



Great North Walk: Charlestown Park track head to Merewether

(Awabakal Country)

2 h 45 min, 5 h 30 min to 2 days

9.4 km
One way

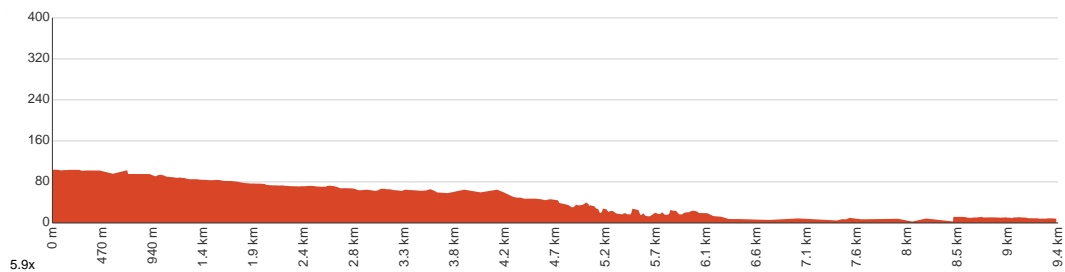
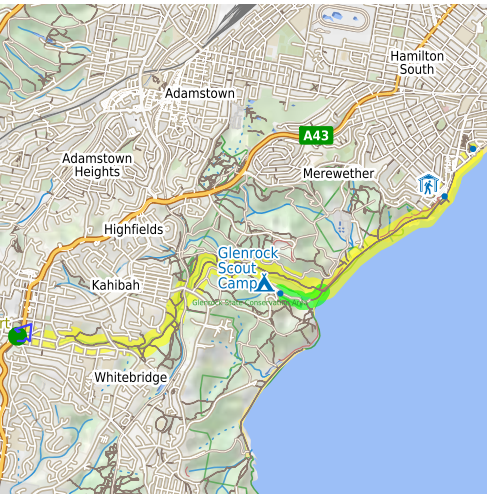
↑ 142 m
↓ 237 m

4
Hard track



Starting from a small park in Charlestown you will follow the Great North Walk through a few reserves and along Burwood Beach, past the heads to Merewether Beach. Exploring bush around Glenrock lagoon on the Yuelarbah Track, including the Leichhardt's Lookout are highlights. From this lookout the track leads down past the edge of the lagoon then along the sandy beach, past Merewether ocean pools. This walk describes a side trip to the scout campsite beside the lagoon for those who have organised to camp there. Let us begin by acknowledging the Awabakal people, Traditional Custodians of the land on which we travel today, and pay our respects to their Elders past and present.

Full journey: [Great North Walk](#)



Class 4 of 6

Rough track, where fallen trees and other obstacles are likely

Quality of track

Rough track, where fallen trees and other obstacles are likely (4/6)

Gradient

Short steep hills (3/6)

Signage

Directional signs along the way (3/6)

Infrastructure

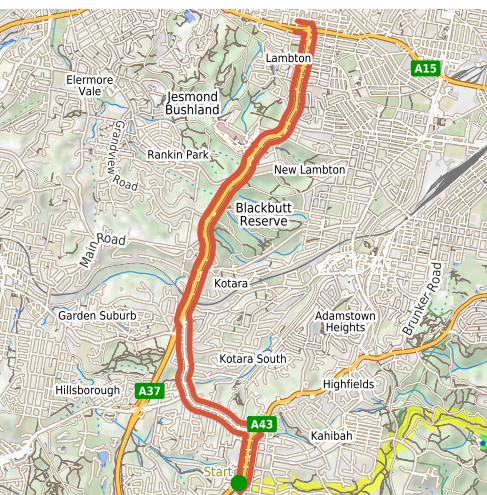
Limited facilities, not all cliffs are fenced (3/6)

Experience Required

Moderate level of bushwalking experience recommended (4/6)

Weather

Foretasted & unexpected storms and severe weather may impact on navigation and safety (4/6)



Getting to the start: From George Street, North Lambton.

