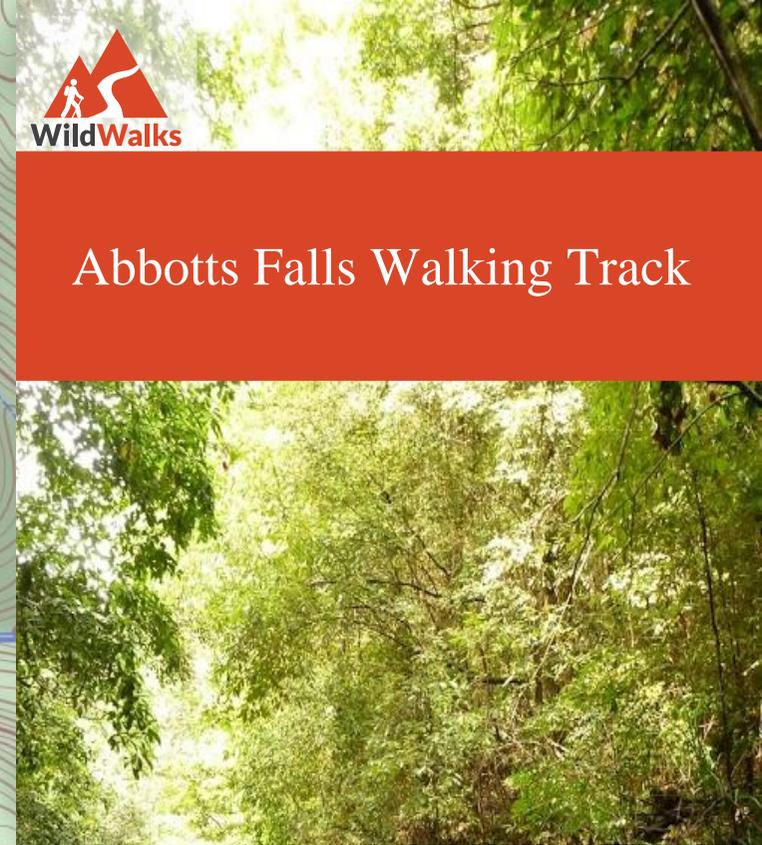


Abbotts Falls Walking Track



3 hrs

Hard track

7.3 km Circuit

329m



This circuit takes you through both dry and moist forest, using a combination of walking trails and wider tracks. The side trip to the dammed pool is recommended, to see the deep Aboriginal carved grooves by the pool. This walk travels through open forest with wild flowers (in season) to descend into a moist rainforest environment near Abbotts Falls. This is great place to cool off on a hot summer's day.

263m

430m

Olney State Forest

The Pines Camping Area

The Pines Camping Area is large and popular, and positioned under large pine trees which provide excellent shade. These trees are remnants from trial plantings of different pine species, established in the 1920s and 1930s. The campsite has pit toilets, picnic tables, fireplaces and water (treat water before use - water maybe unavailable). There is access to the creek for cooling off in the summer. [More info.](#)

Dammed Pool on the Pines Walking track

The dammed pool by Dora Creek (on the Pine walking track) is surrounded by lovely moist eucalypt forest and has an attractive dammed pool. Then is also evidence of axe-sharpening rubbing grooves on damp rock shelves from historical aboriginal use. The dammed pool is on the Pines loop walk, which can be begun from either the Pines campsite or the Pines picnic area. [More info.](#)

Pines picnic area

This large picnic area is often used by groups participating in Forests NSW's school and community programs. The area provides plenty of tree cover, as well as a number of picnic benches and tables. There is a large shelter built and reserved for the Forests NSW's programs, but is available for use at any other time. The area is surrounded by native plants and animals.

Abbotts Falls

Abbotts Falls in the Olney State Forest are located in a secluded valley on Dora Creek. Thick rainforest lines Dora Creek and these falls are a great place to visit on a hot, dry day in summer. The falls can be found along the Abbotts Falls walking track. Please note that the falls are unfenced and care should be taken.

Casuarina Campsite

The Casuarina Campsite is a small and secluded site, set amongst forest oaks and a variety of eucalypts. The Casuarina Camping Area can accommodate caravans and trailers as well as individual campsites. There are fireplaces, toilets, picnic tables and water (treat water before use - water maybe unavailable).

