



# Great River Walk: Wisemans Ferry to Sugee Bag Creek

- 8 h to 2 days
- 2 h 30 min to 4 h
- 4 h to 7 h

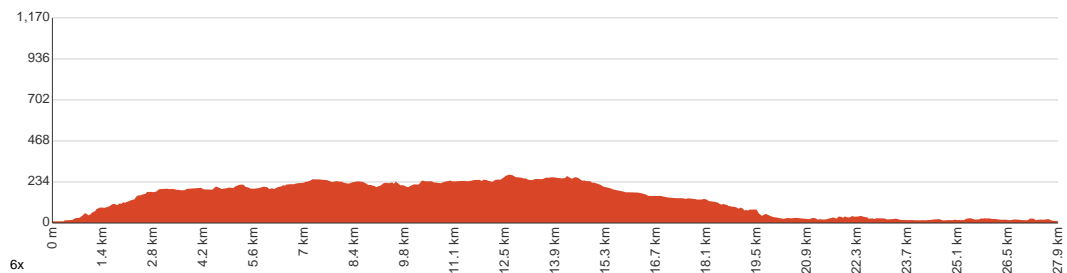
27.8 km  
One way

↑ 763 m  
↓ 759 m

4  
Hard track



This section of the Great River Walk starts from Wisemans Ferry Park (at the Convict Road Kiosk), crosses the Hawkesbury River on the ferry, and soon starts following the Old Great North Road after crossing the historic Thomas James Bridge. The walk leads you up along the old convict built road (closed to cars) past Indigenous artwork, sandstone culverts, large rock cuttings, Hangmans Rock and up to Devines Hill. The walk then leads you along the ridge past the Wat Buddha Dhamma (Theravadin Forest Monastery) in the middle of the bush to then find your overnight stay at Ten Mile Hollow Campsite. The next day the walk winds down along Simpsons track, past some sandstone overhangs to then follow alongside Mangrove Creek, then along Oyster Shell Road to the bridge over Sugee Bag Creek. Let us begin by acknowledging the Traditional Custodians of the land on which we travel today, and pay our respects to their Elders past and present.



Class 4 of 6 Rough track, where fallen trees and other obstacles are likely	
<b>Quality of track</b>	Clear and well formed track or trail (2/6)
<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>	Some bushwalking experience recommended (3/6)
<b>Weather</b>	Storms may impact on navigation and safety (3/6)

**Getting to the start:** From

**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.

Share  
[Bushwalk.com](https://bushwalk.com/j/LUE5D3)  
[/j/LUE5D3](https://bushwalk.com/j/LUE5D3)

