

Camp Creek Hut, West Coast

Camp Creek Hut is a charming country cottage with an outdoor fire-heated bath.

From the Lake Brunner Road car park, a clear route leads into a podocarp-broadleaf forest and soon heads up. It briefly follows a small tributary of Camp Creek, which requires care in higher flows. The track is well defined, crossing a second tributary as it winds up and around the steep valley side. It tops out about 150m above the creek. The route traverses a steep slope with a large drop to the valley floor. About 30 minutes before reaching the hut, the track rejoins the creek for a short distance. It crosses to the true left of the creek before climbing to the hut.

In its day, Camp Creek Hut was seen as an upmarket hut. Constructed in 1979 to replace a tent camp used by Forest Service staff studying possum impact and vegetation in the area. It originally had nine bunks, a workshop, weather station and a covered bath and shower linked to a wetback hot water cylinder. The hut can be used as a base to explore the Kaimata Range, Mt Alexander or even as part of a round trip that takes in the Crooked River to the east.

From the hut, massive blocks of schist can be seen on the tops above the bushline. You can continue on a track to climb the 640m up to the rocks. Crossing a tributary of Camp Creek, the route becomes rougher and steeper, confined to a narrow spur, bound by steep faces that require a scramble through dense scrub and roots. A final 200m stretch follows pole markers along a steep tussock face through the large schist blocks and finally onto the tops.

The route carries on to Pt1795, with spectacular views to the south, overlooking two tarns, and east along the Kaimata Range to Mt Alexander (1958m) and further to Harpers Pass.

Wild File

Access Lake Brunner Road leads 500m to a parking area where the track starts.

Grade Moderate-difficult

Time Car park to Camp Creek Hut, 2.5hr; hut to Pt1795, 3-5hr

Distance Camp Creek Hut, 3km; Pt1795, 6.05km

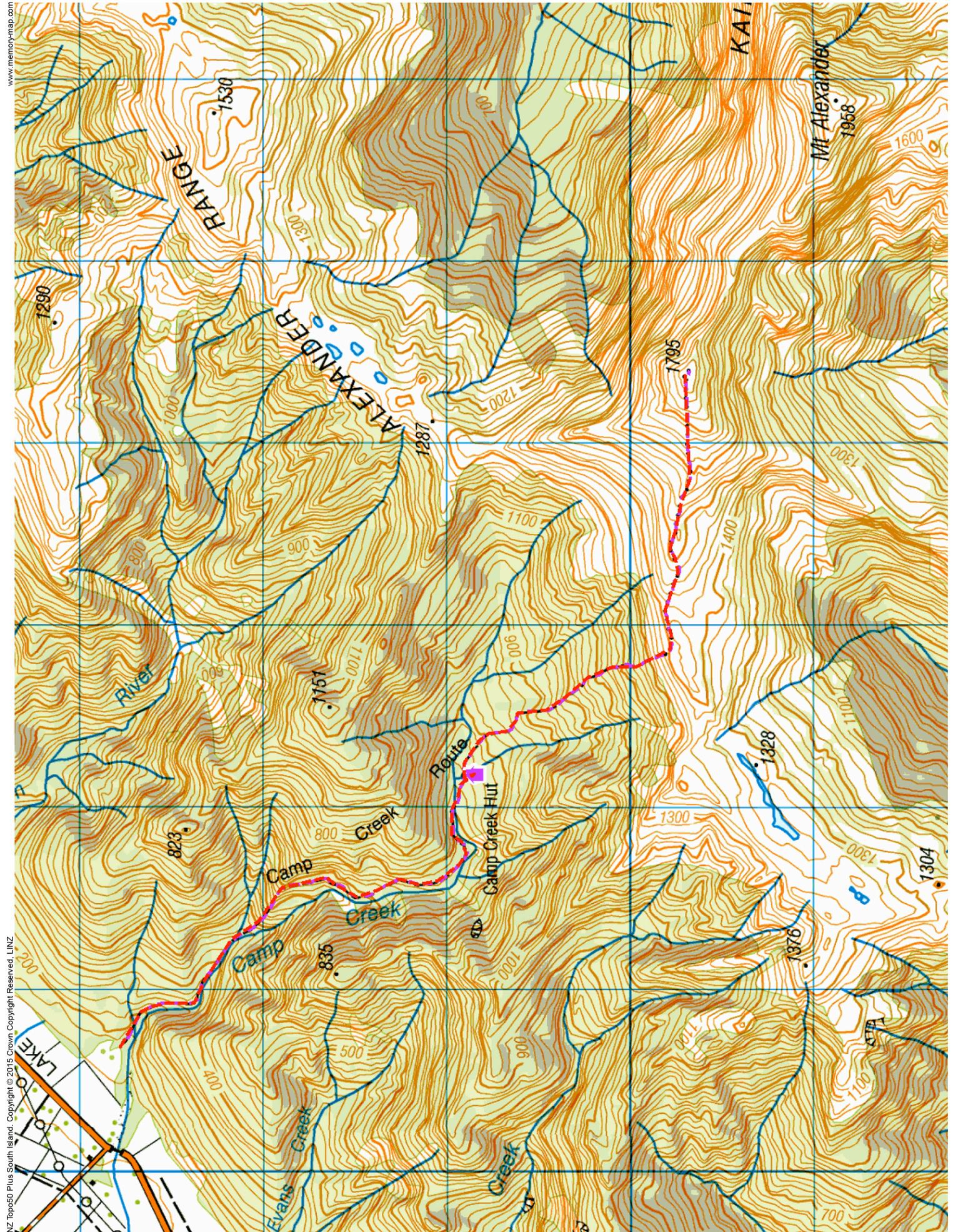
Total ascent 1714m to Pt1795

Accommodation Camp Creek Hut (free, six bunks)

Elevation Profile



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