KOSCIUSZKO NATIONAL PARK & THE SNOWY VALLEYS · NSW

Talbingo
The Complete Guide

History · Walks & Waterfalls · Things to Do in Every Season

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PART I · WELCOME

A Village Between Two Waters

Talbingo is the Snowy Mountains' best-kept secret for adventure — a small, peaceful village on the shores of Jounama Pondage at the edge of Kosciuszko National Park, one of Australia's most spectacular wilderness areas.

Wedged between Talbingo Reservoir and Blowering Dam on the Tumut River, and wrapped on three sides by national park and state forest, Talbingo packs a remarkable amount into a tiny footprint: exceptional trout fishing, water skiing and boating on Talbingo and Blowering dams, waterfall walks and gorge country, mountain biking, a nine-hole golf course, and the closest township base for Selwyn Snow Resort in winter.

It's also a town with an extraordinary story — born on a famous sheep station, drowned by a dam, rebuilt by the Snowy Scheme, and now at the centre of the nation's biggest renewable energy project. That story is where this guide begins.

410 m ELEVATION ABOVE SEA LEVEL	~220 PERMANENT RESIDENTS	3 WATERWAYS AT THE DOORSTEP
40 km SOUTH OF TUMUT	~2.5 hrs DRIVE FROM CANBERRA	~5 hrs DRIVE FROM SYDNEY

TALBINGO VILLAGE
SNOWY MOUNTAINS

PART II · HISTORY

The Talbingo *Story*

More than 21,000 years of history — with a whole township resting beneath the water.

DEEP TIME — PRESENT

Walgalu Country

Aboriginal people have occupied the Snowy Mountains region for more than 21,000 years. The upper Tumut is the country of the Walgalu people, with the Wiradjuri along the lower river and the Ngunnawal to the east — connected peoples whose trade routes, ceremonies and kinship ties ran through this valley. Each summer, groups travelled the river corridors past Talbingo into the high ranges for the great bogong moth gatherings on the peaks above today's walking trails.

Talbingo holds a direct link to this world: Yibai-Malian — known to Europeans as "Murray Jack, King of the Wolgal" — was born here, and became one of the most important recorded voices of mountain Aboriginal culture and law. European colonisation from the 1820s brought dispossession and displacement, but connection to country continues to the present day.

The town's name reflects both worlds. Long-time resident Jack Bridle explained "Talbingo" as the English word *tall* joined to an Aboriginal word meaning belly — look up at Mount Talbingo and you'll see the great belly of a man lying on his back, watching over the valley.

TALBINGO MOUNTAIN "BIG BELLY" WITH BLACK PERRY ON THE RIGHT

1850 — 1940S

Station Country & a Brilliant Career

European settlement arrived in 1850 when William Bridle took up the 10,000-acre Talbingo Run. From 1866 the Lampe family made Talbingo Station one of the best-known properties in the mountains — a homestead on the river flats framed by willows and poplars that blazed with colour every autumn.

This was the great era of high-country cattle grazing. Each summer, stockmen drove their cattle up from the valleys to fatten on the sweet snow-lease pastures of the high plains — Long Plain, Tantangara, Gooandra and beyond — returning before the snows closed the mountains again. **Talbingo was the drovers' last stop** before the long climb into the high country: a final night, a final meal and a final drink at the bottom of the mountain before the hard miles began. The grazing huts scattered through the ranges today — many featured later in this guide — are the surviving legacy of those droving summers, which continued until grazing leases in the park ended last century.

In October 1879, at that homestead, **Stella Miles Franklin** was born — author of *My Brilliant Career* at just nineteen, giant of Australian letters, and founder of the Miles Franklin Literary Award, still the nation's most prestigious literary prize. The old township that grew nearby was small but storied: the famous Talbingo Hotel welcomed stockmen, anglers and early motorists on the long climb to Yarrangobilly and Kiandra, and a post office opened in 1898.

> *"No other spot has ever replaced the hold on my affections or imagination of my birthplace."*
>
> MILES FRANKLIN · CHILDHOOD AT BRINDABELLA

1949 — 1968

The Town Beneath the Water

In 1949 Australia began the Snowy Mountains Hydro-electric Scheme — 25 years, 100,000 workers from more than 30 countries, sixteen major dams and seven power stations. The final, largest stage of the Scheme's Tumut development needed this valley: a giant dam upstream, a mighty power station at its foot, and a pondage directly over the old township.

