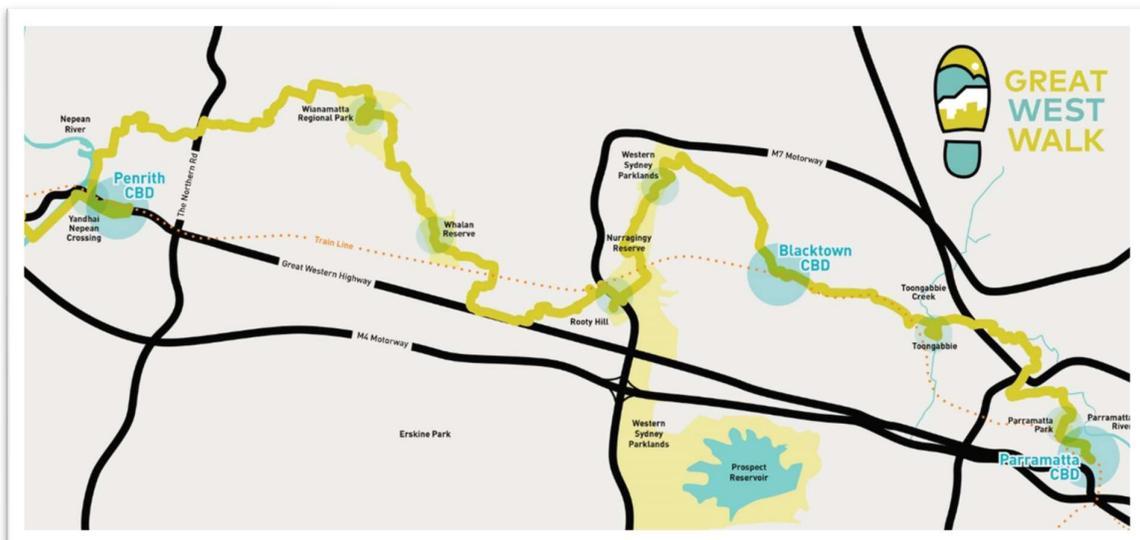


Great West Walk: Information kit

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Overview

This 150 kilometres walk stretching from Parramatta to Katoomba crosses a kaleidoscope of varying landscapes, including protected Cumberland Plain woodland, local river systems, public parklands, some of Australia's oldest architecture and Western Sydney's iconic urban landscapes. While the terrain is relatively flat and an abundance of shared paths make for easy walking, it is the scenery that is the great surprise.

From the dense thickets along the creeks to the open remnants of the Cumberland Plains and the reminders of farming and grazing that existed here only a few years ago. It is often hard to believe that you are still in the suburbs of Australia's largest city.

Parramatta Park preserves some of Australia's best and oldest colonial buildings still extant and its broad open parklands make a wonderful contrast to these unique remnants of our past.

The wisteria gardens and the Edwardian splendour of "Glengariff" in Cumberland Hospital are a delightful prelude to Phillip's Camp at the Head of Parramatta River while the ruins of the Rogans Hill Railway over Toongabbie Creek come as a surprise to those of us who thought a railway to Castle Hill was a modern idea.

The walking route winds along Toongabbie Creek and there are more surprises with patches of shady regenerated bushland that provides shelter for the bellbirds chiming away in the scrub and the water hens strutting along the creek banks.

Further along there is little left of Macquarie's Third Settlement at Old Toongabbie except the stories and at McCoy Park you encounter one the massive flood basins that protect the western suburbs and Parramatta itself from floods.

At Blacktown the regeneration of the Blacktown Showground and Francis Park Oval has produced one of the most imaginative parks in Sydney that has become a focal point for families in the surrounding suburbs.

Beyond Blacktown the route winds along Breakfast Creek to the Western Sydney Parklands. This enormous 5,280-hectare park runs from Quakers Hill to Hoxton Park and contains the 27-kilometre Parklands Track which you follow for 7 kilometres from Quakers Hill Parkway to the surprising Nurragingy Reserve with its ornamental



lake and beautiful Chinese Gardens. Along the way there are patches of Cumberland Plain woodland, Eastern Creek floodplains, and wide-open grasslands.

Another short stretch through the Western Sydney Parklands takes you past Blacktown Olympic Park and across the M7 Freeway to the top of Rooty Hill (yes, there is a hill) where you are rewarded with an unexpected panorama of the Blue Mountains from the Blue Labyrinth to Kurrajong Heights. Below Rooty Hill you will find traces of the historic Government Stock Farmhouse that once existed here.

From Rooty Hill, the Great West Walk follows paths and easements through to the Great Western Highway. Along the park on the northern side of this busy road there are still surprising colonial remnants such as “Neoblie” and the original Colyton Schoolmaster’s Cottage.

At Waterholes Reserve (once a major watering point for stock and people on their way across the Blue Mountains) the route heads north-west along Ropes Creek through open parklands, playing fields and woodlands to the new suburb of Ropes Crossing built on the site of Australia’s largest munitions complex.

There is a delightful series of paths through local parks including an excellent recreation of Ropes Crossing Station where thousands of munitions workers poured out into the complex of buildings and bunkers that existed here during World War II.

Part of this huge site is now occupied by Wianamatta Regional Park and the Great West Walk wanders through the Eastern Visitors Precinct to cross Ropes Creek and South Creek on new footbridges built on the remains of the old wartime vehicle bridges.

Wianamatta Regional Park houses one of the last remaining stands of Cumberland Plain Woodland and, amazingly, a large population of kangaroos and emus. Wandering through this vast woodland you could be a thousand miles from civilisation although there are occasional remnants of its past with an old, barbed wire fence that was part of the old munitions factory.

Much of the central section of the park is covered with forest regrowth and in a few years, all traces of the munitions factories will disappear.

You leave Wianamatta behind at another new suburb - Jordan Springs - where modern suburbia returns but the street plantings provide shade and shared paths



take you along water catchment basins and ponds to the shopping centre where cake and caffeine await. The walking route then winds its way through parks and easements to the lakes and ponds of the Waterside development at Cranebrook. Once again, the local paths and plantings make this one of the more pleasant street walks.

