

## Perry's Lookdown to Blackheath Station



2 Days

Hard track

12.8 km One way

↑ 1128m

4

The walk descends from Perry's Lookdown into the famous Blue Gum Forest. The overnight stay in the nearby Acacia Flats allows time for some exploring in the Grose River and the surrounding areas. After some steady climbing, the walk passes the base of the magnificent Bridal Falls and climbs steeply to Govetts Leap Lookout. This walk tests out the knees and fitness and is great way to access the valley.

1063m

3100

Blue Mountains National Park

## Free Beacon Hire

A Personal Locating Beacon (PLB) is a hand-held device that, when triggered, sends a message to the emergency services with your location. The emergency services staff can then look at your trip intention forms and decide how best to help you. In the Blue Mountains, you can borrow these for no charge, just complete this [Trip intention form](#), and a borrowing form. The device can be picked up from: NPWS Office - Govetts Leap Rd Blackheath - 9am to 4pm 7 days Ph: 02 4787 8877 Katoomba Police Station - 217 Katoomba St Katoomba - Anytime Ph: 02 4782 8199 Springwood Police Station - 4 Jerseywold Avenue Springwood - Anytime Ph: 02 4751 0299 [More info](#).

## Perry's Lookdown

Perry's Lookdown, Blue Mountains NP, has views over the Grose Valley, with Blue Gum Forest nearly directly below and Lockleys Pylon to the south. The lookout is presumably named after Captain William Perry, the Deputy Surveyor General who worked under the leadership of Sir Thomas Mitchell.

## Dockers Lookout

Dockers Lookout, Blue Mountains NP, has views over the Grose Valley and Blue Gum Forest below. Mt Banks can be seen standing proudly to the north above the valley.

## Blue Gum Forest

Blue Gum Forest, Blue Mountains NP, is a large stand of Eucalyptus deanei trees on the junction of the Grose River and Govetts Creek. The magnificent trees stand tall on the flats with low vegetation beneath. The trees of Blue Gum Forest represent the protection efforts of Myles Dunphy, who lead a group to raise the 130 pounds required to buy the Blue Gum Forest - quite a sum in 1931 during the depression - and save it from being cleared. The group were successful and the Blue Gum Forest is now protected within the Blue Mountains National Park. [More info](#).

## 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 ([Central Ranges, 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

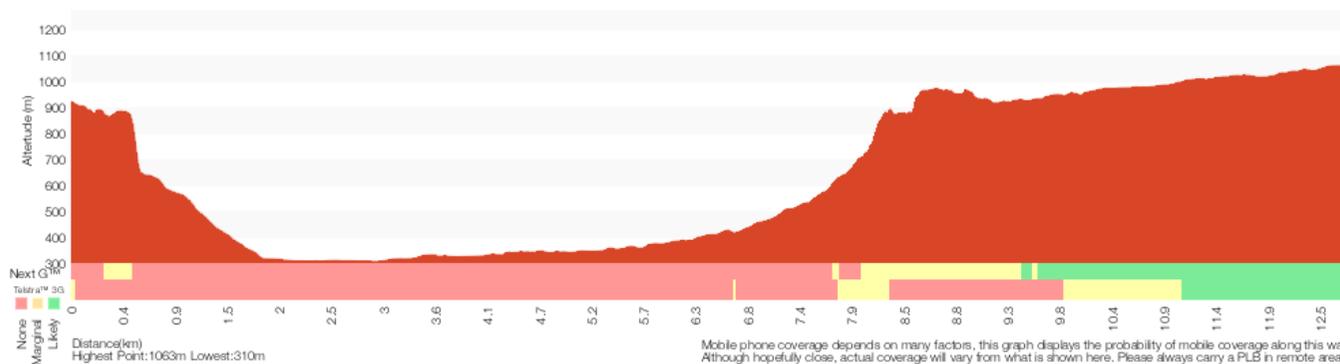
## Grade

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

<b>Length</b>	12.8 km One way
<b>Time</b>	2 Days
<b>Quality of track</b>	Rough track, where fallen trees and other obstacles are likely (4/6)
<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 (such as cliffs not fenced, significant creeks not bridged) (4/6)



Mobile phone coverage depends on many factors, this graph displays the probability of mobile coverage along this walk. Although hopefully close, actual coverage will vary from what is shown here. Please always carry a PLB in remote areas.

