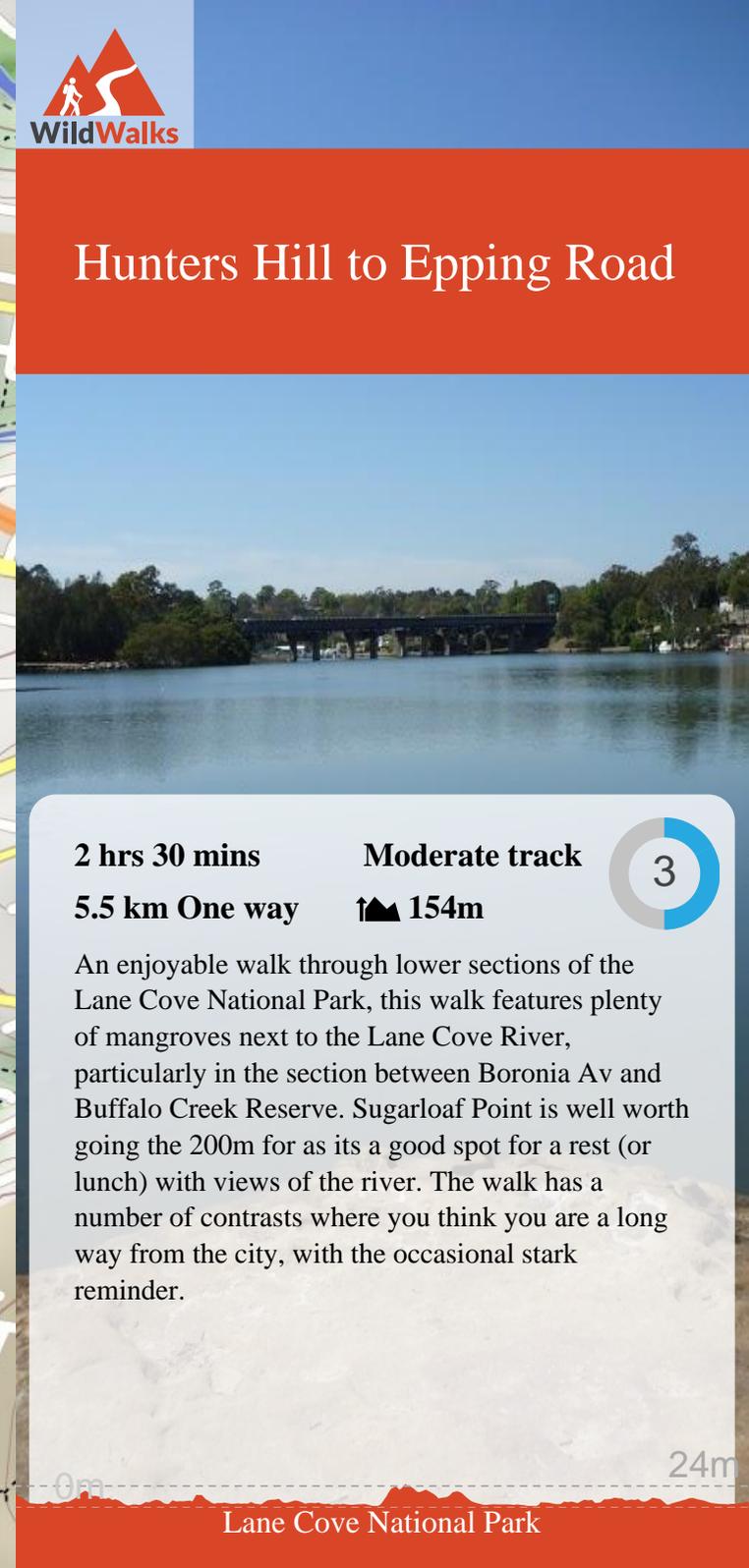
