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Lake Macquarie LGA

14m

# 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 Owens Walkway Car Park (Off Cain Street) (gps: -33.0156, 151.7122) by car or bus. 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  $\frac{http://wild.tl/2o}{}$ 

# 0 | Ken & Audrey Owens Walkway

The Ken & Audrey Owens Walkway on Cain St, Redhead is a community made coastal walkway through restored bushland. The walkway has two halves - one direction visits the Redhead Lagoon and a timber bridge viewpoint, and the other way visits Webb Park near the Redhead shops. The walkway was made in coordination with the Redhead Landcare group. Volunteers are always needed for working bee's on the last Sunday morning of each month. For more information, contact 49447403. The boardwalk is made of concrete and timber, and the tracks are suitable for wheelchairs and prams. There are also well positioned rest areas along the boardwalk. There is a dog walking area just off the walkway. More info.

#### 0 | Owens Walkway Car Park & Viewpoint

The Owens Walkway car park (off Cain St, Redhead) offers easy access to the Ken & Audrey Owens Walkway. The car park has a water tap and seat. The viewpoint at the car park is gained via an elevated boardwalk and offers views down the coast to Norah Head. From the viewpoint, surfers and whales can be seen (Northern whale migration from June to July, southern migration from Sept to Oct). <u>More info.</u>

# 0 | Owens Walkway Car Park (Off Cain Street)

(30 m 1 mins) From the car park (opposite 9 Cain St, Redhead), this walk follows the concrete footpath gently downhill, while past the 'Ken and Audrey Owens Walkway'sign and elevated lookout on your right. This walk continues into coastal forest (passing a water tap on the left) for about 30m, until coming to a T-intersection with the concrete Owens Walkway (and some timber posts on your left).

### 0.03 | Owens Walkway Intersection

(130 m 2 mins) Turn right: From the intersection, this walk follows the concrete footpath gently downhill, while keeping the ocean and wetland to your left. This walk continues through coastal forest for about 130m, to find an elevated timber lookout and stone monument (on your left).

# 0.16 | Owens Wetland Viewpoint

This wetlands viewpoint on the Owens Walkway (in Redhead) offers good views out over water, reeds and a large wetland. In the distance are large sand dunes, with Redhead Beach behind them. This viewpoint is easily accessible via the Owens Walkway and has wheelchair access. Wildlife, particularly birds, use the wetland as a breeding site and you are likely to see birds here. There is also a stone monument, dedicated to the 'Cain St Landcare Project'. The viewpoint is fenced and has a timber seat.

(340 m 5 mins) Continue straight: From the lookout, this walk follows the concrete footpath whilst keeping the wetland to your left. The footpath undulates gently as it leads through the coastal forest for about 300m, until coming to a T-intersection, marked with some concrete posts, a drinking fountain and a trail (on the right).

#### 0.51 | Int of Owens Walkway & Cain St Trail

(140 m 2 mins) Turn left: From the intersection, this walk follows the concrete footpath gently downhill, while leaving the Cain St trail directly behind and initially keeping the drinking fountain on your right. This walk continues through dense coastal forest for about 140m until coming to an elevated timber foot bridge over Owens Creek.

# 0.64 | Elevated Timber Bridge Viewpoint

This timber bridge is elevated over Owen Creek in Redhead. The viewpoint is amongst trees and offers a quiet spot to sit and look into the creek. Local ducks live in this area. This viewpoint is wheelchair accessible by using the Owens Walkway.

# 0.64 | Elevated timber bridge

(560 m9 mins) Continue straight: From here, this walk crosses the elevated timber bridge, and follows the sandy track south. This walk continues, undulating gently through coastal forest (ignoring side tracks) for about 400m, to pass timber posts with views of the ocean. Then this walk continues towards the ocean for about 100m, until arriving on Redhead Beach. Please preserve the dunes - don't walk on the vegetation.

### 1.21 | Redhead Beach (Owens Walk end)

(1.2 km 18 mins) Turn left: From Redhead Beach (Owens Walkway end), this walk follows the beach, with the ocean on your right. This walk continues for about 850m until coming to a section of beach with a faint track with timber posts visible inland, about 60m before crossing Freshwater Creek.

Continue straight: From Redhead Beach (near Webb Park), this walk follows the beach with the ocean on your right. This walk crosses Freshwater Creek (may be covered with sand) after about 60m and continues for about 230m, until coming to the Redhead Beach Surf Life Saving Club.

## 2.36 | Redhead Surf Life Saving Club

Redhead Surf Life Saving Club, on Beach Rd, Redhead, is adjacent to a large car park and the main surfing area of Redhead Beach. There are changing rooms with toilets. The SLSC runs a kiosk, open from 7am daily, serving hot and cold drinks, hot food, snacks and ice cream cones. <u>More info</u>.

### 2.36 | Redhead Surf Life Saving Club

(190 m 3 mins) Continue straight: From the Redhead Surf Life Saving Club (off Beach Road, Redhead) this walk follows the footpath, with the car park on your right and vegetation on your left. This walk continues for about 50m to the end of the footpath. This walk then turns left into the car park and continues for about 120m, until coming to a locked metal gate and 'Dogs must be leashed' sign.

# 2.55 | Redhead Car Park (Fresh Water Creek end)

(180 m 3 mins) Veer left: From the south-western corner of Redhead Beach car park (off Beach Road, Redhead) near Freshwater Creek, this walk passes around the locked metal gate and follows the sandy track (with timber steps) gently downhill, keeping the ocean on your left. This walk continues for about 40m, crossing Freshwater Creek then turning right,

inland. Then this walk continues gently uphill and after about 70m passes through a level grassed area. This walk then continues on a gravel track for about 60m, until coming to the Owens Walkway four-way intersection, with a 'Keep dogs on leads' sign directly ahead.

#### 2.73 | Webb Park Four-Way Intersection

(390 m 7 mins) Continue straight: From the intersection, this walk follows the timber walkway gently uphill, while keeping the 'Keep dogs on leads' sign and ocean (in the distance) on your left. This walk continues through the low coastal vegetation (passing two bench seats) for about 400m to come to a concrete footpath. This walk continues along the footpath for about 50m, to a three-way intersection, with a footpath (on the left) and a 'Dog Exercise Area' sign (on the right).

#### 3.13 | Int of Owens Walkway & Dog exercise footpath

(90 m 2 mins) Continue straight: From the intersection, this walk follows the concrete footpath gently uphill, while leaving the 'Dog Exercise Area' sign on your right. This walk continues for about 40m, until passing between timber posts and coming to a three-way intersection with a gently uphill footpath (on your right).

Turn right: From the intersection, this walk follows the concrete footpath gently uphill, leaving the ocean directly behind you. This walk continues through coastal forest (passing a water tap on the right), until coming to the Owens Walkway car park, with an elevated lookout on your left.