At Castlereagh Road, a short walk through an industrial area brings you to the Nepean River and the Great River Walk where tranquillity is soon restored. The reflections of the She-oaks in the smooth tranquil waters of the river and the shady path along the river's edge take you to the Victoria Bridge and the memorial to the first crossing of the Blue Mountains while the new Yandhai Footbridge links the two sections of the Great River Walk.

The Crossing Memorial marks the first crossing of the Blue Mountains and also marks the beginning of your trek into this Australian icon which is visited by 3.5 million people every year.

Although Emu Plains is covered with suburban housing now its colonial roots are never far away as evidenced by Emu Hall, Policeman's Cottage, Old Schoolhouse and St Phillips Church.

The Lewers Bequest (Penrith Regional Gallery) is a pleasant spot for a coffee break while Lennox Village is a good spot to replenish supplies before the wilderness to come.

The trek through Knapsack Gully Reserve is a good introduction to the climbs ahead and provides a fascinating slice of the history of transport in Australia as you traverse the first two railways and the first two roads across the Mountains.

Why this relatively low range (Governor Phillip named them "Camarthen Hills") blocked travel into the interior for 36 years is a subject of great debate but, like the rest of Australia, this antipodean range was dramatically different to the mountains of the northern hemisphere whose passes were shaped by recent uplift and glaciers not ancient plateaus eroded by water and time into box canyons with vertical cliffs.

Furthermore, the colonial governors wanted to keep the Mountains and the Nepean River as natural barriers to convict escapees.



The views as you climb the Lapstone Monocline extend from the Cumberland Plains to the distant office towers of Sydney and are a welcome reward for the climb. There are more reminders of the past in Darks Common and the views down Glenbrook Gorge are absolutely stunning.

Beyond Glenbrook, the lagoon provides a link to our colonial past as does Mitchells Pass and the ruins of the Pilgrim Inn, tucked away behind a Macca's. Your way then lies along back roads to the elegant collection of Federation houses at Springwood next to the new Blue Mountains Theatre.

The route beside the railway along the top of the ridge soon changes from suburban to bushland as deep gullies appear on the southern side of the road before you reach the Corridor of Oaks at Faulconbridge and the home of Sir Henry Parkes. At the Linden water tower there are sweeping views across the ridges and valleys of the Grose Valley to Mt Tomah and Mt Irvine. You cross the Western Railway at Linden Station to reach Dawes Park with the first visible signs of Cox's Road. What has been a dry historical event seems to take life when you see the marks of the dray wheels etched into the sandstone ledges!

On the southern side of the railway and Great Western Highway more evidence of this historic and record-breaking road appears and once again the road-swallowing scrub must have appeared foreign and menacing to all but the native-born. Civilisation intrudes again as you reach Woodford to cross the railway and highway, but the houses are different.

Weatherboard cottages with brick-lined chimneys on quarter acre blocks replace the cramped McMansions of the plains. Gardens explode with colour in springs as cool-climate shrubs burst into bloom and daffodils and bluebells appear.

A brief spell of street walking takes you into the bush again but not before you pass behind the Woodford Academy and "Werona" – the former a reminder of the colonial past and the latter, a reminder of the role that the Blue Mountains played during World War II.

Your route then undulates along valleys and ridges along the northern flanks of the main ridge via the Transit of Venus Track to Edith Falls, the first in a series of waterfalls and cascades.



Fire trails and other tracks take you to Winbourne Road and a steady ascent to Hazelbrook Station. On the southern side of this station the walking route runs down a broad ridge into South Lawson Park and more waterfalls before ascending through the open parkland of the old Lawson Golf Course to Honour Avenue with its poignant reminder of the toll that World War I took on small Australian country towns.

From Lawson the Great West Walk runs down through Wilson Park past the quirky “Map of Australia” and then climbs up to Hay Street before running along Railway Parade to Wentworth Falls. This quiet road has some mountain views down into the deep gullies of the Upper Mountains but as you cross the Main Western Line at the Wentworth Falls overpass you realise the vast extent of the Blue Mountains National Park.

The route then follows Darwin’s Walk or Falls Road to the top of Wentworth Falls where the splendour of the eroded valleys of Jamison Creek and Kedumba River unfolds in one of the most spectacular mountain vistas in the world. Here is a spot where you can see forever!

As the iconic National Pass is closed you take the Shortcut Track across to the Conservation Hut where you can enjoy a coffee gazing in wonder across the valleys hacked out grain by grain over millions of years from the sandstone plateau that once existed here.

Beyond the “Con Hut” the landscape changes completely as you ramble below Sassafras and Coachwood in the protected Valley of the Waters where creeks and brooks spout from the ever-narrowing sandstone walls to erupt in cascades and waterfalls surrounded by ferns and moss.

At the Nature Trail you head further up this enchanted vale to cross Lillian Bridge with the creek bubbling below you in a narrow slot canyon.

The track then climbs to skirt Leura Golf Course where you re-join suburbia for a street walk to Sublime Point. Once again, the views are breath-taking, and the shelter shed above the lookout is a great spot for a break before taking the obscure West Street Track along the western side of Sublime Point Ridge to Sublime Point Reserve.

You then drop to Prince Henry Cliff Walk which is one of the oldest and still one of the most beautiful tracks in the Blue Mountains.



It is easy to forget how good the views are along this track - across Kedumba Valley to Mount Solitary which always seems faintly menacing. Beyond, almost lost in the blue haze are the distant cliffs of Wanganderry Walls to the south and Kanangra Walls to the south-west.

To the south-east, the Gib at Bowral pokes its nose over the distant horizon while to the west the wall of Narrow Neck blocks off the valley. The track then skirts the huge ravine of Gordon Falls before dropping down to the Pool of Siloam before climbing again to Gordon Falls Reserve.

The Great West Walk returns to the escarpment by a leisurely stroll past the country retreats along the Mall and Balmoral Road to Elysian Rock, one of several lookouts named in the 1930s when classical history was resurgent.

Despite their singularly inappropriate names these lookouts and several more along the way are well worth the occasional detour before the track drops down to Leura Cascades. Although this area has been loved to destruction at various times in its history it still retains much of its natural beauty.

