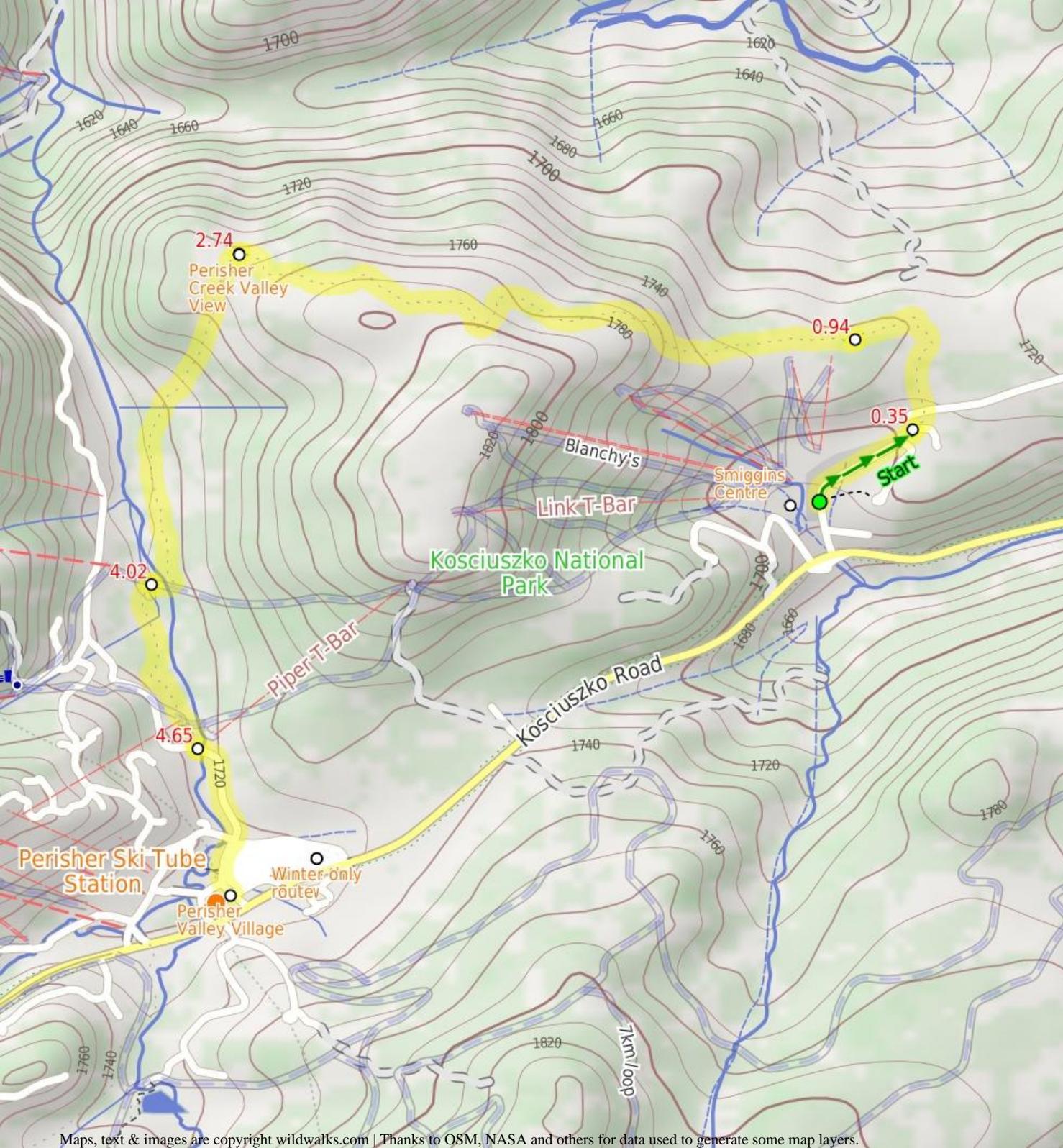


Mount Piper Trail



2 hrs 45 mins

Hard track

5.2 km One way

▲ 167m



This winter-only snowshoe walk starts from the Smiggins Centre and follows a snow pole line and cross-country ski trail to Perisher Valley. Starting along the road, you soon follow a snow pole line up and behind Mt Piper. There are some wide vistas over Perisher Creek Valley along sections of this walk. There are some great places to stop and just wander around and enjoy the snow. A free shuttle bus service operates during the ski season between Perisher and Smiggins.

1687m

1801m

Kosciuszko National Park

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 Smiggins Centre (gps: -36.3925, 148.4273). Car: A park entry fee is required for driving into the park.

Traveling by car is the only practical way to get back from Perisher Valley Skitube (gps: -36.4049, 148.4123). Car: A park entry fee is required for driving into the park.

Find up to date and more information including; travel directions, weather, park closures and walker feedback at <http://wild.tl/mpt>

0 | Winter only route

This walk follows an over-snow only route. During the warmer months, this walk crosses important and sensitive bogs that can be significantly damaged, even by light footed walkers. Please only walk this track when it is well covered with snow.

0 | Share the Snow

Here are some tips to help you share the snow with skiers. Please avoid snowshoeing on ski trails, whether groomed or ungroomed - it is fine to walk right next to the ski trail. When crossing a ski trail, please do so in a single file and on a flat, more visible, section. These tips aim to minimise trail ruts and collisions. Visit [Wilderness Sports](#) for snowshoe hire.

