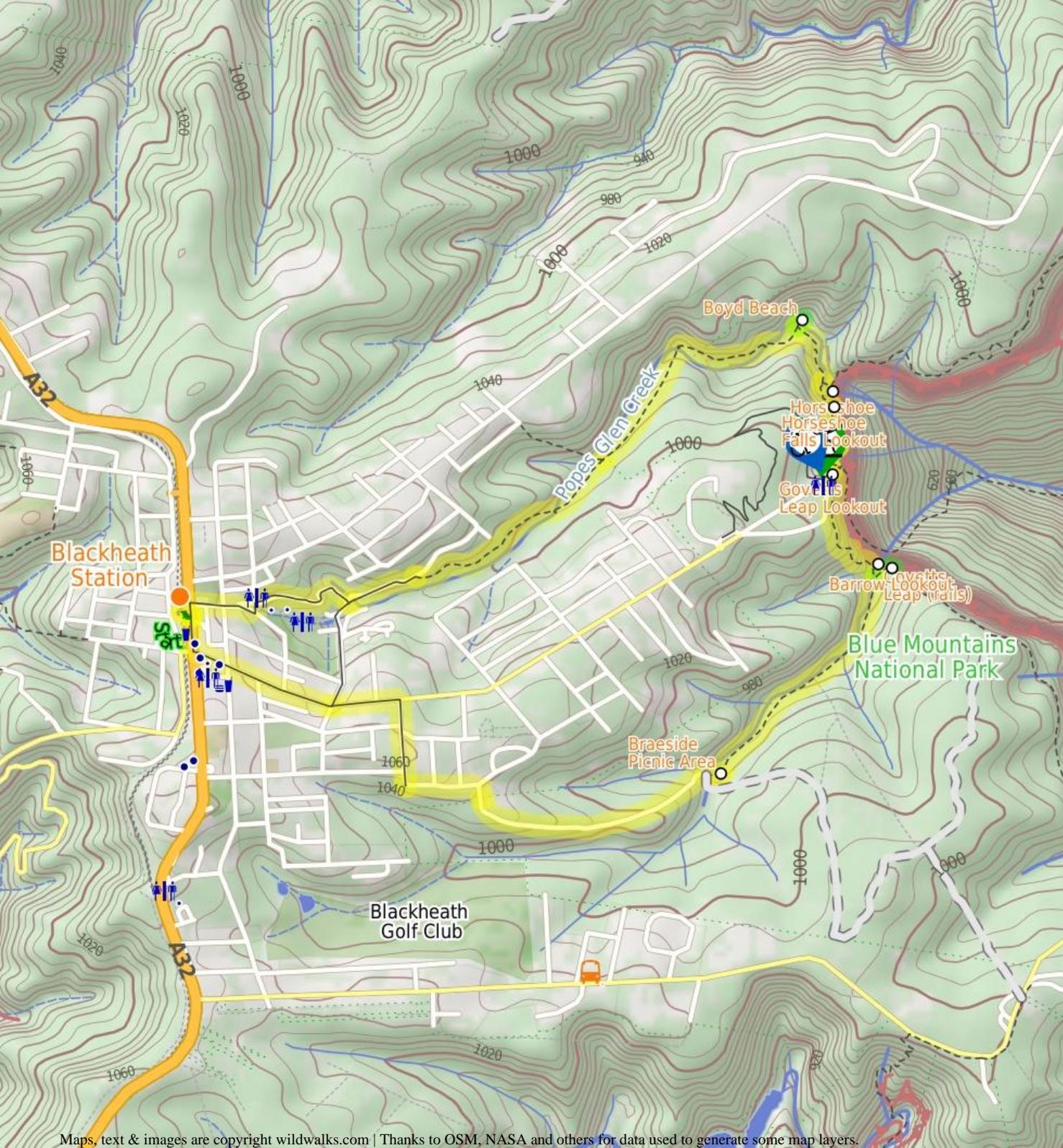


Govetts Leap Loop



4 hrs 30 mins

Hard track

8.7 km Circuit

↑ 380m



This walk, from Blackheath Train Station, is a fantastic way to see some of the iconic areas of the Blue Mountains in the Blackheath area. The walk heads through Pope's Glen to Govetts Leap via a wonderful stroll along the creek, before breaking out to the views of the Grose Valley. The stunning views over the valley, waterfalls and bush make this a great walk with public transport access.

909m

Blue Mountains National Park

Boyd Beach

Boyd Beach, Blue Mountains National Park, is a small sandy bank on Popes Glen Creek. The beach is a quiet spot with nice ferns and shade. The beach is a short distance from the Popes Glen track.