Old Mill picnic area

The Old Mill picnic area is set alongside Watagan Forest Road and is a great place for family sport, with a wide and flat grassed area surrounded by forest. Please note that this site is for day use only, with no camping allowed. The site has picnic tables and fireplaces.

Before You walk

Bushwalking is fun and a wonderful way to enjoy our natural places. Sometimes things go bad, with a bit of planning you can increase your chance of having an enjoyable and safer walk. Before setting off on your walk check

- 1) Weather Forecast ([BOM Hunter District](#))
- 2) Fire Dangers ([Greater Hunter](#))
- 3) Park Alerts ([Jilliby State Conservation Area](#))
- 4) Research the walk to check your party has the skills, fitness and equipment required
- 5) Agree to stay as a group and not leave anyone to walk solo

Think before you TREK

The 'Think before you TREK' program developed by NSW Police & NPWS promotes the benefits of planning ahead for your bushwalking trip by using an easy to remember acronym:

- T** Take adequate supplies of food, water, navigation and first aid equipment.
- R** Register your planned route and tell friends and family when you expect to return.
- E** Emergency beacon (PLB's) should be carried on walks with significant gaps in mobile coverage (check terrain profile).
- K** Keep to your planned route and follow the map and walking trails.

Topo Maps

The maps provided on wildwalks are helpful, but there are times where you may need maps covering a broader area. Maps that cover this walk include;

1:25 000 Map Series:91311N MORISSET

1:100 000 Map Series:9131 GOSFORD

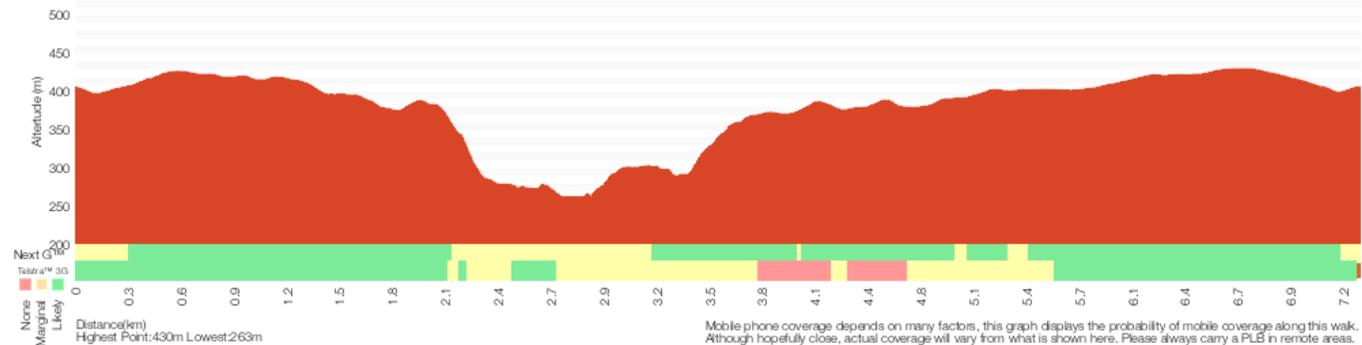
Grade

This walk has been graded using the AS 2156.1-2001. The overall grade of the walk is determined by the highest classification along the whole track.



**Grade 4/6
Hard track**

Length	7.3 km Circuit
Time	3 hrs
Quality of track	Rough track, where fallen trees and other obstacles are likely (4/6)
Signs	Directional signs along the way (3/6)
Experience Required	Moderate level of bushwalking experience recommended (4/6)
Weather	Weather generally has little impact on safety (1/6)
Infrastructure	Limited facilities (such as cliffs not fenced, significant creeks not bridged) (4/6)



Are you ready to have fun?

Please ensure you and your group are well prepared and equipped for all possible hazards and delays. Check park closures, weather information and Fire Danger Rating before setting out. Optional side trips and alternate routes noted are not included in this walk's overall grade, length or time estimate. Please allow extra time for resting and exploring areas of interest. The authors, staff and owners of wildwalks take care in preparing this information but will not accept responsibility for any inconvenience, loss or injury you may experience. Please take care, have fun - Happy Walking.

Getting there Traveling by car is the only practical way to get to Pines Camping Area (gps: -33.0629, 151.3366). Car: There is free parking available.

This is a circuit, so you will finish back at the start.

