## Seaforth Oval to Davidson Park

## (Guringai Country)


$\uparrow 437 \mathrm{~m}$
$\downarrow 544$ m

Hard track

The Seaforth to Davidson Park walk is a wonderful and historic loop around Bantry Bay. The walk continues from Bantry Bay, along Middle Harbour's treelined foreshore, to Davidson Park. This walk explores some wonderful bush and water views tucked into the valleys of Sydney. Let us begin by acknowledging the Guringai 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
Rough track, where fallen trees and other obstacles are likely

| Quality of track | Formed track, with some branches and other obstacles (3/6) |
| :--- | :--- |
| Gradient | Very steep (4/6) |
| Signage | Directional signs along the way (3/6) |
| Infrastructure | Limited facilities, not all cliffs are fenced (3/6) |
| Experience Required | Some bushwalking experience recommended (3/6) |
| Weather | Weather generally has little impact on safety (1/6) |

Getting to the start: From Warringah Road, A38

- Turn on to Warringah Road, A38 then drive for 290 m
- Turn left onto Wakehurst Parkway and drive for another 3.4 km


## 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





Getting started: From the corner of the car park with the information signs, the walk heads into the bush and down the wooden steps to the bottom, where it flattens out at the signposted intersection with the Engraving Track.
From the intersection, this walk follows the 'Timbergetters Track' sign down the wooden steps and through the bush, winding steadily down a long hill as it drops down several more sets of steps, following the bush track to the signposted intersection with the Old Bullock Track (closed for maintenance at time of writing). From the intersection (with the signposted 'Old Bullock Track' on the right), this walk heads west down the three wooden steps and along the track, winding through the dense scrub for a while. The walk crosses a small creek at some stepping stones and passes an old telegraph pole with no power lines attached. The track continues in this manner for a little while longer before it comes to the top of a short set of rock steps, where it starts to wind down into the valley using several scattered sets of wooden steps and one long set of rock steps, until coming down to the large picnic area at the bottom.


There is water tap (about 90 m back from the start).
(11)

There is a toilet (about 65 m back from the start).

Seaforth Oval (about 7 m back from the start).


Seaforth Oval is a large playing oval on the Wakehurst Parkway in North Balgowlah. It is managed by Manly Council, who have also recently been upgrading the Timber Getters Track in association with NPWS. There is a distant view of Chatswood from the oval. There are toilets, but they are usually locked. There is a large car park, shelter and sign with information about the Harbour to Hawkesbury walk.
There is a car park (about 5 m back from the start).
Find the sign at the start.


After another 35 m (at the intersection of Engraving Track \& Timbergetters Track) veer left, to head along Timbergetters Track.
After another 55 m pass the sign.


After another 340 m come to the viewpoint.

After another 345 m come to the viewpoint.

Then head down the steps (about 35 m long)


After another 6 m continue straight, $0: 8$ to head along The Bay Track.

Then find the "Bantry Bay Picnic Area" (10 m on your left).


The area of Bantry Bay has been popular with day visitors since the late 1800s. In the early 1900s, the picnic area was also home to a dance hall (foundations still visible), dining room, picnic ground and overnight accommodation. Today, the picnic area has a picnic table and a number of fireplaces. There is also a public wharf, toilets, open grassy area, shade from trees and a great view across the water. There are no garbage facilities. The picnic area is at the bottom of the Timber Getters Track, below Seaforth Oval, on the eastern shore of Bantry Bay.
After another 6 m pass the toilet ( 7 m on your right).
After another 690 m come to the viewpoint.

After another 920 m come to the viewpoint.


After another 95 m come to the viewpoint.


The Bluff is a large, unfenced rocky hilltop, in Garigal National Park, that provides great views up Middle Harbour. The views extend across the bushland of the National Park, along Bantry Bay, to the city of Sydney (You can even see Centrepoint Tower). Apart from the distant views, the bluff is also an interesting rock feature, with a number of caves containing honeycomb rock formations.
After another 40 m pass the sign


After another 70 m (at the intersection of The Bluff Track \& Gahnia Mountain Bike Track) continue straight, to head along The Bluff Track (a vehicle track).

