

Basin campsite to Watagan Valley



6 hrs

Hard track

13 km One way

784m

4

This varied walk travels north through the Watagans. Leaving the Basin campsite behind, the walk traverses the Wollombi Brook via the Lyrebird trail. The Wollombi Brook Pool is a great spot to stop (and take a swim) on a hot day. From the pool, the walk climbs into the Warrawolong Flora Reserve using a combination of bush tracks and dirt roads. Along the way, a side trip to Mt Warrawolong offers views on the way to the highest point in the area. This walk finishes by descending into the beautiful Watagan Valley.

539m

171m

Olney State Forest

Basin Campsite

This large campsite sits by Wollombi Brook on the Great North Walk and is accessible by car. The campsite provides a range of facilities such as a pit toilet, picnic tables and chairs, wood BBQs and fireplaces. Water is usually available from the water tank or the nearby creek - treat before use.

Wollombi Brook Pool

The Wollombi Brook pool is located where two creeks come together and is a deep pool surrounded by moist cool forest. On a hot day, this spot would make an ideal resting spot or place for a cooling swim.

Mt Warrawolong Campsite

This relatively small campsite is a flat open clearing a stones throw away from the dirt road with a small fire pit and enough room to comfortably pitch three tents. There is no water available at this campsite so you will need to make sure you have enough to last until you get to the next water source.

Mt Warrawolong

At 642m above sea level, Mt Warrawolong is the highest point of the Great North Walk.

Watagan Creek Campsite

This is a Great North Walk signposted campsite, with plenty of room for a few tents but providing minimal facilities ie. no water, toilets or tables. There is, however, a bench and room for a fire.

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 ()
- 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:91314N MURRAYS RUN, 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	13 km One way
Time	6 hrs
Quality of track	Formed track, with some branches and other obstacles (3/6)
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)



Mobile phone coverage depends on many factors, this graph displays the probability of mobile coverage along this walk. Although hopefully close, actual coverage will vary from what is shown here. Please always carry a PLB in remote areas.

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 Basin Campsite (gps: -33.104, 151.2309). Car: There is free parking available.

Traveling by car is the only practical way to get back from Int of GNW track & Watagan Creek Road (southside) (gps: -33.0286, 151.2739). Car: There is free parking available.

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

0 | Basin Campsite

This large campsite sits by Wollombi Brook on the Great North Walk and is accessible by car. The campsite provides a range of facilities such as a pit toilet, picnic tables and chairs, wood BBQs and fireplaces. Water is usually available from the water tank or the nearby creek - treat before use.

0 | Basin Campsite

(340 m 7 mins) From the Basin campsite, this walk follows 'The Great North Walk' sign, gently uphill, initially keeping the campsite on your right. The walk continues through tall open forest for about 300m, until coming to a saddle, with a GNW arrow marker (pointing ahead) and a 'The Basin Camping Area' sign (Rock Lilly Trail, on the left).

0.34 | Int of Rock Lilly AND Lyrebird trails

(1.9 km 47 mins) Continue straight: From the intersection at the edge of the saddle, this walk follows the GNW arrow east and gently downhill. The track leads downhill to come close to Wollombi Brook (on your left), where the track gently undulates as it leads into the dense vine and mossy forest for about 1.2km. Then over the next 700m or so, the track leads past a few sandstone caves and crosses a few small creeks to come to a signposted three-way intersection with 'The Great North Walk' and the 'Lyrebird Trail' track, where a sign points back to 'Basin Camping Area'.

2.2 | Int of GNW tracks & Lyrebird Trail

(280 m 7 mins) Continue straight: From the intersection, this walk follows the 'Lyrebird Trail' & 'The Great North Walk' sign, north along the track whilst keeping the valley to your left. The walk leads through the dense forest for about 250m, until crossing a mossy creek with many small boulders. This creek may become impassable after heavy or prolonged rain. On the other side of this side creek, the walk comes to the edge of the delightful Wollombi Brook Pool (on the left, at the junction of this side creek and Wollombi Brook).

2.48 | Wollombi Brook Pool

The Wollombi Brook pool is located where two creeks come together and is a deep pool surrounded by moist cool forest. On a hot day, this spot would make an ideal resting spot or place for a cooling swim.