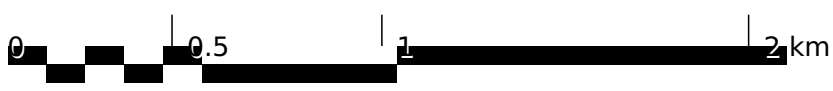




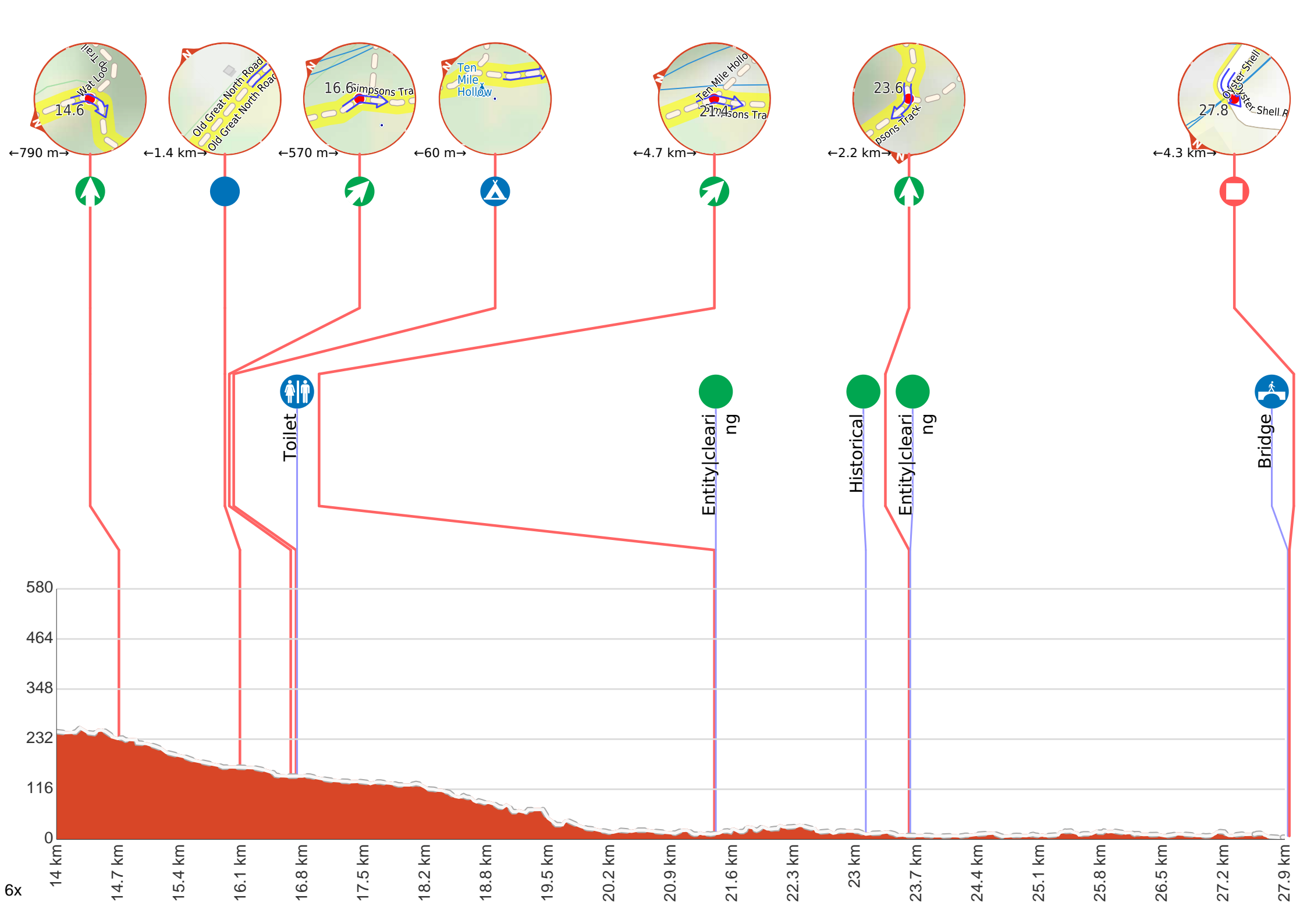






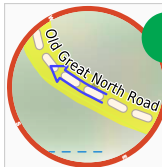






**Getting started:** From the parking area on the west side of the Wisemans Ferry on Old Northern Road, wait until the ferry arrives and the vehicles have unloaded. Then, following instructions, walk down to board the vehicle ferry (no charge), which will take you across the Hawkesbury River. On the other side, walk off the ferry and turn left to walk along the side of Settlers Road for 650m to the signposted intersection with Old Northern Road (on your right).





After another 1.1 km find the "Hangmans Rock" (on your right).



Hangmans Rock is beside the historic Old Great North Road, near Wisemans Ferry, NSW. This beautiful sandstone cave/overhang has some steps and a bench seat cut into it and is part of the history of the convict built OGNR. It is uncertain what purpose the spot served, but stories that convicts were hanged through the hole in the roof of the cave appear unlikely to be true, despite giving a name to the atmospheric spot.



After another 90 m find the "Devines Hill" (on your left).