Five families were displaced when the waters of Jounama Pondage closed over the hotel, the homestead flats and the birthplace of Miles Franklin in 1968. Look out over Jounama Pondage today, and you're looking at the roof of old Talbingo.

1965 — TODAY

Built by the Snowy — Twice

Today's township was built on higher ground by the Snowy Mountains Authority — a construction town that refused to disappear. The post office reopened in 1965, the Church of St Paul was consecrated in 1967, and the engineering that rose around the town still defines the district: Talbingo Dam (1968–71) was the largest dam in Australia on completion, and Tumut 3 Power Station (1973) remains the largest in the Scheme — Australia's pumped-storage pioneer, upgraded to 1,800 megawatts in 2012.

When the Authority left in 1991, the houses passed to anglers, skiers, retirees and holiday families, and tourism became the lifeblood of the village. And history has circled back: Snowy 2.0 — the biggest renewable energy project in the country — links Tantangara Reservoir to Talbingo Reservoir through 27 km of tunnels, making Talbingo a Snowy construction town all over again.

162 m	1,800 MW	27 km
TALBINGO DAM WALL HEIGHT	TUMUT 3 — LARGEST IN THE SCHEME	SNOWY 2.0 TUNNELS TO TANTANGARA

TUMUT 3 POWER STATION TALBINGO

TIMELINE

One Town, Many Lives

21,000+	Aboriginal occupation of the Snowy Mountains; Walgalu country and bogong moth routes through the valley
1850	William Bridle establishes the 10,000-acre Talbingo Run
1866	Talbingo Station passes to the Lampe family
1879	Miles Franklin born at the Talbingo Station homestead in October
1898	First Talbingo Post Office opens (closes 1913)
1949	Snowy Mountains Scheme construction begins
1967	Church of St Paul consecrated as a multi-faith Snowy church
1968	Old Talbingo flooded beneath Jounama Pondage; the new town rises above it
1971	Talbingo Dam complete — the largest dam in Australia
1973	Tumut 3 Power Station fully commissioned — largest in the Scheme
1991	The Snowy Mountains Authority departs; Talbingo becomes a tourism town
2017	Snowy 2.0 announced, with Talbingo Reservoir as its lower storage
Today	Around 220 residents — fishing, boating, walking and snow on the edge of Kosciuszko

THE OLD AND THE NEW TALBINGO HOTEL BEING DECONSTRUCTED IN THE FOREGROUND, AND TALBINGO VILLAGE BEING BUILT IN THE BACKGROUND

PART III · ON FOOT

Walks & *Waterfalls*

Ten walks — from creek-side strolls and waterfall lookouts to gorge country and Australia's greatest long-distance trails.

BEFORE YOU WALK

Grades & Good Sense

Walks are graded to the Australian Walking Track Grading System. Conditions in the mountains change quickly — always carry water, tell someone your plans, and check current alerts with NSW National Parks or the Tumut Visitor Centre (02 6947 7025) before remote walks.

Grade 3 — Moderate
Formed tracks, some hills and steps; suitable for most fitness levels.

Grade 4 — Challenging
Rough, steep tracks; bushwalking experience recommended.

Grade 5 — Difficult
Rough, unmarked terrain; for experienced, self-sufficient walkers.

Walk 01

Jounama Creek Track

LOCATION
Jounama Creek Campground, 3 km from Talbingo

DISTANCE
6 km return

GRADE
Grade 4

The closest bushwalk to town follows Jounama Creek up its forested valley to a large natural pool — a beautiful spot to cool off after the walk in. The track climbs steadily above the creek on a formed but demanding path, with the sound of water for company most of the way.

