



# Braeside, Govetts and Pope's Glen Track

(Dharug & Gundungurra Country)

 3 h 15 min to 3 h 30 min

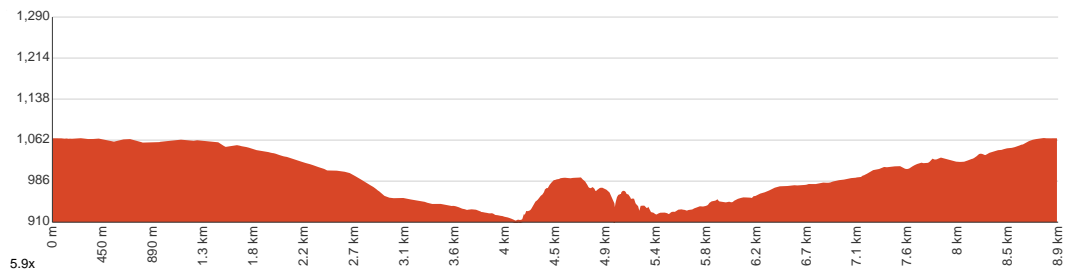
  
8.9 km  
Circuit

  
↑ 364 m  
↓ 364 m

 4  
Hard track



This walk is an excellent way to see some of Blackheath's best views, without the big climbs in and out of the Grose Valley. The round trip from the station shows off Bridal Falls, and other cascades along the cliffs. A large part of this walk is near the cliff edge, with stunning views spanning out across the Grose Valley. Let us begin by acknowledging the Dharug & Gundungurra people, Traditional Custodians of the land on which we travel today, and pay our respects to their Elders past and present.



|  |  |
|--|--|
| Class 4 of 6<br>Rough track, where fallen trees and other obstacles are likely |  |
| <b>Quality of track</b>  | Rough track, where fallen trees and other obstacles are likely (4/6) |
| <b>Gradient</b>  | Very steep (4/6)   |
| <b>Signage</b>   | Directional signs along the way (3/6)                                |
| <b>Infrastructure</b>  | Limited facilities, not all cliffs are fenced (3/6)                  |
| <b>Experience Required</b>   | No experience required (1/6)   |
| <b>Weather</b>   | Weather generally has little impact on safety (1/6)                  |

**Getting to the start:** From Great Western Highway, A32

- Turn on to then drive for 15 m

**Before you start any journey ensure you;**

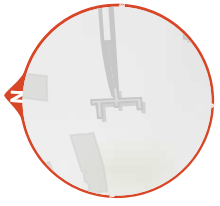
- Tell someone you trust where you are going and what to do if you are late returning
- Have adequate equipment, supplies, skills & knowledge to undertake this journey safely
- Consider weather forecasts, park/track closures & fire dangers
- Can respond to emergencies & call for help at any point
- Are healthy and fit enough for this journey