Find up to date and more information including; travel directions, weather, park closures and walker feedback at <http://wild.tl/afw>

0 | The Pines Camping Area

The Pines Camping Area is large and popular, and positioned under large pine trees which provide excellent shade. These trees are remnants from trial plantings of different pine species, established in the 1920s and 1930s. The campsite has pit toilets, picnic tables, fireplaces and water (treat water before use - water maybe unavailable). There is access to the creek for cooling off in the summer. [More info.](#)

0 | Pines Camping Area

(120 m 2 mins) From the Pines Camping area, this walk follows the track gently downhill (passing a 'Walking Track' sign on your left. Then this walk follows the track for about 30m to find a rotten timber footbridge. This walk crosses the footbridge and after about 10m, comes to a T-intersection with a track.

0.12 | Optional sidetrip to Dammed Pool

(120 m 2 mins) Turn left: From the intersection, this walk follows the track gently downhill, keeping the creek on your left. This walk follows the track (ignoring a creek ford to the left) for about 25m, to find stone cut steps. This walk follows the track down the stone steps for about 20m to find a small waterfall (on your left). The track continues gently downhill through moist forest for about 80m, until coming to timber railings and a dammed pool. At the end of this side trip, retrace your steps back to the main walk then Continue straight.

0.12 | Dammed Pool on the Pines Walking track

The dammed pool by Dora Creek (on the Pine walking track) is surrounded by lovely moist eucalypt forest and has an attractive dammed pool. Then is also evidence of axe-sharpening rubbing grooves on damp rock shelves from historical aboriginal use. The dammed pool is on the Pines loop walk, which can be begun from either the Pines campsite or the Pines picnic area. [More info.](#)

0.12 | Int of Pines and Abbotts Falls Track

(470 m 10 mins) Turn right: From the intersection, this walk follows the track gently uphill (keeping the creek to your right). This walk follows the track for about 140m (ignoring a timber stepped track down to the creek). This walk continues to follow the track gently uphill away from the creek through large pine trees for about 130m, to find the Pines Picnic Area (large open area with metal shelter on the right). This walk then passes through the picnic area for about 200m to the toilet block on Palmers Rd.

0.59 | Pines Picnic Area Toilet Block on Palmers Rd

(370 m 6 mins) Veer left: From the toilet block, this walk follows a level management trail (Palmers Rd), keeping the picnic area on your left and the

bush on your right. This walk follows the trail for about 400m, until coming to a large open area and 'Abbotts Falls Walking Trail' sign.

0.96 | Pines picnic area

This large picnic area is often used by groups participating in Forests NSW's school and community programs. The area provides plenty of tree cover, as well as a number of picnic benches and tables. There is a large shelter built and reserved for the Forests NSW's programs, but is available for use at any other time. The area is surrounded by native plants and animals.

0.96 | Int of Palmers Road and Abbotts Falls walking trail

(190 m 4 mins) Turn left: From the 'Abbotts Falls Walking Trail' sign on Palmers Rd, this walk follows the track gently downhill, passing the sign (on your right). About 70m along the track, this walk finds another 'Abbotts Falls Walking Trail' sign. This walk continues to follow the track (passing the second sign to your right) moderately steeply downhill, crossing a small creek after about 45m. Then this walk continues to follow the moderately steep trail uphill for about 60m, until coming to a four-way intersection, with a narrow management trail (Howes Rd).

1.15 | Int of Abbotts Falls walking trail and Howes Road

(680 m 13 mins) Continue straight: From the intersection, this walk follows the level track east, passing the track marker (on your left). Then this walk continues to follow the track through re-growth bush for about 600m, before descending moderately steeply to cross a dilapidated timber bridge over a dry creek. The track continues moderately steeply uphill for about 60m, until coming to a T-intersection, with a management trail (Abbotts Rd).

1.84 | Int of Abbotts Falls walking trail and Abbotts Road

(180 m 4 mins) Turn left: From the intersection, this walk follows the management trail (Abbotts Rd) north and moderately steeply uphill, while keeping the red track marker on your left. This walk continues to follow the trail for about 90m (to find a highpoint on the trail). The trail continues moderately steeply downhill for about 100m, until coming to the end of the management trail (Abbotts Rd) and a track marker (on the right).

2.02 | End of Abbotts Road

(400 m 13 mins) Turn right: From the end of Abbotts Rd, (this walk follow the track steeply downhill (passing a track marker on the left). The walk continues to follow the track through switch backs and thick forest (with views on the left) for about 400m, until coming to a red metal track marker (with Dora Creek 20m beyond the marker).

