



Visit

Coolah Tops National Park

Nature hosts the best stories

Bald Hills Creek Falls

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About the park

Sitting at the junction of the Warrumbungle and Liverpool ranges, Coolah Tops National Park is a beautiful landscape of giant grass trees and stands of huge snow gums. This striking area boasts waterfalls, ancient rock formations and spectacular lookouts. Birdwatchers should keep their eyes open, as Coolah Tops is home to an array of wildlife and birdlife. As you wander through the park, you might spot wallabies, eagles, greater gliders or even a rare owl.

The traditional Country of the Gamilaraay People, the national park protects both the cultural and natural values of the area. The National Parks and Wildlife Service works with communities to renew and protect Aboriginal culture in the park.



Coxs Creek Campground. Photo: N Cubbin

As you make your way through Coolah Tops you'll find evidence of bygone eras. Settlement in the area began shortly after botanist Alan Cunningham started exploring north-west NSW in search of new pastures. His discovery of nearby Pandoras Pass was crucial to the development of western NSW; you may discover traces of this pastoral past as you explore the park.

Wake up in Coolah Tops National Park

There are several options to choose from if you'd like to spend the night in Coolah Tops National Park. All campgrounds and accommodation have non-flush toilets, tables and wood barbecues, however drinking water is not available so it's a good idea to bring your own. Please note there are no showers.



The Barracks campground – Surrounded by towering gums, this lovely, shaded campground is an ideal base to explore the park's walks. Suitable for caravans, camper trailers and tents, it has limited untreated water.

The Pines campground – Set between a stand of tall pine trees and a grassy herb field, this large, flat camping area is a perfect spot to spread out and enjoy your stay. Suitable for caravans, camper trailers and tents.

Coxs Creek campground – Nestled among the tall eucalypts, you'll find this peaceful camping area close to a cascading waterfall. While you're here, don't forget to explore the nearby ruins of the old sawmill. Unsuitable for caravans.

Brackens Hut - Located on the edge of Norfolk Island Creek Swamp, this rustic accommodation sleeps up to 5 people and is a great base to discover the park's walking and cycling trails. There are no kitchen facilities or electricity, so you'll need to bring pots and pans and flashlights. Limited untreated water is available. Bookings are required and can be made online.



Norfolk Falls walk. Photo: Nicola Brookhouse/DPIE

Scenic drives

The Forest Road (30km)

This road runs through the heart of the forest, providing access to lookout points on the northern escarpment with panoramic views of the Liverpool Plains. The road is generally suitable for 2WD vehicles but is closed east of Hildegard Road in wet weather and is not recommended for caravans. Please note that The Forest Road east of the Hildegard Road intersection is closed during winter (June, July and August).

Talbragar River trail (10.8km)

Venture off The Forest Road and take Talbragar River trail to visit Talbragar Falls. This trail loops back onto The Forest Road. 4WD is recommended.

Gemini Loop Road (3km)

Take a detour off The Forest Road along Gemini Loop Road to visit Cattle Creek Hut and drive through the tall straight stringybarks. This trail loops back onto The Forest Road.

Lookouts

Breeza lookout

Located in the far south-east of the park you can enjoy the expanse of the Breeza Plain.

Bundella lookout

Sit back and take in the vast rural landscape of the Liverpool Plains and surrounding ranges. Picnic tables and wood barbecues are provided for you to relax and have lunch as you enjoy the breathtaking scenery. For a different view of the park, follow the walking track around to Pinnacle lookout walk.

Walking tracks

1 Norfolk Falls walk

Grade 3, steep

This 1.1km return walk takes 45 minutes and leaves from Norfolk Falls picnic area. Follow the short but steep track to the lookouts over the falls, and marvel at the 35m drop before returning the way you came. Alternatively, continue another 1.4km to visit Bald Hill Creek waterfall.

2 Pinnacle lookout walk

Grade 3, easy

This 1.6km return walk takes 45 minutes. Enjoy an easy stroll through woodlands before emerging onto an outcrop to spectacular views. This lookout has rocky edges so please take extra care while walking and ensure children are well supervised.

3 Bundella walk

Grade 3, moderate

From Bundella lookout you can explore the plateau further by taking the 6.6km Bundella track along the edge of the escarpment. This walk will take you 2 hours. You can return the same way or loop back via Racecourse Track (4.9km, 1.5hours and Grade 3 moderate), winding your way through tall sub-alpine forest.



Grass Tree walk. Photo: Michael Murphy

4 Grasstree walk

Grade 3, easy

This 1.4km return walking track takes 45 minutes and winds through centuries old grass trees. Make sure you allow lots of time to stop and take photos as this area is a haven for parrots and other wildlife.