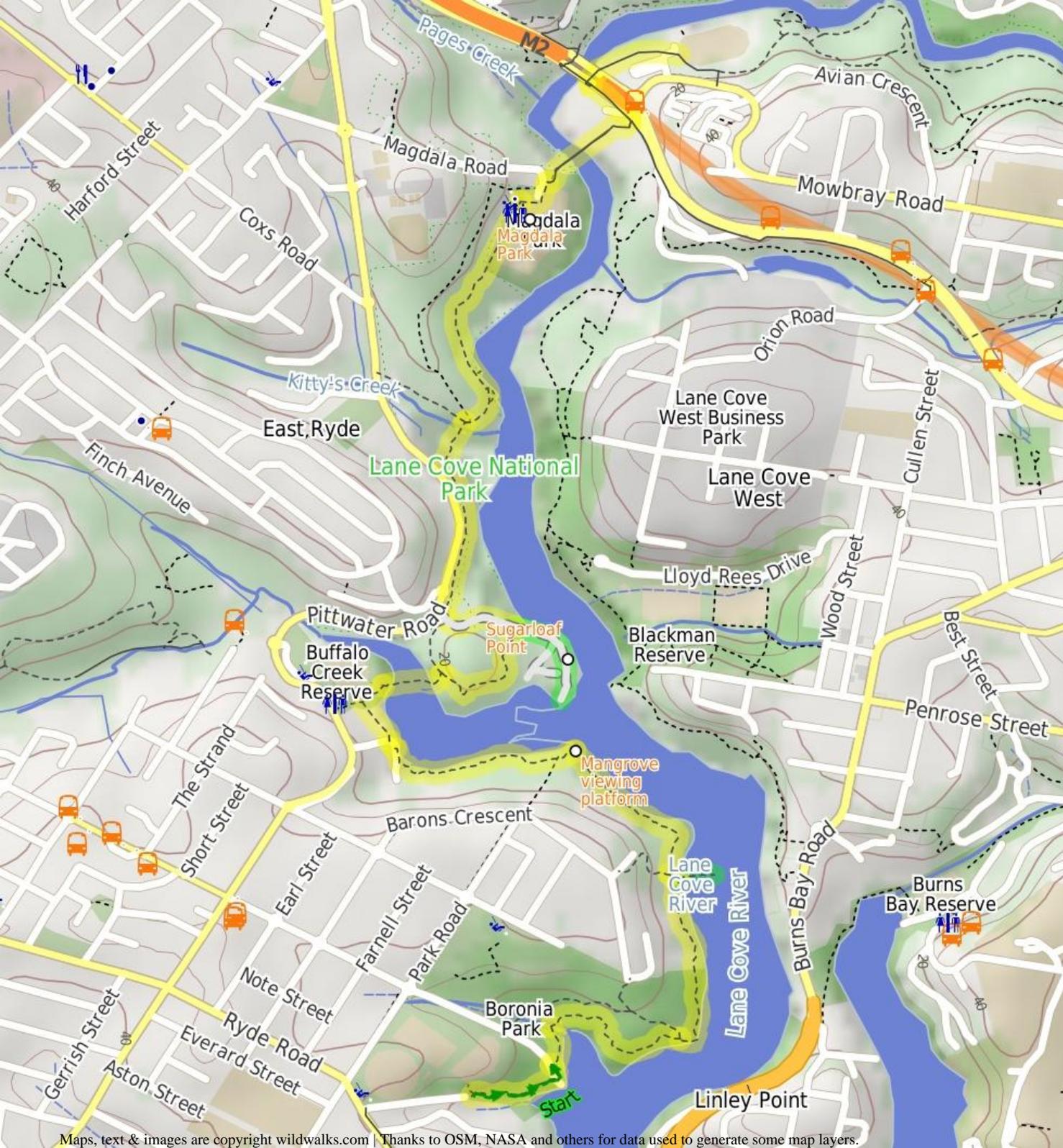


