Summit routes are not walking tracks and are unsuitable for inexperienced people who cannot climb unassisted and young children.

Summit routes are suitable for people with a high level of fitness, and experience and skills in rock scrambling.

The summit routes on Mount Barney are long, with very steep rocky sections and irregular surfaces with loose stones. They are more difficult than climbing Mount Warning!

South Ridge summit route
Allow 8–10hr to East Peak and returning via the same route.
South Ridge summit route is a constant, strenuous climb. It traverses sections of very steep ridges and involves several climbs. Care must be taken near cliff edges and loose earth can make the route slippery.

Once at Mount Barney saddle, there is still about 267m in altitude to climb before summiting on East Peak—1354m above sea level. This final climb may take up to 1.5hr one-way. Return via the same route.

When descending from Mount Barney saddle, follow the directional markers. You will need to climb up over a small knoll before descending the route.

South East Ridge summit route
Allow 7–9hr to East Peak and returning via South Ridge summit route

Although a shorter summit route than South Ridge, it is much steeper. This route requires greater fitness levels, rock scrambling and climbing skills.

It is recommended you climb with a capable, experienced leader on this route. South East Ridge summit route is a steep, strenuous climb with exposed rock faces and sheer cliff edges. Rocky slabs are slippery in wet conditions.

Care is to be taken when traversing the razorback ridge and the rock slab near the summit—beware of a 300m drop nearby. For your protection, ropes are recommended for some steep sections, especially when carrying heavy backpacks.

Descending via South East Ridge summit route is not recommended. It is a very steep and difficult descent.

Use directional markers to keep on route
There are directional markers located on South Ridge and South East Ridge summit routes.

• Take note of the marker’s code
• Knowing your exact or approximate location will save valuable time in emergency situations.

Not to scale.
Please use this map as a guide only.
Plan your route using a topographic map.
Mt Maroon summit route

Allow 6hrs return

Once through the gate west of the car park, follow the summit route up the north-east ridge until the route veers right and descends into a steep, narrow rocky gorge. This is the lower end of the ‘No waiting’ zone—please observe all safety signs.

Take care not to dislodge rocks while climbing the steep gully. At the top, the route leads through threatened montane heath and over rocky pavements to the southern summit of Mount Maroon.

Legend for both maps

- QPWS estate
- Scenic Rim Regional Council reserve
- Road reserve/private property
- Summit route
- Grade 4 walking track
- Unsealed road
- No waiting zone
- Fence
- Gate
- Parking
- Information
- Toilets
- Picnic table
- Camp site
- Viewpoint
- No camping
- No fires

Stay safe on summit routes!

- Take care to avoid dislodging rocks as they might hit people below you—serious injuries can occur. If you accidentally dislodge rocks, shout warnings.
- Do not linger in the ‘No waiting’ zone. If you decide not to continue with your group, don’t stay in the ‘No waiting’ zone, go back down the mountain, out of the high risk zone.
- Have an experienced group leader and set a suitable group pace—keep to the pace of the least experienced rock scrambler in your group. Pushing limits can lead to injury.
- Never attempt summit routes in wet weather as smooth surfaces can be slippery and dangerous.
- Allow enough time to return in daylight. It can take twice as long to descend than it takes to get to the top.

Know the hazards!

- Steep, exposed rock faces and slabs.
- Very slippery rocks in wet conditions.
- Loose rocks and debris can fall at any time.
- Heat exhaustion and dehydration.
- Poor visibility in mist or fading daylight.

For further information:

Read more about safety and park features by visiting the Mount Barney webpage at:


For more details on being prepared, see page 3.
Be prepared!

Mount Barney is a remote environment—your safety depends on you. Rescues are risky and may be postponed in cloudy or bad weather. Be prepared and be self-sufficient—you may have to stay out overnight.

If you can’t tick all these boxes, don’t climb the mountain!

- Check the weather—it can change suddenly. (www.bom.gov.au)
- Leave early. If it’s 8am or any later, forget it—you could get caught out in the dark.
- Have at least 4ltr of water per person—dehydration affects strength and stamina.
- Have a fully charged mobile. Save your battery life by minimising use—you might need it to make an emergency call.
- Know how to use your GPS and topographic map—don’t run the risk of getting lost.
- Wear ankle-supporting footwear—help prevent ankle injury. Have protective clothing if weather changes.
- Carry a Personal Locator Beacon—in an emergency, this will assist Emergency Services to locate you.
- Have a first-aid kit and know how to use it.
- Leave your summit route plans with a reliable person—they will raise the alarm if you do not return when expected.

Left 6am, back 6pm.