- Turn on to Newcastle Road, A15, A37 then drive for 175 m
- Turn right onto Croudace Street, A37 and drive for another 4.7 km
- Keep left onto Charlestown Road and drive for another 150 m
- At roundabout, take exit 3 onto Charlestown Road and drive for another 1.1 km
- Keep left onto Charlestown Road and drive for another 50 m
- Turn slight left onto Charlestown Road, B57 and drive for another 810 m
- At roundabout, take exit 2 onto Charlestown Road, B57 and drive for another 260 m
- Turn right onto Pacific Highway, A43 and drive for another 780 m
- Turn right onto Ferris Street and drive for another 25 m

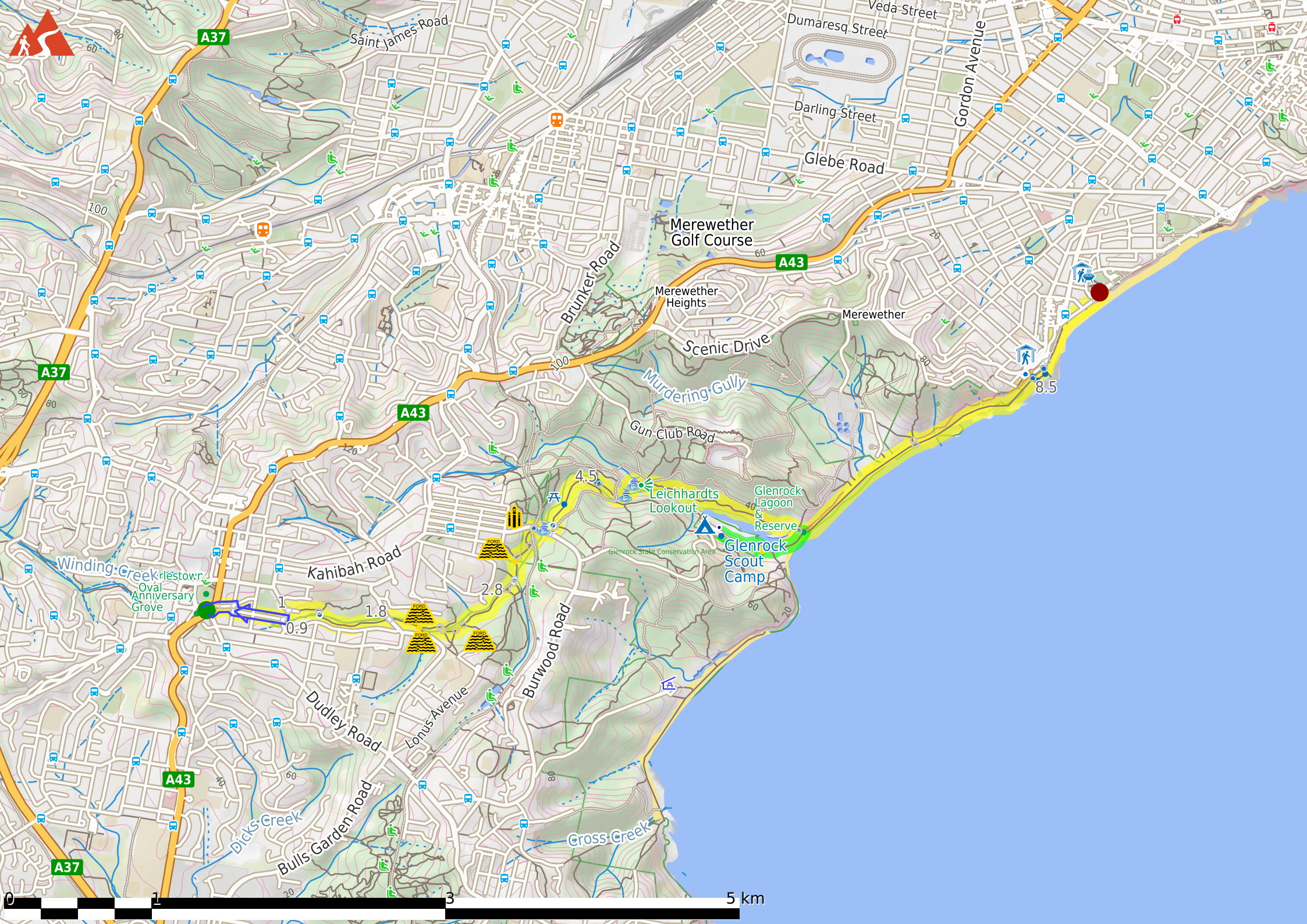
Before you start any journey ensure you;

