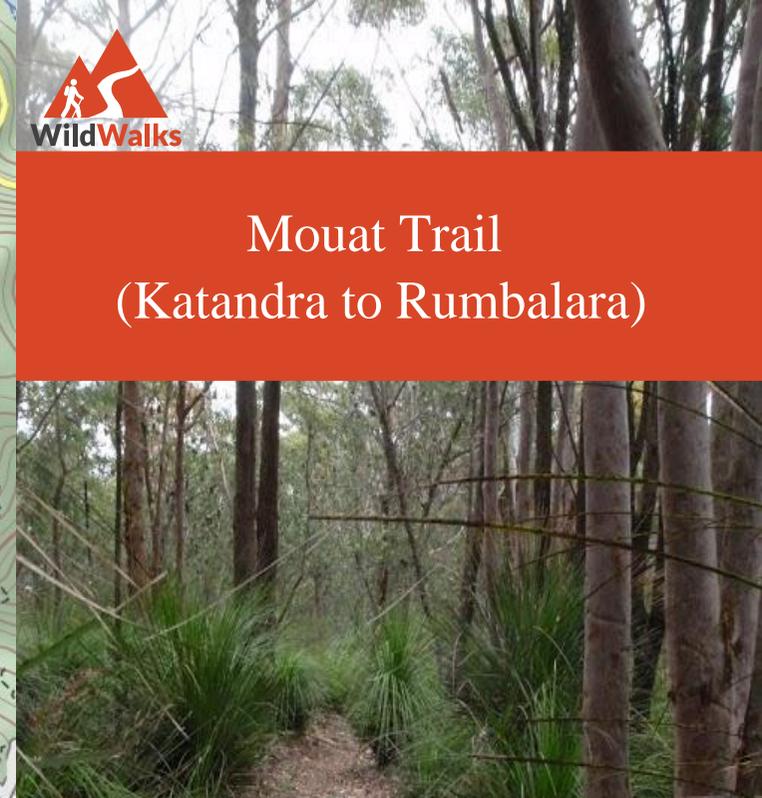
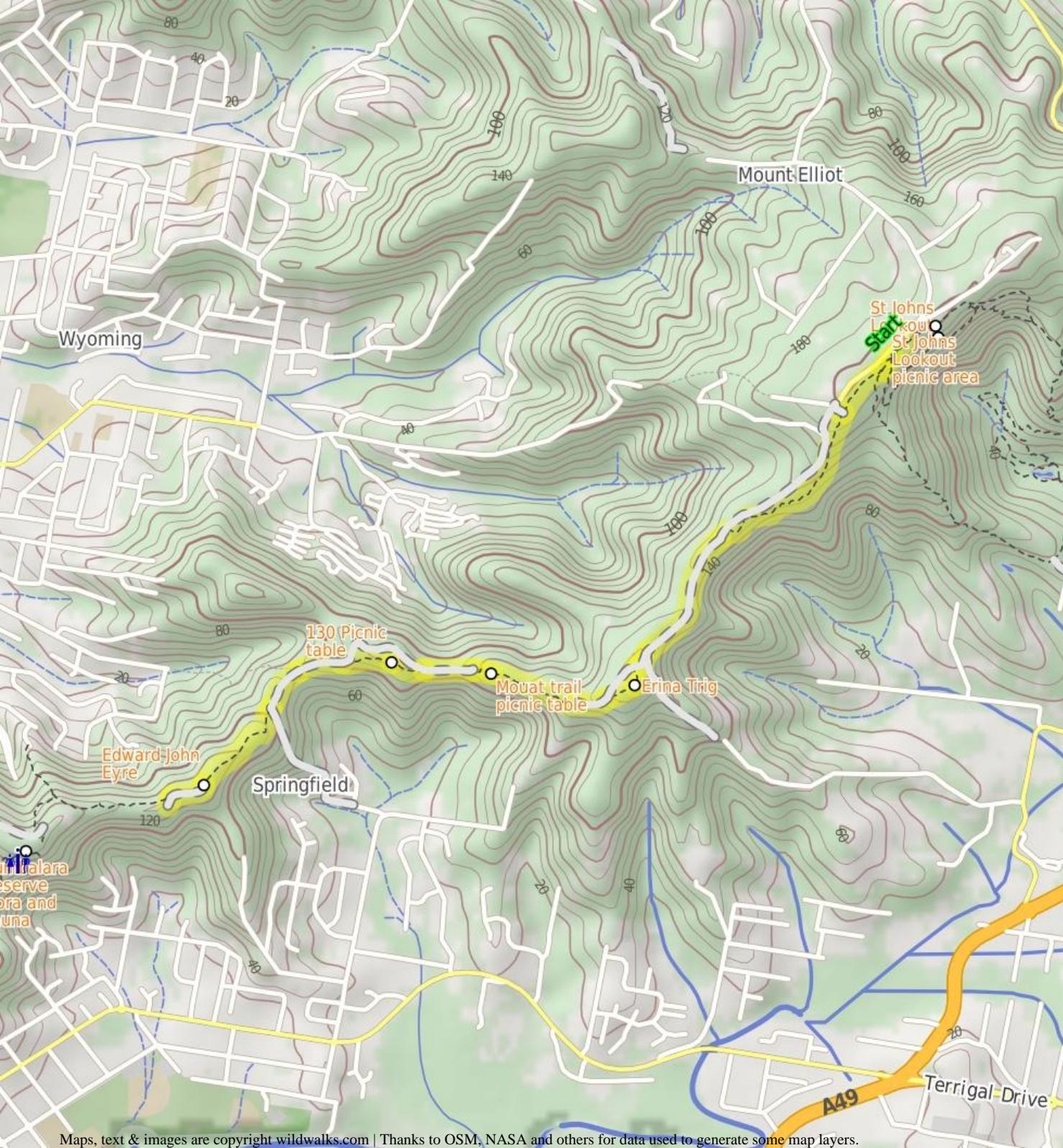


