



# Awabakal Coastal Walk



49m

Hard track

91m

This walk traverses the Awabakal Nature Reserve. Starting from Dudley in the north, this walk travels south through coastal heath and forest, until coming to Redhead. The vegetation throughout this walk is particularly attractive during the wildflower season of July to October. The side trip out to the Awabakal Viewpoint gives great views to the north along the coastline. A car shuffle would be ideal for this oneway walk. The walking tracks are a little overgrown, but if you like native forest and heath, or simply flowers, then this is the walk for you.

Lake Macquarie LGA

## 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 walks 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** You can get to Awabakal Car Park (end of Ocean St, Dudley) (gps: -32.9953, 151.7275) by car or bus. Car: There is free parking available.

You can get back from Int of Awabakal Walk & Collier St, Redhead (gps: -33.0108, 151.725) by car or bus. Car: There is free parking available.

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

#### 0 | Awabakal Nature Reserve

Awabakal Nature Reserve covers 227 hectares of coastal heath between Dudley and Redhead. The Awabakal Reserve contains a wide range of habitats including one of the largest remaining coastal heath communities, and also perched lagoons, creek catchments, dry and wet sclerophyll forest and remnants of rainforest. This park was created in January 1978. The coastal viewpoints from the reserve are also great for whale watching, bird watching and wildflower photography. <u>More info.</u>

## 0 | Awabakal Car Park

The Awabakal car park at the end of Ocean Street, Dudley is a good spot to start a walk within the Awabakal Nature Reserve. The car park contains a turning circle and is fenced amongst open forest. No other facilities exist here. Please do not leave valuables in your vehicle.

## 0 | Awabakal Car Park (end of Ocean St, Dudley)

(320 m 5 mins) From the Awabakal car park (end of Ocean St, Dudley), this walk passes around the locked metal gate and follows the track gently downhill. The walk continues through native forest for about 110m until coming to a three-way intersection, with a large stand-alone tree and picnic table.

Turn right: From the intersection, this walk follows the track gently uphill, while leaving the stand-alone tree directly

behind you and keeping the ocean on your left. This walk continues, undulating through coastal vegetation for about 160m, until coming to a level three-way intersection with a smaller track on the right.

## 0.32 | Optional sidetrip to Awabakal Viewpoint

(160 m 3 mins) Veer left: From the intersection, this walk follows the wider track gently uphill, while initially passing the narrower, overgrown track on the right. This walk continues through attractive natural vegetation for about 150m, to find the end of the wide track and a number of small tracks ahead. Then this walk follows the left-hand track for about 30m, until coming to the Awabakal Viewpoint. At the end of this side trip, retrace your steps back to the main walk then Turn left.

## 0.32 | Awabakal Viewpoint

The Awabakal Viewpoint offers excellent views out over the ocean from its elevated viewpoint. This viewpoint is unfenced and care should therefore be taken. The views are paricular good to the north towards Newcastle. Please stay on the tracks already created to reduce the erosion of the cliff top.

## 0.32 | Int of Awabakal Walk & Lookout Track

(1.6 km 28 mins) Veer right: From the intersection, this walk follows the narrow and overgrown (but well defined) track, while leaving the wide track behind and keeping the ocean to your left. This walk continues on the overgrown track, undulating gently through attractive native forest and heath (with occasional views across the landscape)(ignoring side tracks) for about 1.6km, until coming out of the bush to Collier St, Redhead, with a 'No Pets Allowed' sign (on the right).