POINTS OF INTEREST

- → Creek-side natural swimming pool
- → Riverine forest and abundant birdlife
- → Campground and picnic facilities at the trailhead

Walk 02

Old Mountain Road Track

LOCATION
Near Jounama Creek Campground, 3 km from Talbingo

DISTANCE
4 km one-way

GRADE
Grade 4

Walk history itself: this track follows Talbingo Mountain's first road, cut in 1860 during the Kiandra gold rush. The climb is steep, but the reward is sweeping views of the Bogong Peaks Wilderness, Jounama Pondage and the shimmering expanse of Blowering Reservoir. In summer, purple kunzea and white tea tree bloom on the lower slopes, and yellow-tailed black cockatoos are frequent companions. Arrange a car shuttle, or return the same way with a detour to the creek pool.

POINTS OF INTEREST

- → Historic 1860 gold rush road route
- → Panoramas of Bogong Peaks, Jounama Pondage & Blowering Reservoir
- → Summer wildflowers and yellow-tailed black cockatoos

Walk 03

Buddong Falls

LOCATION

Buddong Falls Campground, ~20 km from Talbingo (4WD recommended)

DISTANCE

2.2 km return · 1.5 hrs

GRADE

Grade 4

Remote and spectacular, Buddong Falls is the waterfall jewel of the northern Kosciuszko foothills. The narrow, winding drive in through state forest is an adventure in itself — 4WD strongly recommended, especially in the wet. From the campground, an easy 400 m walk reaches a lookout above the **upper falls**, cascading 20 metres over smooth rock; the harder track continues to the **lower falls**, which tumble a spectacular 60 metres down granite and shale.

POINTS OF INTEREST

- → Upper falls (20 m) and lower falls (60 m cascade)
- → Remote campground and picnic area
- → A highlight of the Hume & Hovell Track

Walk 04

Landers Falls & Talbingo Mountain via the Cumberland Trail

LOCATION

Cumberland Trail carpark, off Snowy Mountains Hwy, ~10 km from Talbingo

DISTANCE

10.6 km return (2WD) · 1.6 km return (4WD, summer only) · 3.5–4.5 hrs

GRADE

Grade 3

One of the most rewarding walks in northern Kosciuszko, climbing through fragrant eucalypt forest to two extraordinary lookouts. **Talbingo Lookout** perches high above the valley with sweeping views over Talbingo Reservoir and the Bago Plateau; a further 300 m of rocky track reaches **Landers Falls Lookout** on the rim of a deep gorge, directly opposite the waterfall where Landers Creek bursts from the cliff face into the ravine below. In summer, 4WDs can drive the first 4.5 km, leaving just an 800 m walk; mountain bikers can ride to the 4WD carpark.

POINTS OF INTEREST

- → Landers Creek Falls plunging from the gorge wall
- → Talbingo Lookout over the reservoir & Bago Plateau
- → Rare Tingiringi Gum at the lookout platform

CLARKE GORGE
BLUE WATERHOLES
KOSCIUSZKO NATIONAL PARK

Walk 05

Blowering Cliffs Walk

LOCATION

Log Bridge Creek picnic area, ~20 km from Talbingo via Snowy Mountains Hwy

DISTANCE

5 km return · 2–3 hrs

GRADE

Grade 4

A challenging climb through open montane forest on the northeastern shore of Blowering Reservoir, with views of the water and the imposing granite cliffs growing with every step. The track descends to a bridge where **Blowering Falls** trickles down the granite cliff face; continue 200 m along the cliff base over fallen rock slabs for the most dramatic views. Wildlife is everywhere — mobs of eastern grey kangaroos, emus and wallabies graze the open forest, with honeyeaters, firetails and raptors overhead.

POINTS OF INTEREST

- → Blowering Falls on the granite cliffs
- → Kangaroos, emus and wallabies in open forest
- → Reservoir views and lakeside camping nearby

Walk 06

Hume & Hovell Walking Track

LOCATION

Multiple access points — Yellowin Access Rd near Jounama Pondage is closest to town

DISTANCE

426 km full track · day sections from 4 km

GRADE

Grade 4

One of Australia's great long-distance walks, stretching 426 km from Yass to Albury along the route of the 1824 Hume and Hovell expedition — with Talbingo right on its path. The section running south toward Tumbarumba is among the finest of the whole track: roughly 85% single track through diverse forest, with Buddong Falls as its centrepiece. You don't need weeks — locals love the 4 km riverside stretch along the Goobarragandra River between Thomas Boyd Trackhead and the Jack Cribb Suspension Bridge.