Mouat Trail (Katandra to Rumbalara)



2 hrs

Hard track

4.1 km One way

▲ 139m

4

This walk follows a series of tracks and management trails along the top of the ridge between Katandra and Rumbalara Reserves. You will at times think you are a million miles from anywhere and other times enjoy views across the suburbs of the Central Coast and out to sea. In spring and early summer, you will discover many wildflowers. There are a few picnic tables with views, great spots for a snack and a rest on your walk.

84m

201m

Katandra Reserve

St Johns Lookout picnic area

St Johns Lookout picnic area is a large open area found at the top of Katandra Reserve on Toomeys Rd. The picnic area provides wheelchair accessible toilets, picnic tables, free electric BBQ's, parking areas and information boards. There is plenty of open space with some natural shade provided by the surrounding trees. There are garbage bins provided but no drinking water.

St Johns Lookout

This fenced lookout is found at the top of Katandra Reserve, near the toilets. The lookout was upgraded by Gosford Council in September 2009 and now provides a safer platform and easier access. From the lookout, there are extensive views south-east over Matcham, Erina Heights and Terrigal, out to the ocean. The Guringai Walk passes below the lookout - please take extra care to not drop anything from the platform.

Erina Trig

Erina Trig station is part of a national geodetic survey established during the 1970's. The 'Triangulation station' (aka trigonometrical or trig station) is a distinct marker which was once clear of trees and would have been visible for many kilometers in the area. There are many such trig stations around Australia, used to help in surveying. Each station has a known position and altitude which allows surveyors to use triangulation to determine another point's location. With advances in technology, these trig stations have been superseded and abandoned. [More info.](#)

Mouat trail picnic table

Mouat trail picnic table is found about halfway along the Mouat trail. There is an old picnic table and bench seat at the top of an unfenced cliff with filtered views over Springfield East Gosford and the Brisbane Water. A nice spot for a snack and rest.