2.48 | Wollombi Brook Pool

(550 m 14 mins) Turn right: From Wollombi Brook Pool, this walk follows GNW arrow post north-east steeply uphill, initially keeping the main pool behind and to the left. The walk zigzags up through dense forest, up a series of timber and rock steps and past some large rock walls for about 500m, until

coming to the wide and flat area at the end of the dirt Wild Boar Road.

3.03 | End of Wild Boar Road

(5.3 km 2 hrs 12 mins) Continue straight: From the end of Wild Boar Road (aka Piglet Point Road), this walk follows the dirt road fairly gently uphill to the north. The road leads distinctly uphill for about 500m, and then gently undulates along the ridge through forest for about 2.5km. Here the walk comes to a clear and signposted four-way intersection with 'Walkers Ridge Road' route and 'The Great North Walk' track.

Continue straight: From the intersection, this walk follows 'The Great North Walk' sign north along the track that heads moderately steeply downhill. The walk continues through forest (with occasional timber and rock steps) for about 500m, to cross the usually small Wollombi Brook. Then the walk climbs moderately steeply uphill for about 400m, until coming to the end of the dirt Kangaroo Point Road.

Continue straight: From the end of Kangaroo Point Road, this walk follows the GNW arrow post north, gently uphill along Kangaroo Point Road. The walk continues through forest (with the road gradually widening) for about 1.3km, until coming to a signposted four-way intersection with Murrays Forest Road (and a wide trail directly ahead).

8.33 | Optional sidetrip to Rest Area

(50 m 1 mins) Continue straight: From the four-way intersection, this walk follows the wide trail north and directly opposite Kangaroo Point Road. After about 70m, this walk comes to a clearing used as an informal rest area. At the end of this side trip, retrace your steps back to the main walk then Turn left.

8.33 | Mt Warrawolong Campsite

This relatively small campsite is a flat open clearing a stones throw away from the dirt road with a small fire pit and enough room to comfortably pitch three tents. There is no water available at this campsite so you will need to make sure you have enough to last until you get to the next water source.

8.33 | Int of Kangaroo Point & Murrays Forest Road

(140 m 2 mins) Turn right: From the intersection, this walk follows the dirt Murray Forest Road north-east, gently uphill and directly away from the face of the 'Kangaroo Pt' sign. After about 150m, this walk comes to a signposted three-way intersection with the 'Great North Walk' trail (on your left).

8.47 | Int of Murrays Forest Road and the GNW

(1.7 km 37 mins) Turn left: From the intersection, this walk follows the GNW arrow post north along the dirt road for about 20m to another intersection with a 'The Great North Walk' sign. Here the walk veers right (following the sign) up along the track until it flattens out and winds down to the top of a ridgeline. The track then follows this ridgeline through an open wooded forest for about 300m, to find an unsignposted area that has been used as a campsite, at the end of a mostly flat section.

Continue straight: From the rest area, this walk follows the track down along the ridge line. The track winds steeply down into a saddle, where the track flattens out to lead through thicker green forest to the intersection with the narrow Bar Trail.

Veers right: From the intersection, this walk follows the GNW arrow post north-east along the narrow, overgrown trail. The trail begins to widen and after about 800m, this walk turns left to follow a 'The Great North Walk' sign down for about 20m to an intersection with the wide dirt Warrawolong Road.

10.21 | Int of Bar trail and Warrawolong Road

(360 m 7 mins) Veers left: From the intersection, this walk follows the GNW arrow post north, gently down along the dirt road for about 400m to find the intersection with the dirt Turners Road, just past the 'Mt Warrawolong' sign.

10.57 | Optional sidetrip to Mt Warrawolong Fire Tower

(2 km 56 mins) Turn left: From the intersection, this walk heads north-west down along the dirt road, initially keeping the 'Mt Warrawolong' sign on your left and keeping the valley on your right. The road leads gently downhill along the side of the hill for just over 300m to come to a Y-intersection with the Mt Warrawolong trail (on your left).

Veers left: From the intersection, this walk heads uphill along the upper trail past the 'Authorised Vehicles Only' sign. After about 200m, the walk heads around a locked gate then continues moderately steeply uphill, winding up the hill for about 1.5km to come to a large flat clearing and the tall fire tower at the top of Mt Warrawolong. At the end of this side trip, retrace your steps back to the main walk then Veers left.

10.57 | Mt Warrawolong

At 642m above sea level, Mt Warrawolong is the highest point of the Great North Walk.