Horseshoe Falls Lookout

Horseshoe Falls Lookout, Blue Mountains National Park, is a small fenced lookout. There are views down to Horseshoe Falls and across the Grose Valley.

Horseshoe Falls

Horseshoe Falls, Blue Mountains National Park, are sourced by Popes Glen Creek which runs over the cliff into the Grose Valley. The Horseshoe Falls seem to be named after the shape of the valley into which they drop.

Govetts Leap Lookout

Govetts Leap Lookout is named after the first European man to have enjoyed this view, William Govett, as an assistant surveyor in June 1831. Govetts Leap Lookout offers wonderful views over the Grose Valley and the spectacular Bridal Falls. The word 'leap' is an old Scottish word meaning waterfall. The lookout is easily accessed from the car park, there are also toilets and picnic shelters nearby.

Barrow Lookout

Barrow Lookout, Blue Mountains National Park, looks down to Govetts Leap falls and across the Grose Valley. The lookout is fenced and has a bench seat to rest.

Govetts Leap (falls)

Govetts Leap, is a waterfall in the Blue Mountains National Park. The fall is fed by Govetts Leap Brook which runs over the cliff into the Grose Valley. The falls are best viewed from Govetts Leap and Barrow Lookouts. Leap is a scots dialect word for cataract or waterfall.

Braeside Picnic Area

Braeside Picnic Area, Blue Mountains National Park, is a small picnic area on the southern end of the Braeside walking track. The picnic area has a bench table and stone barbeque. The picnic area is situated next to a small weir and waterfall amongst the ferns.

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 Central Tablelands District](#))
- 2) Fire Dangers ([Greater Sydney Region](#))
- 3) Park Alerts ([Blue Mountains National Park](#))
- 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:89301S KATOOMBA, 89301N MOUNT WILSON

1:100 000 Map Series:8930 KATOOMBA

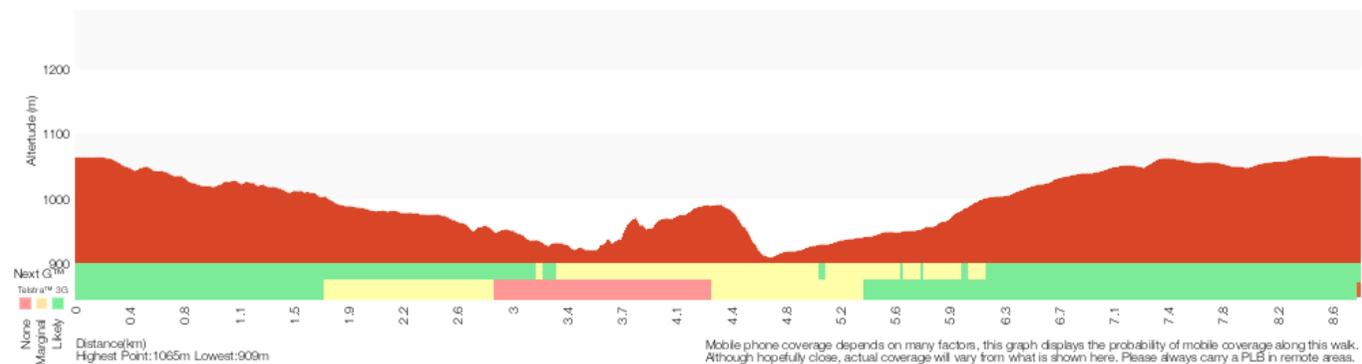
Grade

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	8.7 km Circuit
Time	4 hrs 30 mins
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	No experience required (1/6)
Weather	Weather generally has little impact on safety (1/6)
Infrastructure	Limited facilities, not all cliffs are fenced (3/6)



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 You can get to Blackheath Station (gps: -33.6339, 150.2844) by car, train or bus. 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/gll>

0 | Blackheath Station

(1.2 km 26 mins) From the top of the station steps, this walk heads towards the Great Western Highway and Gardners Inn. The walk turns right down a flight of stairs, then turns left across the Great Western Highway at the pedestrian crossing.

Turn left: From the intersection, this walk heads up the Great Western Highway, keeping the Gardners Inn to the right. This walk turns right after the petrol station, turning onto Gardiners Cres. The walk continues down Gardiners Cres to take the first left onto Inconstant St. The walk then takes the first right onto Wills St, which later becomes Robertson Lane. Robertson Lane tends right into Gipps Lane, which is followed to the intersection with Dell St/Wills St (unsignposted, road changes name near this intersection).

Turn left: From the intersection, this walk heads up the road, leaving Gipps St behind on the left and passing a wooden house (also on the left). The walk passes Cleopatra St on the left before coming to the signposted intersection with the Pope's Glen track on the right, near 49 Dell St.

