

Christies Creek Hike - V1.0

Phil Shepherd – May 2020

MAP: Burringbar NP-9541-2S

Grid Ref Zone: MGRS 56JNP.

Hike – Christies Creek, Mooball NP

Christies Creek is in a lovely rainforest valley nestled in the Burringbar Range, Mooball NP

Total distance is around **9Km** (but feels like 12km) with 420m ascent and descent (if you include the summit). Hiking time around 4.5 hours, excluding stops for food/rest.

- Park at the junction of Cooradilla Road and Barandilla Road (4457 5862). 2Wd access on dirt road, room for several cars.
- Walk uphill passed the locked gate on Barandilla Road.
- After a short climb, the track levels out to a short plateau (4494 5853).
- Look for a small path which heads off on the right at a bearing of 108°, then steeply uphill. This is the path up to the summit of Mount Burringbar.
 - **Optionally** – avoid the climb to the summit and steep descent by continuing on the forest track to the obvious hair pin corner and junction with Barook Road left (4571 5894) [this is where the summit diversion rejoins]
- The path to the summit is steep at first, and then levels out as it passes a small peak on the right.
- There is a short section of downhill at (4533 5844), before the final steep ascent to the summit at (4566 5860).
- Enjoy the views towards the East, the ocean and Byron Bay
- Head North along the obvious track, to the start of the steep descent down a spur line. You can see a fair way down the spur, and the pathway is getting more obvious as more people use this descent. There's a huge tree stump at (4571 5885) which you can see from a long way above.
- There's a bit of vegetation, and wait-a-while before you finally arrive at Barandilla Road – a hair pin bend with Barook Road heading off to the North (4571 5894).
- Follow Barandilla Road, heading South East, taking the left fork at the junction with Wabba Road (4597 5869).
- Continue along Barandilla Road until it descends to a saddle, and a track heading off to the left at (4661 5924). This is the track to Christie's Creek.
- Follow this clearly defined, and pleasant track, heading North, which soon starts to descend along a spur line.
- Eventually the track starts to descend steeply. Just before this steep descent you can head off to the right at (4617 6012), and follow the GPS track, or compass bearing, along an indiscernible track. You can also choose to just stick to the track, but it tends to be more muddy and less pleasant. Either way, you should be able to find the main creek.
- Head West, tending South-West following the creek upstream – rock hopping or following the banks, depending on personal preference (and fear of wet feet).

- **Notice** – Barook Road offers an escape route. It's tricky to find from the creek (about 100m of off-track navigation), but it's a good track once you've found the beginning.
- There are some small cascades, and pools at (4553 5998). This is traditionally the lunch spot.
- Continue to head upstream along the creek.
- Lookout for the creek junction at (4514 5978). Follow the main creek as it heads pretty much due South in a reasonably straight line.
- Eventually you get to another creek junction at (4506 5926). Take the right hand fork (leaving the main creek), and head west along the tributary.
- After a short distance the tributary veers South, but you need to continue to head West, and straight up-hill towards Cooradilla Road. A handy landmark is a huge tree at (4494 5925) which has a small knob on it, facing East, about 10m up the trunk.
- If you get it right you hit a very old logging track (nearly disappeared) after about 50m which continues to head straight up the hill.
- Continue straight up until you meet Cooradilla Road.
- Head South, downhill then uphill back to the cars.