POINTS OF INTEREST

- → Historic 1824 explorers' route with 17 campgrounds
- → Buddong Falls centrepiece on the Talbingo–Tumbarumba section
- → Over 100 footbridges across alpine streams

Walk 07

Clarke Gorge, Blue Waterholes

LOCATION

Blue Waterholes, via Long Plain Rd (seasonal closure), ~60 min from Talbingo

DISTANCE

5 km return

GRADE

Grade 5

The high plains' most dramatic short walk. From the startlingly turquoise Blue Waterholes, the track follows Cave Creek into Clarke Gorge between towering limestone cliffs, criss-crossing the creek (water shoes recommended) to reach **Cave Creek Falls**. This is true karst country — expect sculpted rock, clear spring-fed water, and one of the most photogenic gorges in the park.

POINTS OF INTEREST

- → Turquoise spring-fed Blue Waterholes
- → Limestone cliffs and Cave Creek Falls
- → Multiple creek crossings through the gorge

Walk 08

Nichols Gorge, Blue Waterholes

LOCATION

Blue Waterholes, via Long Plain Rd (seasonal closure), ~60 min from Talbingo

DISTANCE

7 km loop

GRADE

Grade 4

The companion loop to Clarke Gorge explores the karst landscape from above and within — winding through Nichols Gorge past sinkholes and limestone outcrops to the mouths of **Cooleman Cave** and **Murrays Cave**. Bring at least two light sources if you plan to explore the cave entrances, and allow time to simply sit by the creek: the water clarity here is extraordinary.

POINTS OF INTEREST

- → Cooleman Cave and Murrays Cave entrances
- → Karst sinkholes and limestone country
- → Crystal-clear Cave Creek

Walk 09

Yarrangobilly Caves River Track

LOCATION

Yarrangobilly Caves, ~35–40 min from Talbingo (park entry fees apply)

DISTANCE

3 km loop

GRADE

Grade 3

The perfect half-day outing: a gentle loop linking the famous **thermal pool** — a constant 27°C year-round, even in snow — with the Yarrangobilly River walk and the self-guided **South Glory Cave**. Combine it with the Castle Cave Walk, which passes through the scenic Mill Creek Gorge, or book a guided tour of the show caves at the visitor centre. One of the most family-friendly adventures in the entire park.

POINTS OF INTEREST

- → 27°C thermal pool, swimmable year-round
- → South Glory Cave self-guided walk & guided cave tours
- → Castle Cave Walk & Mill Creek Gorge nearby

Walk 10

The Australian Alps Walking Track

LOCATION

Crosses Kosciuszko NP; northern trailhead at Tharwa near Canberra

DISTANCE

655 km · Walhalla (VIC) to Tharwa (ACT)

GRADE

Grade 5

Australia's epic: 655 km along the spine of the high country from Walhalla in Victoria to Tharwa near Canberra, crossing the length of Kosciuszko National Park and summiting Mt Kosciuszko itself. A serious, self-sufficient expedition of several weeks — but the sections through northern Kosciuszko near Talbingo make superb multi-day tasters for experienced walkers.

POINTS OF INTEREST

- → Summit of Mt Kosciuszko, Australia's highest peak
- → The full traverse of the Australian Alps
- → Accessible section walks in northern Kosciuszko

HERITAGE ON FOOT

Huts of the High Country

Scattered through the forests and plains around Talbingo are the huts — humble shelters left by graziers, gold miners and water gaugers, lovingly cared for today by NSW National Parks and the volunteers of the Kosciuszko Huts Association. Several were lost in the January 2020 fires and have since been painstakingly rebuilt, timber by timber. Visiting them is one of the great quiet pleasures of the high country — from huts in the hills just behind town to the historic hut trail of Long Plain and Tantangara, an easy drive up the mountain.

