



# The Coastal Hospital Cemetery Walk

(Gadigal & Bidjigal Country)

10 min to 15 min  
19 min to 30 min

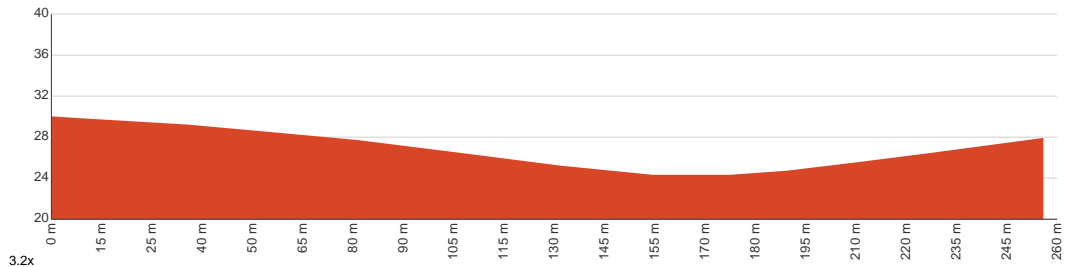
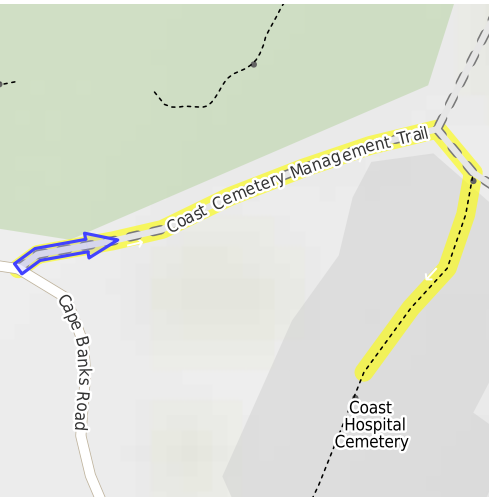
510 m  
Return

↑ 10 m  
↓ 10 m

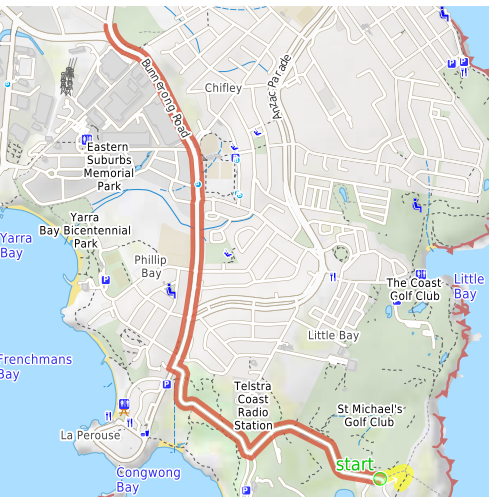
2  
Easy track



The Coastal Hospital Cemetery Walk is an undemanding walk, near a beautiful coastline, visiting an early Australian cemetery. The cemetery is located on raised ground, with views out to the coast and sea. Used primarily as a cemetery for the old quarantine hospital from the 1880's, it is home to over 2000 graves (most not visible). The visible grave sites are interesting and provide a fascinating glimpse into life (and death) 100 years ago. Worth a visit if you are in the area or if you have an interest in the local history. Let us begin by acknowledging the Gadigal & Bidjigal people, Traditional Custodians of the land on which we travel today, and pay our respects to their Elders past and present.



Class 2 of 6 Clear and well formed track or trail	
<b>Quality of track</b>	Clear and well formed track or trail (2/6)
<b>Gradient</b>	Gentle hills with occasional steps (2/6)
<b>Signage</b>	Clearly signposted (1/6)
<b>Infrastructure</b>	Generally useful facilities (such as fenced cliffs and seats) (1/6)
<b>Experience Required</b>	No experience required (1/6)
<b>Weather</b>	Weather generally has little impact on safety (1/6)



### Naturally Accessible

**Slope summary:** No steps, mostly flat with a slope in the car park. The Cemetery has a moderately steep hill in the centre, but can be avoided.

**Surface summary:** The car park has a rough dirt surface, the majority of the walk follows a short cut grass trail. There a few rough cobbled stone sections. Acces to trail via a narrow 48cm gap or over the gate.

**Getting to the start:** From Bunnerong Road

- Turn on to Bunnerong Road then drive for 1 km
- Turn left onto Cape Banks Road and drive for another 780 m
- Turn left onto Cape Banks Road and drive for another 970 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.