## Hunters Hill to Epping Road



**2 hrs 30 mins**

**Moderate track**



**5.5 km One way**

**▲ 154m**

An enjoyable walk through lower sections of the Lane Cove National Park, this walk features plenty of mangroves next to the Lane Cove River, particularly in the section between Boronia Av and Buffalo Creek Reserve. Sugarloaf Point is well worth going the 200m for as its a good spot for a rest (or lunch) with views of the river. The walk has a number of contrasts where you think you are a long way from the city, with the occasional stark reminder.

## Mangrove viewing platform

This timber viewing platform is found on bank on south-west of the confluence of the Lane Cove River and Buffalo Creek. This area is affected by the tides so the view is constantly changing. The lookout platform provides an opportunity to view the mangroves community and the eroded sandstone ruins

## Sugarloaf Point

Sugarloaf Point is a large grassy clearing with a picnic area on the edge of the Lane Cove River, just north of the Buffalo Creek junction. The riverside picnic area has a couple of picnic benches and a small beach, making it possible to pull a boat up to the point.

## Magdala Park

Magdala Park, found at the end of Magdala Rd, North Ryde, is home to a large playing field with a baseball diamond in the corner and a smaller playing field to the north. There is a car park, public toilets, sheltered picnic tables, childrens playground, garbage bins, and town water on tap. There are a few Great North Walk signs highlighting the direction of the walk as it winds across the open grassy area.

## 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 Metropolitan District](#))
- 2) Fire Dangers ([Greater Sydney Region, unknown](#))
- 3) Park Alerts ([Lane Cove 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:**91303N PARRAMATTA RIVER

**1:100 000 Map Series:**9130 SYDNEY

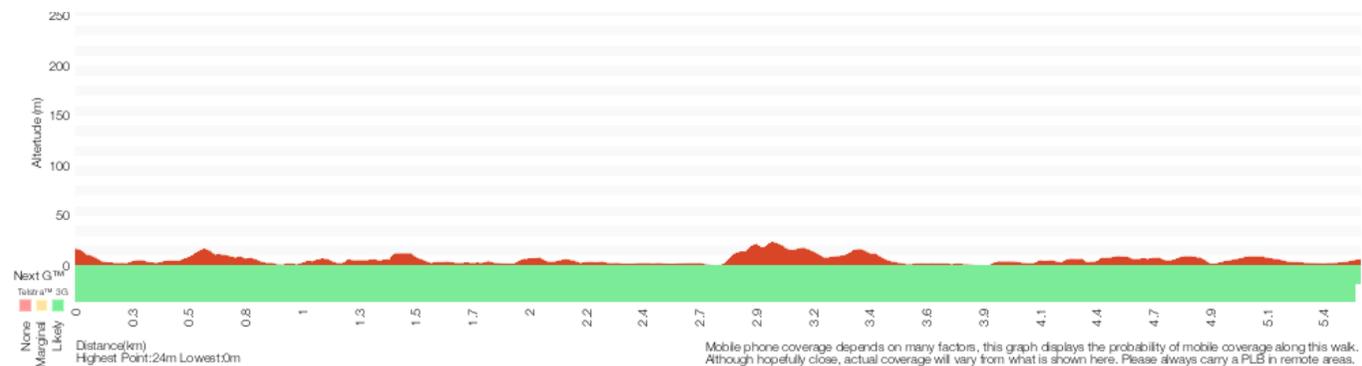
## Grade

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 3/6**  
Moderate track

|                            |  |
|----------------------------|--|
| <b>Length</b>              | 5.5 km One way   |
| <b>Time</b>                | 2 hrs 30 mins  |
| <b>Quality of track</b>    | Formed track, with some branches and other obstacles (3/6) |
| <b>Signs</b>               | Directional signs along the way (3/6)                      |
| <b>Experience Required</b> | Some bushwalking experience recommended (3/6)              |
| <b>Weather</b>             | Weather generally has little impact on safety (1/6)        |
| <b>Infrastructure</b>      | 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 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 End of Boronia Ave (gps: -33.8269, 151.141) by car or bus. Car: There is free parking available.

You can get back from Mowbray car park (near oval) (gps: -33.8005, 151.1465) by car 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/hhter>

### 0 | End of Boronia Ave

*(1.4 km 27 mins)* From the end of Boronia Avenue, this walk follows the GNW arrow post up along the rocky track. The track leads over a small rise then bends right (ignoring the track to your left), to head down a few stone steps, then a series of timber steps. The track then continues along the bank of the Lane Cove River (to your right) for about 100m to come to a T-intersection with Princes St. Here the walk turns left and heads up the road (away from the water view) for about 50m, coming to an intersection with another track and a large green 'The Great North Walk' signpost (on your right).

Turn right: From the intersection, this walk follows the 'Buffalo Ck. Park' arrow down along track. Veering right after about 50m, this wide track then leads through the casuarina forest for a short time, coming to an intersection and a small clearing with a picnic table, the informally named Brickmakers Creek picnic area.

