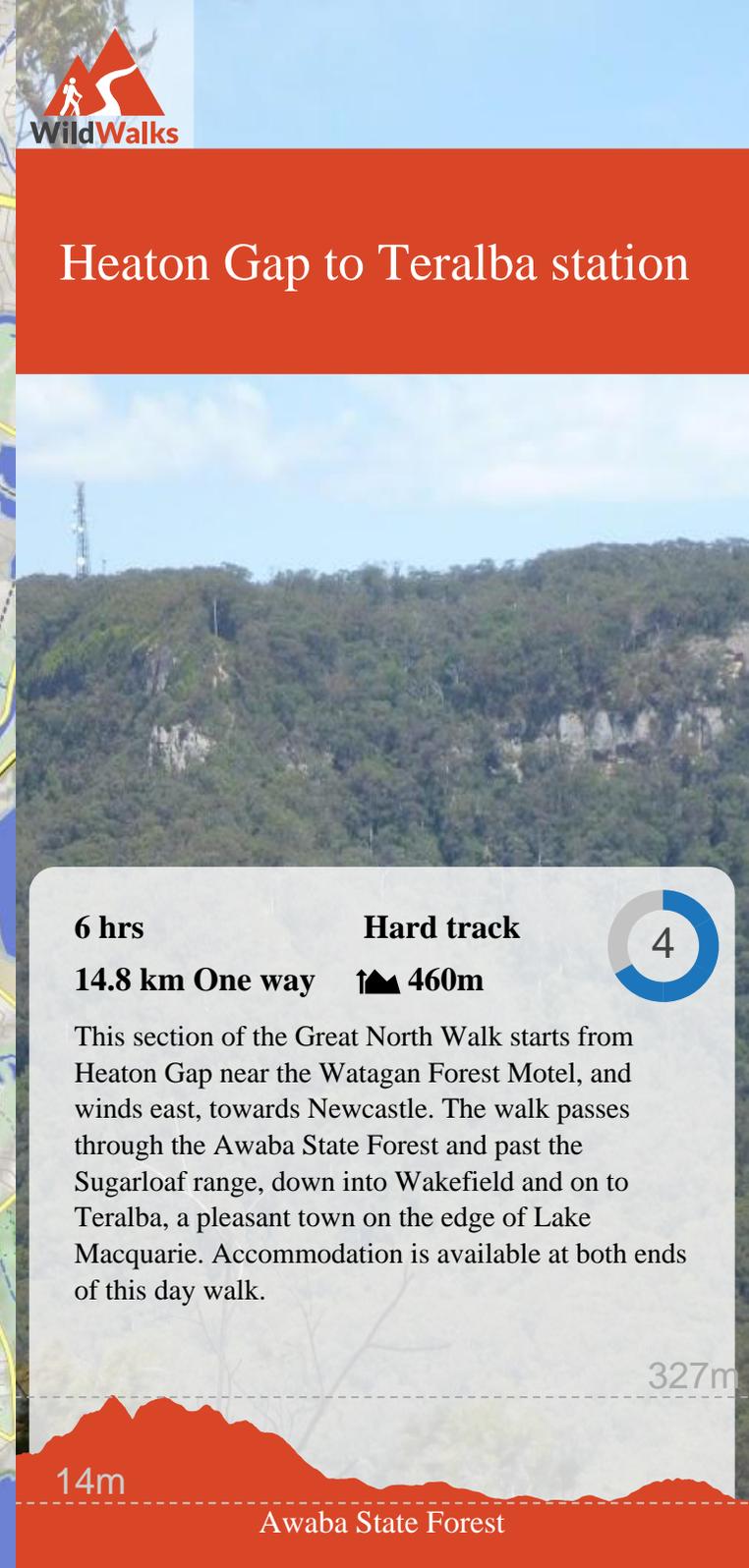
