TUMUT RIVER
Canoe & Kayak Trail
Tumut to Gundagai
Welcome to the Tumut River Canoe and Kayak Trail.

This is a canoe or kayak trip down one of Australia's inland rivers which enables you to enjoy the true beauty of our rural countryside and vast river systems.

There are many Crown land reserves along the trail where you can camp overnight, or stop for a well earned break.

The Tumut River

The Tumut River is a major tributary of the Murrumbidgee River, which, with the Murray and Darling Rivers, drains the huge Murray Darling basin.

The Tumut River rises in the Snowy Mountains where the Snowy Mountain Hydro Electric Scheme captures and diverts much of the annual snow melt from these mountains into tunnels and dams that feed the Tumut River. The huge Lake Blowering is the last of these dams and holds water for release down the Tumut River during summer months for irrigation further down stream.

The Tumut River Canoe and Kayak Trail starts underneath the Blowering Dam wall, and follows the river to its junction with the Murrumbidgee River just up stream of Gundagai. The regular flow out of the Blowering Dam during summer months and the picturesque rural landscape in this area makes the Tumut River one of the very best canoeing trips available.

Degree of difficulty

The Tumut River with normal summer flows is not a beginners’ river. The moving water is classified as Grade 1 rapid. The water is deep and cold. Canoeists should wear a helmet, avoid trees and fixed objects that can trap your canoe and be aware of hypothermia if you capsize. Canoeing skills and some experience is needed to handle this moving water. Some sections are quite long and depending on flow may take greater than five hours of paddling. A reasonable level of fitness is required.

Canoe & kayak maps and notes

These canoe and kayak trail maps have been prepared by the NSW Land and Property Management Authority to help you plan your trip down the Tumut River. The distance to Gundagai by the river is some 95 kms. Once at Gundagai you can continue your trip down stream using the Murrumbidgee Canoe Trail Maps.

Access to the river is via Crown land reserves which are shown on the maps, together with a suggested route for support vehicles following canoeists.
HOW TO GET TO TUMUT

From Sydney
Take the Hume Hwy (31) south to Gundagai
Approx 3.5 hrs driving time

From Canberra
Take the Barton Hwy (25) north to the Hume Hwy
Approx 2.2 hrs driving time

From Wagga Wagga
Take the Sturt Hwy (20) east to the Hume Hwy
Approx 1.1 hrs driving time

From Albury
Take the Hume Hwy (31) north to Gundagai
Approx 3.5 hrs driving time

Gundagai to Tumut
Approx 30 mins driving time
The canoe and kayak trail starts at Jones Bridge Reserve, on the road to the Blowering Dam wall. The reserve is about 10 kms south of the town of Tumut. See the How to get there map for directions to Tumut from NSW centres.

8 kms south of Tumut on the Snowy Mountains Highway turn right to the Blowering Dam wall. 1.5 kms from the intersection you will pull off to the left next to the Tumut River and the site of the old bridge. This is the launching site and start of the trail.

Starting GPS location
GDA 55H 614249/6084843

Camping
Camping is NOT permitted on this reserve.

Canoe and kayak hire
Slide n Ride in Tumut – Phone 02 6947 6225.
Email: slidenride@westnet.com.au

Facilities
There are currently no facilities.

Accommodation
Accommodation is plentiful in Tumut with a full range of motels and hotels. The Riverglade Caravan Park is one of the access points to the river for canoeists and offers a full range of accommodation (02) 6947 2528.

Meals
Tumut has a selection of cafes, restaurants and fast food options.

Visitor information
The Tumut Visitor Information Centre is on the Snowy Mountains Highway on the north side of Tumut (02) 6947 7025.

ABOUT GPS (Global Positioning System)

- To help you locate the reserves along the river each reserve has GPS reference coordinates. The coordinates are based on the GDA datum. Your GPS should be set up to Position: UTM/UPS; Datum: GDA (or WGS); Units: Metric; North Reference: True.
- The coordinates refer only to the zone you are in. You must state the zone if contacting emergency services. The Tumut River Canoe Trail is in zone 55H.
Destination
Rivercrest Road Reserve (or alt. Riverglade Caravan Park)

GPS location
GDA 55H 0611572/6097174 (or alt. GDA 55H 0611064/6093666)

River distance
12.5 km (alt. 6.5 km)

Paddling time
Approx 2.2 hrs (alt. 1.3 hrs)

Camping
Camping is not permitted on this reserve without permission. Please contact Rivercrest Retreat on 0419 466 902 prior to arrival (alt. all camping options)