### 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 Perry's Lookdown car park and camping area (gps: -33.5994, 150.346). Car: There is free parking available.

You can get back from Blackheath Station (gps: -33.6339, 150.2844) 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/pltbs>

### 0 | Free Beacon Hire

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### 0 | Perry's Lookdown car park and camping area

*(80 m 3 mins)* From the car park, the walk follows the sign 'Perry's Lookdown Track' down the hill to a railed lookout.

### 0.08 | Perry's Lookdown

Perry's Lookdown, Blue Mountains NP, has views over the Grose Valley, with Blue Gum Forest nearly directly below and Lockleys Pylon to the south. The lookout is presumably named after Captain William Perry, the Deputy Surveyor General who worked under the leadership of Sir Thomas Mitchell.

### 0.08 | Perry's Lookdown

*(60 m 3 mins)* Continue straight: From the Perry's Lookdown, the walk follows the railed stairs down the hill for a short time until coming to a intersection signposted 'Perrys Track' and 'Dockers Lookout'. Continue straight: From the intersection, the walk leads for a short distance down the railed path to the visible lookout area, Docker's Lookout.

### 0.14 | Dockers Lookout

Dockers Lookout, Blue Mountains NP, has views over the Grose Valley and Blue Gum Forest below. Mt Banks can be seen standing proudly to the north above the valley.

### 0.14 | Dockers Lookout

*(2 km 1 hr 32 mins)* Turn around: From Dockers Lookout, the walk heads up the railed path for a short distance until coming to a signposted intersection. Veer left: From the intersection, the walk follows the 'Perry's Lookdown Track' sign down the hill. The track cuts across the hill to a bridge, where the track turns left and contours around the hill, before descending onto a lookout with memorial plaque and fire box. Continue straight: From the lookout, the walk keeps the valley below on the left and heads down the steep stairs, through the gap in the cliffs. The stairs

and handrail climb down through the cliffs, descending away from the main cliff before coming onto the top of a spur. The track tends right, over and down the spurline, and winds sharply down the spurline as it steeply descends for some time. The track heads down the spur, flattening out a few times before coming onto the relative flats of the Blue Gum Forest. The track heads down through the forest for a short time to a signposted intersection.

### 2.17 | Blue Gum Forest

Blue Gum Forest, Blue Mountains NP, is a large stand of Eucalyptus deanei trees on the junction of the Grose River and Govetts Creek. The magnificent trees stand tall on the flats with low vegetation beneath. The trees of Blue Gum Forest represent the protection efforts of Myles Dunphy, who lead a group to raise the 130 pounds required to buy the Blue Gum Forest - quite a sum in 1931 during the depression - and save it from being cleared. The group were successful and the Blue Gum Forest is now protected within the Blue Mountains National Park. [More info](#).

### 2.17 | Blue Gum Forest intersection

*(610 m 10 mins)* Turn right: From the intersection, this walk follows the sign 'Camping only at Acacia Flats', heading downstream. The track tends right, away from the Grose River and towards the hills on the right. The walk then heads downhill and across a small creek, after which it meanders for approximately 100m before arriving at Acacia Flats camping area.

### 2.78 | Acacia Flats Camping Ground

Acacia Flats Camping Ground, Blue Mountains NP, is situated on the floor of the Grose Valley between Perrys Lookdown and Lockley Pylon. The camp ground is approximately 50m from Govetts Creek and approximately 500m upstream from Blue Gum Forest. Acacia Flats Camping Ground is appropriately named after the dense population of Acacias found in this area. Acacia Flats is a wonderful area to camp with tall shady Blue Gums and level grass clearings which make for a great place to pitch a tent. There is a pit toilet and sitting logs to make camping more comfortable, and plenty of room for large groups. Water is available from Govetts Creek (treat before drinking).

### 2.78 | End of day 1

This is the planned overnight stay for the end of day 1, happy camping.

