

Grass Tree circuit

1 HrModerate track1.7 km Circuit109m

This beautiful circuit walk goes through a range of dry and wet forest along the valley, and offers some great views. There are plenty of grasstrees along the way to add to the scenery and the creek crossings are very picturesque. The optional side trip adds some beautiful rock overhangs to the scenery and gives a taste of the scenery on the longer 11km Circuit walk.

3

Dharug National Park

10m

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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 Mill Creek Picnic Area car park (gps: -33.4008, 151.0478) by car or bus. Bus: Wisemans Ferry Dialacar provides a taxi style mini-bus service based in Wisemans Ferry. The cost is typically about \$1 per km (ex Wisemans Ferry). They will pick-up and drop-off from Sydney or the Central Coast and will happily drop walkers off or pick them up from tracks in the area. The cost for a pick-up from Gosford and drop off near Wisemans Ferry would be approximately \$150 (please call for up-to-date pricing) and the minivan can carry up to 13 passengers. Phone: 0448 122 374 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 inlcuding; travel directions, weather, park closures and walker feedback at <u>http://wild.tl/gtc</u>

0 | Mill Creek picnic area

This beautifully situated picnic area is located a short distance along an unsealed road, off Wisemans Ferry Rd, about 5.5km east of Wisemans Ferry. There are picnic tables, fireplaces, an information board and pit toilets. There is some excellent bush walking in the area with two signposted circuit walks starting from the end of the picnic area. There is a 'large group' camping area adjacent.

0 | Mill Creek Picnic Area car park

(870 m 24 mins) From the Mill Creek picnic area (signposted on Wisemans Ferry Rd, about 6km east of Wisemans Ferry crossing), the walk crosses from the information signs to the the 'Start/Finish' walking track signpost at the far end of the picnic area.

Continue straight: From the 'Start/Finish' walking track signpost at the end of the picnic area, the walk follows the bush track and immediately takes the right hand branch at a fork in the track (the other track is the return leg of the Grass Tree circuit). The walk passes through a mix of closed in, dense vegetation and more open forest with some beautiful views and lots of grasstrees. After crossing a creek using wooden steps and a concreted stone path, the track climbs more steeply before dropping to the signposted intersection of the '11km Walking Track' and '1.5km Grass Tree Circuit'.

0.87 | Grasstrees

The beautiful Grasstree is one of the icons of the Australian bush. It is a very slow growing plant, with the trunk typically only growing about one cm per year. These plants can grow and survive for several hundred years. The trunk is usually black, apparently a result of bushfires. As with some other native plants, fires can actually promote flowering and further growth. <u>More info.</u>

0.87 | Optional sidetrip to 11km Big Tree creek crossing

(810 m 22 mins) Turn right: From the intersection, the walk follows the '11km Walking Track' arrow along the bush track. The track climbs for a while, with nice views down into the gully, before dropping to a picturesque creek crossing marked with a small 'walker arrow'. From here the track climbs steeply for a short distance, then passes another track marker at the start of a section with beautiful rock overhangs and boulders. The track then drops to another creek crossing, marked with a small walker sign on a boulder in the middle of the creek, beneath a huge tree with impressive roots draping over the rocks. At the end of this side trip, retrace your steps back to the main walk then Turn right.

0.87 | Int of Grass Tree and 11km circuits

(820 m 20 mins) Veer left: From the intersection, the walk follows the bush track steeply down the hill. The track immediately goes down some steps and crosses the creek on a concreted stone path. Soon after this, the track crosses a minor gully and meanders for a while, through beautiful moist forest, before crossing the main creek again. The track continues through some drier forest for a while and arrives at the signposted track head at the end of the Mill Creek picnic area. Continue straight: From the 'Start/Finish' walking track signpost at the end of the Mill Creek picnic area, the walk crosses the picnic area to the car park (Mill Creek picnic area is signposted on Wisemans Ferry Rd, about 6km east of Wisemans Ferry crossing).