Buddong Hut

- → Bago State Forest, just off Buddong Road near Buddong Falls
- → Built around 1925 (for £90!) to house workers monitoring Buddong Creek water levels
- → Camping permitted around the hut — combine with the falls walk

Vickerys Hut

- → Beside Jounama Creek, via an unmarked fire trail off the Snowy Mountains Hwy
- → 1938 interlocking-log cabin built by graziers Ross & Noel Vickery — its front door came from the Wynyard Hotel in Tumut
- → Lost in the January 2020 fires; beautifully rebuilt in 2023

Jounama Homestead

- → West of Yarrangobilly, in the hills behind Talbingo
- → Built for cattle and sheep grazing in the station era
- → Burnt in the 1950s, restored, and burnt again in the 1970s — visit today as a historic site

Four Mile Hut

- → Beside Four Mile Creek, an easy walk or ski ~7 km from Kiandra
- → Built 1937 by gold miner Bob Hughes — the only intact miners' hut of the Kiandra goldfields
- → Destroyed in 2020, rebuilt in 2024 by NPWS with Kosciuszko Huts Association & NSW Nordic Ski Club volunteers

Coolamon Hut

- → Historic grazing-era hut in the high country near Talbingo
- → A quieter, lesser-known stop on the hut trail
- → Ask at the Tumut Visitor Centre for current access details

Ravine Hotel Ruins, Lobs Hole

- → Lobs Hole valley, east of Talbingo Reservoir on the Yarrangobilly River
- → Built 1874 and extended 1905 to serve the Lobs Hole mines and the Kiandra road — now an evocative mudbrick ruin
- → Currently closed to the public — the Lobs Hole valley sits inside the Snowy 2.0 construction area; check access with NPWS before planning a visit

Long Plain Homestead

- → Long Plain Road, on the vast treeless frost plain at the Murrumbidgee headwaters
- → A grand old homestead from Long Plain's grazing heyday, when Rules Point Hotel was the heart of the plain
- → Popular camping spot and the perfect base for exploring the plain's hut trail

Hains Hut

- → Beside the Murrumbidgee River, just above Tantangara Reservoir
- → Built 1948 by grazier Herb Hain — famed finder of the lost Southern Cloud aircraft — from materials pre-cut in Cooma
- → Home to a huge Australian cedar kitchen table, originally from Gooandra Homestead, that seats 24

Gooandra Homestead

- → Above Tantangara Plain north of Kiandra — about 5 km in from the Snowy Mountains Hwy on the Gooandra trail
- → Built for grazing in 1913 on the old Gooandra goldfield country
- → An easy walk or mountain bike ride in from the highway

Witzes Hut

- → On Long Plain, along the plain's historic hut trail
- → Built in 1952 by Clarrie Butler using the remains of a nearby 1880s homestead — the original had four rooms and a hall
- → Classic corrugated-iron grazing hut of the high plains

HUT ETIQUETTE

The huts are emergency shelters and heritage treasures, not bookable accommodation — camp nearby rather than planning to sleep inside. Leave every hut cleaner than you found it, replace any firewood you use, sign the log book, and take all rubbish out with you. Roads to several huts are 4WD-only and some close seasonally — check conditions before you go.

LOCAL KNOWLEDGE — MILK CREEK FALLS

Locals also speak of the **Milk Creek Falls Walk** near Talbingo — a lesser-known track that doesn't yet appear in official NSW National Parks publications or trail databases. For current directions and conditions, ask at the Tumut Visitor Centre (02 6947 7025) before setting out.

WALKER'S NOTES

Road access: Buddong Falls and Blue Waterholes require 4WD in wet conditions. Long Plain Rd (Blue Waterholes) closes from the June long weekend to the October long weekend.

In the park: Dogs are not permitted in Kosciuszko National Park; park entry fees apply in some areas including Yarrangobilly. Some tracks were impacted by the 2019–20 bushfires — check current conditions before you go.

Caves & gorges: Carry two light sources for Blue Waterholes cave walks; water shoes recommended for Clarke Gorge creek crossings.

Snakes: Venomous snakes — including eastern brown, tiger and red-bellied black — are active from spring through to autumn, especially on warm days near water and in long grass. Wear boots and long trousers, stay on the track, and watch where you step and place your hands. Snakes will almost always move away if given the chance: never approach or handle one. If bitten, apply a pressure immobilisation bandage, keep the person still, and call 000.