5 Snow Gum walk

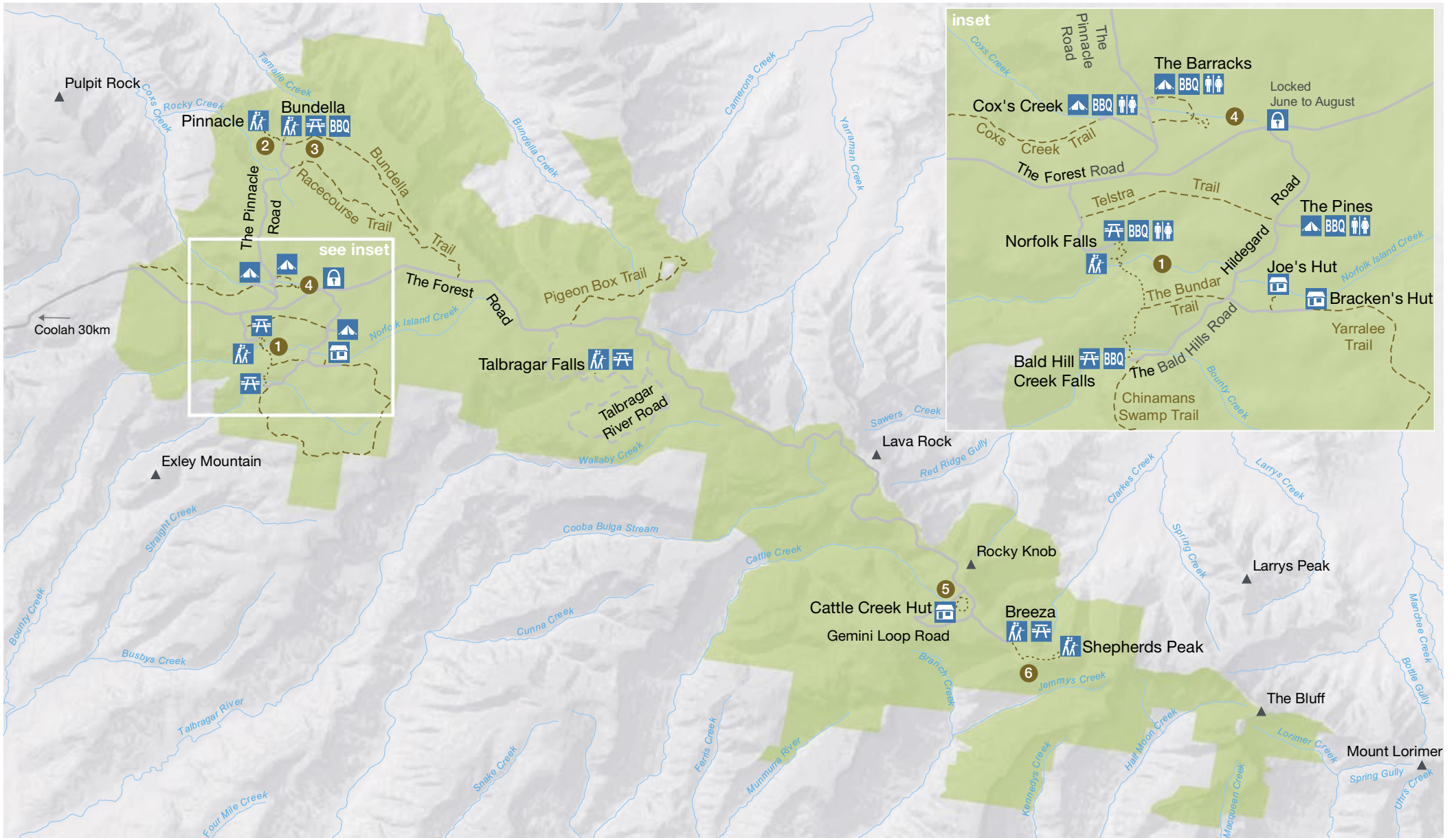
Grade 3, easy

This 1.2km return walk takes 45 minutes and runs through the south-east of the park where the snow gums are known for being enormous. Take this short stroll to see some of the largest known example of the species.

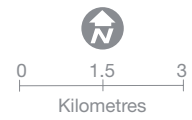
6 Shepherds Peak walk

Grade 3, moderate – steep

This basalt dome jutting out of the northern escarpment can be reached from Breeza lookout. This 3km return walk will take you 1–1.5 hours. The last section is a short but challenging scramble that is suitable for fit and experienced walkers only.



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|---------------------------|-------------------|--------------|-----------------------------|
| Coolah Tops National Park | Unsealed road 2WD | Lookout | Barbecue |
| Mount/peak/hill | Unsealed road 4WD | Camping area | Toilet |
| Feature walk | Management trail | Day use area | Gate - conditionally locked |
| | Walking track | Hut | |



MAP INFORMATION: This map does not provide detailed information on topography and landscape and may not be suitable for some activities.

Cycling

There is a network of management trails that make cycling a fantastic way to explore the park. Coxs Creek Trail, The Mullian Track, Racecourse Track and Bundella Track are some great trails to explore on your bicycle. When cycling through the park, please stay on roads and management trails. Riding on walking tracks is not permitted.

Staying safe in Coolah Tops National Park

- Coolah Tops can experience extreme weather, and conditions can change quickly. Whatever the time of year be prepared for cold weather.
- Snow gums are spectacular but they do lose branches. It's best to avoid walking tracks during high winds and stay out in the open, away from trees.
- Mobile phone coverage is unreliable. Try areas on the northern escarpment such as Bundella and Breeza lookouts or the information bay.



Bracken's Hut. Photo: Michael Sharp



Bundella lookout. Photo: Barry Collier

Caring for the park

The protection of our natural environment and cultural heritage depends on the cooperation of all who visit and enjoy national parks. Here are a few ways you can help:

- Please leave your pets at home. Domestic animals are not permitted in NSW National Parks.
- Please take your rubbish with you when you leave.
- Drive carefully. Vehicles, including motorbikes, must be registered and keep to the formed public roads. Bush driving is not permitted.
- Take care around Aboriginal sites, places of cultural significance and other protected areas.
- Remember all plants and animals are protected, and firearms are prohibited.
- Remember that smoking is not permitted in NSW National Parks.
- Observe any fire bans that are in place.

Australian Walking Track Grading System

- Grade 1** is suitable for people with a disability with assistance
- Grade 2** is suitable for families with young children
- Grade 3** is recommended for people with some bushwalking experience
- Grade 4** is recommended for experienced bushwalkers
- Grade 5** is recommended for very experienced bushwalkers

For more information visit nationalparks.nsw.gov.au or call 13000 PARKS

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