After another 80 m continue straight, to head along The Bluff Track


After another 45 m (at the intersection of The Bluff Track \& Natural Bridge Track) continue straight, to head along Natural Bridge Track (a walking track).

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After another 15 m pass the sign (on your left).


After another 430 m cross the bridge (about 10 m long)

After another 20 m find the "Natural Bridge" (6 $m$ on your left).


The Natural Bridge is a sandstone arch in Garigal National Park. The arch spans an unnamed creek feeding into Bantry Bay. The Natural Bridge track uses this arch to cross the creek, and is not always noticed by walkers as the surrounding vegetation hides the full view of the feature from the track. The arch has formed the eroding forces of water flowing down the creek. The arch provides an interesting natural feature to explore and enjoy.


After another 60 m (at the intersection of Natural Bridge Track \& Serrata Mountain Bike Track) continue straight, to head along Natural Bridge Track.


After another 220 m (at the intersection of Currie Road Trail \& Natural Bridge Track) turn left, to head along Currie Road Trail (a vehicle track).


After another 185 m (at the intersection of Cook Street Trail \& Currie Road Trail) continue straight, to head along Bates Creek Track (a walking track).


After another 1.5 km veer right, to head along Magazine Track.

After another 410 m find the "Bantry Bay Explosives Magazine complex" ( 30 m on your left).


The Magazine Buildings were the premier storage facility for merchants' explosives between 1915 and 1974. During this time, the carefully constructed building where crucial for the safe storage of explosives used for building public works such as the Sydney Harbour Bridge, and additionally used by the Australian Navy during World War II. There is currently no public access to the site, and the buildings are best viewed from across the water at Bantry Bay Picnic Area, or anywhere on the other side of Bantry Bay.

Start of an optional side trip: An optional side trip to Flat Rock Beach


Then head down the steps


About 55 m past the end is "Flat Rock Beach".


Flat Rock Beach is a small, south-facing beach on Middle Harbour, in Garigal National Park. The sand is deposited on a rock shelf that pokes through in places, forming interesting sculptures. The beach is frequented by walkers and boaters enjoying their day by the water. The beach can be accessed by a bush track from the end of Killarney Drive, Killarney Heights. Historically, the beach was a popular picnic area and serviced by a ferry in the early 1900's. Today, there are no facilities, but some shade is provided by the trees at the back of the beach.
Turn around and retrace your steps back the 10 m to the main route.

Back at the main route veer left and follow on from the 6.7 km waypoint.


After another 1 km continue straight, to head along Magazine Track.


After another 60 m turn right, to ead along Magazine Track.

Then head down the steps (about 130 m long)


After another 305 m (at the ntersection of Healey Way \& Flat Rock Track) turn right, to head along Healey Way (a vehicle track).

After another 15 m continue straight, to head along Healey Way.


After another 50 m veer left, to head along Healey Way.



After another 380 m pass the car park ( 30 m on your left).


After another 430 m pass the picnic table ( 30 m on your left).


After another 150 m continue straight, to head along Healey Way.

After another 65 m pass the toilet ( 20 m on your left).

After another 40 m find the "Davidson picnic area" ( 30 m on your left)


Davidson Picnic Area is in Garigal National Park, under Roseville Bridge (access via Warringah Road, south bound lanes, or via many walking tracks in the area). The picnic area has a boat ramp, wheelchair-accessible toilets, large open grassy areas, picnic tables, free electric BBQ's, and a large rotunda. There are plenty of shady spots provided by the trees. The northern section of the picnic area has a small beach swimming area, and the southern section boasts a boat ramp. The park is open 6 am to 8 pm ( $6: 30 \mathrm{pm}$ outside daylight savings time). Ticket machines are provided to pay the car access fee.