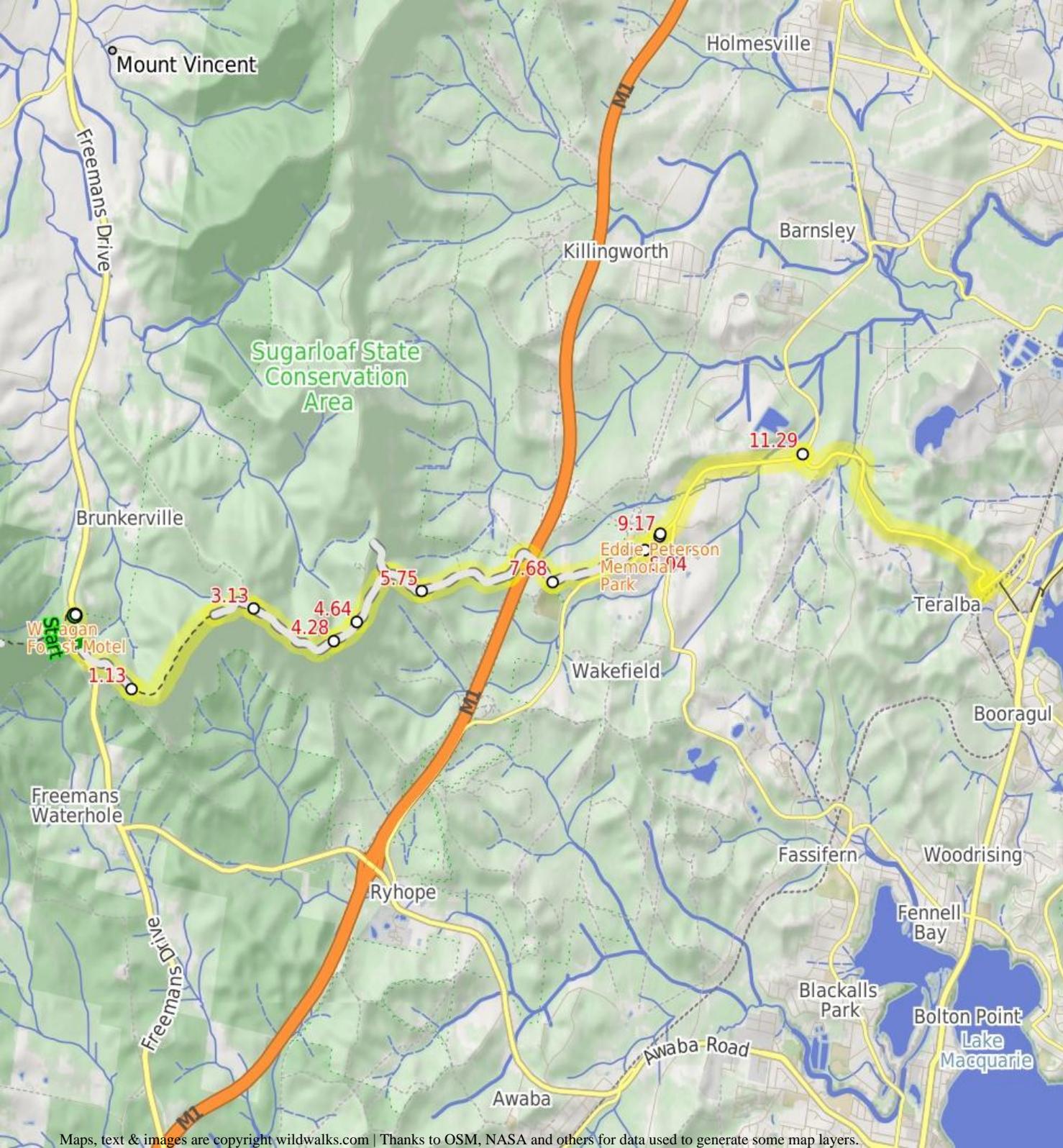