After enjoying the cool lushness, continue along the Cliff Walk as it heads south again along the eastern edge of Katoomba Ridge. Despite the proximity of housing, the National Parks track runs below the Cliff Drive so only the spectacular scenery to the east is revealed in a series of lookouts that culminates at the Three Sisters Lookouts and Echo Point.

This is the main tourist destination in the Blue Mountains, so it is always crowded unless you plan your walk to arrive before 10:00am when the tourist buses arrive. Despite the crowds and the concrete concourses, it is still one of the best views in the Mountains so focus on the views and ignore the "... madding throng". The Prince Henry Cliff Walk continues past Echo Point and the eastern terminus of the Skyway to the Kedumba River.

Here you leave the Cliff Walk and head north along Katoomba Street to the Katoomba Town centre and to the Blue Mountains Cultural Centre where you gain one last and panoramic view of the Blue Mountains. Coffee and an excellent Art Gallery are also available and, if you want to find more about this wonderful place, the library has a wealth of information. With mind and body restored you wander the last few metres through the Carrington Gardens to Katoomba Railway Station and the end of your epic trek



From the Gully, the track winds along streets and alleyways to the Blue Mountains Cultural Centre where you gain one last and panoramic view of the Blue Mountains. Coffee and an excellent Art Gallery are also available and, if you want to find more about this wonderful place, the library has a wealth of information.

With mind and body restored you wander the last few metres through the Carrington Gardens to Katoomba Railway Station and the end of your epic trek.

Public transport

The Western Line has frequent trains that run to and from Parramatta to:

- **Parramatta:** The Great West Walk starts at the northern railway exit onto Darcy Street.
- **Toongabbie:** The Great West Walk runs along Station Road 400 metres north of Toongabbie Station.
- **Seven Hills:** The Great West Walk runs across the pedestrian bridge over Seven Hills station.
- **Blacktown:** The Great West Walk runs across the pedestrian bridge over the Windsor Line station to the bus interchange.
- **Doonside:** The Great West Walk runs through Nurragingy Reserve which is a kilometre west of the station along Cross Street.
- **Rooty Hill:** The Great West Walk runs to and from this station along Rooty Hill Road South.
- **Mt Druitt:** The Great West Walk runs through Old Mt Druitt 600 metres west of Mt Druitt Station.
- **Penrith:** The Great West Walk runs to this station along Jane Street.

The Richmond Line has less frequent trains that from Parramatta to:

- **Marayong:** The Great West Walk is 800 metres from this station as it crosses Davis Road just south of the Davis Road Bridge over Toongabbie Creek.



Buses run to and from Parramatta Station to:

- **Mons T-way Bridge, Northmead:** Take the T60, T61, T62, T63, T64, T65 or T66 bus from Parramatta Interchange Stand B4. Alight at bus stop 2145562 in Mons T-way just south of the T-way Bridge over Toongabbie Creek. The Great West Walk runs underneath this bridge
- **Oakes Road, Old Toongabbie:** Take the 606 bus from Parramatta Interchange Stand A4. Alight at bus stop 214687 in Oakes Road near Chircan Street. The Great West Walk crosses Oakes Road 250 metres north of this bus stop at the southern of Oakes Road Bridge over Toongabbie Creek.
- **Johnstons Bridge:** Take the T60-T66 buses from Stand B4 in the bus interchange on the southern side of the station. Alight at stop 214699 Johnstons on the North-West T-way. The Great West Walk runs along the underpass under Johnstons Bridge.

Buses run to and from Blacktown Station to:

- **Davis Road, Marayong:** Take the 752 bus from Blacktown Bus Interchange Stand 4 and alight at bus stop 214812 on Davis Road near Crudge Road. Walk north 200 metres to the shared path on the western side of Davis Road just before the bridge over Breakfast Creek. The Great West Walk runs west along this path.
- **Richmond Road, Quakers Hill:** Take the 753 bus from Blacktown Bus Interchange Stand 3 and alight at bus stop 276748 on Richmond Road near Hill End Road. Walk west along Richmond Road for 250 metres to cross Quakers Hill Parkway at the traffic lights then walk 120 metres to the Parklands Track entry **GPS0263464348**. The Great West Walk runs south along this path.
- **Power Street, Doonside:** Take the 756 bus from Blacktown Bus Interchange Stand 3 and alight at bus stop 2761145 on Power Road near Kilty Crescent. Walk east 450 metres along Power Street to the Parklands Track entry **GPS0168363022**. The Great West Walk runs south along this path.

Buses run to and from Mt Druitt Station to:

- **May Cowpe Reserve:** Take the 728 bus from Mt Druitt Bus Interchange Stand A and alight at bus stop 27766168 in Rupertswood Road opposite Minchinbury



Anglican Church. The walking route crosses Rupertswood Road to Bainbridge Crescent next to the bus stop.

- **Waterholes Reserve:** Take the 770 or 771 bus from Mt Druitt Bus Interchange Stand H and alight at bus stop 2770595 on the Great Western Highway opposite Mt Druitt Road. The Great West Walk runs along the reserve on the northern side of the highway.
- **Ropes Crossing:** Take the 780 bus from Mt Druitt Bus Interchange Stand 6 and alight at bus stop 2760266 in Hollows Parade outside Ropes Crossing Shopping Centre. The Great West Walk runs along Ropes Crossing Boulevard 70 metres west of the bus stop.

Buses run to and from Penrith Station to:

- **Jordan Springs:** Take the 783 bus from Penrith Bus Interchange Stand 18 and alight at bus stop 2747379 in Jordan Springs Boulevard before Lakeside Parade. The Great West Walk runs along the southern footpath of Jordan Springs Boulevard.
- **The Northern Road, Cranebrook:** Take the 677 bus from Penrith Bus Interchange Stand 16 and alight at bus stop 274996 near Sherringham Road. The Great West Walk runs along Sherringham Road for 20 metres to Ironbark Reserve.
- **Greygums Road, Cranebrook:** Take the 678 bus from Penrith Bus Interchange Stand 16 or the 786 Bus from Stand 17 and alight at bus stop 274929 near Scenic Circuit. The Great West Walk crosses Greygums Road next to the bus stop.
- **Castlereagh Road, Cranebrook:** Take the 783 or 784 bus from Penrith Bus Interchange Stand 18 and alight at bus stop 2749320 near Waterside Boulevard. The Great West Walk runs along Castlereagh Road south of the bus stop.



