

Mt Tyson

Presiding over the sugar town of Tully is Mt Tyson and a well-worn track takes the energetic on a short, steep climb to the summit ridge. Mt Tyson reminded me of a mini-Bartle Frere. It's a steep track through a variety of vegetation types, changing with altitude and protection from the elements. There are a number of vantage points along the way with views over wilderness and farms. The 2.2 km walk gains about 600m of altitude in a bit over an hour of steady walking. The first good view comes up after around 45 minutes of walking and there are great views over Tully and points north and south from "Flat Rock". The "summit" comes up in another 15 minutes and this is where the well-marked and tagged trail ends with great views over the "Scout's Rock" pinnacle. Beyond here the trail becomes rough and indistinct but basically follows the ridge to the pinnacle and beyond and not recommended to casual walkers. The trail starts at the concrete water tank at the end of Brannigan Street in Tully where a sign states "mountain climb"! As a number of people have wandered off the trail there is a registration system at the kiosk at the start that requires you to fill in some forms. This is a good idea and it is recommended that you don't walk alone and let others know if you are attempting the climb. Allow at least 3 hours.