1.18 | Int. Popes Glen Trk and Dell St

(2.1 km 49 mins) Veer right: From the intersection near 49 Dell St, this walk heads down the hill following the old 'Popes Glen' sign. After approximately 350m, this walk passes an intersection (with access tracks to Clarence Rd). A further 200m down the hill, the walk passes a waterfall on the right, then continues down parallel to the creek (on the right). The walk crosses two bridges, then continues to follow the creek (now on the left) to an intersection below power lines.

Continue straight: From the intersection, this walk heads down a slight hill, keeping the creek on the left of the track. After some time, the walk crosses a bridge, then continues beside the creek until crossing a second bridge. The track continues for some time downhill, to a signposted intersection.

3.3 | Optional sidetrip to Boyd Beach

(40 m 1 mins) Continue straight: From the intersection, this walk heads down the hill following the 'Boyd's Beach' sign (under the bush). The walk winds down the rocky steps for approximately 40m to Boyd Beach. At the end of this side trip, retrace your steps back to the main walk then Turn left.

3.3 | Boyd Beach

Boyd Beach, Blue Mountains National Park, is a small sandy bank on Popes Glen Creek. The beach is a quiet spot with nice ferns and shade. The beach is a short distance from the Popes Glen track.

3.3 | Int. Popes Glen Trk and Boyd Bch Trk

(440 m 11 mins) Turn right: From the intersection, this walk follows the 'Govetts Leap' sign, climbing for approximately 50m past a rock feature (below on the left - there is a track to the top of this feature). The walk continues along the creek line, keeping the creek on the left, and passes a

track (accessing the creek). This walk continues for approximately 100m, heading through a ferny area to an intersection near the creek, marked by 'Popes Glen' and 'Govetts Leap' signs.

Continue straight: From the intersection, this walk follows the 'Govetts Leap' sign through the ferns, with the creek to the left of the track, and comes to a set of stairs. The walk climbs the steep stairs to follow the railing around a rocky outcrop. The track then winds along the hillside for some time heading to pass a lookout on the left, as the track continues to the intersection near the Horseshoe Falls Lookout.

3.74 | Horseshoe Falls Lookout

Horseshoe Falls Lookout, Blue Mountains National Park, is a small fenced lookout. There are views down to Horseshoe Falls and across the Grose Valley.

3.74 | Horseshoe Falls

Horseshoe Falls, Blue Mountains National Park, are sourced by Popes Glen Creek which runs over the cliff into the Grose Valley. The Horseshoe Falls seem to be named after the shape of the valley into which they drop.

3.74 | Horseshoe Falls Lookout

(340 m 11 mins) Continue straight: From the intersection, this walk winds along the cliff top with the valley below to the left. The walk then leads steeply up the stairs to the intersection at the viewing area.

Veer right: From the intersection, this walk heads up the stairs, keeping the valley to the left. The walk heads up and around the hillside to cross over a bridge, then up more stairs to the intersection.

Turn right: From the intersection, this walk heads across the grassed area towards a platform structure. The walk climbs some stairs onto Govetts Leap Lookout, with its great views and sandstone monuments.

4.07 | Govetts Leap Lookout

Govetts Leap Lookout is named after the first European man to have enjoyed this view, William Govett, as an assistant surveyor in June 1831. Govetts Leap Lookout offers wonderful views over the Grose Valley and the spectacular Bridal Falls. The word 'leap' is an old Scottish word meaning waterfall. The lookout is easily accessed from the car park, there are also toilets and picnic shelters nearby.

4.07 | Govetts Leap Lookout

(620 m 15 mins) Continue straight: From the intersection, the walk heads up the hill, following the sign to 'Evans Lookout' and keeping the Grose Valley below on the left. The track rises for approximately 400m and then heads down the hillside. The walk zigzags down the hill, with stairs, and then crosses a creek with cement steppingstones, coming to a signposted intersection on the other side.

4.69 | Optional sidetrip to Barrow Lookout

(80 m 2 mins) Turn left: From the intersection, this walk heads up the winding stairs towards the cliffs. The soon comes to the railed Barrow Lookout, where there is a bench seat. At the end of this side trip, retrace your steps back to the main walk then Veer left.

4.69 | Barrow Lookout

Barrow Lookout, Blue Mountains National Park, looks down to Govetts Leap falls and across the Grose Valley. The lookout is fenced and has a bench seat to rest.

4.69 | Govetts Leap (falls)

Govetts Leap, is a waterfall in the Blue Mountains National Park. The fall is fed by Govetts Leap Brook which runs over the cliff into the Grose Valley.

