

Using GPS Data for your Hillwalk Tour

For your convenience, we have pre-loaded all our GPS information of your chosen trail to GAIA GPS, one of the world's most popular GPS navigational apps available.

To access this pre-loaded GPS information, please see the following instructions;

- Download & install the Gaia GPS app on your phone or tablet. Head to the <u>App Store</u> or the <u>Play Store</u> on your device to download the app for free.
- Create an account with Gaia GPS. (The Free plan is sufficient for using our maps, however if you wish to have more flexibility and features, then you may wish to sign up to the Premium plan of GAIA GPS).
- Ensure that the 'Location Service' setting is enabled on your mobile / tablet device to allow for GPS navigation.

Note:

- 1) If you have signed up to the Free GAIA GPS account, for navigation on the trail, you will need to have mobile data enabled and network availability on your device for GPS navigation to work.
- 2) If you sign up to the Premium version of the app, it will allow you to download the maps from GAIA to your device for offline use. You can then use the maps and our GPS tracks without any internet connection.

Once you have done this, you can access our pre-loaded GPS information for your trail in two ways;

- 1) Via your <u>Hillwalk Tours Account</u>: In your Hillwalk Tours account, open your booking:
 - a. Within your booking, navigate to the 'Tour Documents' section.
 - b. From there, click the 'GPS Maps & Data' dropdown, and then click the 'View Trail on GAIA GPS'.
 - c. A new screen will appear giving you some additional information about GAIA GPS and using GPS for navigation. At the bottom of this page, you should see a button saying 'Click here to open trail in GAIA GPS' click this.
 - d. Once you click this, your mobile device might prompt / ask you which app you would like to open the link with. It is important that you always open the link using the **GAIA GPS app**, (as navigation is not available if accessing GAIA GPS via a web browser e.g. chrome, safari etc.).
 - e. Once you open the link with the GAIA GPS app, from here you will see all the preloaded GPS information for your tour.
 - f. Once you have loaded the trail in the GAIA app, we recommend that you click the 'Save Offline' button. This will save our GPS Tracks & Waypoints to the 'Saved' section within the app, making it easier to navigate and find the tracks at later points.



- g. From here, you should also be able to see & select the track for the full trail (typically named, 'Full Main Route', 'Complete Trail', etc.). If you select and click into this track, it should display the track on the map, and from here you should also see a 'Guide Me' option. Click this 'Guide Me' option to begin your navigation along the trail.
- Via our GPS Information <u>webpage</u>: Alternatively, you can access the pre-loaded GPS Information by selecting your chosen trail on the following webpage: <u>http://www.hillwalktours.com/gps-information/</u>.
 - a. Again, once you select your chosen trail and click the URL to bring you to GAIA GPS, your mobile device might prompt / ask you which app you would like to open the link with.
 - b. It is important that you always open the link using the **GAIA GPS app**, (as navigation is not available if accessing GAIA GPS via a web browser e.g. chrome, safari etc.).
 - c. Once you open the link with the GAIA GPS app, from here you will see all the preloaded GPS information for your tour.
 - d. Once you have loaded the trail in the GAIA app, we recommend that you click the 'Save Offline' button. This will save our GPS Tracks & Waypoints to the 'Saved' section within the app, making it easier to navigate and find the tracks at later points.
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Please note that the provided GPS data can be used for all tours for that trail and is not limited to any specific itinerary. The GPS information usually contains the full trail, i.e. the entire route (not limited to any smaller, itinerary specific segments of the trail), as well as a separate folder with important waypoints and additional GPS tracks, such as alternative routes, diversions, shortcuts, or links from the trail to nearby villages that serve as trailheads. All of this GPS information is meant to be used in conjunction with the Route Notes and the Personalised Itinerary in your Walking Pack. The GPS data does not contain the routes between the trailheads and your accommodations. These are described in your Personalised itinerary.

I hope this information is helpful. Please feel free to contact <u>bookings@hillwalktours.com</u> if you have any further questions.