### 2.78 | Acacia Flats Camping Ground

*(3 km 1 hr 2 mins)* Continue straight: From Acacia Flats camping area, the walk leaves the camping area with the Grose River far to the left and the majority of the camping areas to the right of the track. The walk passes a pit toilet on the right after approximately 100m. Continuing along the creek flats before climbing up a small hill, the track contours and undulates for approximately 600m to round a hill which gives views of Pulpit Rock above on the cliffs. The track turns right to climb up the hill, and then left to contour for some time. As the slope lessens, the track descends to the creek bank, which is on the the right. The track continues to contour for approximately 1km just above the creek, on a steep bank which has minor undulations, until it comes across a clearing with a 'No Camping' sign. The track turns left here and descends to the creek bank at a signposted intersection of Junction Rock. Junction Rock 'intersection' sits in the middle of the creek.

### 5.76 | Junction Rock

Junction Rock, Blue Mountains NP, is a rock situated in the middle of the Govetts Leap Brook and Govetts Creek junction. The rock is signposted, giving directions to Evans Lookout, Neates Glen, Acacia Flats and the Blue Gum Forest. Junction Rock is a great place for lunch and a swim in summer.

### 5.76 | Junction Rock

*(2.4 km 1 hr 15 mins)* Veer right: From Junction Rock, the walk follows the 'Govetts Leap' sign, soon crossing the brook. The track then follows the brook for approximately 150m, to another creek crossing. The track continues, with the creek now on its left, for approximately 60m, before crossing back to the other bank. The track continues for approximately 1km with the creek to the right, and undulates steeply in sections between magnificent waterfalls. A section of track traverses a rock shelf for a short stretch, before continuing to wind up and down (with the creek to the right) to a few sets of steeply-cut stairs. From these, the walk continues to wind over hills to a creek crossing. The track then heads up the spur, winding between views of waterfalls, before tending left further up the hill. The walk leads up the winding steps for some time, until crossing the creek at the bottom of a waterfall cascading off the large cliffs - Govetts Leap falls.

### 8.11 | 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.

### 8.11 | Bottom of Govetts Leap falls

*(610 m 42 mins)* Continue straight: From the bottom of Govetts Leap Falls, this walk heads north-west, following the blue signs up the hill. The track zigzags its way steeply up to a wall of rock covered by moss, ferns and grasses. The track passes along the base of this cliff to a metal staircase, passing through the rock. The track continues to wind steeply below the cliffline, passing two lookouts before coming to the signposted intersection. Continue straight: From the intersection, this walk follows the sign to 'Govetts Leap carpark' up the stairs. The walk zigzags up the hill before tending left to the signposted intersection. Turn left: 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.

### 8.72 | 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.

### 8.72 | Govetts Leap Lookout

*(340 m 11 mins)* Turn around: From Govetts Leap Lookout, this walk heads down the stairs at the edge of the lookout, keeping the valley to the right. The walk then crosses a grassed area to a well-signposted intersection on the edge of the tree line.

Turn left: From the intersection, this walk heads down some stairs, keeping the valley to the right. The walk turns right over a bridge, continuing around the hillside to drop down onto a viewing area and intersection.

Veer left: From the intersection, this walk heads down steep stairs, keeping the valley to the right. The track then winds along the cliff top until coming to an intersection, near Horseshoe Falls Lookout.

### 9.05 | 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.

### 9.05 | 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.

### 9.05 | Horseshoe Falls Lookout

*(440 m 11 mins)* Continue straight: From the intersection, this walk heads along the cliff top towards Horseshoe Falls, with the valley below to the right. The track winds for some time around the hillside, to a lookout on the right, before continuing around to a railing some steep stairs. The stairs lead to Popes Glen Creek, where the track continues through the ferns to meet a street sign.

Continue straight: From the intersection, this walk follows the sign to 'Popes Glen' keeping the creek below on the right. The track continues for approximately 100m, rising to the left of a prominent rock feature. The walk passes another track on the right (with access to the creek), then continues to rise past the rock feature (on the right - The rock feature has a trail to its top.) This walk continues from the rock feature, heading down the hill to a signposted intersection.

### 9.49 | Optional sidetrip to Boyd Beach

*(40 m 1 mins)* Turn right: 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 Continue straight.

### 9.49 | 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.

### 9.49 | Int. Popes Glen Trk and Boyd Bch Trk

*(2.1 km 49 mins)* Turn left : From the intersection, this walk heads up the hill, following the arrow on the sign pointing to 'Blackheath'. The track continues above the creek (on the right) for some time, then crosses a bridge so that the creek is now on the left. The walk crosses a second bridge, then continues for some time up a rocky hill to an intersection below power lines, with a bridge below on the right.