Turn right: From the picnic area, this walk follows the GNW arrow post across the rocky Brickmakers Creek and up the steps. The walk continues along the short timber boardwalk, then leads up the timber steps for about 100m where the track flattens out, veering right at another GNW arrow post. Here the track leads down between the rocks, with a filtered view to the water, and a short distance later, the track veers right again at another GNW arrow post, heading gently down between some more rocks. For another 150m, the mostly flat track leads over some rock platforms then along a short section of timber boarding to come to a three-way intersection marked with a GNW arrow, and a larger unfenced rock platform (to the right).

Veering right: From the intersection, this walk heads along the rock platform, keeping the river down to your right. The walk soon heads down some steps carved in the rock, then follows the rocky and sandy track gently downhill, passing some interesting rock formations over about 140m then climbing over some rocks with a metal handrail. The track leads up a series of steps for about 200m, then goes up some carved steps (also with a handrail). From here, the rocky track heads down the steps then leads alongside the mangroves for just shy of 100m, coming to a T-intersection marked with a GNW arrow.

### 1.38 | Optional sidetrip to End of Lane Cove River track

*(90 m 2 mins)* Turn right: From the intersection, this walk steps down off the main track and leads along the raised mound through the tunnel of mangroves. This track is covered by water at higher tides, but at lower tides it leads to the edge of the open Lane Cove River. At the end of this side trip, retrace your steps back to the main walk then Continue straight.

### 1.38 | Int of GNW and the Lane Cove River track

*(510 m 10 mins)* Turn left: From the intersection, this walk follows the GNW

arrow up the steps. The track bends right and comes to an intersection with the signposted 'Access to Barons Cres' track on your left, just below the large concrete building.

Continue straight: From the intersection, this walk follows the GNW arrow post along the clear track, leading gently uphill (initially keeping the concrete building and Barton Cres track on your left). The fairly flat, rocky track leads through the forest, keeping the Lane Cove River not far to your right. After about 300m, the track leads up some steps to a boulder outcrop with good views over the river. The track continues for another 100m to a small clearing and a timber viewing platform (on your right).

### 1.89 | Mangrove viewing platform

This timber viewing platform is found on bank on south-west of the confluence of the Lane Cove River and Buffalo Creek. This area is affected by the tides so the view is constantly changing. The lookout platform provides an opportunity to view the mangroves community and the eroded sandstone ruins

### 1.89 | Mangrove viewing platform

*(540 m 10 mins)* Turn left: From the timber platform, this walk heads directly away from the Lane Cove River and follows the track up the valley, keeping the Buffalo Creek mangroves to your right. The track soon leads under a fallen tree and meanders along the flat for about 120m, then follows a short section of timber boardwalk. The track then leads up some steps to pass under a small sandstone overhang, then continues along the base of a sandstone wall, from where the track leads over another shorter section of timber boardwalk. The track then comes to another section of boardwalk which leads through the wetlands, over a small creek and past the information sign about the 'Friends of Buffalo Creek'. The boardwalk then leads past some paperbark trees and turns right onto the dirt track. The walk follows this track for about 50m before heading up the timber ramp and steps to Pains Rd.

### 2.42 | Int of GNW and Pains Road (south)

*(240 m 3 mins)* Turn right: From the intersection, this walk follows GNW arrow up along Pains Rd for about 20m to the intersection with a wide track, marked with another GNW arrow post, just where the road bends left. Continue straight: From the bend in Pains Rd (near house number 4), this walk follows GNW arrow along the wide track, whilst keeping a few houses up to your left. After about 120m, the track leads up a grassy hill to find a large open parkland, Buffalo Creek Reserve. Here, the walk turns right and follows the 'Great North Walk' sign across the grass, passing a picnic table and fireplace, and coming to the large 'Buffalo Creek Track Head' signpost (on your right).

### 2.66 | Buffalo creek track head

*(180 m 4 mins)* Turn right: From the 'Buffalo Creek Track Head', this walk follows the 'Newcastle' sign down three sets of timber stairs. Here the walk follows the timber boardwalk as it winds through the mangroves to a hand-railed viewing area, just before a bridge. From here, the walk crosses Buffalo Creek on the bridge then climbs up the stone steps to veer left at a faint intersection (at the top of the steep climb), marked with a GNW arrow post. The rocky track leads more gently up past the 'Lane Cove River National Park - Sugarloaf Point' sign to a signposted T-intersection, where another GNW arrow points back down the track.

