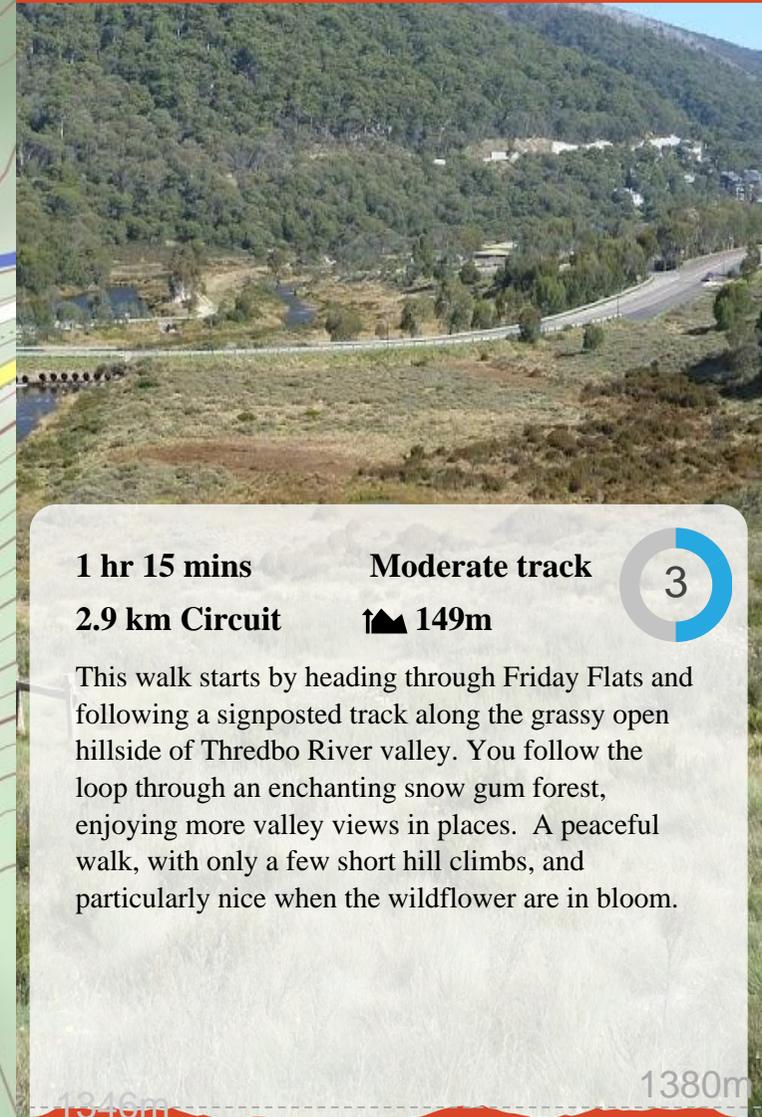


Bridle Trail Loop



1 hr 15 mins

Moderate track

3

2.9 km Circuit

▲ 149m

This walk starts by heading through Friday Flats and following a signposted track along the grassy open hillside of Thredbo River valley. You follow the loop through an enchanting snow gum forest, enjoying more valley views in places. A peaceful walk, with only a few short hill climbs, and particularly nice when the wildflower are in bloom.

1346m

1380m

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 Thredboland intersection (gps: -36.4995, 148.3114). 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 including; travel directions, weather, park closures and walker feedback at <http://wild.tl/btl>

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 | Thredboland intersection

(60 m 1 mins) From the intersection (on Friday Drive about 80m south of the roundabout), this walk follows the driveway up the hill, past 'Thredboland' to come to a large open area, Friday Flat. At the end of the sealed section of driveway is an intersection signposted with a 'Bridle Trail Loop' and a 'Merritts Traverse' sign.

0.06 | Friday Flat

Friday Flat is an open flat area at the Bottom of the Easy-Does-it and Gunbarrel chairlifts. Friday Flat is a hub for beginner and hungry skiers in winter. In summer, all the facilities are closed, but the web cam seems to run most of the time.