Share  
Bushwalk.com  
/j/XRSP0H





start

Coast Cemetery Management Trail

Coastal Firetrail

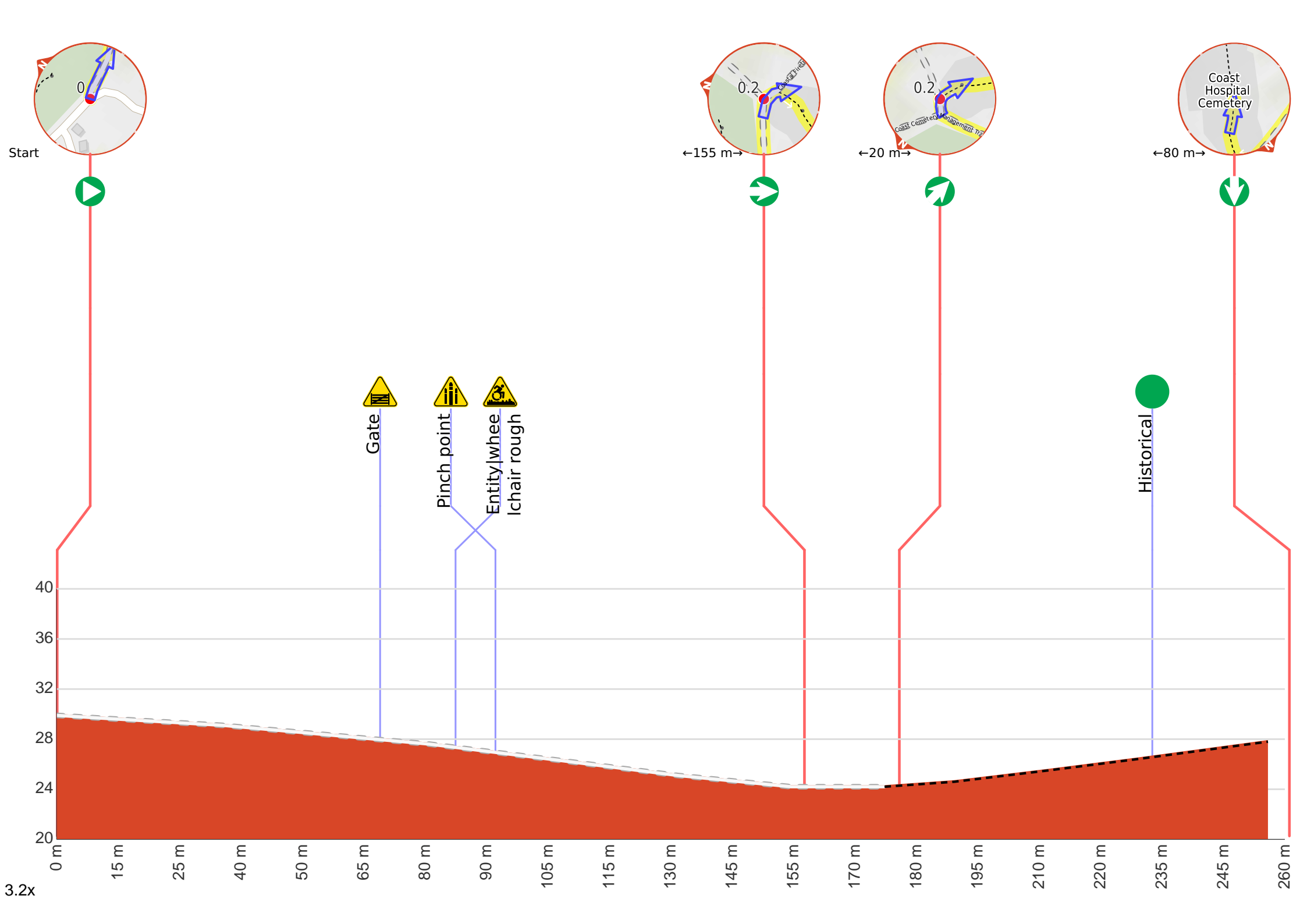
Coast Hospital Cemetery

0.2

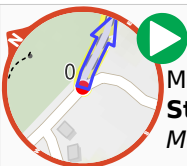
0.2

0.3





**Getting started:** From the 'Cemetery Trail' trackhead and dirt car park on Cape Banks Rd La Perouse (about 1km past NSW Golf Course main gate), this walk follows the 'Cemetery Trail' sign around the locked gate, and along the management trail. The grassy trail leads for about 20m to pass over a cobbeled stone section then continues to follow the level trail for another 110m, to come to a large 3-way intersection near the Coastal Cemetery (on the right).



At the intersection of Coast Cemetery Management Trail & Cape Banks Road **Start** heading along *Coast Cemetery Management Trail* (a vehicle track).



After 65 m head through/around the gate.



After another 25 m find the "Pinch Point" (on your left).



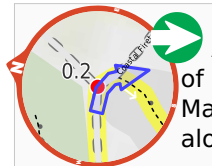
Metal bollard pinch points at edge of carpark, beside gate. The gap between the bollards is 48cm they are 85cm high.



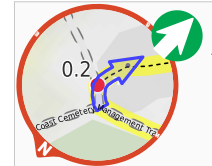
Then come to the "Wheelchair Rough".



A 20m section of the trail has exposed sandstone cobbles.



After another 75 m (at the intersection of Coastal Firetrail & Coast Cemetery Management Trail) **turn right**, to head along Coastal Firetrail.



After another 20 m **veer right**.



After another 55 m find the "Coast Hospital Cemetery" (20 m on your right).



The Coast Hospital Cemetery on the northern side of Botany Bay was first established in the early 1880s and is now home to as many as 2000 graves. It serviced the Coast (Prince Henry) Hospital, originally a smallpox hospital. People who died of smallpox were required to be buried at the hospital grounds. The hospital was built far enough from the city to provide quarantine and for this reason, the hospital in time became an infectious diseases hospital, also treating patients with influenza, bubonic plague, typhoid fever and leprosy. Unfortunately, the cemetery has at times fallen into disrepair and some of the headstones are difficult to read. Many of the graves are unmarked. On the eastern edge of the cemetery is an information sign explaining that in the area are also buried the ancestral remains of the La Perouse Aboriginal people returned from museums. A place steeped in history and worthy of respect.



Continue another 30 m to find the end. Then turn around here and retrace the main route for 255 m to get back to the start.