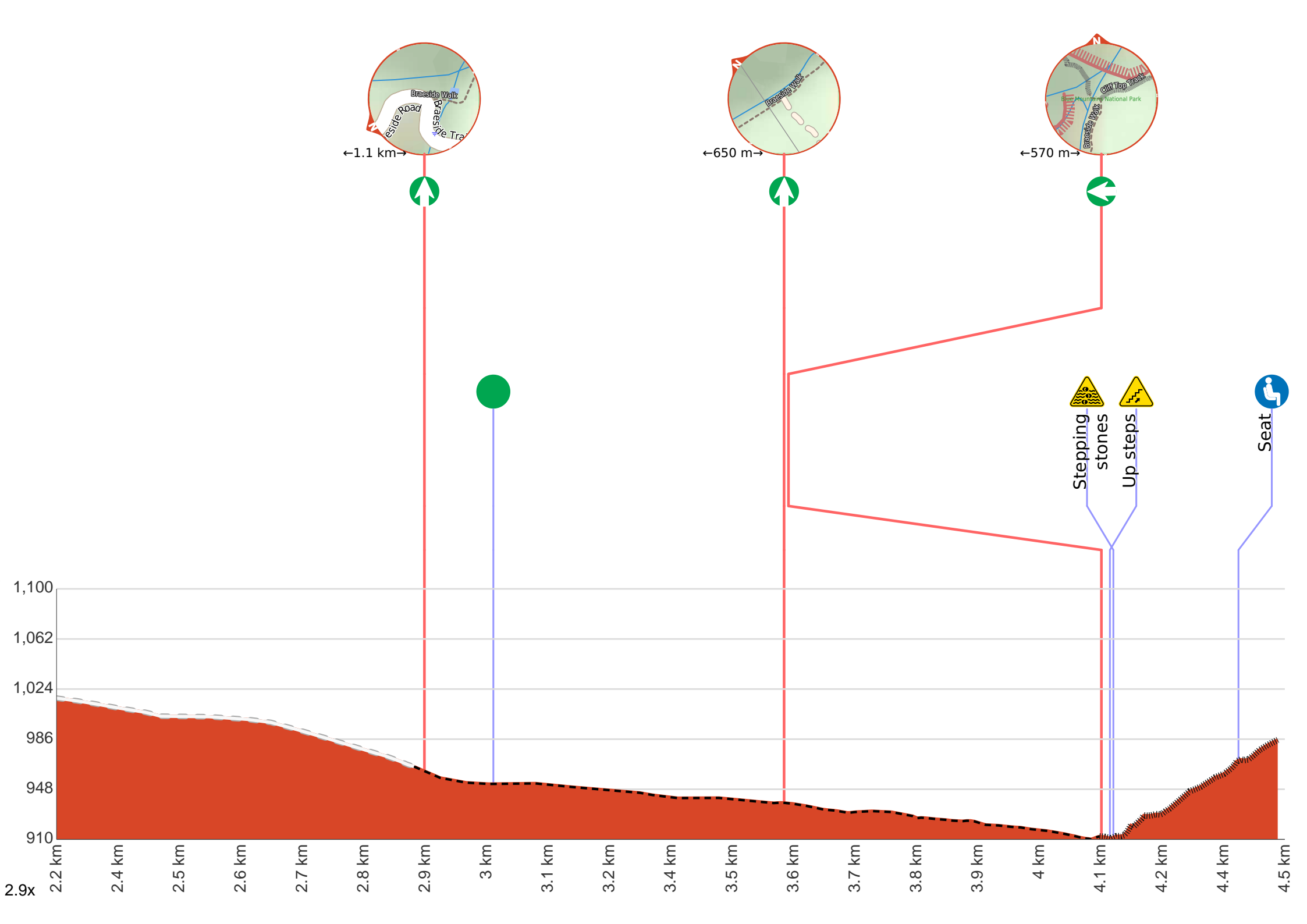
If not, change plans and stay safe. It is okay to delay and ask people for help.