The Blue Mountains Inter-City Line has an hourly train service that runs to and from:

- **Glenbrook:** The Great West Walk runs past this station on Burfitt Parade.
- **Blaxland:** The Great West Walk runs across the pedestrian overpass over Blaxland Station.
- **Warrimoo:** The Great West Walk runs past this station on Railway Terrace
- **Valley Heights:** The Great West Walk runs along Tusculum Road, 300 metres from the station.
- **Springwood:** The Great West Walk runs past this station on Macquarie Road.
- **Faulconbridge:** The Great West Walk runs along the bitumen path on the southern side of the railway at the bottom of the overbridge.
- **Linden:** The Great West Walk runs through this station.
- **Woodford:** The Great West Walk runs along the underpass below this station.
- **Hazelbrook:** The Great West Walk runs across the overbridge at Hazelbrook station.
- **Lawson:** The Great West Walk runs along the underpass below Lawson Station.
- **Bullaburra:** The Great West Walk runs along this Railway Parade on the northern side of the station.
- **Wentworth Falls:** The Great West Walk runs across the footbridge over this station.
- **Leura:** The walking route is 1.7 kilometres south of the station along Leura Mall and Olympian Parade.
- **Katoomba:** The Great West Walk ends at this station.

Note that not all Blue Mountains trains stop at every station so make sure you check the timetable on <https://transportnsw.info/routes/details/intercity-trains/bmt/02BMT>

Vehicle access

It is also very easy to walk the Great West Walk using two vehicles or one vehicle and public transport. Convenient access points are set out below. Sydway map references are page number and grid square; Satnav is the address that you enter into your Satnav device (e.g. Tom, Navman, Garmin etc.); GPS Co-ordinates are the 10-digit grid reference shown on your GPS (e.g. Garmin, Navman):

Access Point	Sydway	Satnav address	GPS Coordinates
Parramatta Station	Map 80 P16	Parramatta Station	56HLH15331 56355
Briens Road Bridge	Map 252 D9	237 Briens Road, Northmead	56HLH13111 58198
Oakes Road Bridge	Map 252 B1	81 Oakes Rd, Old Toongabbie	56HLH12341 60032
Johnstons Bridge	Map 231 Q20	352 Old Windsor Rd, Old Toongabbie	56HLH118026022 2
Seven Hills Station	Map 231 C18	Seven Hills Carpark, Terminus Road, Seven Hills	56HLH08894 60930
Blacktown Station	Map 230 J15	42 First Ave, Blacktown	56HLH06304 61620
Davis Road Bridge	Map 230 E8	36 Davis Road, Marayong	56HLH05249 63382
Richmond Rd & Quakers Hill Pkwy	Map 229 L4	479 Richmond Road, Quakers Hill	56HLH02634 64348
Colebee Centre, Nurragingy Reserve	Map 229 G13	41 Knox Road, Doonside	56HLH01806 62128
Rooty Hill station	Map 229 B17	Rooty Hill Station	56HLH004046 1059
Rupertswood Road	Map 228 M20	94 Rupertswood Road, Rooty Hill	56HKH99084 60232
Waterholes Reserve	Map 228 D20	Mt Druitt Park, Great Western Highway, Mt Druitt	56HKH97070 60350

Access Point	Sydney	Satnav address	GPS Coordinates
Forrester Road, Ropes Crossing	Map 227 M4	Lot 5 Susannah Drive, Ropes Crossing	56HKH94830 64421
Ropes Crossing Shopping Centre	Map 207 K20	8 Central Place, Ropes Crossing	56HKH94391 65348
Wianamatta Regional Park (East Precinct)	Map 207 H17	Mainwaring Street, Ropes Crossing	56HKH9409 666041
Wianamatta Regional Park (West Precinct)	Map 206 18M	Bungendore Circuit, Jordan Springs	56HKH905386 5842
Jordan Springs Shopping Centre	Map 206 18E	13 Lakeside Parade, Jordan Springs	56HKH89121 65695
The Northern Road	Map 206 C20	90 Sherringham Rd, Cranebrook	56HKH88695 65411
The Waterside	Map 205 K18	15 Gannet Drive, Cranebrook	56HKH86561 65733
Nepean Rowing Club	Map 225 E8	11 Memorial Avenue, Penrith	56HKH85322 63356
Penrith Station	Map 225 K9	Penrith Station north side parking	56HKH865936 3149
Yandhai Bridge	Map 224 8F	9 Memorial Ave, Penrith	56HKH85333 63381
Penrith Gallery	Map 224 Q13	86 River Road, Penrith	56HKH83748 62191
Lennox Village, Emu Plains		Lennox Village, Emu Plains	56HKH83156 62723
Knapsack Gully carpark, Emu Plains	Map 224 G10	Mitchells Pass & Great Western Hwy	56HKH81675 62795

Access Point	Sydney	Satnav address	GPS Coordinates
RAAF Base, Glenbrook	Map 224 D16	1 Knapsack St, Glenbrook	56HKH81003 61422
Bluff Reserve	Map 244 A2	64 Emu Rd, Glenbrook	56HKH80392 59800
Glenbrook Station	Map 223 P18	Glenbrook Station	56HKH79711 60919
Glenbrook Lagoon	Map 223 P12	70 Glenbrook Road, Glenbrook	56HKH79456 62351
Blaxland Shops car park	Map 223 K7	4 Hope Street, Blaxland	56HKH78535 63634
Warrimoo Station carpark	Map 203 H17	2 Rickard Road, Warrimoo	56HKH77936 66150
Springwood carpark	Map 202 J7	179-181 Macquarie Road, Springwood	56HKH74349 68573
Falconbridge Station carpark	Map 201 P6	9 Railway Avenue, Falconbridge	56HKH71421 68740
Linden	Map 452 R7	42 Glossop Road, Linden	56HKH68032 66592
Taylor Road, Woodford	Map 452 N16	5 Taylor Road	56HKH67233 64358
Woodford Station carpark	Map 452 L16	Woodford Station	56HKH66729 64348
Winbourne Road, Hazelbrook	Map 452 D8	122 Winbourne Road, Hazelbrook	56HKH65041 66405
Hazelbrook Station	Map 452 A11	Hazelbrook Station	56HKH64114 65572
Lawson Station	Map 451 G9	Lawson Station	56HKH61836 66021

