

# Bush Navigators

## 1 Day Course

Build confidence navigating the backcountry with this practical, hands-on day in beautiful Peel Forest. Learn how to read terrain, make good decisions, and move through the bush safely. Whether you're planning your next tramp, preparing for Te Araroa, or simply wanting to feel more capable outdoors.

This course focuses on real-world skills you can apply immediately, guided by experienced Peel Forest Outdoors instructors in a supportive learning environment.

## Who this course is for

This course is ideal for:

- Recreational trampers and hunters
- People preparing for multi-day trips or Te Araroa
- Adventure racers or rogainers wanting stronger navigation skills
- Anyone wanting to feel more confident navigating in the outdoors

Suitable for adults and older teens (16+).

## What you'll learn

### Navigation Skills

- Reading Topo50 maps, terrain features and contours
- Map orientation and route planning
- Taking and following a bearing
- Distance estimation and travel time planning
- Route-finding in real environments
- Using GPS and smartphone navigation tools

### Bush Safety & Planning

- What to pack and how to pack it
- Trip intentions and emergency communication
- Understanding weather forecasts and decision making in the field

## What to expect

This is a practical, outdoor-based course. You'll spend the day learning through movement, discussion, and scenario-based activities in the forest.

Our focus is not just on technical skills, but on building judgement and confidence so you can make safer decisions in real situations.

## Course details

**Location:**

Peel Forest Outdoors Centre, approximately 20 minutes from Geraldine.

**Time:**

9:00am – 4:00pm

**Food:**

Please bring your own lunch, snacks and water for the day.

**Accommodation (optional):**

If you'd like to stay overnight before or after the course, off-grid cabin accommodation is available at Peel Forest Outdoors. These insulated bunk-style huts offer a warm, simple DOC-hut style experience with solar shower and composting toilets. Contact us to enquire about availability.

## Gear list

**Essential****Compulsory Gear:**

- Day pack (~30L) with pack liner
- Suitable active clothing for the weather (no cotton)
- Waterproof raincoat and over-trousers
- Thermal top and bottom
- Fleece layer
- Tramping boots (worn in)
- Water bottle (minimum 2L)
- Compass
- Hat, beanie, sunscreen and sunglasses

**Gear hire available**

Let us know if you need to borrow:

- Pack
- Raincoat
- Fleece layers
- Compass

**Optional**

- Tramping poles
- Puffer jacket

## Why learn with Peel Forest Outdoors?

Our courses are delivered in real outdoor environments with small group sizes and experienced instructors. We believe strong outdoor skills come from practice, reflection, and time spent in nature; not just theory.

Whether you're building confidence for your first tramp or refining skills for bigger adventures, this course will leave you better prepared for the outdoors.