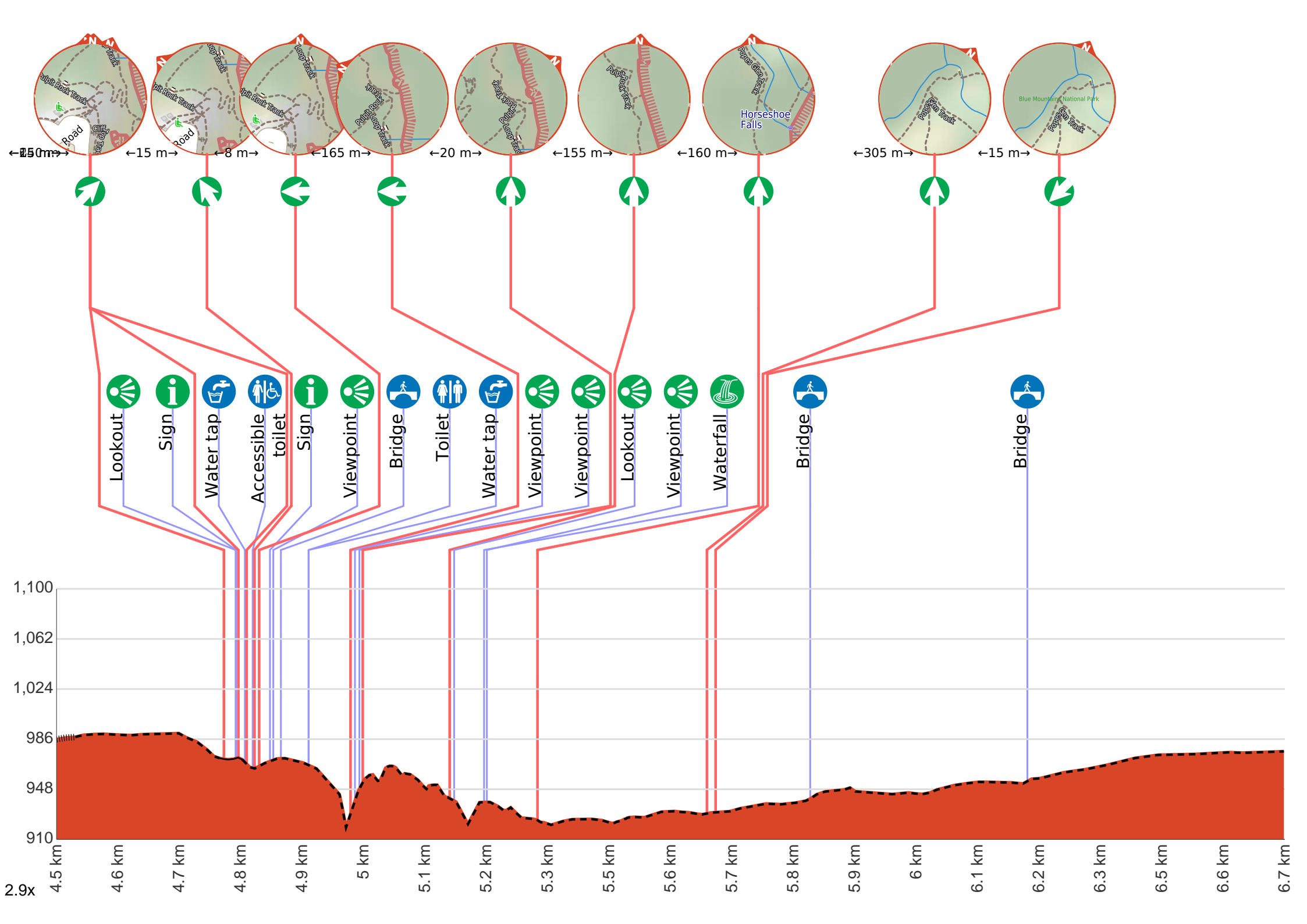
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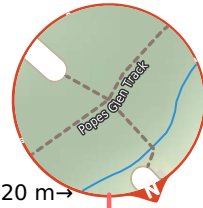




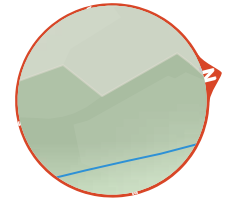




←1.2 km→



←520 m→



Bridge



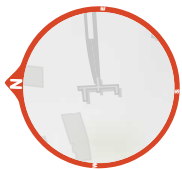
**Getting started:** From the top of the station steps, this walk heads towards the Great Western Highway and Gardners Inn. The walk turns right down a flight of stairs, then turns left across the Great Western Highway at the pedestrian crossing.

From the pedestrian crossing, this walk heads towards Gardners Inn, keeping the road to the right. The walk continues along the footpath, turning left opposite the Ivanhoe Hotel, onto Govetts Leap Rd. The walk continues down Govetts Leap Rd to the intersection with Prince Edward St.

From the intersection, this walk heads west along Govetts Leap Rd for a block, to the intersection with Boreas St. This walk turns right, down Boreas St to the intersection with Braeside St.

From the intersection, this walk follows the green signpost to 'Braeside Walk' along the houses on the right-hand of Braeside Street. This walk turns right at the 'Braeside Walk' sign. The walk continues for approximately 70m to the intersection with another service trail.

From the intersection, this walk heads down the management track, to the signposted intersection after a parking area on the left.







After another 20 m cross the stepping stones.



Then head up the earthen steps (about 370 m long)



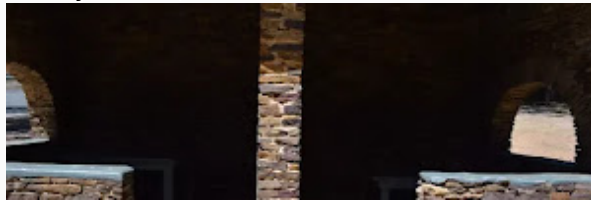
Then pass a seat (5 m on your left)., has no backrest.



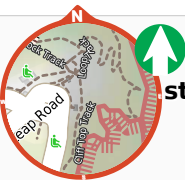
After another 380 m pass the car park (9 m on your left).



After another 10 m find the "Picnic Shelter" (60 m on your left).