130 Picnic table

The 130 Picnic table (informally named based on the height of the hill) provides a spot to stop and rest. There are views from the top of this unfenced cliff across Brisbane Water and East Gosford. The single table has some limited natural shade from the surrounding trees.

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 Sydney Region](#))
- 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:

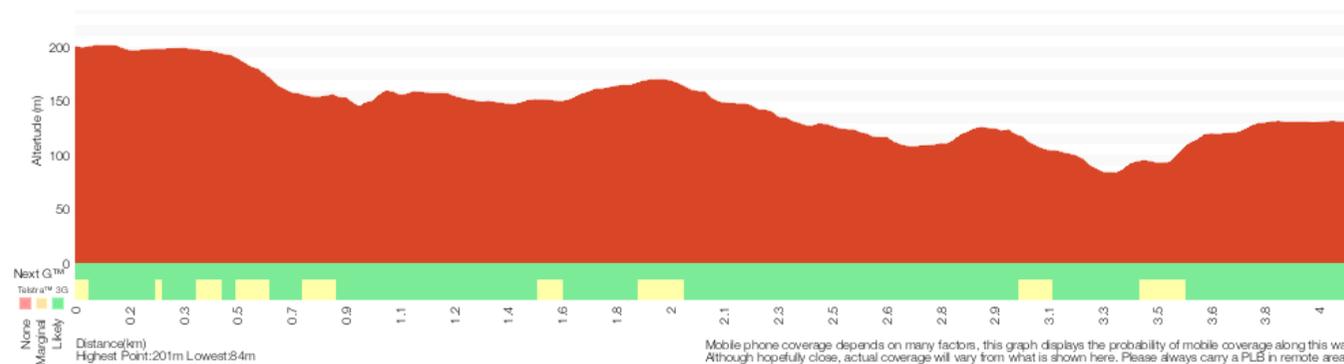
- T** Take adequate supplies of food, water, navigation and first aid equipment.
- R** Register your planned route and tell friends and family when you expect to return.
- E** Emergency beacon (PLB's) should be carried on walks with significant gaps in mobile coverage (check terrain profile).
- K** Keep 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:91312S GOSFORD

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	4.1 km One way
Time	2 hrs
Quality of track	Formed track, with some branches and other obstacles (3/6)
Signs	Minimal directional signs (4/6)
Experience Required	Some bushwalking experience recommended (3/6)
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 Traveling by car is the only practical way to get to St Johns Lookout car park (gps: -33.4065, 151.3901). Car: There is free parking available.

Traveling by car is the only practical way to get back from Int of Mouat Walk and Dolly Ave (gps: -33.4237, 151.3605). 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/mtrr>

0 | St Johns Lookout picnic area

St Johns Lookout picnic area is a large open area found at the top of Katandra Reserve on Toomeys Rd. The picnic area provides wheelchair accessible toilets, picnic tables, free electric BBQ's, parking areas and information boards. There is plenty of open space with some natural shade provided by the surrounding trees. There are garbage bins provided but no drinking water.

0 | St Johns Lookout

This fenced lookout is found at the top of Katandra Reserve, near the toilets. The lookout was upgraded by Gosford Council in September 2009 and now provides a safer platform and easier access. From the lookout, there are extensive views south-east over Matcham, Erina Heights and Terrigal, out to the ocean. The Guringai Walk passes below the lookout - please take extra care to not drop anything from the platform.

0 | St Johns Lookout car park

(150 m 3 mins) From the car park, this walk heads across the clearing away from the main picnic area (keeping the road up the hill to the right). The walk soon comes to an intersection and a 'Guringai walk' sign.

Continue straight: From the intersection, this walk heads through the clearing towards the 'Mount Mouat Walk' and 'Graves Walk' signs. At these signs, the walk heads left, out of the clearing and down the track for a short distance to the signposted intersection with 'Graves Walk' and 'Mouat Walk'.