0.06 | Friday Flats

(100 m 2 mins) Turn right: From the intersection, this walk

follows the 'Bridle Trail Loop' sign across the large clearing of Friday Flats. The walk heads to the bottom of the 'Easy Does It' chairlift on the other side of the clearing.

0.16 | Bottom of Easy Does it

(270 m 6 mins) Turn left: From the bottom of the 'Easy Does It' chairlift, this walk heads up the grassy hill then follows the 'Bridle Trail Loop' sign along the track and past the small building. The walk continues on the grassy track along the side of the hill, following a couple of arrow posts over a metal grate then down to an intersection just before a flat bridge.

0.44 | Bridge intersection

(400 m 9 mins) Continue straight: From the intersection, this walk crosses the flat bridge and follows the track that leads over the small rise, whilst keeping the main valley to your left. The track leads along the edge of the snow gums and over a few small rises, coming to a large area open area just below the tree line and a 'Y' intersection marked with a 'Bridle Trail Loop' sign, just before two metal grates.

0.84 | Bridle Loop intersection

(590 m 12 mins) Veer right: From the intersection, this walk follows the 'Bridle Loop Trail' sign east along the lower of the two tracks (keeping the valley to your right, and the other track to your left). The track soon crosses over a metal grate and then comes close to the the upper track again - here the walk stays on the lower track and soon passes another 'Bridle Loop Trail' sign at a solitary snow gum. The track continues along the hillside, enjoying the clear views into the Thredbo River valley (to your right). The track soon enters a snow gum forest and continues to gently wind along the side of the hill, passing a few views to a pondage on Thredbo River (to your right). Passing a few arrow posts, the track soon bends left and heads over a hill to a small clearing with some broad-based snow gums. After rain, you may hear the sound of a small cascade nearby - there are also some views back across the valley to the Alpine Way.

1.42 | Bridle Loop Flat

About halfway around the Bridle Trail Loop, at the eastern extreme of the walk, is a small flat clearing. Surrounded by snow gums there is a view across the valley over the Thredbo River to the Alpine Way. In this sheltered spot, you will find a few tree endowed with Old Mans Beard (*Usnea australis*), a lichen. Like other lichens, this is actually a fungus and an alga living symbiotically. After rain, you can hear a small waterfall not too far away.

1.42 | Bridle Loop Flat

(1.5 km 35 mins) Continue straight: From the small clearing, this walk follows the clear track gently uphill into the forest of taller trees. The trail sweeps left, passing an arrow post, and then

climbs up through two switchback turns (first right then left). Here, the track continues to climb for a little longer over a rocky section. The track soon flattens out (ignoring the regenerating track to your right) then leads past another arrow post through the snow gum forest. Before long, the trail leaves the forest and the view of the Thredbo Valley opens up (to your left). The track leads across the open hillside (keeping the lower track not far to your left) and crosses a metal grate before coming to a four-way intersection marked by a 'Bridle Trail Loop' sign pointing back along the track.

Veer right: From the intersection, this walk follows the 'Bridle Trail Loop' track gently uphill (away from the other two tracks) keeping the main valley to your left. The track leads up into the snow gums and along the side of the hill, following a few arrow posts that soon lead down and across the flat bridge and to a 'Y' intersection.

Continue straight: From the intersection, this walk follows the upper track heading east, away from the bridge, keeping the lower track and valley to your left. The track soon leads over a metal grate and follows a couple of arrow post along the side of the hill. Soon after passing a small building, the track leads downhill past the 'Bridle Trail Loop' sign and down to the bottom of the 'Easy Does It' chairlift.

Turn right: From the bottom of the 'Easy Does It' chairlift, this walk heads in front of the buildings across the large clearing of Friday Flats. Just near the bottom on the 'Gunbarrel Express' chairlift, this walk comes to an intersection with a trail marked with a couple of signs including a 'Bridle Trail Loop' sign pointing back across Friday Flats.

Turn left: From the intersection, this walk follows the driveway down the hill, past 'Thredboland' to come to a 'T' intersection with Friday Drive (about 80m south of the roundabout).