10.57 | Int of Turners and Warrawolong Roads

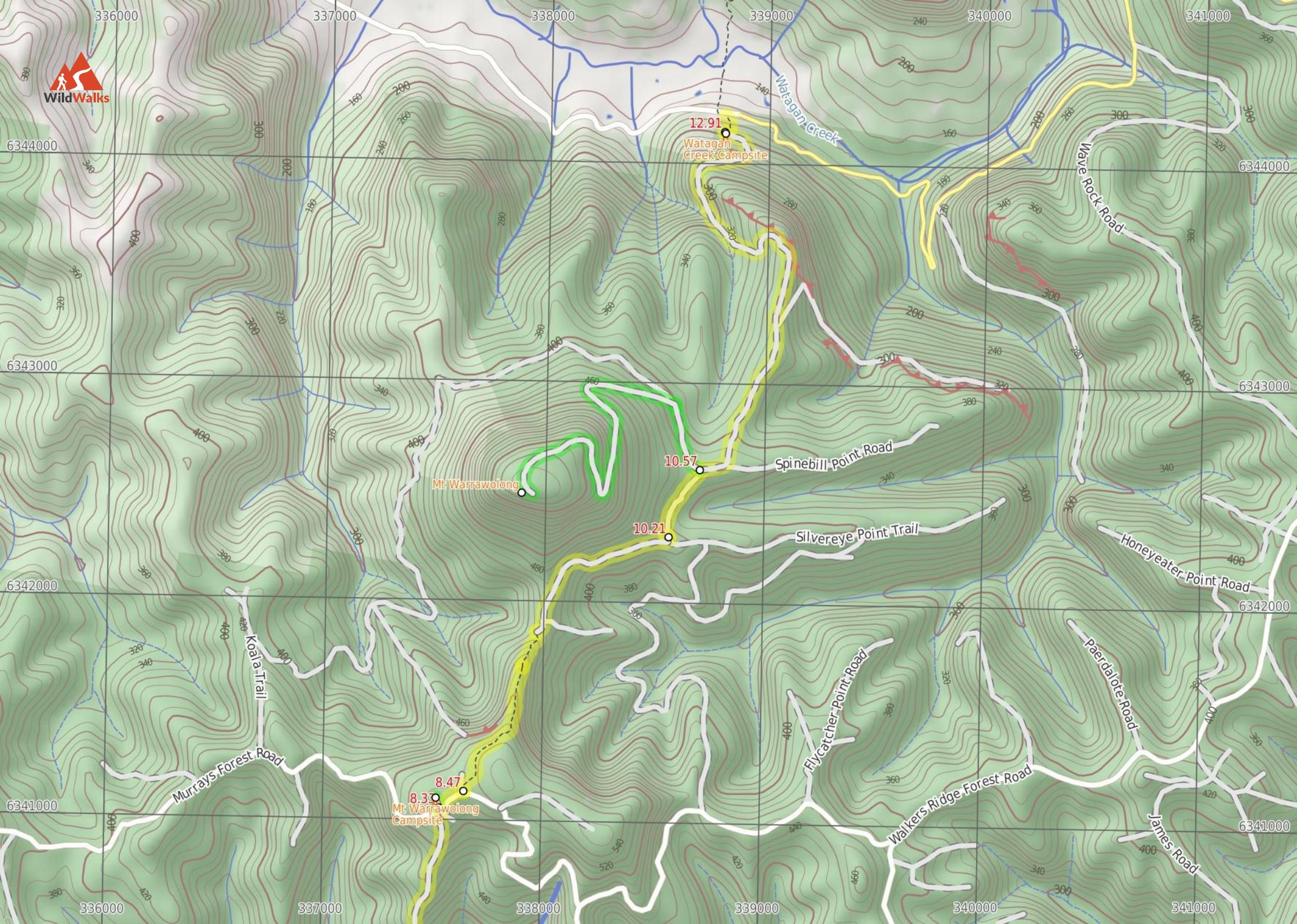
(2.3 km 53 mins) Turn right: From the intersection, this walk follows the 'The Great North Walk' sign, (away from face of the 'Mt Warrawolong' sign) to head east along the dirt Turners Road. After about 150m, this walk turns left at another 'The Great North Walk' sign to follow the trail as it gently undulates along the top of the ridge for just over 1km. Here the trail begins to wind downhill, becoming steeper as it goes, for about 1.1km to head around a rock road block and find the signposted rest area, where a 'Sydney Cove' sign points back up the trail.