Access Point	Sydney	Satnav address	GPS Coordinates
Bullaburra Station	Map 451 B11	Bullaburra Station	56HKH60464 65536
Wentworth Falls Station	Map 450 D10	Wentworth Falls Station	56HKH56817 66959
Gordon Falls Reserve	Map 449 C17	Gordon Falls Reserve	56HKH52803 65053
Echo Point, Katoomba	Map 448 M20	Echo Point Information Centre	56HKH50950 64228
Katoomba Station	Map 448 M11	Katoomba Station	56HKH50876 66501

Parking

- **Parramatta Station:** The only parking near the station is in commercial car parks.
- **Seven Hills Station:** Parking near the station is difficult on weekdays but there is a large car park on the northern side of the station.
- **Blacktown Station:** Parking near the station is difficult on weekdays but there is a large car park on the northern side of the station.
- **Nepean Rowing Club, Penrith:** There is plenty of parking but it may be full on weekends when there is a rowing regatta.
- **Penrith Station:** Parking near the station is difficult on weekdays but there is a large car park on the northern side of the station (access via Castlereagh Road and Thornton Drive).
- **Glenbrook:** Parking near the station is difficult on weekdays but reasonable on weekends.
- **Warrimoo:** Parking near the station is difficult on weekdays but good on weekends.
- **Springwood:** There is a commuter car park on the northern side of the station, but it may be full on weekdays but reasonable on weekends.

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- **Woodford:** The best parking at Woodford is on the northern side of the railway station which is only accessible from the westbound lanes of the Great Western Highway.
 - **Hazelbrook:** There is a commuter carpark in Higgs Place on the southern side of the station.
 - **Lawson:** There is a carpark on the northern side of the station in Badgery Crescent just past the Lawson Bowling Club.
 - **Wentworth Falls:** There is a commuter carpark on the eastern side of the station off Railway parade.
 - **Echo Point, Katoomba:** There is metered parking in all the streets around Echo Point and parking could be difficult on weekends or school holidays.
 - **Katoomba Station:** There is a commuter carpark on the northern side of the station, but it may be full on weekdays but reasonable on weekends.
- Parking at all other locations is good.

Food and drink

- **Parramatta:** This large regional centre has a very large shopping centre with department stores and a multitude of cafes and restaurants. There is a very large supermarket in Westfield on the southern side of the station that is open 24 hours, seven days a week.
- **Seven Hills:** There are several cafes and a supermarket on the southern side of Seven Hills Station as well as a Centro Shopping Centre west of Prospect Highway.
- **Blacktown:** There is another large shopping centre located on the southern side of the station.
- **Blacktown Showground Precinct:** There is a café open on weekends and some weekdays.
- **Marayong:** This small shopping centre is 900 metres north of the Great West Walk along the Marayong Station Link (see Chapter 7). It has a small supermarket, chemist, newsagent, post office and a couple of takeaways.
- **Nurragingy Reserve:** There is a kiosk open every day at the Colebee Centre.

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- **Rooty Hill:** There is a tavern on the corner of Manis Street and Rooty Hill Road South that has a bistro. On the southern side of the station there is an IGA supermarket, several cafes (Chinese, Indian, and Filipino) and a couple of takeaways while a larger shopping centre is located north of the station.
 - **Minchinbury:** There is a McDonalds and a Subway on the southern side of the Great Western Highway opposite Mt Druitt Road. There are pedestrian lights at the junction of John Hines Avenue and the highway just to the west of Mt Druitt Road to reach these fast-food outlets.
 - **Ropes Crossing:** There are 3 cafes, a supermarket pharmacy and medical centre at Ropes Crossing.
 - **Jordan Springs:** There is a supermarket and cafes at this shopping centre which is on the walking route.
 - **Weir Reserve, Penrith:** Nepean Rowing Club just north of Victoria Bridge has a bistro and good coffee. The entrance to the club is on the eastern side of the club building.
 - **Penrith:** This large regional shopping centre has a large shopping mall and numerous cafes and restaurants.
 - **Emu Plains:** This small shopping centre has several cafes and take-aways as well as a tavern and pharmacy but no supermarket. This shopping centre is 480 metres west of the walking route.
 - **Penrith Regional Gallery:** There is a café in this fine art gallery.
 - **Lennox Village:** This medium shopping centre has a supermarket, cafes and takeaways.
 - **Glenbrook:** Glenbrook shopping centre has several cafes, a delicatessen and a small supermarket.
 - **Blaxland:** There is a supermarket and cafes in the Blaxland shopping centre across the Great Western Highway on the pedestrian overbridge from Blaxland Station.
 - **Warrimoo:** There is a general store and pizza café on the southern side of the railway and Great Western Highway, accessible by the pedestrian overbridge across the railway and highway.
 - **Springwood:** There are a number of cafes, supermarket and pharmacy at this shopping centre.

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- **Woodford:** There is a café at Woodford. It is 55 metres south along Glen Street from the corner of Vautin Lane.
 - **Hazelbrook:** This shopping centre is 300 metres from the station on its eastern side. It has cafés, restaurant and bakery as well as a small supermarket. There is also a café on the western side of the station close to the station.
 - **Lawson:** There are several takeaways and cafes on the Great Western Highway and a café in the square behind the Blue Mountains Hotel. There is also a supermarket and pharmacy in Honour Avenue just north
 - **Wentworth Falls:** This tourist village has several cafes and restaurants; bakery; greengrocer; and two small supermarkets.
 - **Conservation Hut, Wentworth Falls:** There is a café at the Con Hut with wonderful views.
 - **Gordon Falls Reserve:** There is a mobile coffee van in the carpark at this reserve on most days
 - **Echo Point:** There is a café in The Pavilion which is 150 metres north of Echo Point on Echo Point Road.
 - **Katoomba:** There are numerous cafes and restaurants in Katoomba Street and a large supermarket underneath the Cultural Centre

Water and toilets

Town water and toilets are not frequent along this route, but they are available at:

- **Parramatta:** There are toilets in the station and at the Church Street Mall.
- **Third Settlement Reserve:** There are toilets 150 metres north of the walking route where it reaches Oakes Road.
- **McCoy Park playing fields** (only open during games).
- **Seven Hills Station.**
- **International Peace Park, Seven Hills** (only open during games).
- **Blacktown Netball Complex** (only open during games).
- **Blacktown Railway Station**
- **Francis Park Blacktown:** Near the café.
- **Marayong Park, Davis Road Marayong** (only open during games).