0.15 | Int of Graves and Mouat Walks

(240 m 5 mins) Continue straight: From the intersection, this walk follows the 'Mouat Walk' and 'To Rumbalara Reserve' signs along the track, keeping the valley to the left. The track soon comes to a four-way intersection, with a 'Graves Track' sign and a gate visible (up the hill to the right).

0.39 | Int of Graves Walk and Maidens Brush management tr

(810 m 18 mins) Continue straight: From the intersection, this walk follows the track from behind the 'Graves Walk' sign, initially keeping the gate up the hill to the right. The track winds through the bush, crossing a small rock platform (and ignoring the side tracks), then heads down a series of timber steps. The trail winds past a few large rocks then winds up the hill to come into view of (and run parallel to) the Toomeys management trail. The track then passes over another rocky outcrop (beware of the cliff drop on the left), then down some steps to come to the wide Toomeys Management trail and an arrow pointing back up the steps.

1.2 | Int of Mouat and Toomeys Rd Trails

(570 m 11 mins) Turn left: From the intersection, this walk follows the wide management trail, keeping the valley down on the right. The trail soon bends left then, approximately 200m later, passes a stockpile of dirt and rocks (on the right). About 250m later, the trail passes a locked gate of a private residence and, just after the gate, comes to an intersection at the top of the Clyde Rd Trail.

1.77 | Top of Clyde Rd trail

(80 m 1 mins) Continue straight: From the intersection, this walk follows the upper trail south, keeping next to the fence on the right. The trail soon bends right, leaving the power lines and coming to an intersection with a track (on the left), near the corner of the fence and above a small pond (on the right).

1.84 | Pond intersection

(90 m 2 mins) Turn left: From the intersection, this walk follows the arrow up the steps away from the fence. The track gently winds up the hill to the Erina Trig station, surround by trees.

1.93 | Erina Trig

Erina Trig station is part of a national geodetic survey established during the 1970's. The 'Triangulation station' (aka trigonometrical or trig station) is a distinct marker which was once clear of trees and would have been visible for many kilometers in the area. There are many such trig stations around Australia, used to help in surveying. Each station has a known position and altitude which allows surveyors to use triangulation to determine another point's location. With advances in technology, these trig stations have been superseded and abandoned. [More info.](#)

1.93 | Erina Trig

(120 m 2 mins) Continue straight: From the trig point, this walk follows the track south-west down the hill, soon coming to an intersection with Toomeys Rd management trail.

2.05 | Int of trig track and Toomeys Rd trail

(480 m 10 mins) Veer left: From the intersection, this walk heads south-west, down along the management trail, and soon follows a fence, on the right. The trail winds down the hill (steeply in one spot), generally next to the fence, until coming to a locked gate (on the right).

Continue straight: From the gate, this walk follows the narrower track, keeping the fence to the right. The track soon turns right (at the corner fencepost) and continues alongside the fence, passing a bench seat and unfenced view on the left. The track continues to follow the fence and soon passes another locked gate (and passes close to the management trail). Following the fence, the track soon comes to a picnic table and an unfenced view across the valley.

2.53 | Mouat trail picnic table

Mouat trail picnic table is found about halfway along the Mouat trail. There is an old picnic table and bench seat at the top of an unfenced cliff with filtered views over Springfield East Gosford and the Brisbane Water. A nice spot for a snack and rest.

2.53 | Mouat trail picnic table

(90 m 2 mins) Continue straight: From the picnic table, this walk follows the track, keeping the fence to the right. The track keeps next to the fence until bending left around a rocky outcrop then down some stairs, coming to a management trail just below a locked gate.

2.61 | Locked gate

(180 m 3 mins) Veer left: From the intersection, this walk follows the wide management trail downhill, away from the gate. The trail soon flattens out

and crosses a long saddle, coming to a 'Y' intersection with a walking track (on the left), marked with a timber post.

2.8 | Saddle intersection

(130 m 4 mins) Veer left: From the intersection, this walk follows the walking track west up the hill, keeping the wider trail below to the right. The track winds up the hill through a rock outcrop to find a picnic table next to an unfenced view across East Gosford.