12.91 | Watagan Creek Campsite

This is a Great North Walk signposted campsite, with plenty of room for a few tents but providing minimal facilities ie. no water, toilets or tables. There is, however, a bench and room for a fire.

12.91 | Signposted Rest Area

(100 m 3 mins) Turn right: From the rest area, this walk follows 'Newcastle' sign gently downhill towards the valley, along the narrow track. The track leads downhill for almost 100m, coming to a T-intersection with the dirt Watagan Creek Road, marked with a 'Great North Walk' sign pointing back uphill.



12.91

Watagan Creek Campsite

Mt Warrawolong

10.57

10.21

8.47

8.33
Mt Warrawolong Campsite

Spinebill Point Road

Silvereye Point Trail

Honeyeater Point Road

Paeralote Road

James Road

Walkers Ridge Forest Road

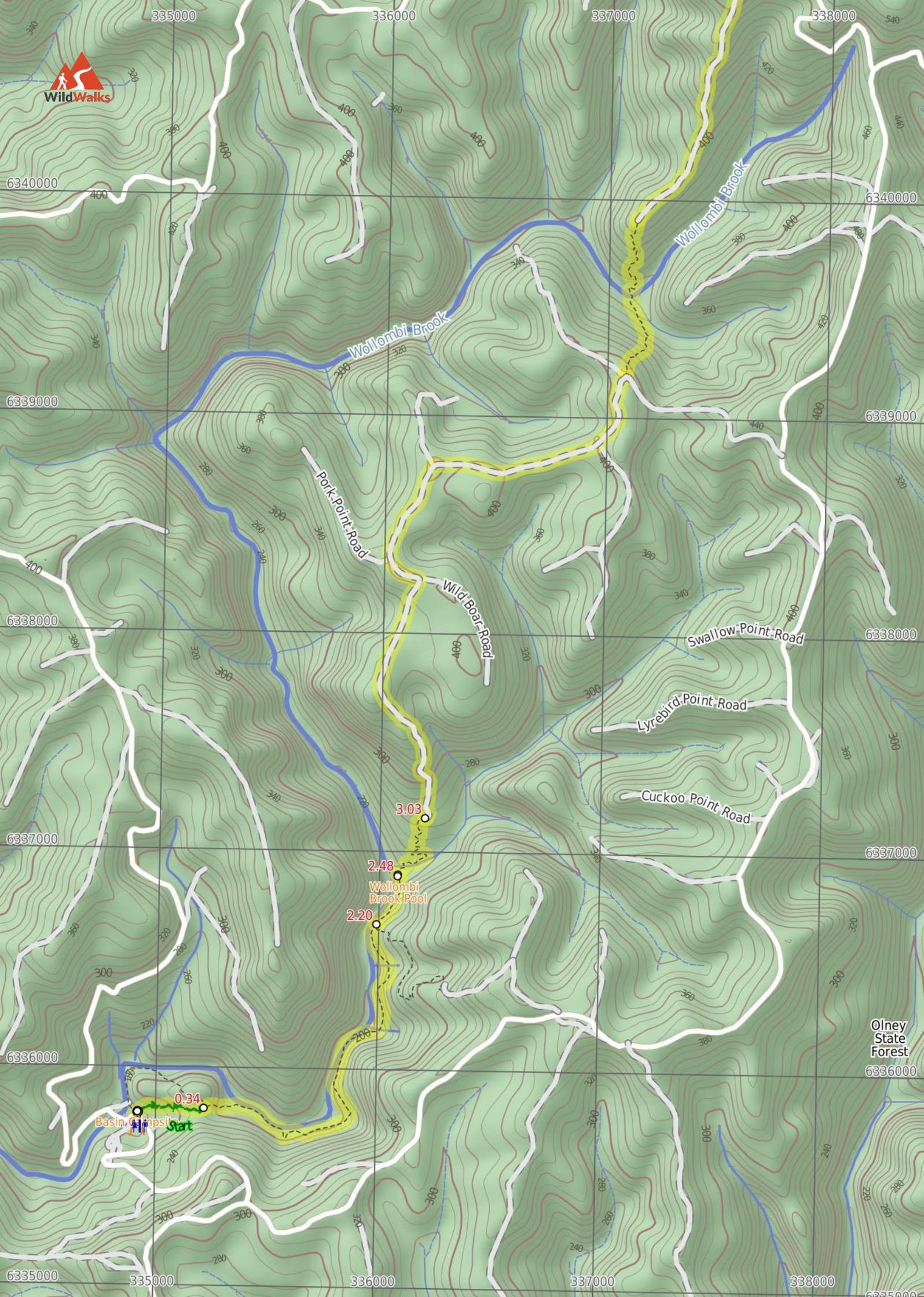
Flycatcher Point Road

Murrays Forest Road

Koala Trail

Watagan Creek

Wave Rock Road



Summary navigation sheet for the Basin campsite to Watagan Valley



km	From	Up/Dwn	Length	Initial directions (Use full tracknotes and maps for more detail)
0.00	Basin Campsite -33.104,151.2309 (GR Murrays Run, 349358)	41 -4	340 m 7 mins	From the Basin campsite, this walk follows 'The Great North walk' sign, gently uphill , initially keeping the campsite on your right.
0.34	Int of Rock Lilly AND Lyrebird trails -33.1039,151.2341 (GR Murrays Run, 352358)	139 -125	1.9 km 47 mins	Continue straight: From the intersection at the edge of the saddle, this walk follows the GNW arrow east and gently downhill.
2.20	Int of GNW tracks & Lyrebird Trail -33.0963,151.2425 (GR Murrays Run, 360367)	19 -27	280 m 7 mins	Continue straight: From the intersection, this walk follows the 'Lyrebird Trail' & 'The Great North Walk' sign , north along the track whilst keeping the valley to your left.
2.48	Wollombi Brook Pool -33.0942,151.2435 (GR Murrays Run, 361369)	52 -5	550 m 14 mins	Turn right: From Wollombi Brook Pool, this walk follows GNW arrow post north-east steeply uphill, initially keeping the main pool behind and to the left.
