostel, YHA Hut), was originally built in 1948 and restored after bushfires in 2003 by NPWS, the NSW Landrover Club and the Range Rover Club of NSW. The 7m x 4m river stone building has had a number of roles (and names) over the years, including private use (by the Nankervis and Mitchell families) and also a youth hostel. It has been managed by NPWS since 1977. The hut offers visitors a fireplace, an indoor picnic table and there is a toilet and camping nearby. <u>More info.</u>