The falls are best viewed from Govetts Leap and Barrow Lookouts. Leap is a scots dialect word for cataract or waterfall.

4.69 | Braeside Walk North

(1.1 km 20 mins) Veer right: From the intersection, this walk follows the 'Braeside Walk' sign, up the stream, along the rocky track. The walk leads approximately 100m, to then go down to the creek. The stepping stones are followed up stream to a set of stairs. This walk climbs the stairs and continues south-west for approximately 100m to find some overhead power lines. The walk continues upstream, passing an overgrown track on the left (which heads underneath power lines on the left to join up with a management trail above on the hill). This track is passed, as the brook is followed for approximately 100m, passing some large boulders on the right as the track continues approximately 500m to the Braeside Picnic Area.

5.83 | Braeside Picnic Area

Braeside Picnic Area, Blue Mountains National Park, is a small picnic area on the southern end of the Braeside walking track. The picnic area has a bench table and stone barbeque. The picnic area is situated next to a small weir and waterfall amongst the ferns.

5.83 | Braeside Picnic Area

(2.9 km 53 mins) Continue straight: From the weir and the barbeque, this walk heads up the hill, keeping the weir on the right of the track, soon reaching the stepping stones. The track tends right across the creek via the stepping stones. From the creek, this walk heads up the steps to the signposted intersection on the management trail.

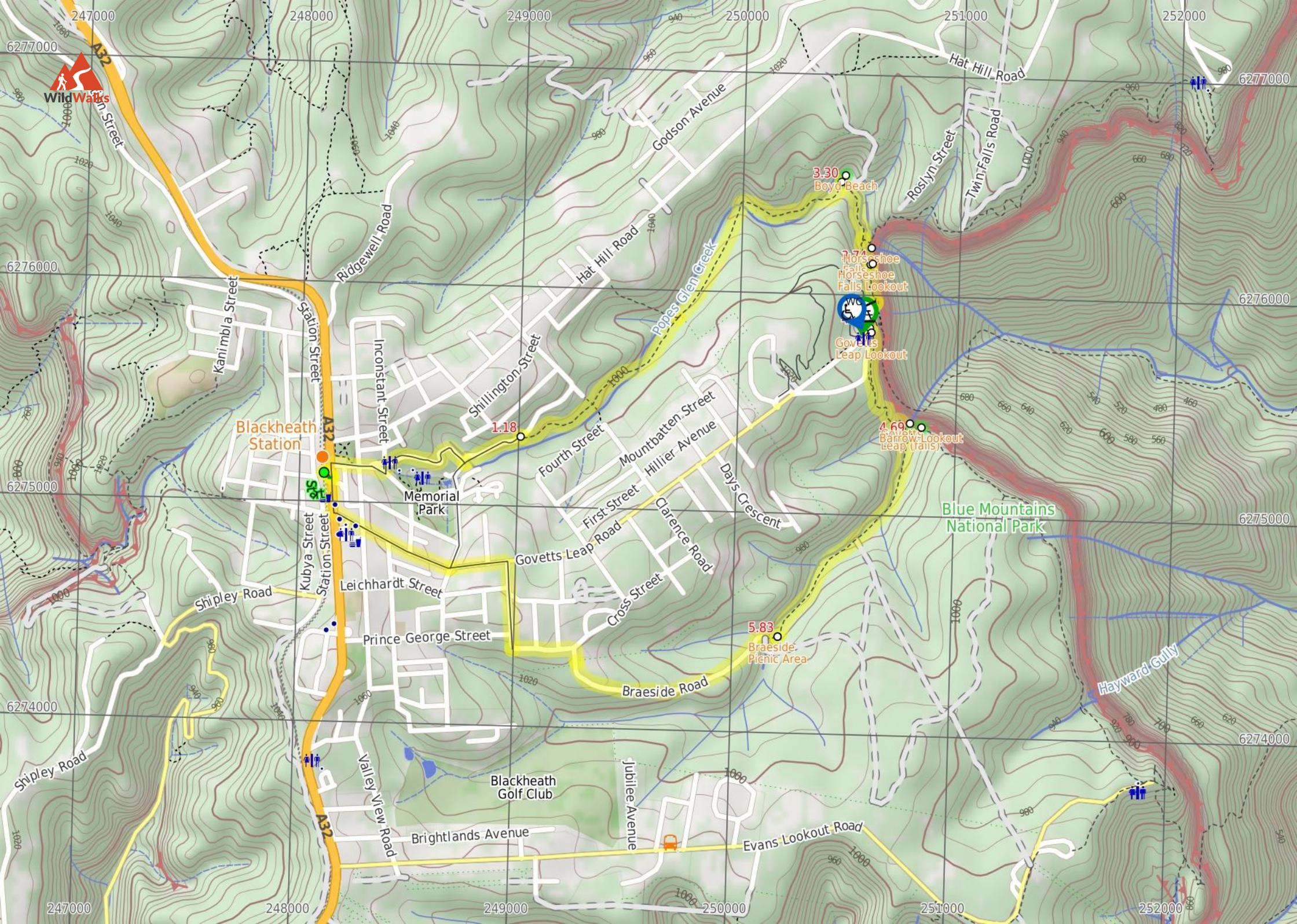
Veer right: From the intersection, this walk heads up the hill past a car park area on the right, and up to the intersection of the management trails.