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- **Harvey Park, Marayong** (only open during games).
 - **Nurragingy Reserve:** There are toilets near the western entrance at the Colebee Centre. There are also water taps near each picnic area.
 - **Charlie Bali Reserve, Doonside:** (only open during games).
 - **Blacktown City Soccer Club, Eastern Road Doonside:** (only open during games).
 - **Rooty Hill Station.**
 - **Dr Charles Mackay Reserve** (water fountain only).
 - **Waterholes Reserve** (only open during games).
 - **Old Mt Druitt:** There is a toilet block in Innes Crescent behind the shops on the western side of Mt Druitt Road near the pedestrian overpass.
 - **Whalan Reserve:** (only open during games) but there is a tap on the outside of the changing sheds.
 - **Ropes Crossing Shopping Centre:** There are toilets in the supermarket.
 - **Wianamatta Regional Park:** There are toilets near the entrance and at the picnic area in Kangaroo Clearing.
 - **Jordan Springs Shopping Centre:** There are toilets in the supermarket.
 - **Grey Gums Oval** (only open during games).
 - **Weir Reserve, Penrith:** There is water in the toilets in the park and also in the Nepean Rowing Club nearby.
 - **River Road Reserve, Penrith:** There is a toilet on the western side of River Road and a water tap near the shelter shed next to the carpark on the eastern side of River Road opposite the toilets.
 - **Penrith Regional Gallery:** There is a bubbler on the cycleway opposite the gallery and there is a public toilet and a café in the gallery.
 - **Lennox Village Shopping Centre:** There is a toilet in this shopping centre.
 - **Glenbrook:** There is a large toilet block behind the Information Centre in Glenbrook Park.
 - **Blaxland:** There are toilets in the shopping centre on the southern side of the Great Western Highway (accessed by a pedestrian overbridge from the station).

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- **Springwood:** There are toilets and water in the carpark on Macquarie Road next to the station.
 - **Faulconbridge:** There are toilets and water in the station, but the toilets are only open when the station is staffed between 5:45am and 10:30am on weekdays.
 - **Linden:** There is a water fountain at this station, but the toilets are only open when it is staffed between 5:45am and 10:30am on weekdays.
 - **Woodford:** There is a tap at the northern end of The Oaks Fire Trail and there are toilets and water at the station, but they are rarely open as this station is un-staffed.
 - **Hazelbrook:** There are toilets and water at the shopping centre. The café on the western side of the station has a toilet for customers.
 - **Lawson:** There toilets in New Street behind the shops on the Great Western Highway.
 - **Wilson Park, Lawson:** There are toilets in Wilson Park opposite Lawson Swimming Pool on St Bernards Drive.
 - **Bullaburra Station:** There are toilets and water at the station, but these are rarely open.
 - **Wentworth Falls:** There are toilets and water in Coronation Park on the western side of the station.
 - **Gordon Falls:** There are toilets in Gordon Falls Reserve.
 - **Echo Point:** There are toilets and water at this busy lookout.
 - **Katoomba:** There are toilets and water at the station and in the Cultural Centre on Parkes Street.

Maps

You can access a detailed map of the Great West Walk and its local loops and links by clicking on the link below:

<https://www.google.com/maps/d/viewer?mid=1mt22bpj0pKfXnhcmJ4yKf6qhGsQ&ll=-33.78386413142407%2C150.6794874&z=10>

DOWNLOAD TO PC

On your PC just click on this link and it will open. Use the +/- button in the bottom LH corner of the map to zoom into any scale that suits you. If you want to view the



map in Satellite mode, use the slide on the LH panel and slide down to the satellite button in the LH corner of this panel.

The red lines on the map are the main walking routes - Sydney Harbour & Coast Walk, Great West Walk, Great North Walk (to Thornleigh) and Federation Track (to Cronulla). The green lines are the local links and loops that are so important to local walkers. The blue lines are future walking routes. There are also layers for toilets, water fountains, T-way stations and B-line stations and the boxes for those layers may be clicked when needed.

PRINT

Use the snipping tool to select the area you want to print (NEW) and then click on FILE, PRINT to print off your map. Note that you must select a rectangular area if you want to print on one A4 page. If you want to ensure that your map only prints on one page, click on SAVE AS rather than print and save the selected area as a .jpg file on your PC and then insert the .jpg file into an MS Word page.

DOWNLOAD TO SMARTPHONE OR TABLET

You can also download the link onto a smartphone or tablet:

