

# WATERFALL VALLEY REDEVELOPMENT



## Frequently asked questions

The Tasmania Parks and Wildlife Service is beginning a three year project to improve accommodation for walkers on the Overland Track.

Construction of the Waterfall Valley walkers' hut will take place from November 2019 through to May 2020, and as a result the Waterfall Valley Hut is closed for the duration of the construction period to ensure walkers safety.

The first night accommodation on the Overland Track has been diverted to the Scott-Kilvert Hut node while construction occurs at Waterfall Valley.

### Where is Scott-Kilvert Hut node?

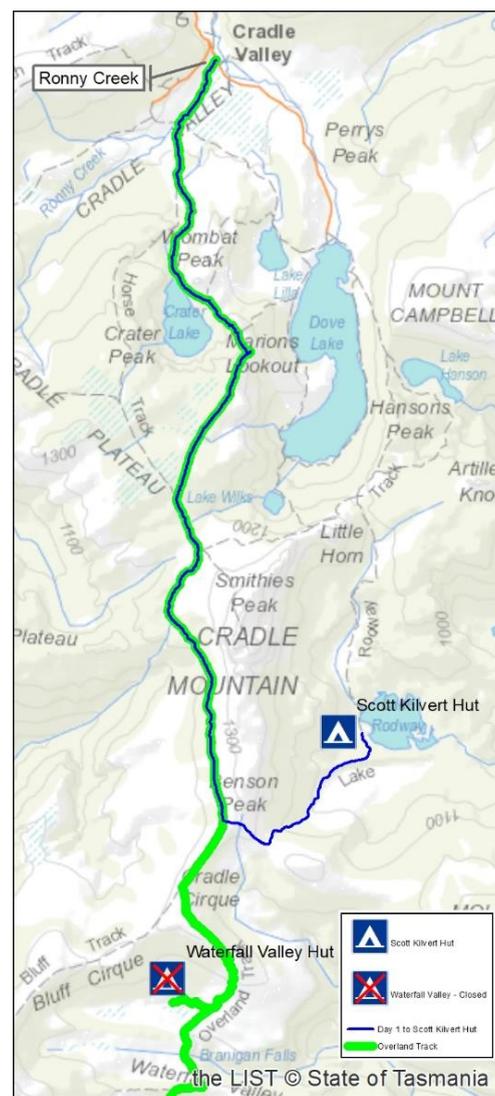
The Scott-Kilvert hut is located on the banks of Lake Rodway with impressive views of the eastern face of Cradle Mountain.



**Scott-Kilvert Hut**

The Track to Scott-Kilvert Hut turns off the Overland Track less than 4km after Kitchen Hut at the Northern end of Cradle Cirque – the junction is signposted.

The walk to Scott-Kilvert hut begins with a relatively flat traverse of the cirque towards Mt Emmett, before descending approximately 1.5 kilometres to Lake Rodway. Sections of the descent are steep and caution should be taken with heavy packs. The last 500 meters of the track is through forest before emerging at Scott-Kilvert Hut nestled beside Lake Rodway.



**New route to Scott Kilvert Hut**

Day 2 of the Overland Track retraces this route, requiring walkers ascend to the Cradle Cirque and continuing on the Overland Track to Lake Windermere. This diversion to Scott-Kilvert hut allows walkers to experience the hidden beauty of the lesser seen side of Cradle Mountain, and provides walkers with a fantastic opportunity to climb Barn Bluff on their way to Windermere.

### **Will this change the route I walk?**

To ensure the safety of walkers on the Overland Track, Scott-Kilvert hut node has been identified as a reasonable walking distance for the first day. It provides suitable sheltered campsites, hut and toilet facilities.

Walkers depart Ronny Creek, follow the Overland Track past Kitchen Hut and continue on the Overland Track, until the junction to Scott-Kilvert hut node via the Lake Rodway Track is reached. The walk down to Scott-Kilvert is quite steep.

The following day walkers return up the Lake Rodway track and rejoin the Overland Track and walk a total of 12km walk to Windermere Hut.

Walking tracks on the Overland Track are classified to Australian Walking Track Grading System as Grade 4, and walkers must be prepared to encounter sections that are rough and very steep.

### **Do I need any extra gear for Scott-Kilvert Hut?**

Scott-Kilvert Hut node includes platforms for tents, the hut has a communal area downstairs and a sleeping area upstairs. And the hut is equipped with a coal heater.

Please check the walker safety checklist found at: <https://parks.tas.gov.au/explore-our-parks/cradle-mountain/overland-track/overland-track-plan-your-trip#Whattopack>

This is a list of absolute minimum equipment and clothing you need to have with you on the track to protect you from exposure to cold, wet and windy weather.

### **Is water available at Scott-Kilvert Hut?**

Yes, there are tanks at the hut and you can also get water at Lake Rodway which is only a short walk from the hut. However, the quality cannot be guaranteed, so you may prefer to boil the water for 3 minutes, or use iodine tablets or a water filter.

### **Will the rangers walk via Scott-Kilvert Hut?**

Hut warden or track rangers will be based at Scott-Kilvert Hut, rather than Waterfall Valley for this walking season. They will be able to assist you with any question you may have about the track.

### **Will there be construction noise?**

There will be general construction noise from small machinery and hand tools during daylight hours at the Waterfall Valley node. Noise levels will vary with different stages of the project. As independent walkers will be staying at Scott-Kilvert Hut node, construction noise will not be heard in the evening and morning of the first night's accommodation. Construction noise will only be heard as walkers pass through Waterfall Valley on route to Windermere Hut on Day 2.



*Artist rendering of the new Waterfall Valley Hut*

Helicopters are required to fly in all materials for the project and to remove all waste materials.

This means there will be days throughout the construction works when walkers will hear frequent helicopter activity.

### **Can I use the toilet at Waterfall Valley?**

The old toilet and water tank at the Old Waterfall Valley hut are still accessible to walkers.

### **Is there any accommodation for Non-Overland Track walkers at Scott-Kilvert?**

People wishing to do an overnight walk and use Scott-Kilvert hut as their overnight stop are still able to do so.

A new toilet and tent platforms have been built at Scott-Kilvert to accommodate increased numbers over the 2019-20 walking season.