Continue straight: From the intersection, this walk heads up the hill, keeping the creek below on the right. The walk soon crosses the creek at a bridge,

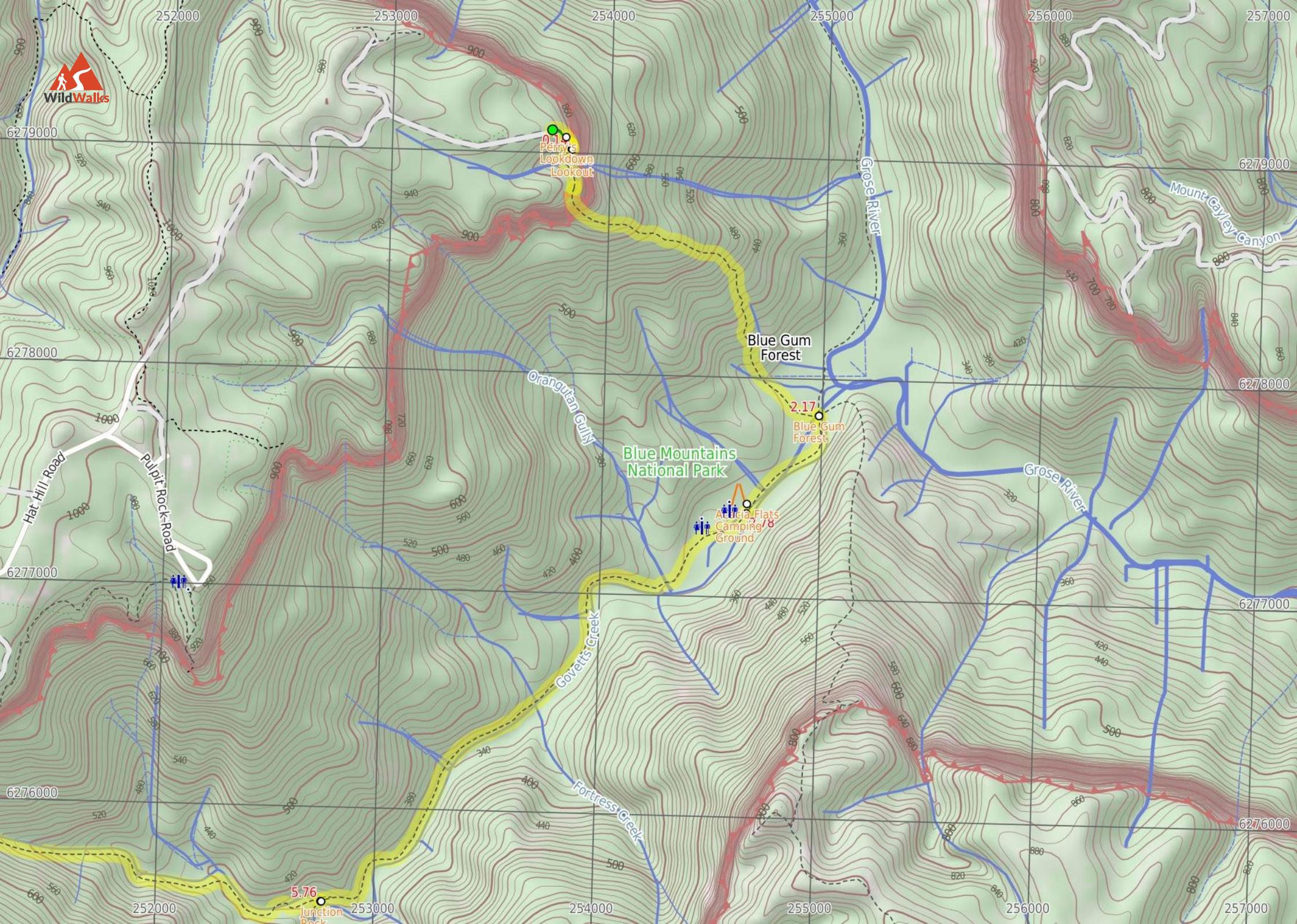
continuing along the other side to a small waterfall (on the left). The track then continues up the hill for for a short time, passing an intersection (with access tracks to Clarence Rd). The track continues to head up the hill for approximately 300m to the intersection with Dell St.