2.93 | 130 Picnic table

The 130 Picnic table (informally named based on the height of the hill) provides a spot to stop and rest. There are views from the top of this unfenced cliff across Brisbane Water and East Gosford. The single table has some limited natural shade from the surrounding trees.

2.93 | 130 Picnic table

(200 m 4 mins) Continue straight: From the picnic table, this walk heads west, initially keeping the view to the left. The track heads along the top of the hill and turns left, following the arrow on the post down the hill and stairs through the cleft in the rock. The track continues down the hill, ignoring side tracks (on the right) to come to an intersection with a management trail in a fairly large clearing.

3.13 | Int west of 130

(170 m 4 mins) Veer left: From the intersection, this walk follows the management trail west, gently downhill, away from the rocky outcrop. The trail leads across a saddle and soon comes to an unsignposted 'Y' intersection with Bradys Gully trail (heading downhill on the right).

3.29 | Top of Bradys Gully Trail

(190 m 4 mins) Continue straight: From the intersection, this walk follows the management trail south-west up the hill, initially keeping Bradys Gully trail below to the right. The walk soon takes the left fork (ignoring another trail on the right) to another saddle, with power lines running through the middle.

3.48 | Powerline intersection

(440 m 10 mins) Continue straight: From the intersection, this walk follows the upper arrow on the post, away from the power line, heading uphill to the south. The walk soon veers left (ignoring the wider trail on the right) and winds up the timber steps, through the rocky outcrop and follows a wire fence for a short time. The track follows the top of the ridge (with some filtered district views) until coming to a bronze sculpture of Edward John Eyre.

3.92 | Edward John Eyre

The Sculpture of Edward John Eyre is found near the southern end of the Mouat Trail in Rumbalara Reserve. Commissioned by Sara Lee Kitchens and the State Bicentennial Commission, this 1.25 scale figurative work was sculptured by Carl Merten. A circular inscription at the base declares this to be 'Edward John Eyre 1815-1901'. Eyre is one of Australia's more famous explorers. A father of 5, he was awarded the founder's gold medal from the Royal Geographical Society in 1847. In 1841, Eyre was appointed as resident magistrate and protector of Aborigines. He summed up his work like this - "*Moorundie was a District densely populated by Natives and in which prior to 1841 no settler had ventured to locate, and where (before I was stationed there) frightful scenes of bloodshed, rapine and hostility between the Natives and Parties coming overland with Stock had been of very frequent occurrence, but where, from the time of my arrival, and up to the date of my leaving not a single case of serious injury or aggression ever took place on the part of the Natives against the Europeans, whilst the district became rapidly and extensively occupied by Settlers and by Stock*". Eyre also served

as lieutenant-governor for New Zealand, lieutenant-governor for St Vincent (West Indies), governor for Leeward Islands, governor for Antigua and governor-in-chief for Jamaica. [More info.](#)