Devines Hill is a historically significant area on the Old Great North Road, near present day Wisemans Ferry, NSW. There are substantial remnants visible here, including cuttings, retaining walls and quarry sites. There were 3 main road lines built at different times to climb the hills just north of Wisemans Ferry, starting with Finchs Line to the east, followed by the Devines Hill ascent and then Shepherds Gully, to the west. Information signs in the area provide some interesting historical background and the 'Convict Trail Project' has an excellent website for further reading.



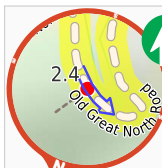
After another 790 m (at the intersection of Old Great North Road & Wat Loop Trail) **continue straight**, to head along Old Great North Road.



After another 1.4 km find the "Wat Buddha Dhamma" (15 m on your left).



The Wat Buddha Dhamma is a Monastery about 600m south of Ten Mile Hollow Campsite, on the Old Great North Road. The Monks provides a water tank and toilet for people passing by. The monks welcome guests and requests that visitors dress modestly (no shorts or revealing clothing), and that visitors are encouraged to share in the life with the monks.



After another 345 m (from the Old Great North Road) **continue straight**, to head along Old Great North Road.



After another 360 m head through/around the gate.



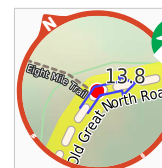
After another 330 m (at the intersection of Old Great North Road & Finchs Line) **continue straight**, to head along Old Great North Road.



After another 9.5 km (at the intersection of Old Great North Road & Western Commission Track) **continue straight**, to head along Old Great North Road.



At the intersection of Old Great North Road & Shepherds Gully Road **veer right**, to head along Old Great North Road.



After another 1.1 km (at the intersection of Old Great North Road & Eight Mile Trail) **veer right**, to head along Old Great North Road.



After another 570 m (at the intersection of Simpsons Track & Old Great North Road) **veer right**, to head along Simpsons Track.



After another 60 m come to the "Ten Mile Hollow" (35 m on your right).  
W: [www.nationalparks.nsw.gov.au](http://www.nationalparks.nsw.gov.au)

This is a free campsite.



After another 10 m pass the toilet (35 m on your right).



After another 4.7 km (at the intersection of Simpsons Track & Ten Mile Hollow Road) **veer right**, to head along Simpsons Track.

After another 15 m find the "Convict Trail plaque and log book" (5 m on your left).



In a large clearing at the end of Ten Mile Hollow Creek is a boulder with a 'Convict Trail' plaque. The inscription provides information on the area and the historic old Great North Road and Simpson's Track. Behind the boulder is a metal box housing a log book, waiting for your entry.

After another 1.7 km find the "Inn of the Damned" (10 m on your left).



Just near this rusty old car is the site of 'Ghost House' used in the film 'Inn of the Damned (1975)'. With the tag-line "Murder... Mystery... Madness..." this movie is a western come horror flick about "mysterious vanishing of guests from a hostel deep in the Australian rain forests of Gippsland, Victoria in 1896, run by the Straulles, an Austrian couple". You will probably enjoy the walk more than the movie :)

After another 15 m find the "Mangrove Creek bore field" (10 m on your left).



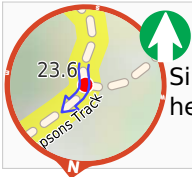
The Mangrove Creek bore field is a large series of clearings beside Mangrove Creek near the Weir. The bores are part of a series of 7 groundwater systems providing over 9 million litres of drinking water to the Gosford and Wyong communities. The Mangrove Creek Bore field supplies about 1.27 million litres a day. For visitors, the bore fields are an open flat and grassy area with chaged bores and a reminder to take special care to avoid contamination of the environment.



After another 4.3 km cross the bridge (about 20 m long)



Continue another -0 m to find from the Oyster Shell Road at the end.



After another 490 m (from the Simpsons Track) **continue straight**, to head along Simpsons Track.