### 2.84 | Int of Sugarloaf and GNW tracks

*(360 m 9 mins)* Turn right: From the intersection, this walk follows the 'Sugarloaf Point' sign along the flat rocky and sandy track, keeping the valley to your right. The track generally bends left around the side of the hill, passing a few interesting rock platforms along the way. Soon after heading

down some stone steps, this track comes to a signposted T-intersection with a wide sandy trail. There is a 'Buffalo Ck Reserve' sign pointing back up the steps.

### 3.2 | Optional sidetrip to Sugarloaf Point

*(280 m 5 mins)* Turn right: From the intersection, this walk follows the 'Sugarloaf Point' sign down the hill and along the service trail to the open waterfront clearing at Sugarloaf Point, which extends all the way along to the end of the grass clearing. At the end of this side trip, retrace your steps back to the main walk then Continue straight.

### 3.2 | Sugarloaf Point

Sugarloaf Point is a large grassy clearing with a picnic area on the edge of the Lane Cove River, just north of the Buffalo Creek junction. The riverside picnic area has a couple of picnic benches and a small beach, making it possible to pull a boat up to the point.

### 3.2 | Int of GNW and Sugarloaf Point tracks

*(200 m 4 mins)* Turn left: From the intersection, this walk follows the 'Pittwater Road 0.25km' sign up along the wide management trail, which soon becomes sealed. The trail winds up beside a large, fenced, high-tension power line concrete tower. The trail soon leads around a locked gate and comes to an intersection just before Pittwater Rd, with a 'Great North Walk' track sign (on the right).

### 3.4 | Int of GNW and Pittwater Road carpark path

*(580 m 10 mins)* Turn right: From the intersection, this walk follows the 'Great North Walk' sign past the picnic table and down the timber steps, whilst keeping Pittwater Rd through the trees to your left. The track soon passes a 'Lane Cove National Park' sign then heads down some timber stairs. The track continues just below the road (on your left) and beside the mangroves (on your right) for a little over 400m, crossing several timber platforms and going up and down a few steps to come to a 'Coastal Wetlands' information sign. Having moved away from the road, the track now heads along a timber boardwalk that winds through the mangroves and wetlands to cross Kitty Creek on a bridge. Just on the other side of the bridge, this walk comes to a T-intersection with a sign pointing back to 'Sugarloaf Point'.

### 3.98 | Kittys Creek bridge int

*(720 m 14 mins)* Turn right: From the intersection, this walk follows the GNW arrow along the wide track, initially keeping Kittys Creek to your right. The track almost immediately bends left (ignoring the side track on the left) and follows the bank of the Lane Cove River (on your right) through the casuarina forest for just shy of 200m. Here, the track starts edging away from the river and enters more dense vegetation for just over 200m, before the track opens up and comes to a 'Lane Cove National Park - Sugarloaf Point' sign. From the sign, the walk leads up along the grass, keeping the playing fields to your right and coming to a GNW arrow post in front of the toilet block beside Magdala Park car park.

### 4.71 | Magdala Park

Magdala Park, found at the end of Magdala Rd, North Ryde, is home to a large playing field with a baseball diamond in the corner and a smaller playing field to the north. There is a car park, public toilets, sheltered picnic tables, childrens playground, garbage bins, and town water on tap. There are a few Great North Walk signs highlighting the direction of the walk as it winds across the open grassy area.

### 4.71 | Magdala Park carpark

*(420 m 8 mins)* Turn right: From the front of the toilet block, this walk follows the GNW arrow across the car park. The walk then heads through the

gap in the fence and turns left, heading over the grass to the intersection with a concrete footpath at the base of the large transmissions tower, where a sign points back to 'Sydney Cove'.