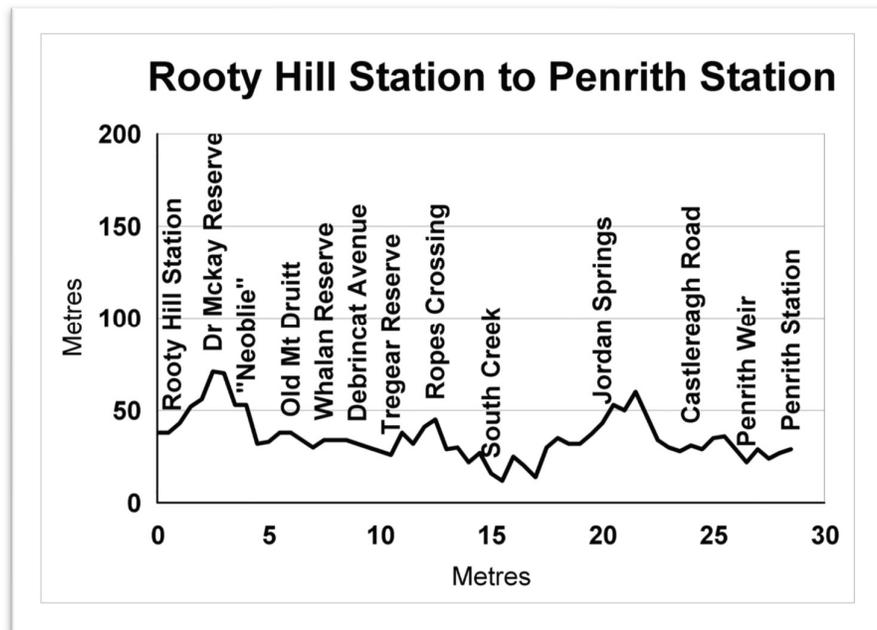
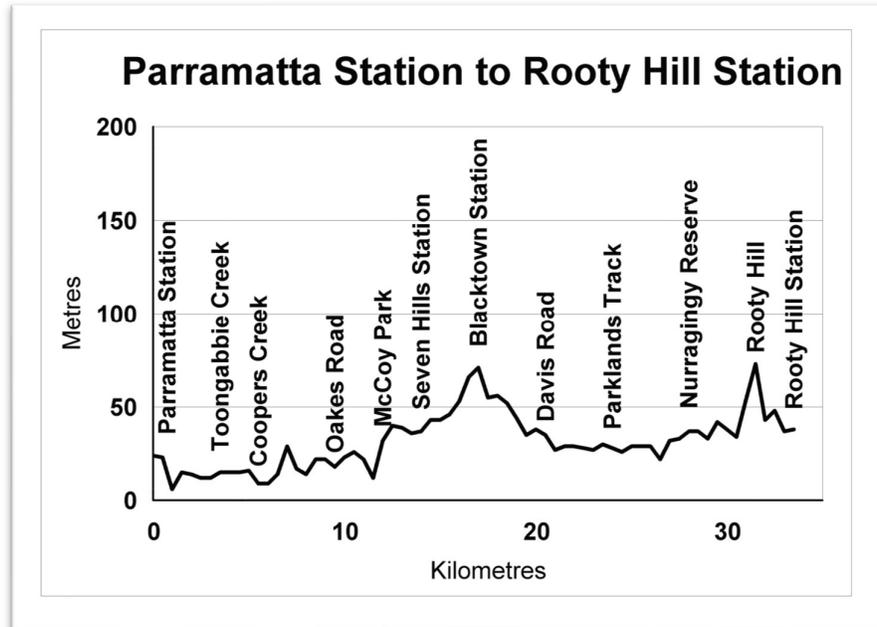
- On an Android phone (Google, Samsung, LG, Sony, HPC, Huawei, Xiaomi, Acer and Motorola) click on this link. You may be asked if you want to open the map in Google Maps. If so, enter "Y". If it doesn't ask you, close the direct link and: -
 1. Click on the Google Maps app .
 2. Tap Menu  > Your Places > Maps.
 3. Tap the map "Sydney Walking Tracks" which should now be on the Maps menu
 4. You will now be able to follow any walking route as it will show your location on the map,
- On an iPhone or iPad just click on this link and it will open but it will not show your location on the map.

We would appreciate any feedback on the app or the walking routes. Also, please feel free to pass on the link to anyone who might use it.

Walking Volunteers Inc.