### 11.61 | Int. Pope's Glen Trk and Dell St

*(1.2 km 26 mins)* Veer left: From the intersection, this walk heads down Dell St, keeping the bush to the left of the road and houses to the right. The walk soon passes Cleopatra St on the right and continues along Dell St to the intersection with Gipps Lane, on the right (where Dell St changes name to Wills St).

Turn right: From the intersection, this walk heads along Gipps Lane, passing a large wooden house to the right of the road. The road tends left onto Robertson Lane which then becomes Wills St. The walk follows Wills Street for sometime to turn left onto Inconstant St and then right onto Gardiner Cres. Gardiner Cres is followed to the Great Western Highway, where there is a petrol station on the left. From here, this walk turns left to follow the Great Western Highway, keeping the petrol station on the left, as the walk heads towards the Gardners Inn pub. This walk continues to the pedestrian crossing, opposite Blackheath Station steps.

Turn right: 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.



Perry's  
Lookdown  
Lookout

Blue Gum  
Forest

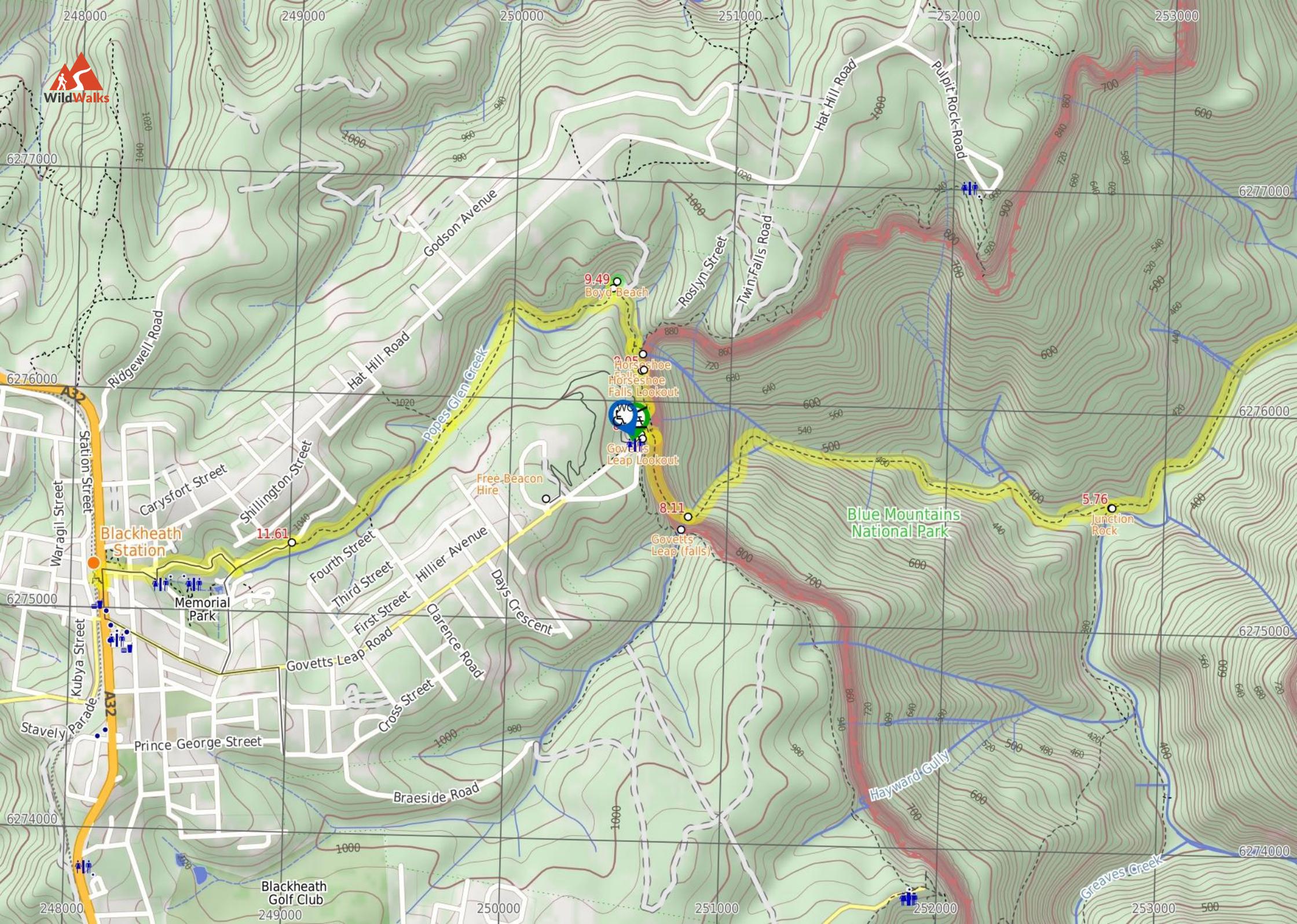
Blue Mountains  
National Park

Alicia Flats  
Camping  
Ground

2.17  
Blue Gum  
Forest

5.76  
Junction  
Rock





## Summary navigation sheet for the Perry's Lookdown to Blackheath Station



km	From	Up/Dwn	Length	Initial directions (Use full tracknotes and maps for more detail)
Start	Perry's Lookdown car park and camping area -33.5994,150.346 (GR Mount Wilson, 537791)	0 -16	80 m 3 mins	From the car park, the walk follows the sign 'Perry's Lookdown Track' down the hill to a railed lookout.
0.08	Perry's Lookdown -33.5997,150.3467 (GR Mount Wilson, 538791)	0 -28	60 m 3 mins	Continue straight: From the Perry's Lookdown, the walk follows the railed stairs down the hill for a short time until coming to a intersection signposted 'Perrys Track' and 'Dockers Lookout'.
0.14	Dockers Lookout -33.6002,150.347 (GR Mount Wilson, 538790)	35 -603	2 km 1 hr 32 mins	Turn around: From Dockers Lookout, the walk heads up the railed path for a short distance until coming to a signposted intersection.