2.42 | Abbotts Falls Track (near Dora Creek)

(340 m 8 mins) Veer left: From the red metal track marker (with Dora Creek 20m beyond), this walk follows the track south (initially over rocks), keeping the creek on the left. Then the walk continues along the track, moderately steeply downhill for about 80m, and across a mossy creek. The track then continues moderately steeply uphill for about 25m, to find a level section of track. The walk continues moderately steeply downhill along the track, through attractive rainforest for about 200m, to find Dora Creek. This walk then crosses Dora Creek and follows it downstream for about 40m, until coming to a track and timber track marker (on the left). (Abbotts Falls can be heard downstream from here).

2.76 | Abbotts Falls

Abbotts Falls in the Olney State Forest are located in a secluded valley on Dora Creek. Thick rainforest lines Dora Creek and these falls are a great place to visit on a hot, dry day in summer. The falls can be found along the Abbotts Falls walking track. Please note that the falls are unfenced and care should be taken.

2.76 | Dora Creek

(30 m) Continue straight: From Dora Creek and the timber track marker, this walk follows the track moderately steeply uphill, while keeping the creek on your right. This walk follows the track for about 60m, until coming to a small clearing, with an unfenced cliff and Abbotts Falls partly visible on the right.

2.79 | Abbotts Falls

(610 m 19 mins) Turn left: From Abbotts Falls, this walk follows a track moderately steeply uphill (away from Dora Creek), keeping the valley on your right. This walk follows the overgrown track through attractive rainforest for about 500m (passing over fallen trees on the way), until coming to Abbotts Falls management trail.

3.39 | Abbotts Falls service trail

(290 m 11 mins) Turn left: From the end Abbotts Falls management trail, this walk follows the trail northward and up the moderately steep trail. This trail is followed for about 300m (with views on the right), until coming to a T-intersection with a management trail (German Point Rd).

3.68 | Int of Abbotts Falls service trail and German Point

(2.7 km 51 mins) Turn left: From the intersection, this walk follows the management trail gently uphill, keeping the 'German Point Rd/Return To Pines' sign on your right. This walk continues to follow the trail (with occasional level sections) through regrowth forest for about 2.6km (ignoring side trails), until coming to Watagan Forest Rd and a walking track marker (on the left).

6.35 | Int of German Point Road and Watagan Forest Road

(100 m 2 mins) Veer left: From the intersection, this walk follows the level track south, passing the red metal track marker (which is about 5m from Watagan Forest Rd) on your right. This walk follows the track through regrowth bush for about 90m, until coming to a three-way intersection, with a track and red metal track marker (on the right).

6.44 | Int of Abbotts Falls & Casuarina Tracks

(270 m 5 mins) Turn right: From the intersection, this walk follows the track gently uphill and keeping the red metal track marker on your right. About 180m along the track, the walk comes to Casuarina campsite. The walk continues through Casuarina campsite (about 80m), passing a toilet block (on the right), and comes to a three-way intersection with Turpentine Rd and 'Turpentine's Camping Area' sign (on the left).

6.71 | Casuarina Campsite

The Casuarina Campsite is a small and secluded site, set amongst forest oaks and a variety of eucalypts. The Casuarina Camping Area can accommodate caravans and trailers as well as individual campsites. There are fireplaces, toilets, picnic tables and water (treat water before use - water maybe unavailable).

6.71 | Old Mill picnic area

The Old Mill picnic area is set alongside Watagan Forest Road and is a great place for family sport, with a wide and flat grassed area surrounded by forest. Please note that this site is for day use only, with no camping allowed. The site has picnic tables and fireplaces.

6.71 | Int of Abbotts Falls Track & Turpentine Rd

(420 m 7 mins) Turn left: From the intersection, this walk follows the management trail (Turpentine Rd) gently downhill, while keeping the 'Turpentine's Camping Area' sign to your right, and red metal track marker to your left. This walk follows the trail through regrowth forest and campsites (on the left) for about 400m, until coming to Turpentine campsite and a