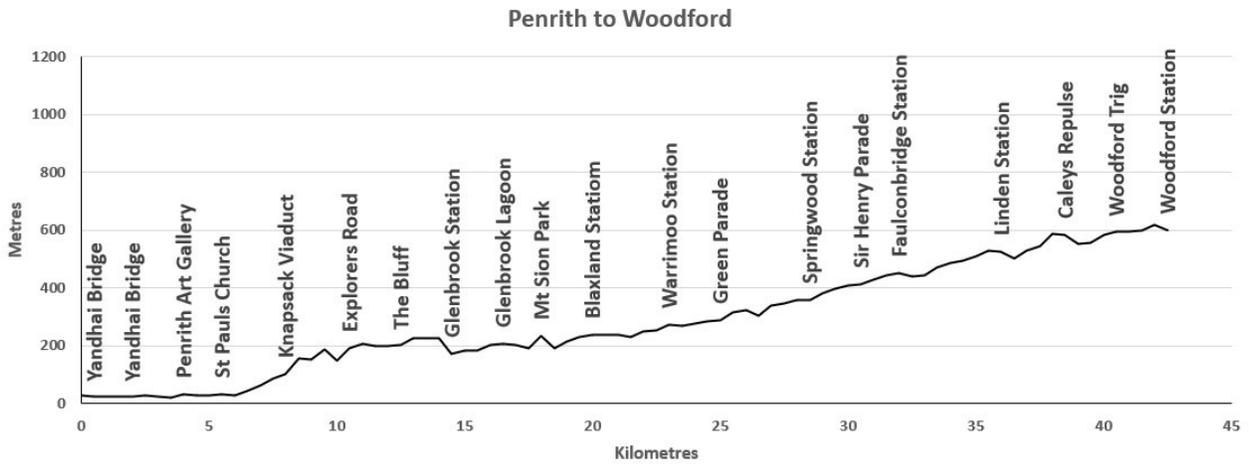
02 4784 2002

Ascent/ descent graphs

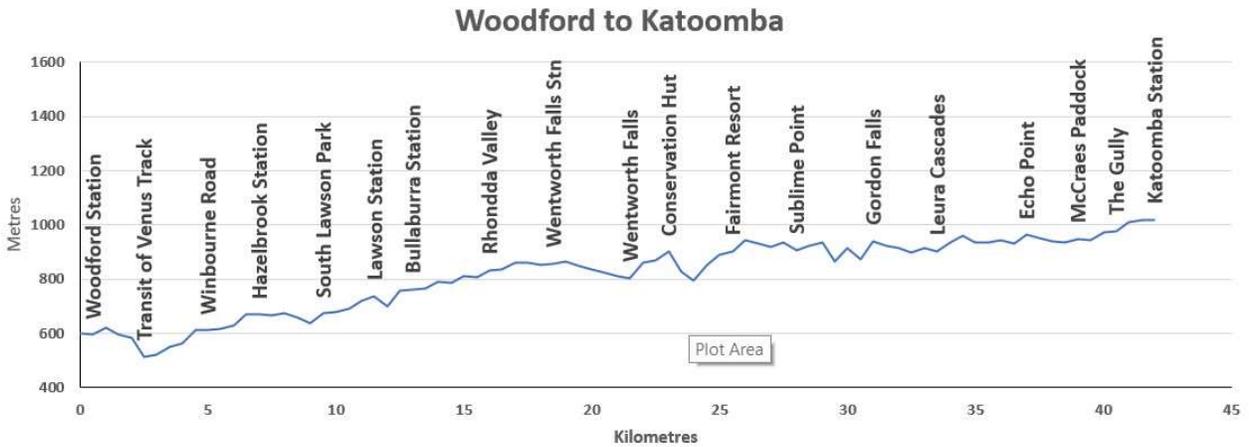


Ascent/ descent graphs

Penrith to Woodford



Woodford to Katoomba





Blue Mountains ramparts, Katoomba

Great West Walk highlights

- **Bicentennial Square**, Parramatta
- **Eat Street** (Church Street), Parramatta
- **Brislington House**, Parramatta
- **George Street Gatehouse**, Parramatta Park
- **Old Government House**, Parramatta Park
- **Old Observatory**, Parramatta Park
- **Governor's Bathhouse**, Parramatta Park
- **The Old Dairy**, Parramatta Park
- **Wisteria Garden & Glengariff House**, Westmead
- **Governor Phillip's Camp**, Westmead
- **Toongabbie Creek**, Winston Hills to Toongabbie
- **Westmead Children's Hospital**, Westmead
- **The Lost Rogans Hill Railway Line**, Northmead
- **Backhousia Reserve**, Northmead
- **Third Settlement Reserve**, Winston Hills
- **McCoy Park Retarding Basin**, Seven Hills
- **Blacktown Sale Yards**, Blacktown
- **Francis Park & Showground Precinct**, Blacktown
- **Blacktown Native Institution**, Oakhurst
- **Nurragingy Reserve**, Western Sydney Parklands

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- **Chang Lai Yuan Gardens**, Western Sydney Parklands
 - **Blacktown International Sports Park**, Western Sydney Parklands
 - **Rooty Hill Historic Site**, Rooty Hill
 - **Government Stock Farm**, Rooty Hill
 - **Rooty Hill School of Arts**, Rooty Hill
 - **Dr Charles Mackay Reserve**, Rooty Hill
 - **Neoblie Historic Cottage**, Rooty Hill
 - **Colyton Schoolmaster's Cottage**, Rooty Hill
 - **Mt Druitt Waterholes**, Mount Druitt
 - **Federation Forest**, Mount Druitt
 - **Tregear Reserve**, Tregear
 - **St Marys Munition Factory**, St Marys
 - **Ropes Crossing Station Reserve**, Ropes Crossing
 - **South Creek**, Wianamatta Regional Park
 - **Cumberland Woodland**, Wianamatta Regional Park
 - **Central Pond**, Jordan Springs
 - **Penrith Lakes**, Castlereagh
 - **Craithes House**, Penrith
 - **Great River Walk**, Penrith
 - **Emu Ford**, Penrith
 - **Penrith Weir & Cox's Cutting**, Penrith
 - **Yandhai Bridge**, Penrith
 - **Nepean River**, Penrith
 - **Crossing Memorial/ Explorers Memorial**, Penrith
 - **Penrith Bridges**
 - **Emu Hall**, Emu Plains
 - **Penrith Ferry & Punt**
 - **Penrith Art Gallery & Lewer's Bequest**
 - **Old Emu Plains School House**
 - **St Pauls Church**, Emu Plains

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- **Whitton Memorial**, Emu Plains
 - **Lapstone Escarpment**
 - **Knapsack Gully Reserve & Viaduct**
 - **Lapstone Zig-Zag** (Railway 1)
 - **Lucasville Station**
 - **RAAF Base**, Glenbrook
 - **Lapstone Tunnel** (Railway 2)
 - **Glenbrook Tramway & Funicular**
 - **Glenbrook Gorge** (Railway 3)
 - **Main Camp**, The Bluff
 - **Station Master's Residence**, Glenbrook
 - **Glenbrook Lagoon**
 - **Mt Sion Park**
 - **Pilgrim Inn Ruins**, Blaxland
 - **Valley Heights Railway Museum**
 - **Lawson Estate**, Springwood
 - **Frazer Memorial Church**, Springwood
 - **Macquarie's Camp Memorial**, Springwood
 - **Stanway Estate**, Springwood
 - **Sir Henry Parkes' Faulconbridge Estate**
 - **Corridor of Oaks**, Faulconbridge
 - **"New Numantia"**, Martin Place
 - **Linden Lodge**
 - **Kings Cave**, Linden
 - **Donohoe's Grave**, Linden
 - **Mt Twiss Reserve**
 - **Cox's Road**, Dawes Park
 - **Caley's Repulse**, Linden
 - **Cox's Road - Woodford Trig**
 - **Rockcorry Cottages**, Linden



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- **Cox's Road**, Woodford
 - **Woodford Academy**
 - **"Weroona"**, Woodford
 - **Lawson Honour Gardens & Memorial Arch**
 - **Douglas Square & Hotels**, Lawson
 - **"Map of Australia"**, Lawson
 - **"Rhondda Valley"**, Bullaburra
 - **Rhondda Valley Station**
 - **"Green Gables"**, Wentworth Falls
 - **Coronation Park**, Wentworth Falls
 - **Valley of the Waters**, Wentworth Falls
 - **Sublime Point**, Leura
 - **Prince Henry Cliff Walk**, between Katoomba and Leura
 - **Gordon Falls**
 - **"Leuralla" Amphitheatre**, Leura
 - **Leura Cascades**
 - **Three Sisters**, Katoomba
 - **Echo Point**, Katoomba
 - **Lilianfels'**, Katoomba
 - **Carrington Power Station**, Katoomba
 - **Blue Mountains Cultural Centre**, Katoomba
 - **Carrington Hotel**, Katoomba



Kedumba Walls and Kings Tableland, Blue Mountains National Park