0 | Smiggins Centre

Smiggins Centre is the central eating and rest area for this resort during the ski season. Inside are toilets, food shops, and other various shops (ski, clothing, gift and photographic) . At the front of the building is the shuttle bus shelter, where a free bus operates to and from Perisher Valley and the car parks. Outside the ski season, these facilities are closed.

0 | Smiggins Centre

(350 m 7 mins) From the shuttle bus stop out the front of the Smiggins Centre, this walk heads up Link Road, further into the resort. The walk continues up the road, past the long car park (on your left) with some views over the ski fields. Just past the top end of the car park, the road rises a little more steeply to come to an intersection near a stone electricity building and a yellow gate on Link Road (on your left, locked in winter).

0.35 | Smiggins Gate on Link Rd

(600 m 11 mins) Veer right: From the intersection, this walk

follows the blue and white arrows on the 'Perisher Range cross-country ski trail' sign, past the stone electricity building and under the high tension power lines. The walk then continues straight ahead, following the white, blue and orange arrows along the snow-pole line (and snow fence). After about 260m, the walk comes to another large metal 'Perisher Range cross-country ski trail' sign. Here the walk turns left and follows the 'Mount Piper Trail' arrow. The walk now follows the snow-pole line with the orange arrows, crossing Link Rd after about 40m. About 60m after this, the walk bends sharply left and winds up the ridge to where the track bends right, coming to the terminus of some high-tension power lines.

0.94 | Powerline terminus

(1.8 km 40 mins) Continue straight: From the power line terminus, this walk heads uphill to follow the snow-poles that run roughly parallel to the power lines (the power lines are now down to your right). The snow-pole line bends left, leading gently up a wide ridge and away from the power lines, through the scattering of snow gums. The walk heads towards Mt Piper (with the large, flat, green passive repeater at the top) and about 300m after leaving the power lines, the track turns right and follows parallel to the out-of-bounds fence (on your left) for a short time. About 100m further past this fence, the snow-pole line leads to a rocky highpoint, with a clear view over the valley to your right. The track then leads down a dip and over a rise, winding through the dead snow gums and across a wide valley for about 300m, before climbing up to a ridge line on the other side. Here the snow poles lead left up the ridge for about 130m before bending sharply right and leading down the other side of this ridge. Over the next 800m, the snow-pole line leads generally down to cross two wide and open gulleys and come to a point where the track bends sharply left again. There is a view from here, looking over the rocks straight ahead and extending down along Perisher Creek valley and the scar of Link Rd.

2.74 | Perisher Creek Valley View

North-west of Mt Piper on the Mt Piper trail are several wide views looking down Perisher Creek valley. Whilst enjoying the snow-covered vista, you will be able to look down along the valley to the junction of Link Road and Guthega Road, and to the left, you can spot the road linking Blue Cow and Perisher Valley.

2.74 | Perisher Creek Valley View

(1.3 km 24 mins) Veer left: From the valley view, this walk heads south, following the snow-pole line over the rise. As the walk leads down the other side, there is a view over Perisher Valley. The walk continues downhill for about 700m, where the track mostly flattens out in the valley. There are some buildings to your right, over on the other side of Perisher Creek - the first is the sewage treatment plant, and the rest are lodges. After about 400m walking along the mostly flat section beside the creek, the snow poles lead past a timber fence to find a ski-run (linking Perisher and Smiggins). Here the walk turns right to cross the bridge, then

heads about 50m beside this trail to find an intersection with another snow-pole line (on your left, with white arrow markers).

4.02 | Interceptor bridge intersection

(630 m 11 mins) Turn left: From the intersection, this walk heads south following the snow-pole line, keeping the main ski runs up to your right. The track crosses a few small creeks (covered in snow during winter) and after about 300m, this walk tends right to find an over-snow-vehicle route, marked by orange poles with blue tips. Here the walk turns left and follows this route downhill and finds an intersection at the bottom of the 'Telemark Tbar'. The walk continues straight, passing 'Murphy's Crossing' (bridge on your left) to come to an intersection with Perisher Blue Cow Link Road & ski run just before another bridge.

4.65 | Bridge on Blue Cow Link Rd

(550 m 9 mins) Veer left: From the intersection, this walk heads across the bridge over Perisher Creek. The road bends right then after about 150m, it passes the tobogganing area (on your left) and a cross-country skiing sign before leading down to the edge of a car park. Here the walk stays right and heads around the edge of the car park, just past the bridge to 'Perisher Centre', and arrives at the Shuttle Bus shelter outside the Skitube Terminal building.

5.2 | Perisher Valley Village

Perisher Valley village is centred about the Skitube building, Perisher Centre and the National Park Visitor Centre. Just outside the Skitube is the shelter for the shuttle bus service to Smiggins. Perisher Centre is accessed by the long metal bridge - inside, you will find food shops, toilets and skiing-related shops. Inside the Skitube building is the train station, kiosk, medical centre and some other services. The National Park Visitor Centre provides a warm shelter, toilets, seats and information about the park. Most of these services only operate during the ski season, but the NPWS visitor centre is open most of the year and a food outlet is generally open for lunch Monday-Friday.