3.92 | Sculpture of Edward John Eyre

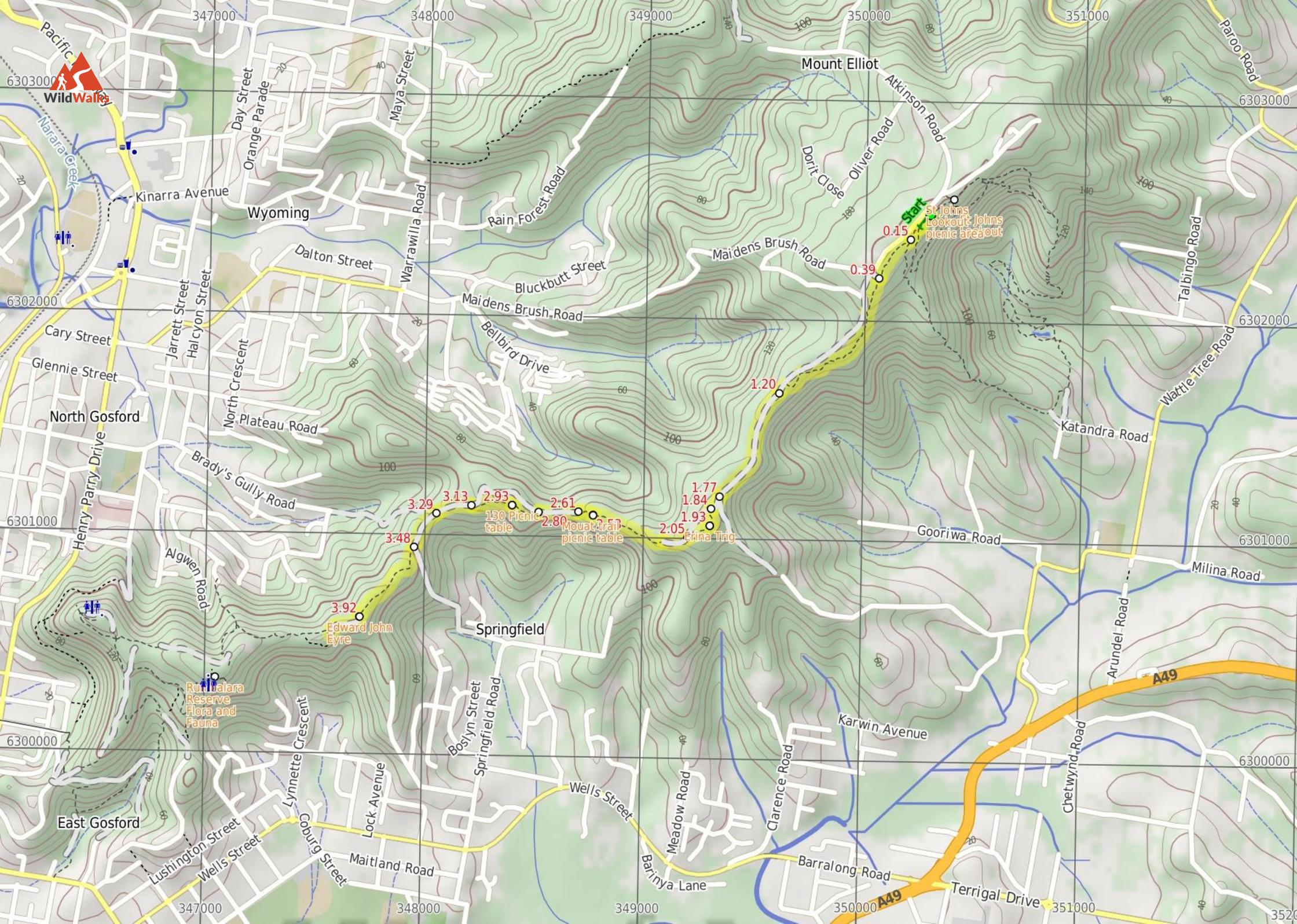
(180 m 3 mins) Continue straight: From the sculpture, this walk follows the management trail, leaving the sculpture behind on the left. The trail meanders for a short distance to an intersection with a bush track, on the right (with a gate visible straight ahead).

Continue straight: From the intersection, this walk follows the management trail gently up the hill towards the gate. The walk passes around the gate to the intersection with Dolly Ave, with a 'Mouat Walk' signpost pointing back to the 'Statue of Edward John Eyre 50 metres'.

4.1 | Rumbalara Reserve Flora and Fauna

The reserve is home to a wide range of flora and fauna. The vegetation types range from the relatively dry 'Coastal Narrabeen Ironbark Forest' to pockets of 'Coastal Warm Temperate Rainforest'. Commonly seen birds include Kookaburras, Eastern Rosellas and Magpies. Rarer birds such as the Glossy Black Cockatoo and Swift Parrot are sometimes sighted here as well. Sugar Gliders, Brush-tailed possums, Blue-tongued lizards and Tree snakes can be seen in the reserve if you are patient and lucky enough.