3.03	End of Wild Boar Road -33.0919,151.2449 (GR Murrays Run, 362372)	441 -177	5.3 km 2 hrs 12 mins	Continue straight: From the end of Wild Boar Road (aka Piglet Point Road), this walk follows the dirt road fairly gently uphill to the north.
8.33	Int of Kangaroo Point & Murrays Forest Road -33.057,151.2598 (GR Morisset, 375411)	2 0	50 m 1 mins	Optional sidetrip to Rest Area. Continue straight: From the four-way intersection, this walk follows the wide trail north and directly opposite Kangaroo Point Road.
8.33	Int of Kangaroo Point & Murrays Forest Road -33.057,151.2598 (GR Morisset, 375411)	2 -1	140 m 2 mins	Turn right: From the intersection, this walk follows the dirt Murray Forest Road north-east, gently uphill and directly away from the face of the 'Kangaroo Pt' sign.
8.47	Int of Murrays Forest Road and the Great North Walk -33.0563,151.261 (GR Morisset, 376411)	41 -147	1.7 km 37 mins	Turn left : From the intersection, this walk follows the GNW arrow post north along the dirt road for about 20m to another intersection with a 'The Great North Walk' sign.
10.21	Int of Bar trail and Warrawolong Road -33.0459,151.2711 (GR Morisset, 386423)	8 -12	360 m 7 mins	Veer left: From the intersection, this walk follows the GNW arrow post north, gently down along the the dirt road for about 400m to find the intersection with the dirt Turners Road, just past the 'Mt Warrawolong' sign.
10.57	Int of Turners and Warrawolong Roads -33.0431,151.2726 (GR Morisset, 387426)	245 -31	2 km 56 mins	Optional sidetrip to Mt Warrawolong Fire Tower. Turn left: From the intersection, this walk heads north-west down along the dirt road, initially keeping the 'Mt Warrawolong' sign on your left and keeping the valley on your right.
10.57	Int of Turners and Warrawolong Roads -33.0431,151.2726 (GR Morisset, 387426)	40 -267	2.3 km 53 mins	Turn right: From the intersection, this walk follows the 'The Great North Walk' sign, (away from face of the 'Mt Warrawolong' sign) to head east along the dirt Turners Road.
12.91	Signposted Rest Area -33.0293,151.2739 (GR Morisset, 388441)	1 -25	100 m 3 mins	Turn right: From the rest area, this walk follows 'Newcastle' sign gently downhill towards the valley, along the narrow track.