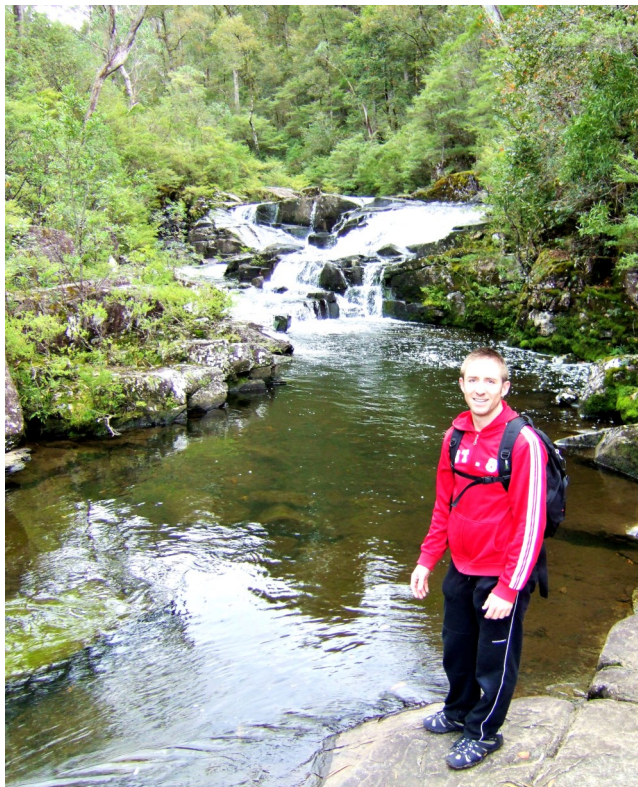




Swimming safety tips:

Remember to always check the water for hazards and snags, especially after rainfall events. Never dive into any water, unless you're in the swimming lanes at the pool. Take care of slippery river stones at all our rivers, cascades & waterways. Always supervise your children while swimming & watch out for road traffic at river crossing causeways. And please take all your rubbish with you.



Waterfalls & cascades

- around Gloucester & Barrington Tops

The pure waters of Barrington Tops tumble off the high volcanic plateau not in dramatic single-drop falls but instead via discreet falls and cascades, in many hidden ravines and secret gullies.

A few of these gentle waterfalls are easily accessible on walking tracks, some with observation points and picnic areas and some with camping areas nearby.

Try Gloucester Falls (in Gloucester Tops); Polblue Falls & Gummi Falls (in Barrington Tops State Conservation Area); Currawong Creek Falls (near Rocky Crossing on the Williams River via Dungog); or Jerusalem Creek Falls (via Dungog).

In addition there are many other unnamed mossy cascades in the national parks, state conservation areas and state forests of Barrington Tops. So get your explorer boots on and see how many you can find. For starters, try the Antarctic Beech Forest Track at Gloucester Tops.

And for intrepid overnight bushwalkers, try ticking these off your cascade check-list... if you can find them: Basden Falls, Double Falls, Cobbers Falls, Far Eastern Falls. Find some more and name them yourself!

NB. Take extreme care if you decide to step off any of the marked trails & tracks, you do so at your own risk.

HOW: Various walks, trails and tracks in the Barrington Tops parklands and state forests via Gloucester or Dungog. **COST:** Free

CONTACT: Pick up a free NPWS map at Gloucester Visitor Information Centre at 27 Denison St.
Call 6538 5252 www.gloucestertourism.com.au

Gloucester Falls

The Gloucester Falls Track at the Gloucester Tops precinct within Barrington Tops National Park offers a short and easy walk that rewards you with a beautiful lookout and waterfall at the end of a very scenic drive. The marked track takes you to an observation point above the falls where the Gloucester River is born. Take extreme care if you decide to follow any unmarked trails to the water's edge, as rocks can be deceptively slippery.

Gloucester Falls picnic area: end of Gloucester Tops Rd, Barrington Tops National Park. Camping is available at the NPWS Gloucester River Campground.

Gloucester Tops Antarctic Beech Forest Track cascades

Set out from Gloucester Falls picnic area and discover the ancient forests of Gondwanaland with towering Antarctic Beech trees, tree fern groves and stunning moss-covered cascades. Take the longer walk for even more cascades and creek crossings.

Gloucester Falls picnic area: end of Gloucester Tops Rd, Barrington Tops National Park.



Gummi Falls

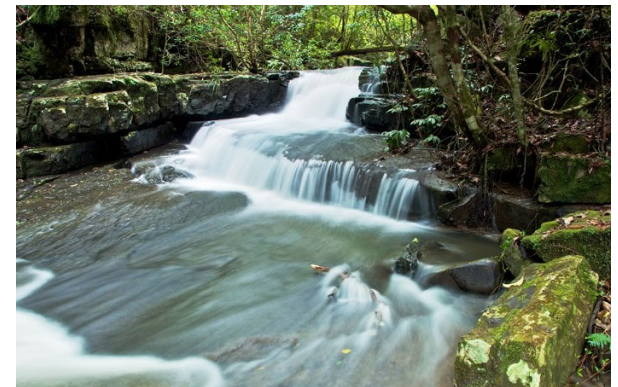
Remote Gummi Falls offers a secluded campground next to the Manning River, best accessed by 4WD. The river here is still just a mountain stream so the waterfall is not spectacular but it's part of a landscape that typifies rugged Barrington Tops high country with plenty of wildlife.

Gummi Falls campground: Bullock Brush trail off Tubrabucca Rd, Barrington Tops National Park.

Polblue Falls

Not widely known, Polblue Falls is easily accessed from the walking track at the Polblue Falls picnic area. On Tubrabucca Rd. The track leads to an observation point overlooking the falls & Polblue Creek. Take extreme care if you decide to follow any unmarked trails to the water's edge, as rocks can be deceptively slippery & it's a long way down!

Polblue Falls picnic area on Tubrabucca Rd, Barrington Tops State Conservation Area. Camping is available nearby at Horse Swamp camping area.



Jerusalem Creek Falls (via Dungog)

Often photographed, the falls are accessed via the pretty Jerusalem Creek picnic area, the most southerly entry point to Barrington Tops National Park.

Jerusalem Creek picnic area: off Wangat Rd via Chichester Dam Rd.

Currawong Creek Falls (via Dungog)

Sometimes missed by walkers, the falls are near Rocky Crossing and are accessed via a challenging walking track winding along the Williams River from Williams River picnic area.

Williams River picnic area off Salisbury Rd: Camping is available in Chichester State Forest at Allyn River Forest Rest Area, White Rock & Old Camp.