WildWalks

WildWalks

Summary navigation sheet for the Mouat Trail (Katandra to Rumbalara)



km	From	Up/Dwn	Length	Initial directions (Use full tracknotes and maps for more detail)
0.00	St Johns Lookout car park -33.4065,151.3901 (GR Gosford, 503025)	2 -6	150 m 3 mins	From the car park, this walk heads across the clearing away from the main picnic area (keeping the road up the hill to the right).
0.15	Int of Graves and Mouat Walks -33.4075,151.3891 (GR Gosford, 502024)	7 -7	240 m 5 mins	Continue straight: From the intersection, this walk follows the 'Mouat Walk' and 'To Rumbalara Reserve' signs along the track, keeping the valley to the left.
0.39	Int of Graves Walk and Maidens Brush management trail -33.4091,151.3875 (GR Gosford, 501022)	29 -68	810 m 18 mins	Continue straight: From the intersection, this walk follows the track from behind the 'Graves Walk' sign, initially keeping the gate up the hill to the right.
1.20	Int of Mouat and Toomeys Rd Trails -33.4138,151.3826 (GR Gosford, 496017)	16 -12	570 m 11 mins	Turn left: From the intersection, this walk follows the wide management trail, keeping the valley down on the right.
1.77	Top of Clyde Rd trail -33.4181,151.3797 (GR Gosford, 493012)	3 0	80 m 1 mins	Continue straight: From the intersection, this walk follows the upper trail south, keeping next to the fence on the right.
1.84	Pond intersection -33.4186,151.3793 (GR Gosford, 493011)	5 0	90 m 2 mins	Turn left: From the intersection, this walk follows the arrow up the steps away from the fence.
1.93	Erina Trig -33.4193,151.3792 (GR Gosford, 493011)	0 -11	120 m 2 mins	Continue straight: From the trig point, this walk follows the track south-west down the hill, soon coming to an intersection with Toomeys Rd management trail.
2.05	Int of trig track and Toomeys Rd trail -33.4197,151.3781 (GR Gosford, 492010)	6 -41	480 m 10 mins	Veer left: From the intersection, this walk heads south-west, down along the management trail, and soon follows a fence, on the right.
2.53	Mouat trail picnic table -33.4188,151.3735 (GR Gosford, 488011)	0 -7	90 m 2 mins	Continue straight: From the picnic table, this walk follows the track, keeping the fence to the right.
2.61	Locked gate -33.4187,151.3727 (GR Gosford, 487011)	3 -8	180 m 3 mins	Veer left: From the intersection, this walk follows the wide management trail downhill, away from the gate.
2.80	Saddle intersection -33.4187,151.3708 (GR Gosford, 485011)	15 -1	130 m 4 mins	Veer left: From the intersection, this walk follows the walking track west up the hill, keeping the wider trail below to the right.
2.93	130 Picnic table -33.4184,151.3695 (GR Gosford, 484011)	0 -21	200 m 4 mins	Continue straight: From the picnic table, this walk heads west, initially keeping the view to the left.
3.13	Int west of 130 -33.4184,151.3675 (GR Gosford, 482011)	0 -20	170 m 4 mins	Veer left: From the intersection, this walk follows the management trail west, gently downhill, away from the rocky outcrop.
3.29	Top of Bradys Gully Trail -33.4187,151.3657 (GR Gosford, 481011)	12 -2	190 m 4 mins	Continue straight: From the intersection, this walk follows the management trail south-west up the hill, initially keeping Bradys Gully trail below to the right.
3.48	Powerline intersection -33.4201,151.3646 (GR Gosford, 480009)	38 -1	440 m 10 mins	Continue straight: From the intersection, this walk follows the upper arrow on the post, away from the power line, heading uphill to the south.
3.92	Sculpture of Edward John Eyre -33.423,151.3619 (GR Gosford, 477006)	3 -2	180 m 3 mins	Continue straight: From the sculpture, this walk follows the management trail, leaving the sculpture behind on the left.