

# Pipeline Path



**Moderate track** 

101m

Starting from the Village Terminal, this walk leads you past the bobsled then down to Friday Drive and across the Thredbo River. From here, you follow the signposted Pipeline Path, a dirt track, along the hillside. The track leads to the picture-perfect Snowmakers Ponds for a picnic or a dip. Either retrace your steps or follow the rest of the notes back to the start following Friday Drive. An enjoyable stroll out from the village.

1375m

## 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 Bottom of Kosciuszko Express chairlift (gps: -36.504, 148.304). Car: A park entry fee is required for driving into the park.

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

Find up to date and more information inleuding; travel directions, weather, park closures and walker feedback at http://wild.tl/li

# 0 | Covered in snow part of the year

This walk leads through an extreme alpine environment and all walkers must be well prepared. During summer, be prepared for both very hot and cold weather, high winds, rain, snow, extreme UV levels and some sections of snow or ice on the ground. Before starting this walk, check advice with Snowy Region Visitor Information Centre (02) 6450 5600, the weather forecast and the snow conditions 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, this walk is likely to be covered in snow/ice, visitors should be carrying and be prepared to use snowshoes or cross country skis. When there is a chance of significant snow on the ground, visitors will need particularly strong navigation and snowcraft skills - tracks and signage may not be visible. For most visitors, it is best to consider this walk closed during the colder months.

### 0 | Bottom of Kosciuszko Express chairlift

(230 m 5 mins) From the entrance to the ticket sales for the Kosciuszko Express chairlift, this walk follows the 'Merritts Nature Track' sign. The walk leads around the car park and past the picnic area to follow another 'Merritts Nature Track' sign along the footpath, leading beside the tennis courts. The footpath continues past the tennis courts and then heads up a ramp and to the other side of the building at the bottom of the bobsled

#### 0.23 | Thredbo Bobsled

With a twisting and turning path more than 700m long, this luge-style track is a great summer activity for the family to enjoy whilst staying in Thredbo. Offering individual rides or day passes, allowing you to enjoy this fun ride as many times as you want as you whizz down the mountain on your cart, controlling your speed with a neat hand-break system. More info.

#### 0.23 | Bottom of bobsled run

(110 m 2 mins) Continue straight: From the bobsled building, this walk follows the paved footpath along side the bobsled run (to your left) whilst keeping the valley to your right. Soon the footpath leads into the bush and then comes to a three-way intersection marked with a 'Merritts Nature Track' sign (pointing up to the left).

#### 0.33 | Int east of bobsled run

(200 m 4 mins) Continue straight: From the intersection, this walk follows the paved footpath gently uphill, keeping the valley to your right. The path soon crosses a metal grate, then leaves the grove of trees to find a three-way intersection marked with a 'Merritts Nature Walk' sign.

Turn right: From the intersection, this walk heads away from the face of the 'Merritts Nature Walk' sign along the paved path with a handrail. The path soon leads down some steps to come to a 'T' intersection with a footpath beside Friday Drive, where there is a 'Merritts Nature Track' sign pointing back up.

## 0.53 | Int of Friday Drive and Merritts Nature Track

(40 m 1 mins) Turn right: From the intersection, this walk heads along the footpath to cross the bridge over Thredbo River, whilst keeping Friday Dr to your left. On the other side of the bridge the footpath immediately comes to an intersection marked with a 'Thredbo River' sign.

# 0.58 | Thredbo River sign

(1.1 km 21 mins) Turn sharp left: From the 'Thredbo River' sign, this walk crosses the road to the 'Pipeline Path' sign. Here the walk follows the 'Pipeline Path' sign down the track that soon flattens out and gently winds along the side of the hill. The track has a few sections of metal grates and passes several storm water drains. Following a pipeline, this track passes the round concrete maintenance lids at fairly regular intervals. As the track approaches the lake at the northern end, the views begin to open up, with great views over the wetlands and back into Thredbo. Just before the road, the track comes to a 'Y' intersection marked with an arrow post.

# 1.66 | Upper Pipeline Path junction

(130 m 2 mins) Continue straight: From the intersection, this walk follows the arrow post, down the steps towards the water. Soon the track flattens out and gently winds along the the shoreline (just below the road). The track then comes up to find an intersection with Friday Drive, just before 'Thredbo River' bridge, marked with a 'Pipeline Path' sign.

## 1.79 | Optional sidetrip to Snowmakers pond Picnic area

(40 m 1 mins) Turn left: From the intersection, this walk heads along the dirt trail away from the main road, keeping the pondage to your left. The trail soon leads to a car park and picnic area. At the end of this side trip, retrace your steps back to the main walk then Turn left.

#### 1.79 | Snowmakers pond Picnic area

Nestled between the Thredbo River and the Snowmakers pond (just of the side of Friday Drive), this picnic area is a great spot to rest and enjoy the water. There is a car park, a picnic table and some BBQ's on the grassy bank of the pond. The pond provides a place to swim (observe the signs) or to enjoy the quiet spot away from the main village.

## 1.79 | Snowmakers pond intersection

(1 km 19 mins) Continue straight: From the intersection, this walk heads west along Friday Dr immediately crossing the signposted 'Thredbo River'. The walk follows the narrow verge beside the road, passing a car park on your left after about 200m. Approximately 300m later, the walk crosses the road at the roundabout and follows the footpath past the buildings and back down to Friday Drive to an intersection just with a driveway just below the signposted 'Thredboland' building.

Continue straight: From the intersection, this walk follows the footpath

keeping Friday Dr to your left, heading away from the roundabout, to cross a bridge almost immediately. The walk continues along the side of the road past 'River Inn' and about 100m later passes the 'Thredbo Leisure Centre' (on the other side of the road). Just shy of 200m later this walk comes to an intersection with a set of steps signposted as 'Merritts Nature Track' (on your right), just before the Thredbo River bridge.

#### 2.8 | Int of Friday Drive and Merritts Nature Track

(530 m 11 mins) Turn right: From the intersection, this walk follows the 'Merritts Nature Track' sign up the steps and along the paved footpath, soon coming to a 'T' intersection marked with a 'Merritts Nature Walk' sign.

Turn left: From the intersection, this walk follows the 'Merritts Nature Walk' sign along the paved footpath, keeping the road and valley to your left. The path soon crosses a metal grate and heads through a grove of trees, coming to a three-way intersection marked with an arrow post (and a 'Merritts Nature Track' sign pointing up the steps the right).

Continue straight: From the intersection, this walk follows the paved footpath west towards the clearing, keeping the valley to your left. The footpath soon leads out of the bush and then along side the bobsled run to find the building at the bottom of the run.

Continue straight: From the bottom of the bobsled run, this walk heads around the building, down the ramp and along the sealed path towards the tennis courts. The walk follows the path beside the tennis courts, then through the car park, and around the front of the buildings to find the entrance to the ticket sales for the Kosciuszko Express chairlift, and a large map.