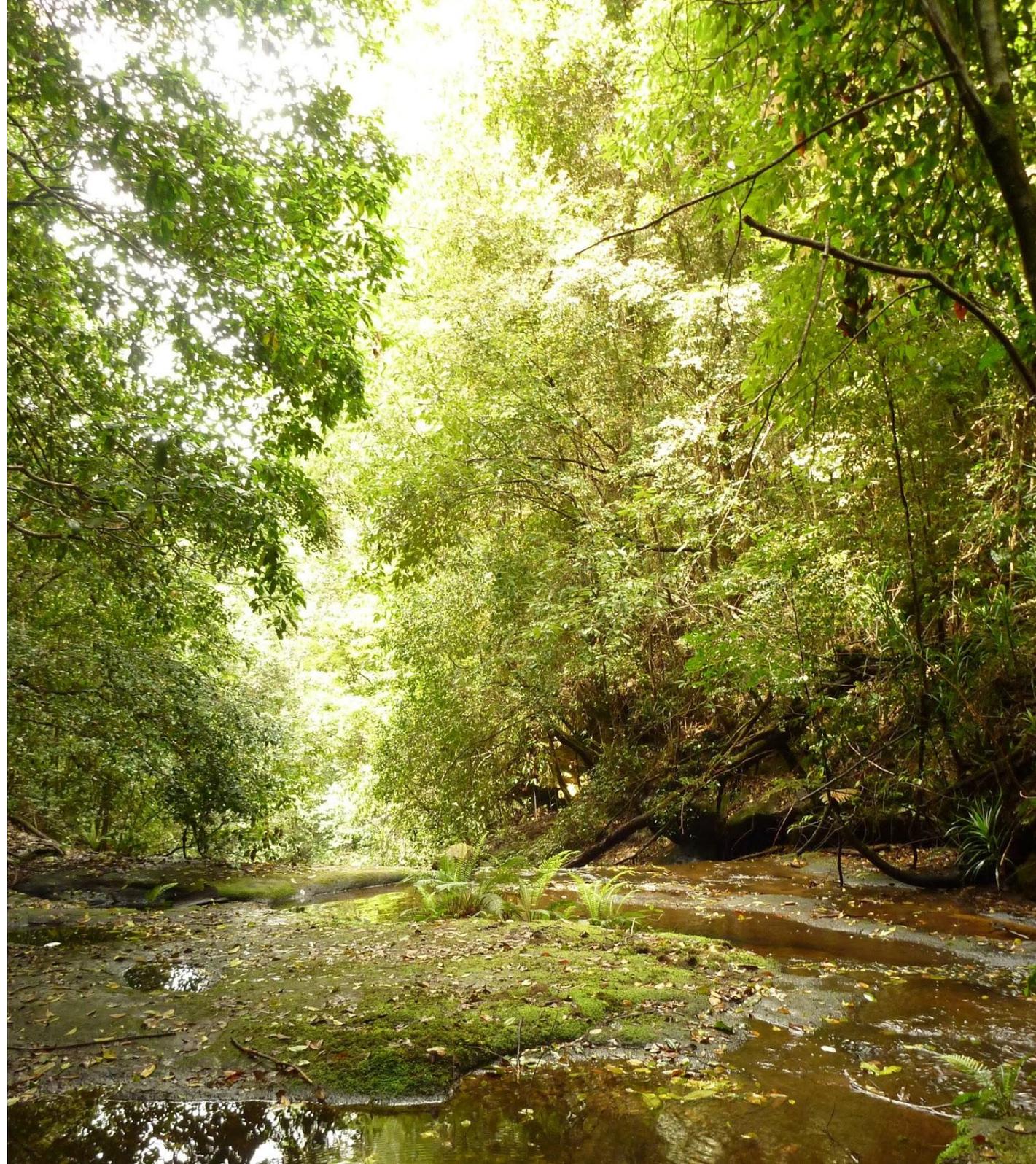
'Toilet 150m' sign.

