

Trail Description

Little Buller Loop



Trail Name:	Little Buller Loop
Primary trail used:	Little Buller Walk, Summit Nature Walk
Distance:	8.2km
Trail type:	Loop
Ascent/Descent:	506m (+) / 506m (-)
Grading:	BLACK
Start + Finish points:	Clock Tower, Mt Buller Village Square
Via trails:	Family Trail, Little Buller Walk, Summit Nature Walk
Highlight features:	Big alpine views to the east, super technical trail on Little Mt Buller (1558m), even bigger views from the trig point at the summit, fine flowy running on Summit Nature Walk trail.
Descriptor:	<p><i>Here's a great shorter run within striking (and viewing) distance from the Village that also throws up some of the most intense, ankle-testing, rocky technical running you'll come across. Great for adventure runners and those really wanting to test their eye/foot co-ordination (and maybe luck if you push it hard). The reward is massive views to the east Alps and back to Mt Buller Village – top-of-the-world stuff. The sting in the tail is a lasting climb before getting back to flowy singletrack en route home.</i></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Starting underneath the Clock Tower in the Mt Buller Village Square, exit the Square to the south (between Cow Camp Plaza and the Kooroora Hotel), cut over the road and pick up the Family trail, on which you turn right. Contouring around just below the Village you will come to an intersection at approx. 800m. Veer left downhill, following the double track. A quick zig-zag and then hoof it hard, if you are game, straight down the main slope. At approx. 1.3km you will take the corner to your right, the decline easing off (a little) as you drop to the bottom of Bull Run Chairlift, before easing around on wide trail (keep an eye to your left for big mountain vistas) taking you to the bottom of Federation Chairlift. From Federation you have a nippy little climb on a route known as Whiskey Creek Trail until you reach the 3.2km mark and a left hand turn onto an out-and-back singletrack. This is where things underfoot go from fairly cruisey to seriously technical. Ahead is a 600-metre length of rock-strewn trail that throws in a few short steep sections as you take the ridge to the top of Little Mt Buller. The views off both flanks are spectacular and once you reach the trig point summit, check out the sweeping 360-degree, including a brilliant vista back to Mt Buller and the Village. Having savored the views, turn back for the fun rock-hop down. For those super-confident, this is a rollercoaster that has your feet and mind working overtime. For those less sure of their footing, take it easy, and walk the steep sections lest the boulders get the best of you. Returning to Little Mt Buller's trailhead, sight the main runway clearing straight ahead, which in winter is called the Little Buller Spur ski run. The uphill slog starts off gently enough, but as you follow the dirt road on the right hand side of the run, things slowly get leg-burning serious, with an approx. 250-metre vertical ascent in 1.5km, the gradient at times pushing 30%. Follow the dirt road as it takes a dogleg to the left (at approx. 5.4km), crossing over the grass clearing of Little Buller Spur and joining that of Wombat. Stay on the dirt road until you hit a clear intersection at approx. 6km. On your hard right you will pick up an easily identifiable singletrack that is the Summit Nature Walk.

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	<p>8. Stick with the Summit Nature Walk, running east on this undulating, fun trail underneath the Sun Valley dam, through ancient snowgums, down some steps and eventually popping out back of the Arlberg Hotel.</p> <p>9. If you don't decide to stop for a refresher at the Arlberg Hotel, you can choose to run down the road passing to the front (north) side of the Alberg, soon veering off onto Athlete's Walk (at approx. 8km) which leads to the Village Square (your start point); or you can bolt down the open grassy plain that is Bourke Street in winter – it also delivers you into the centre of the Village (watch for uneven, rutted ground).</p>
Rating /45 (technical)	32/ 45
Rating /10 (indicative)	7/ 10