LONG PLAIN HOMESTEAD

PART IV · THROUGH THE YEAR

Things to Do *by Season*

Four seasons, four completely different holidays — all from the same little town.

DECEMBER — FEBRUARY

Summer · On the Water

Summer is Talbingo at full throttle — the town swells with families, boats line the foreshore, and Talbingo and Blowering dams offer everything from glassy morning ski runs to lazy afternoon swims.

- → **Water ski & wakeboard** on Talbingo Reservoir and Blowering Dam
- → **Swim** at the Talbingo Dam swimming area
- → **Kayak, canoe & SUP** — on Talbingo Reservoir & Blowering Dam only
- → **Fish** for brown & rainbow trout and natives
- → **Tennis** at the Talbingo Country Club courts
- → **Bushwalk** the cooler high-country tracks (Blue Waterholes at its best)
- → **Gravel & mountain bike** the high-country fire trails
- → **Explore historic mountain huts** across the high plains
- → **4WD touring** to Tantangara Dam and the high plains
- → **Camp** lakeside along the Blowering foreshore

MARCH — MAY

Autumn · Golden Highlands

Autumn turns the valleys gold — the willows and poplars planted by the early settlers still set the district ablaze, just as they did in Miles Franklin's childhood. It's the connoisseur's season: crisp air, quiet trails and superb fishing.

- → **Fly fish** the mountain streams in prime conditions
- → **Drive** the Snowy Valleys scenic routes in full colour
- → **Mountain bike** the foreshore track & skills park
- → **Soak** in the Yarrangobilly thermal pool
- → **Walk** Clarke & Nichols Gorges before winter closure
- → **Lookout** panoramas from Black Perry Lookout
- → **Horse riding in the high country** — and watch for brumbies
- → **Sculpture Trail** at Sir William Hudson Park

TALBINGO BEACH SWIMMING AREA & BOAT RAMP

JUNE — AUGUST

Winter · Snow & Slopes

When the snow arrives, Talbingo becomes the gateway town — the closest true village base for Selwyn Snow Resort, without resort prices. Days on the slopes, evenings by the fire.

- → **Ski & snowboard** at Selwyn Snow Resort (45 min)
- → **Hire gear** in town from Go Play Outside
- → **Snowplay & toboggan** — perfect for young families
- → **Cross-country ski** the historic Kiandra plains
- → **Winter fishing** on the dams (check stream closures)
- → **Cosy up** at the Country Club bar
- → **Thermal pool** — 27°C water while snow falls around you
- → **Storm watch** over the reservoir from town

SEPTEMBER — NOVEMBER

Spring · Wildflowers & Water

Spring brings wildflowers to the park, warming waters to the dams, and the town's signature event — the skirl of pipe bands echoing across Jounama Dam at the Talbingo Tattoo.

- → **Wildflower walks** through Kosciuszko National Park
- → **Landers Falls Lookout** with the falls in full spring flow
- → **Boating** as the waters warm
- → **Golf** the scenic 9-hole course
- → **Jounama Classic** — the annual fishing competition
- → **Talbingo Tattoo** — pipe bands by Jounama Dam each November
- → **Snowy heritage** — Tumut 3 displays & viewing area
- → **Wineries & distilleries** of the Snowy Valleys
- → **Snowy Valleys Wellness Drive**

SNOW PLAY

SELWYN SNOW RESORT

Don't Miss

Nearby Attractions

- → Yarrangobilly Caves & thermal pool — 40 min
- → Blowering Dam — boating, fishing & picnics, 15 min
- → Black Perry Lookout — wilderness panoramas, 10 min
- → Tumut 3 Power Station — viewing area & displays, 5 min
- → Talbingo Dam — swimming area & boat ramp, 10 min
- → Selwyn Snow Resort — 45 min in winter
- → Blue Waterholes — high plains karst country, 60 min

Annual Events

- → Talbingo Country Club Fireworks Display — every June long weekend
- → Talbingo Tattoo — pipe bands from NSW, VIC & ACT each November beside Jounama Dam
- → Jounama Classic — the annual fishing competition on Jounama Pondage