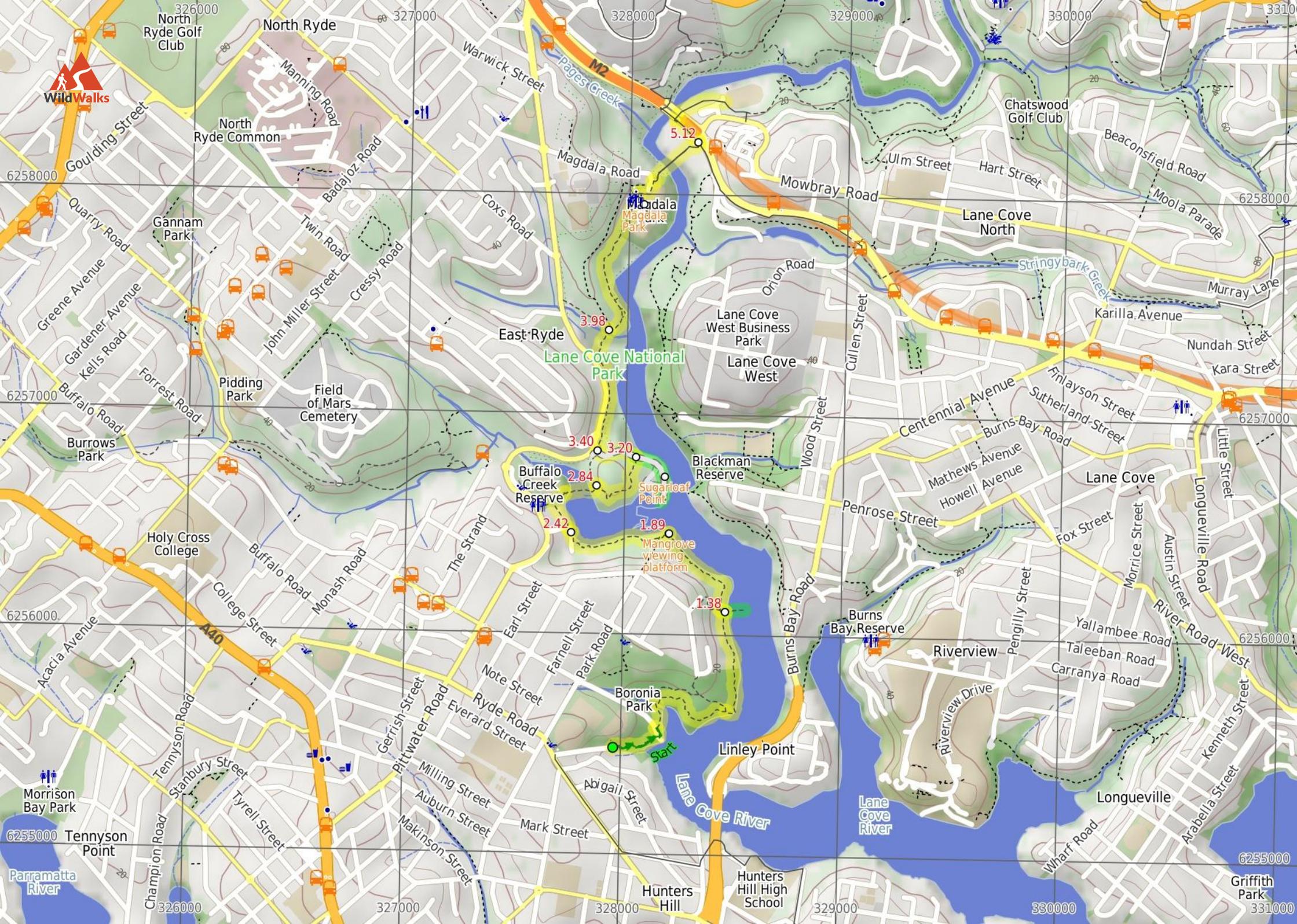
Turn right: From the transmissions tower, this walk follows the 'Newcastle' sign downhill along the concrete footpath away from Magdala Park. The path soon turns right and leads over the 'Clifford Love' footbridge. The 150m-long bridge leads over Lane Cove River and then over the 'National Starch' factory, to find a footpath on the other side. The footpath leads around the edge of the fenced car park and comes to the footpath beside Epping Rd, just beside the traffic lights at Mowbray Rd.

#### **5.12 | Int. opposite end of Mowbray Rd**

*(420 m 7 mins)* Continue straight: From the traffic lights, this walk heads downhill towards the bridge, crossing the factory driveway. Just over 100m past the driveway, the shared footpath leads to an intersection marked with a GNW arrow post, and a set of steps (on the left).

Turn left: From the intersection, this walk heads down the stairs away from the main road, to turn right under the bridge. The track heads under the bridge to come out the other side, continuing along the river bank for approximately 50m to the car park.