Picnic shelters at the end of Govetts Leap Road. Seats are ~45cm high and benches 75cm high. Most shelters have an entrance ~1.2m wide with, and similar gap between table and wall. The largest shelter has an entrance wider than 4m, bench seating but no tables.



From the Cliff Top Track **continue straight** (a footpath).



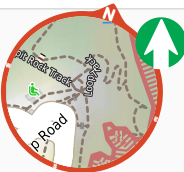
After another 20 m find the "Govetts Leap Lookout" (6 m on your left).



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.



Then pass the sign.



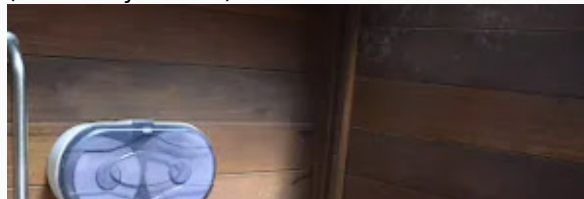
After another 4 m **continue straight**.



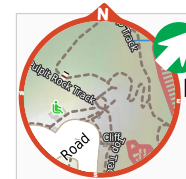
After another 10 m pass the water tap (7 m on your left).



After another 15 m find the "Toilet Accessible" (45 m on your left).



Signposted accessible and general use male and female toilets. Access via concrete ramp, however, the top of the ramp is accessed via loose gravel carpark with some steep eroded sections.



From the Loop Track **veer right**, to head along Loop Track (a walking track).



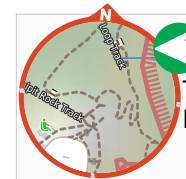
After another 15 m (from the Loop Track) **veer left**, to head along Loop Track.



After another 30 m pass the sign (on your left).



After another 6 m come to the viewpoint (6 m on your right).



At the intersection of Govetts Leap Track (Williams Track) & Loop Track **turn left**, to head along Pulpit Rock Track.



After another 40 m cross the bridge (about 4 m long)



After another 45 m pass the toilet (40 m on your left).



Then pass the water tap (45 m on your left).



After another 75 m (Laws Lookout) **turn left**, to head along Pulpit Rock Track.



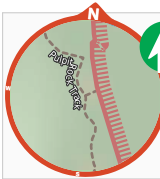
After another 8 m come to the "Laws Lookout".



After another 8 m come to the "Two Falls Lookout" (15 m on your left).



After another 6 m (from the Pulpit Rock Track) **continue straight**, to head along Pulpit Rock Track.



After another 155 m (from the Pulpit Rock Track) **continue straight**, to head along Pulpit Rock Track.



After another 8 m find the "Horseshoe Falls Lookout" (25 m on your right).



Horseshoe Falls Lookout, Blue Mountains National Park, is a small fenced lookout. There are views down to Horseshoe Falls and across the Grose Valley.



After another 60 m come to the "Rodriguez Lookout".



Then find the "Horseshoe Falls" (55 m on your right).



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.



After another 95 m (at the intersection of Popes Glen Track & Pulpit Rock Track) **continue straight**, to head along Popes Glen Track.



After another 305 m (from the Popes Glen Track) **continue straight**, to head along Popes Glen Track.

**Start of an optional side trip:** An optional side trip to Boyd Beach.



To start this optional side trip turn right here. from the Popes Glen Track **Start** (a walking track).



After another 50 m come to the end.



"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.



Turn around and retrace your steps back the 50 m to the main route.



Back at the main route continue straight and follow on from the 5.6 km waypoint.



After another 15 m (from the Popes Glen Track) **turn sharp left**, to head along Popes Glen Track.



After another 170 m cross the bridge (about 9 m long)



After another 380 m cross the bridge (about 8 m long)



After another 660 m (from the Popes Glen Track) **continue straight**, to head along Popes Glen Track.



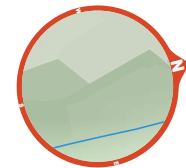
After another 75 m (from the Popes Glen Track) **continue straight**, to head along Popes Glen Track.



After another 170 m cross the bridge (about 9 m long)



After another 265 m (from the Popes Glen Track) **continue straight**, to head along Popes Glen Track.





After another 55 m (at the intersection of Gardiner Crescent & Wentworth Street) **continue straight**, to head along Gardiner Crescent.



After another 65 m (at the intersection of Gardiner Crescent & Hydora Lane) **continue straight**, to head along Gardiner Crescent.



After another 150 m pass the shelter (85 m on your right).