Heaton Gap to Teralba station



6 hrs

Hard track

14.8 km One way

460m



This section of the Great North Walk starts from Heaton Gap near the Watagan Forest Motel, and winds east, towards Newcastle. The walk passes through the Awaba State Forest and past the Sugarloaf range, down into Wakefield and on to Teralba, a pleasant town on the edge of Lake Macquarie. Accommodation is available at both ends of this day walk.



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 Watagan Forest Motel (gps: -32.9653, 151.4794). Car: There is free parking available. You can get back from Teralba Station (gps: -32.9624, 151.6038) by car, train or bus. 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/hgts>

0 | Watagan Forest Motel

Watagan Forest Motel is located on Branxton-Toronto Road. This retro-style motel is located right on the Great North Walk. The motel offers six rooms for around \$99 per night - each with a double bed (four rooms also have twin singles), a television, bathroom with shower, air conditioning, and breakfast included. Room service is available. Adjoining the motel is a service station, which also offers dining room meals as well as a small grocery selection (bread, milk, bottled water, rice, pasta, etc), open until 8:30pm daily. A rest area is situated next to the motel, with covered picnic tables and garbage bins. For further information, phone (02)4938 0149.

0 | Watagan Forest Motel

(1.1 km 26 mins) From the picnic area next to 'Watagan Forest Motel' (on Freemans Drive), this walk follows the 'Wakefield' sign gently up alongside Freemans Drive, away from the motel. The walk leads behind the safety barrier beside the road for about 400m, until coming to an intersection with an unsealed road marked with a 'Sugarloaf State Conservation Area' sign (on the left).

Turn left: From the intersection, this walk follows the GNW arrow post, gently uphill along the dirt road, initially passing the 'Sugarloaf State Conservation Area' sign on your right. The walk continues for about 700m (with one steep uphill section), until leading down to an intersection with a track and GNW arrow marker, and a couple of timber fence posts (on the left).

1.13 | Int of Gap Road AND GNW

(2 km 52 mins) Turn left: From the intersection, this walk follows the GNW arrow post, heading between the timber fence posts and up along the old management trail. After about 40m, this walk veers right onto another trail and continues up an eroded section, getting steeper as you go. After just over 150m, the walk comes to a small clearing at the base of steep rocky section. Here the walk follows the GNW arrow to climb the very steep rocky section. The walk then follows the narrow track along the ridge for about 300m to pass a notable rock outcrop, and then continues along the particularly narrow ridge, enjoying the filtered distant views either side for another 700m. This walk then leads steeply down the eroded track across a saddle then climbs up the rocky track on the other side. At the top of this climb, the track comes to a small clearing, and the start of a grassy trail, on the top of the ridge.

Continue straight: From the intersection, this walk follows the grassy trail east, gently uphill. The trail leads up along the ridge for about 300m to where the trail widens and becomes much clearer. The walk continues along this trail for just over 200m to come to an intersection with a dirt road, where there is a 'The Great North Walk' sign on the left.

3.13 | Int of GNW track and Brunkerville trail

(1.2 km 24 mins) Veer right: From the intersection, this walk follows the GNW arrow marker downhill along the main dirt road, following the ridge line south-east. The road leads mostly downhill for about 500m to cross a saddle and then undulate up over a hill (moderately steeply in a few places) for just over 600m, enjoying some filtered views (on the right). Then the road leads downhill to an intersection with another trail (on the right), marked with a GNW arrow post.

4.28 | Int of Brunkerville and Sugarloaf Range trail

(360 m 7 mins) Veer left: From the intersection, this walk follows the road GNW arrow post gently downhill, following the ridge east. The road leads through forest, across and saddle for about 350m, to head up to a clear y-intersection marked with a 'Wakefield/Mt Sugarloaf' sign.

4.64 | Int of Sugarloaf Range and Wakefield Forest Roads

(1.1 km 22 mins) Veer right: From the intersection, this walk follows the GNW arrow post and the 'Wakefield 4km' sign downhill along the dirt road, keeping the valley to your right. The road leads through forest for just over 600m, to come to an intersection with a minor trail (on your left), marked with a GNW arrow post.

Veer right: From the intersection, this walk follows the GNW arrow post moderately steeply down along the dirt road, following the ridge line east. After just shy of 500m, this walk comes to an intersection with 'Aubs Ridge Road' (on the right).