## Summary navigation sheet for the Hunters Hill to Epping Road



| km    | From   | Up/Dwn    | Length            | Initial directions (Use full tracknotes and maps for more detail)  |
|-------|--|-----------|-------------------|--|
| Start | End of Boronia Ave<br>-33.8269,151.141 (GR Parramatta River, 280555)                                       | 39<br>-50 | 1.4 km<br>27 mins | From the end of Boronia Avenue, this walk follows the GNW arrow post up along the rocky track.   |
| 1.38  | Int of Great North Walk and the Lane Cove River track<br>-33.8214,151.1465 (GR Parramatta River, 285561)   | 0<br>-6   | 90 m<br>2 mins    | Optional sidetrip to End of Lane Cove River track. Turn right: From the intersection, this walk steps down off the main track and leads along the raised mound through the tunnel of mangroves.  |
| 1.38  | Int of Great North Walk and the Lane Cove River track<br>-33.8214,151.1465 (GR Parramatta River, 285561)   | 14<br>-18 | 510 m<br>10 mins  | Turn left: From the intersection, this walk follows the GNW arrow up the steps.  |
| 1.89  | Mangrove viewing platform<br>-33.8181,151.1438 (GR Parramatta River, 282565)                               | 15<br>-15 | 540 m<br>10 mins  | Turn left: From the timber platform, this walk heads directly away from the Lane Cove River and follows the track up the valley, keeping the Buffalo Creek mangroves to your right.  |
| 2.42  | Int of Great North Walk and Pains Road (south)<br>-33.8181,151.1389 (GR Parramatta River, 278565)          | 2<br>-1   | 240 m<br>3 mins   | Turn right: From the intersection, this walk follows GNW arrow up along Pains Rd for about 20m to the intersection with a wide track, marked with another GNW arrow post, just where the road bends left.  |
| 2.66  | Buffalo creek track head<br>-33.8165,151.1386 (GR Parramatta River, 277566)                                | 14<br>-2  | 180 m<br>4 mins   | Turn right: From the 'Buffalo Creek Track Head', this walk follows the 'Newcastle' sign down three sets of timber stairs.  |
| 2.84  | Int of Sugarloaf and Great North Walk tracks<br>-33.8162,151.1402 (GR Parramatta River, 279567)            | 19<br>-25 | 360 m<br>9 mins   | Turn right: From the intersection, this walk follows the 'Sugarloaf Point' sign along the flat rocky and sandy track, keeping the valley to your right.  |
| 3.20  | Int of Great North Walk and Sugarloaf Point tracks<br>-33.815,151.1421 (GR Parramatta River, 280568)       | 2<br>-9   | 280 m<br>5 mins   | Optional sidetrip to Sugarloaf Point. Turn right: From the intersection, this walk follows the 'Sugarloaf Point' sign down the hill and along the service trail to the open waterfront clearing at Sugarloaf Point, which extends all the way along to the en... |
| 3.20  | Int of Great North Walk and Sugarloaf Point tracks<br>-33.815,151.1421 (GR Parramatta River, 280568)       | 9<br>-5   | 200 m<br>4 mins   | Turn left: From the intersection, this walk follows the 'Pittwater Road 0.25km' sign up along the wide management trail, which soon becomes sealed.  |
| 3.40  | Int of Great North Walk and Pittwater Road carpark path<br>-33.8147,151.1402 (GR Parramatta River, 279568) | 6<br>-13  | 580 m<br>10 mins  | Turn right: From the intersection, this walk follows the 'Great North Walk' sign past the picnic table and down the timber steps, whilst keeping Pittwater Rd through the trees to your left.  |
| 3.98  | Kittys Creek bridge int<br>-33.8098,151.1408 (GR Parramatta River, 279574)                                 | 19<br>-16 | 720 m<br>14 mins  | Turn right: From the intersection, this walk follows the GNW arrow along the wide track, initially keeping Kittys Creek to your right.   |
| 4.71  | Magdala Park carpark<br>-33.8042,151.1423 (GR Parramatta River, 280580)                                    | 13<br>-11 | 420 m<br>8 mins   | Turn right: From the front of the toilet block, this walk follows the GNW arrow across the car park.   |
| 5.12  | Int. opposite end of Mowbray Rd<br>-33.8021,151.1452 (GR Parramatta River, 283582)                         | 4<br>-6   | 420 m<br>7 mins   | Continue straight: From the traffic lights, this walk heads downhill towards the bridge, crossing the factory driveway.  |