In the Village

Food & Stay

- → Talbingo Country Club & Motel — public bar & The Happy Chilli Garden Chinese restaurant
- → Talbingo Lodge — accommodation
- → Talbingo Mountain Retreat — accommodation
- → Spicer Street Units — accommodation
- → Basecamp — burritos, tacos, gelato & coffee, year-round; plus the evening van
- → Talbingo Tourist Park — cabins, camping & amenities
- → Jounama Creek campsite — creekside camping just out of town
- → Blowering foreshore campsites — lakeside camping along the reservoir
- → Yarrangobilly Village campsite — riverside camping at the historic village site
- → Numerous holiday houses — usually available for booking on Airbnb or Stayz

Play & Essentials

- → Go Play Outside — ski & snowboard hire in winter; year-round outdoor gear hire
- → Mountain Merch — Talbingo apparel & souvenirs
- → 9-hole golf course, open 7 days
- → Mountain Bike Skills Park & foreshore trailhead
- → Bridle walking & bike track
- → Tennis courts at the Talbingo Country Club
- → Talbingo Service Station — fuel 24/7, pay at the pump
- → Primary school & Church of St Paul
- → Playgrounds at Bingi Park, Bridle Street Park & Pether Street

Getting Here

Talbingo sits on the Snowy Mountains Highway in the Snowy Valleys. There's no public transport — a car is essential.

FROM

Sydney

~5 hrs · 450 km

Hume Highway to Gundagai, then the Snowy Mountains Highway through Tumut.

FROM

Canberra

~2.5 hrs · 200 km

West via Cooma, then north along the Snowy Mountains Highway.