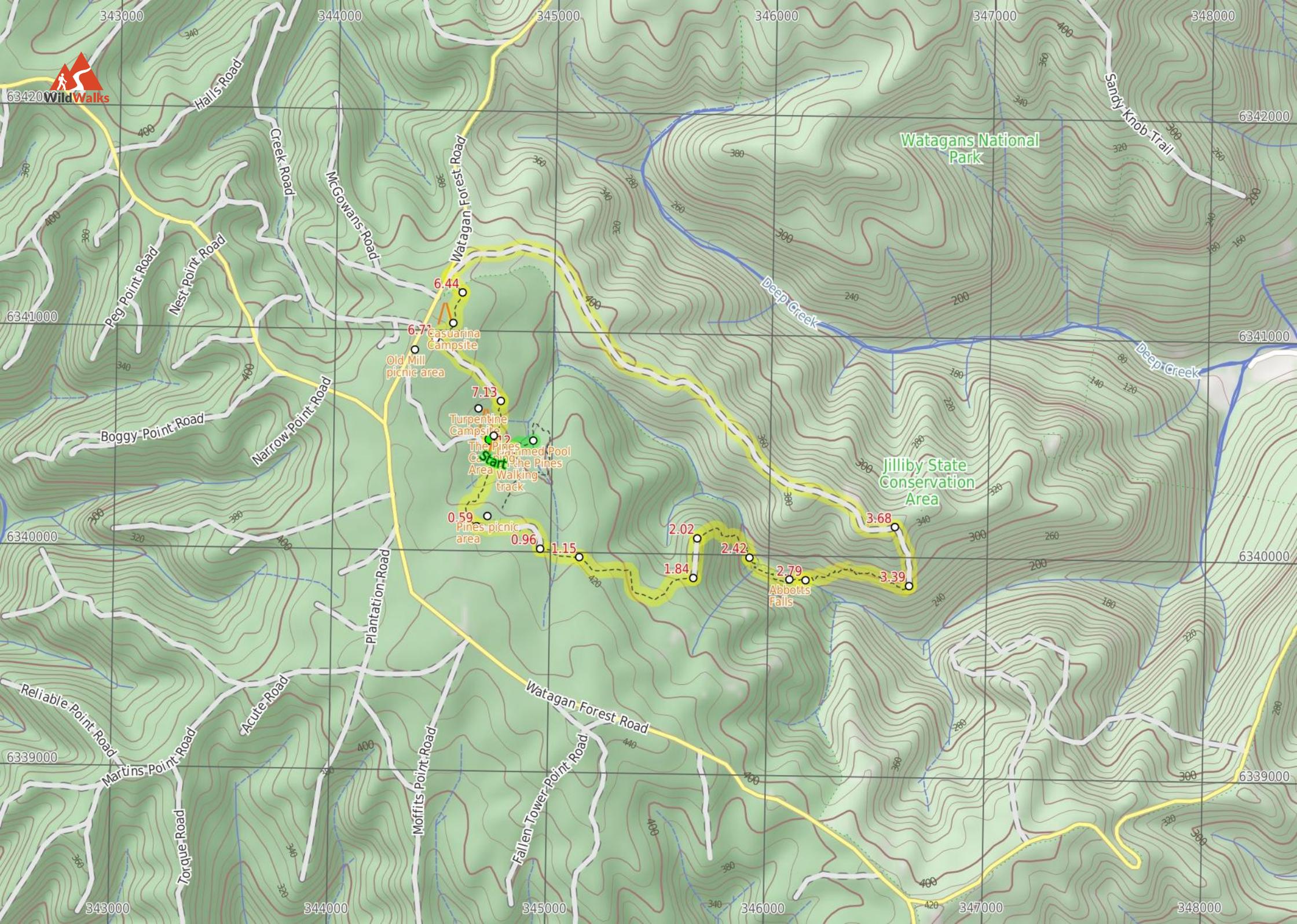
7.13 | Turpentine Campsite

Turpentine camping area provides many sheltered sites amongst turpentine trees. It is an ideal spot for smaller groups or families. The campsite is spread out along the end of Turpentine Road, providing picnic benches, tables, fireplaces and water (treat water before use - water maybe unavailable). Toilet facilities are located in the nearby Pines Camping or Casuarina Camping Areas. There is good access to a creek for cooling off in the summer.

7.13 | Turpentine Campsite

(210 m 4 mins) Veer right: From Turpentine campsite and the 'Toilet 150m' sign, this walk follows the toilet sign south, gently downhill towards the creek. This walk crosses the campsite and after about 130m, descends moderately steeply into a creek and footbridge. Then this walk crosses the creek via the footbridge and follows the track moderately steeply uphill for about 60m, to find the Pines campsites. This walk crosses the campsite, tending left and keeping the toilet to the right, until coming to the 'Walking Trail' sign and track.





