

Blencoe and Herbert River Falls Update May 2007



A bit of activity in this area. Firstly, the camping area at Blencoe has been upgraded considerably. You can still get a campsite along the creek but they are limited. A large campground with toilets has been established above the road and generally upstream of the crossing. A walking track has been developed from the west bank of the crossing and goes downstream to the gorge lookout(s). You can drive down and walk back or vice versa. However, the roads to the eastern lookouts have been closed and generally you are discouraged from accessing the top of the falls. The "Great Walk" has now been opened linking Blencoe with Wallaman Falls and Abergowrie. I haven't done these walks yet but I am told they are great in parts – not so in others. I believe the walk from Blencoe down to the Abergowrie access point is particularly good. However as a number of river crossings are required you have to wait until the river level has dropped. If you are planning a major adventure in the area contact QPWS at Ingham on 07 4777 2822. There is an excellent brochure and maps can be downloaded from the EPA website.

You also need to be aware that the road from Kennedy on the Bruce Highway up to Blencoe is officially closed. Now I say officially in that Council has a sign up saying as much. My impression is that the only hazard on the road is the sign. The road got knocked around a bit in the 2006 wet season so I think the council is covering itself. You will need to drive with care, but be aware of this if you are driving from west to east and ensure you have plenty of fuel in the event that you can't get through. It was "open" in May 2007 but expect no maintenance.

Bigger news though is that the owners of Goshen Station have opened up the Herbert River and Falls to campers. This is where Survivor was filmed some years ago. They have set up a number of riverside campsites above the falls. They restrict numbers so it doesn't get crowded and charge \$50 per car and give you a key to the gate. Expect to book on long weekends. Phone 07 4097 1428. They give you a mud map on arrival. Goshen is well marked on the road between Blencoe and the Cashmere Crossing of the Herbert River.