Continue straight: From the intersection, this walk heads up the hill passing a driveway on the left. The walk heads up the hill towards the white house at the top of the hill, to turn left (west) onto Braeside St, keeping the white house behind to the right. This walk continues up the street to the intersection with Boreas St.

Turn right: From the intersection, this walk heads north up Boreas St to turn left onto Govetts Leap Road. This walk continues along Govetts Leap Rd to the intersection with Prince Edward St.

Continue straight: From the intersection, this walk heads uphill on Govetts Leap Rd, passing under the eaves of an old store on the right. The walk turns right onto the Great Western Highway, opposite the Ivanhoe Hotel. From here, this walk follows the footpath past the Gardners Inn to the pedestrian crossing, opposite Blackheath Station steps.

Turn left: From the pedestrian crossing, this walk crosses the Great Western Highway to turn right up the covered station steps. The walk follows the railway bridge to the top of the station staircase.



Blackheath Station

Memorial Park

Blue Mountains National Park

3.30
Boyd Beach

4.7
Horseshoe Falls Lookout

Govetts Leap Lookout

4.60
Barrow Lookout Leap (trails)

5.83
Braeside Picnic Area

Blackheath Golf Club

247000

248000

249000

250000

251000

252000

6277000

6276000

6275000

6274000

6277000

6276000

6275000

6274000

Summary navigation sheet for the Govetts Leap Loop



km	From	Up/Dwn	Length	Initial directions (Use full tracknotes and maps for more detail)
Start	Blackheath Station -33.6339,150.2844 (GR Katoomba, 481751)	27 -65	1.2 km 26 mins	From the top of the station steps, this walk heads towards the Great Western Highway and Gardners Inn.
1.18	Int. Popes Glen Trk and Dell St -33.6324,150.2941 (GR Katoomba, 490753)	48 -145	2.1 km 49 mins	Veer right: From the intersection near 49 Dell St, this walk heads down the hill following the old 'Popes Glen' sign.
3.30	Int. Popes Glen Trk and Boyd Bch Trk -33.622,150.31 (GR Mount Wilson, 505765)	0 -3	40 m 1 mins	Optional sidetrip to Boyd Beach. Continue straight: From the intersection, this walk heads down the hill following the 'Boyd's Beach' sign (under the bush).
3.30	Int. Popes Glen Trk and Boyd Bch Trk -33.622,150.31 (GR Mount Wilson, 505765)	41 -31	440 m 11 mins	Turn right: From the intersection, this walk follows the 'Govetts Leap' sign, climbing for approximately 50m past a rock feature (below on the left - there is a track to the top of this feature).
3.74	Horseshoe Falls Lookout -33.6254,150.3114 (GR Katoomba, 506761)	62 -23	340 m 11 mins	Continue straight: From the intersection, this walk winds along the cliff top with the valley below to the left.
4.07	Govetts Leap Lookout -33.628,150.3113 (GR Katoomba, 506759)	17 -82	620 m 15 mins	Continue straight: From the intersection, the walk heads up the hill, following the sign to 'Evans Lookout' and keeping the Grose Valley below on the left.
4.69	Braeside Walk North -33.6324,150.3132 (GR Katoomba, 508754)	5 -2	80 m 2 mins	Optional sidetrip to Barrow Lookout. Turn left: From the intersection, this walk heads up the winding stairs towards the cliffs.
4.69	Braeside Walk North -33.6324,150.3132 (GR Katoomba, 508754)	52 -5	1.1 km 20 mins	Veer right: From the intersection, this walk follows the 'Braeside Walk' sign, up the stream, along the rocky track.
5.83	Braeside Picnic Area -33.6406,150.3068 (GR Katoomba, 502744)	133 -24	2.9 km 53 mins	Continue straight: From the weir and the barbeque, this walk heads up the hill, keeping the weir on the right of the track, soon reaching the stepping stones.