

#### 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. Experainced walkers only: This walk passes through very remote areas and sections have no visible track. At least one person in your group should have training and experience in off track walking and navigation. Even with these notes and a GPS these extra skills and equipment are required.

**Getting there** Traveling by car is the only practical way to get to Guthega Centre (gps: -36.3775, 148.3759). 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/1m">http://wild.tl/1m</a>

## 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 | Guthega

Guthega is a relatively small township, north of Perisher, and comprises mostly of hotel and lodge-style buildings. The most popular service in town is the Guthega Alpine Inn, open year round. The town is remote and access is by an all-weather dirt road. There are great views over the main range and the Guthega Pondage (part of the Snowy River Scheme). Guthega offers a great place to ski in winter, and to holiday in summer.

In summer, there is plenty of walking, mountain biking, fishing and relaxing to be done. Walkers please note - there is no public water supply in the township, please fill water bottle before coming (or be willing treat and use the creek water).

### 0 | Guthega Alpine Inn

Guthega Alpine Inn is on Guthega Road, about 500 metres past the base of the chairlift and 'Guthega Centre'. The hotel provides a year-round service including accommodation and meals. The hosts are friendly and the hotel provides a great base for walkers and other holiday makers. Please phone and book ahead for meals and accommodation. Phone 02 6457 5383 More info.

## 0 | Guthega Centre

(690 m 14 mins) From the car park in front of the Guthega Centre (before the main resort), this walk follows the road for a short distance east (out of town) then turns left and heads down along the management trail towards the dam. The walk soon passes a 'No Entry Authorised Vehicles Only' sign and then heads around the locked gate and down along the gravel road. The management trail gently winds down the hill, enjoying the views of the dam wall, and soon comes to a large clearing, some information signs and a building just before the dam wall).

## 0.69 | Guthega Pondage

Guthega Dam collects the water from Blue Cow Creek, Guthega River and the Snowy River. The dam has been built to provide the water and pressure to drive the Guthega Power Station. The water is carried to the power station via the Guthega pressure tunnel (and pipeline). This dam is 33m high and 137m across at the top, and stores up to 1550 megalitres of water.

# 0.69 | Southern end of Guthega Dam Wall

(410 m 8 mins) Continue straight: From the southern end of Guthega Dam wall, this walk follows the concrete road across the top of the dam wall, keeping the main pondage to your left. On the other side, the walk follows the management trail which, after about 100m, passes the 'Guthega Shaft' (a building on the left). About 150m later, the management trail leads to a three-way intersection (where the main trail bends right to head up the hill).

# 1.09 | Guthega Shaft intersection

(190 m 5 mins) Turn right: From the intersection, this walk heads uphill, directly away from the pondage along the wide management trail. The trail immediately bends right then winds up to an intersection with a track (on the left) on a flat clearing, just as the trail passes over the ridge line.

#### 1.28 | Bottom of Guthega Ridge

(1.6 km 50 mins) Turn left: From the intersection, this walk heads north along the foot pad that generally follows the ridge line uphill. The foot pad leads through low alpine heath and heads uphill moderately steeply. The foot pad leads through a few groves of dead snow gum trees then bends right, off the main ridge line, to cross a small creek-let. About 250m after passing a few live snow gums (through the open heath), the foot pad flattens out and comes to a small rocky outcrop (at 1860m AMSL) with great views (weather permitting) back over Guthega pondage and resort.

#### 2.89 | Guthega View

Guthega view is an informal lookout point, east of Guthega Trig. The flat area marked with a couple of boulders provides a great view (in clear weather) to the south, down the ridge to Guthega Village and dam. The area can be a great place to rest at the top of the ridge, giving a chance to enjoy the scattering of snow gums and if you look carefully in the grasses, you may spot some unusual fungus.

### 2.89 | Guthega View

(110 m 2 mins) Turn left: From the intersection, this walk heads west, following a faint foot pad up through the saddle and grove of trees. The walk tends left to the rocky outcrop and summit, where it finds the peak of Guthega Trig hill. The actual trig tower has fallen to the south-eastern side of the peak and is not visible until you are close.

## 3 | Guthega Trig

Guthega Trig is found on a granite outcrop at about 1865m (AMSL) between Guthega River and Falls Creek. In clear weather (which I did not have), there are great views down along Guthega River to Guthega Dam and the surrounding hills (Mount Twynam and Tate). The actual trig station has fallen off the top of the knoll and lies between some boulders on the eastern side of the outcrop.