FLY INTO

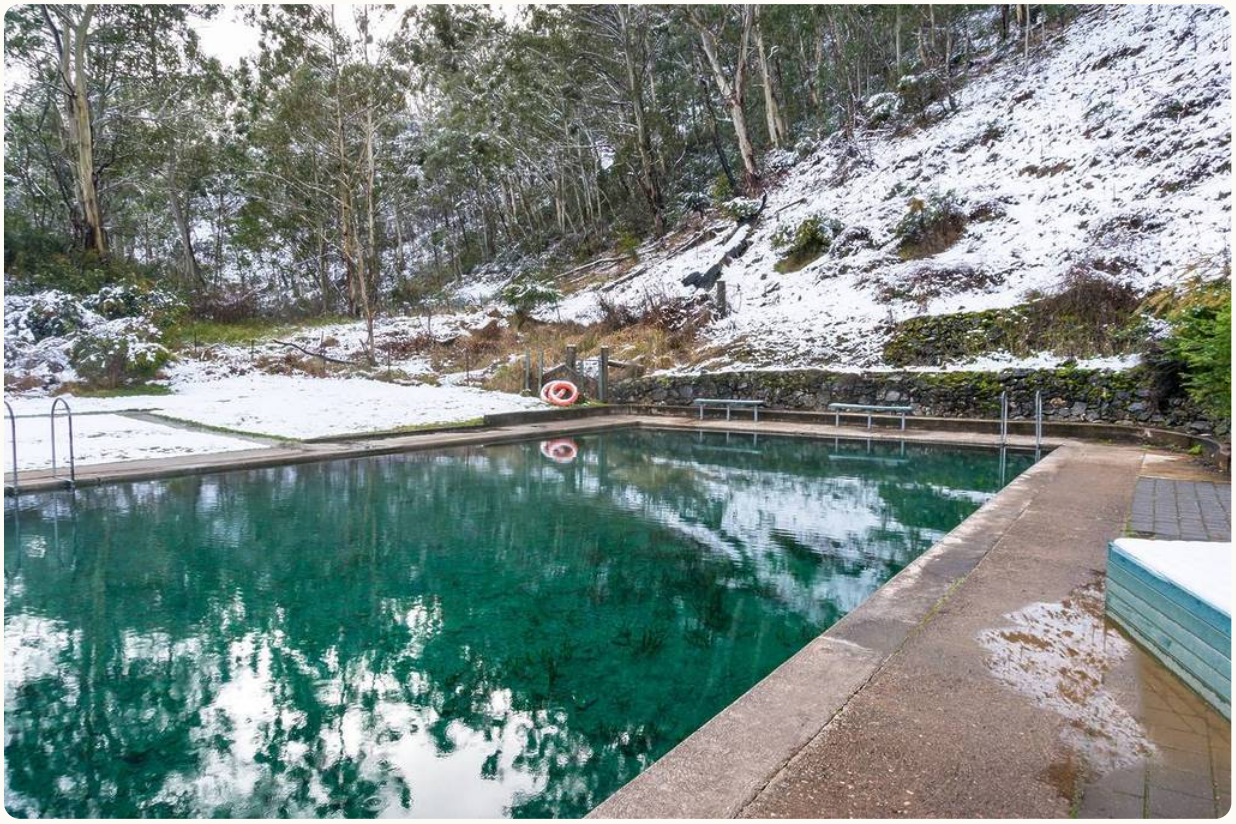
Wagga Wagga

~2 hrs by car

Daily flights from Sydney; hire a car at the airport for the drive south.

GOOD TO KNOW

Fuel up in Tumut or Talbingo — the Talbingo Service Station has fuel available 24/7, pay at the pump — as stations are sparse deeper in the mountains. Snow chains may be required on mountain roads in winter — hire them from Go Play Outside in Talbingo, as no chains are available in Tumut. Mobile coverage is limited, so download offline maps. Kosciuszko NP camping must be booked via NSW National Parks. Tumut, 40 km north, has the nearest larger shops and services.



YARRANGOBILLY THERMAL POOL

KOSCIUSZKO NATIONAL PARK

PART VI · FEATURED LOCALS

Meet the *Locals*

The people and places that make a Talbingo trip run smoothly — gear, advice and a good coffee, right in the village.

FEATURED LOCAL · GEAR & ADVENTURE

Go Play Outside

TALBINGO SHOPPING CENTRE · LAMPE STREET

goPLAYoutside

"Skip the resort queues. Save money. Hit the snow faster."

For a quarter of a century, this family-run mountain sports shop has been the smart first stop for anyone heading up to Selwyn Snow Resort — the last gear stop in the valley, just five minutes off the Snowy Mountains Highway before the climb begins. Lower prices than the resorts, faster service, and staff who actually know the mountain: current weather, snow and road reports are on hand in store, along with honest advice on what they really mean for your day.

The fit is the difference. A 3D foot scanner dials in the perfect boot, sizes run from toddler to adult 10XL, and families and groups are the specialty — no booking too small or too big. Book online to save on walk-in prices and your gear will be ready to try on when you arrive; staying in Talbingo, you can collect it the afternoon before at no extra cost. There's even a Wintersteiger tuning workshop on site for stone-grinding, edge work, waxing and base repairs on your own gear.

And when the snow melts, the adventure doesn't stop — mountain bikes, fat bikes, kayaks and stand-up paddleboards keep the hire racks busy all summer on the trails and waterways at the town's doorstep.

- → **Ski & snowboard hire** — full packages, toddler to adult
- → **Snow play hire** — clothing, boots, helmets, toboggans
- → **Snow chains** — recommended by TfNSW, NPWS & Police; not available in Tumut
- → **Snowshoes & snow (fat) bikes** for winter exploring
- → **3D boot fitting** & Wintersteiger gear servicing
- → **Summer hire** — mountain bikes, kayaks & SUPs
- → **Retail essentials** — gloves, goggles, thermals, fishing & bike gear
- → **Online booking discounts** — bigger savings for families & groups
- → **Talbingo merch** — stickers, hoodies, t-shirts & hats

THE DETAILS

WHERE
Shop 3, Talbingo Shopping Centre, Lampe Street, Talbingo

PHONE
(02) 6936 0951

HOURS
Open 7 days in snow season, 7am–7pm, extended peak-period trading

BOOK
goplayoutside.com.au — book online & save

LOCAL TIP
Staying in town? Collect gear the afternoon before, free

Few places in Australia hold so much history in so small a footprint — and nowhere else keeps a whole chapter of it beneath the water you'll ski, fish and paddle today.

TALBINGO · KOSCIUSZKO NATIONAL PARK & THE SNOWY VALLEYS

Tumut Visitor Centre 02 6947 7025 · nationalparks.nsw.gov.au · humeandhovelltrack.com.au

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