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Summary navigation sheet for the Abbots Falls Walking Track



km	From	Up/Dwn	Length	Initial directions (Use full tracknotes and maps for more detail)
0.00	Pines Camping Area -33.0629,151.3366 (GR Morisset, 447405)	0 -9	120 m 2 mins	From the Pines Camping area, this walk follows the track gently downhill (passing a 'Walking Track' sign on your left).
0.12	Int of Pines and Abbots Falls walking trails -33.0633,151.3378 (GR Morisset, 448405)	0 -8	120 m 2 mins	Optional sidetrip to Dammed Pool. Turn left: From the intersection, this walk follows the track gently downhill, keeping the creek on your left.
0.12	Int of Pines and Abbots Falls Track -33.0633,151.3378 (GR Morisset, 448405)	31 -1	470 m 10 mins	Turn right: From the intersection, this walk follows the track gently uphill (keeping the creek to your right).
0.59	Pines Picnic Area Toilet Block on Palmers Rd -33.0665,151.336 (GR Morisset, 447401)	2 -9	370 m 6 mins	Veer left: From the toilet block, this walk follows a level management trail (Palmers Rd), keeping the picnic area on your left and the bush on your right.
0.96	Int of Palmers Road and Abbots Falls walking trail -33.0674,151.3391 (GR Morisset, 450400)	4 -6	190 m 4 mins	Turn left: From the 'Abbots Falls Walking Trail' sign on Palmers Rd, this walk follows the track gently downhill, passing the sign (on your right).
1.15	Int of Abbots Falls walking trail and Howes Road -33.0677,151.341 (GR Morisset, 451400)	4 -48	680 m 13 mins	Continue straight: From the intersection, this walk follows the level track east, passing the track marker (on your left).
1.84	Int of Abbots Falls walking trail and Abbots Road -33.0686,151.3466 (GR Morisset, 457399)	13 -5	180 m 4 mins	Turn left: From the intersection, this walk follows the management trail (Abbots Rd) north and moderately steeply uphill, while keeping the red track marker on your left.
2.02	End of Abbots Road -33.067,151.3468 (GR Morisset, 457401)	9 -113	400 m 13 mins	Turn right: From the end of Abbots Rd, this walk follow the track steeply downhill (passing a track marker on the left).
2.42	Abbots Falls Track (near Dora Creek) -33.0678,151.3493 (GR Morisset, 459400)	15 -32	340 m 8 mins	Veer left: From the red metal track marker (with Dora Creek 20m beyond), this walk follows the track south (initially over rocks), keeping the creek on the left.
2.76	Dora Creek -33.0687,151.3518 (GR Morisset, 461399)	0 0	30 m	Continue straight: From Dora Creek and the timber track marker, this walk follows the track moderately steeply uphill, while keeping the creek on your right.
2.79	Abbots Falls -33.0687,151.3521 (GR Morisset, 462399)	76 -47	610 m 19 mins	Turn left: From Abbots Falls, this walk follows a track moderately steeply uphill (away from Dora Creek), keeping the valley on your right.
3.39	Abbots Falls service trail -33.0689,151.3572 (GR Morisset, 466399)	69 -1	290 m 11 mins	Turn left: From the end Abbots Falls management trail, this walk follows the trail northward and up the moderately steep trail.
3.68	Int of Abbots Falls service trail and German Point Road -33.0665,151.3565 (GR Morisset, 466401)	91 -29	2.7 km 51 mins	Turn left: From the intersection, this walk follows the management trail gently uphill, keeping the 'German Point Rd/Return To Pines' sign on your right.
6.35	Int of German Point Road and Watagan Forest Road -33.0563,151.3346 (GR Morisset, 445412)	1 -1	100 m 2 mins	Veer left: From the intersection, this walk follows the level track south, passing the red metal track marker (which is about 5m from Watagan Forest Rd) on your right.
6.44	Int of Abbots Falls & Casuarina Tracks -33.0569,151.3353 (GR Morisset, 446412)	7 0	270 m 5 mins	Turn right: From the intersection, this walk follows the track gently uphill and keeping the red metal track marker on your right.
6.71	Int of Abbots Falls Track & Turpentine Rd -33.0588,151.3339 (GR Morisset, 445410)	0 -23	420 m 7 mins	Turn left: From the intersection, this walk follows the management trail (Turpentine Rd) gently downhill, while keeping the 'Turpentine's Camping Area' sign to your right, and red metal track marker to your left.
7.13	Turpentine Campsite -33.0613,151.3372 (GR Morisset, 448407)	7 -8	210 m 4 mins	Veer right: From Turpentine campsite and the 'Toilet 150m' sign, this walk follows the toilet sign south, gently downhill towards the creek.