2.17	Blue Gum Forest intersection -33.6111,150.3592 (GR Mount Wilson, 550778)	4 -4	610 m 10 mins	Turn right: From the intersection, this walk follows the sign 'Camping only at Acacia Flats', heading downstream.
2.78	End of day 1 -33.6151,150.3556 (GR Mount Wilson, 547774)	0 0	0 m	This is the planned overnight stay for the end of day 1, happy camping.
2.78	Acacia Flats Camping Ground -33.6151,150.3556 (GR Mount Wilson, 547774)	130 -80	3 km 1 hr 2 mins	Continue straight: From Acacia Flats camping area, the walk leaves the camping area with the Grose River far to the left and the majority of the camping areas to the right of the track.
5.76	Junction Rock -33.631,150.3346 (GR Katoomba, 528756)	390 -22	2.4 km 1 hr 15 mins	Veer right: From Junction Rock, the walk follows the 'Govetts Leap' sign, soon crossing the brook.
8.11	Bottom of Govetts Leap falls -33.6314,150.3137 (GR Katoomba, 508755)	305 -61	610 m 42 mins	Continue straight: From the bottom of Govetts Leap Falls, this walk heads north-west, following the blue signs up the hill.
8.72	Govetts Leap Lookout -33.628,150.3113 (GR Katoomba, 506758)	23 -62	340 m 11 mins	Turn around: From Govetts Leap Lookout, this walk heads down the stairs at the edge of the lookout, keeping the valley to the right.
9.05	Horseshoe Falls Lookout -33.6254,150.3114 (GR Katoomba, 506761)	31 -41	440 m 11 mins	Continue straight: From the intersection, this walk heads along the cliff top towards Horseshoe Falls, with the valley below to the right.
9.49	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. Turn right: From the intersection, this walk heads down the hill following the 'Boyds Beach' sign (under the bush).
9.49	Int. Popes Glen Trk and Boyd Bch Trk -33.622,150.31 (GR Mount Wilson, 505765)	145 -48	2.1 km 49 mins	Turn left : From the intersection, this walk heads up the hill, following the arrow on the sign pointing to 'Blackheath'.
11.61	Int. Pope's Glen Trk and Dell St -33.6324,150.2941 (GR Katoomba, 490753)	65 -27	1.2 km 26 mins	Veer left: From the intersection, this walk heads down Dell St, keeping the bush to the left of the road and houses to the right.