5.75 | Int of GNW track and Aubs Ridge Road

(1.9 km 36 mins) Veer left: From the intersection, this walk follows the GNW arrow post directly downhill along the dirt road, following the ridge east. The road immediately passes a 'Warning mine subsidence...' sign and continues to meander down along the ridge for just shy of 1.2km to come to a three-way intersection just past the 'Sugarloaf State Conservation Area' sign.

Veer left: From the intersection, this walk follows the GNW arrow post gently downhill along the wide dirt road, directly away from the face of the 'Sugarloaf State Conservation Area' sign. The walk continues down the road for 230m, until coming to a wide intersection with a number of trails, just past a 'Warning Mine Subsidence...' sign (facing away from you).

Continue straight: From the intersection, this walk follows the GNW arrow post gently downhill along the wide dirt road, directly away from face of the 'Mine Subsidence' sign. The road bends right (passing a private driveway) then leads under two Sydney/Newcastle Freeway bridges. The road then leads gently uphill (ignoring side roads) for about 350m to the top of the hill (just past the second power pole and the 'Lake Macquarie Field Archers Inc' sign to find an intersection, marked with a 'The Great North Walk' sign.

7.68 | Int of Archery Road and the GNW track

(1.3 km 22 mins) Turn left: From the intersection, this walk follows the 'The Great North Walk' sign gently uphill directly away from the 'Lake Macquarie Archery Club' entrance. The walk continues (undulating gently) for about 170m, to cross underneath a set of high tension power lines and continue straight back into the bush for another 800m. Here the walk veers left at an intersection to head under another set of high tension power lines. The walk now heads through the forest for about 140m, to head under yet another set of power lines. Now the trail leads straight back into the trees for another 120m, then bends right and leads to the sealed Wakefield Road.

8.94 | Int of GNW and Wakefield Road

(230 m 4 mins) Turn left: From the intersection, this walk follows Wakefield Road gently downhill, away from 'Rosina Rd'. The walk continues for about 250m, passing the 'Wakefield Rural Fire Brigade' building, to find the 'Eddie Peterson Memorial Park' (on the left) and a large 'The Great North Walk -

Wakefield Trackhead' signpost (on the far side of the park).

9.17 | Eddie Peterson Memorial Park

The Eddie Peterson Memorial Park on Wakefield Road is a fabulous place for a rest and a snack. There is a grassy area, toilet, water and shelter, all next to a community tennis court. Eddie Patterson Memorial Park is managed by the Lake Macquarie City Council as a public reserve. Near the memorial park there is a fire station and a school.

9.17 | Eddie Peterson Memorial Park

(2.1 km 36 mins) Continue straight: From Eddie Peterson Memorial Park, this walk follows the 'Teralba' sign gently downhill along the grassy verge beside Wakefield Road. The road leads through the rural community of Wakefield for about 170m, to continue past 'Miller Rd'. The walk then continues (undulating gently) for about 900m, bending right and leading past 'School Rd' (on the right). Continuing straight, gently downhill for about 600m, this walk crosses Diega Creek on a concrete bridge, then follows the road for another 500m to a three-way intersection with 'Rhondda Road' (on the right).

11.29 | Int of Wakefield and Rhondda Roads

(3.6 km 1 hr 9 mins) Turn right: From the intersection, this walk follows 'Teralba' sign gently uphill along 'Rhondda Rd'. After about 300m, the road leads gently downhill and continues for another 500m to a four-way intersection with a private haul road (watch out for fast-moving quarry vehicles). The walk continues straight on, following the 'Teralba' sign gently uphill for about 900m to pass the 'Teralba quarry main entrance'. The walk then continues downhill for another 1.5km (becoming moderately steep), until coming to a T-intersection with 'Station St', marked with a GNW arrow post.

Turn left: From the intersection, this walk follows the GNW arrow post gently up along 'Railway Rd'. The walk follows Railway Rd for just shy of 250m, to another GNW arrow marker and turns right. Here the walk heads up the steps on the railway pedestrian bridge to find 'Teralba' railway station.