Facilities
There are no facilities (please take your rubbish with you)

Vehicle access
Turn right off Gocup Rd 4.5 km out of town then right a further 700 m

Accommodation
Rivercrest Retreat 0419 466 907
Riverglade Caravan Park 02 6947 2528
Motel and hotel options in Tumut (7 km)

Meals
Tumut has a selection of cafes, restaurants and fast food options (7 km)
**BRUNGLE BRIDGE RESERVE TO THE JUNCTION**

**Destination**
Road frontage to the river is available just downstream of the junction with the Murrumbidgee River

**GPS location**
GDA 55H 605847/6124546

**River distance**
23.0 km

**Paddling time**
Approx 4.5 hrs

**Camping**
Not permitted, access point only

**Facilities**
No facilities

**Vehicle access**
Via Tarrabandra Road

**Accommodation**
Nearest in Gundagai (14 km)

**Meals**
Nearest meals in Gundagai (14 km)

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**THE JUNCTION TO GUNDAGAI COMMON**

**Destination**
Gundagai Common, 20 m upstream of the old road bridge on the RHS or, just after the old rail bridge on the left hand side. The latter has the best landing but is not as convenient to the caravan park or town.

**GPS location**
GDA 55H 0601055/6118088

**River distance**
18.0 km

**Paddling time**
Approx 3.5 hrs

**Camping**
Camping is not permitted on the common
Camp at the Riverside Caravan Park (02) 6944 1702

**Facilities**
Facilities are available at the Caravan Park or in Gundagai (2 km)

**Vehicle access**
Via grassed river flats (dry weather only)

**Accommodation**
Gundagai has a good range of hotels, motels and cabins

**Meals**
Wide range of options are available in Gundagai and along the Hume Highway in South Gundagai

**Visitor information**
Gundagai Visitor Information Centre (02) 6944 1341
For Gundagai to Wagga Wagga, see Murrumbidgee River Canoe Trail
**SAFE CANOEING CHECKLIST**

### Before you go
- Always check the river levels BEFORE your trip. Daily river levels are available on [www.waterinfo.nsw.gov.au](http://www.waterinfo.nsw.gov.au)
- Always let someone know of your trip plans and ensure your support vehicle is aware of your intended rendezvous point and how to get there
- Canoeists/kayakers should be proficient in moving water. Beginners and children should become competent canoeists/kayakers on still water before attempting moving water
- GPS coordinates have been supplied to help you locate the reserves. Set up your GPS for the GDA datum and enter the coordinates of the reserves in advance
- Ensure you have enough fuel, food and water for the trip

### On the river
- Make sure you have all your gear when you set off as the river’s flow may be too strong to paddle back upstream
- Avoid travelling alone and stay in contact with other canoes/kayaks in your group
- Be alert for hazardous overhanging willows and snags
- If you capsize, hold on to your canoe or kayak until you can beach safely. If the water is freezing leave your craft and head for the bank immediately
- If in doubt about a rapid or obstacle ahead pull into the bank and check on foot
- Mobile phone reception is not always reliable along the canoe & kayak trails
- To avoid overheating, paddle early in the morning or late evening with a break in the hottest part of the day
- To fish in NSW waters, you must pay a fee and carry the receipt showing payment. For more information visit [www.dpi.nsw.gov.au](http://www.dpi.nsw.gov.au)

### Safety gear
- A high visibility Personal Floatation Device - Type 2 with a whistle attached should be worn at all times on the water
- Hat and sunscreen
- Map, compass and GPS
- Spare paddle and repair kit
- Adequate drinking water and food for 5-8 hrs
- A first-aid kit and basic knowledge of CPR
- Waterproof containers for food and warm/dry clothing
- Appropriate footwear for water and rocks
- All canoes/kayaks should have fixed buoyancy with securing loops at each end
- A rope or throw line should be carried for rescue purposes

### At the campsite
- Practice low impact camping – take out what you take in
- Do not drink the river water without boiling or treating it. Carry adequate supplies of drinking water with you
- Light fires in fire places provided and extinguish completely before leaving. Observe any fire bans that are in place
- Bury your waste at least 50 m from the river if there are no toilets
- Do not interfere with vegetation, gates, fences or stock
- Do not use soaps or detergents in the river
- Respect other canoeists/kayakers and campers

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Canoe & kayak trail is published by NSW Land and Property Management Authority

This booklet is designed as a reference guide only and is not to be used as a teaching aid. Canoeists/kayakers use the trail at their own risk.
For other great holiday ideas visit www.lpma.nsw.gov.au