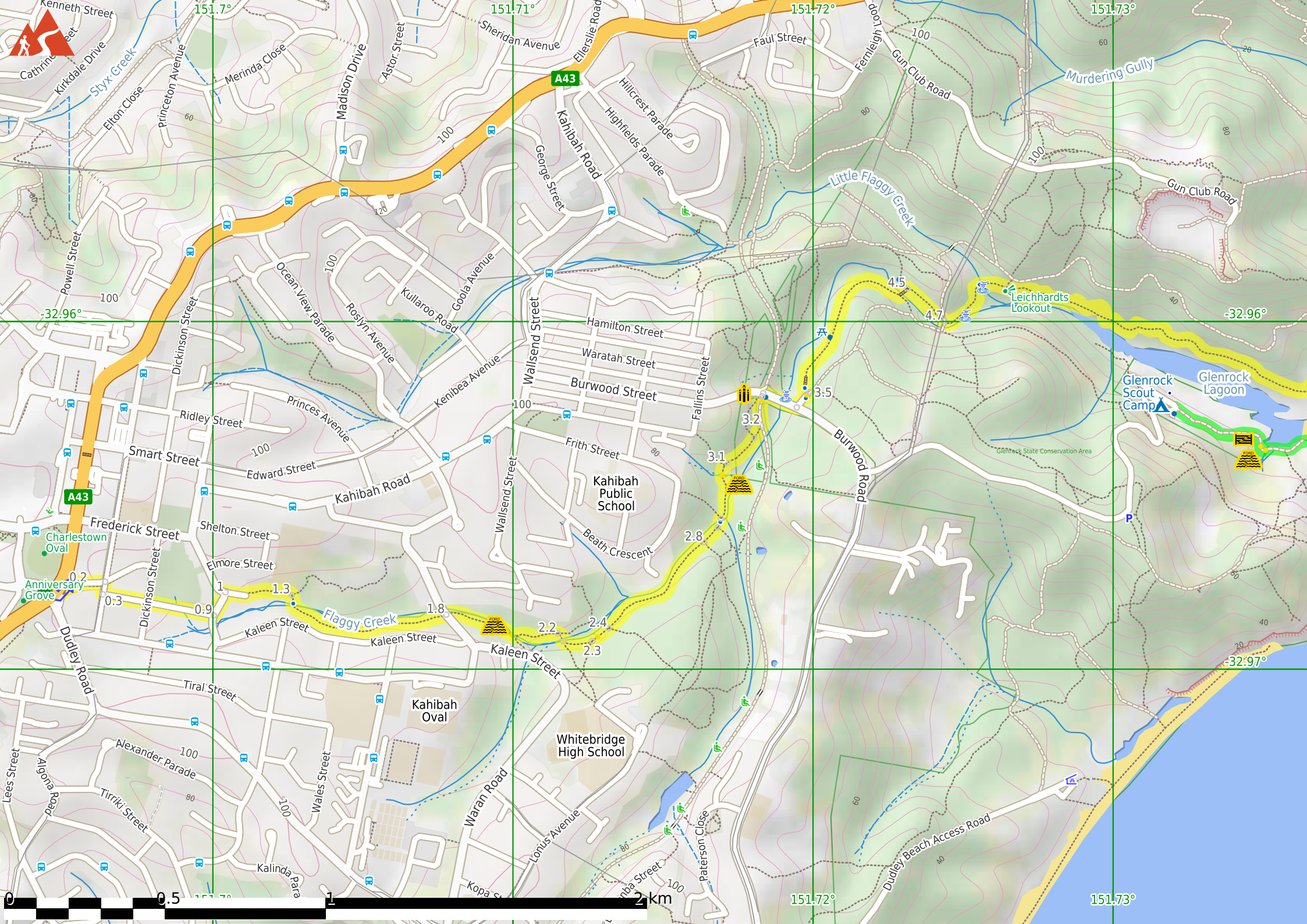
- Tell someone you trust where you are going and what to do if you are late returning
- Have adequate equipment, supplies, skills & knowledge to undertake this journey safely
- Consider weather forecasts, park/track closures & fire dangers
- Can respond to emergencies & call for help at any point
- Are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

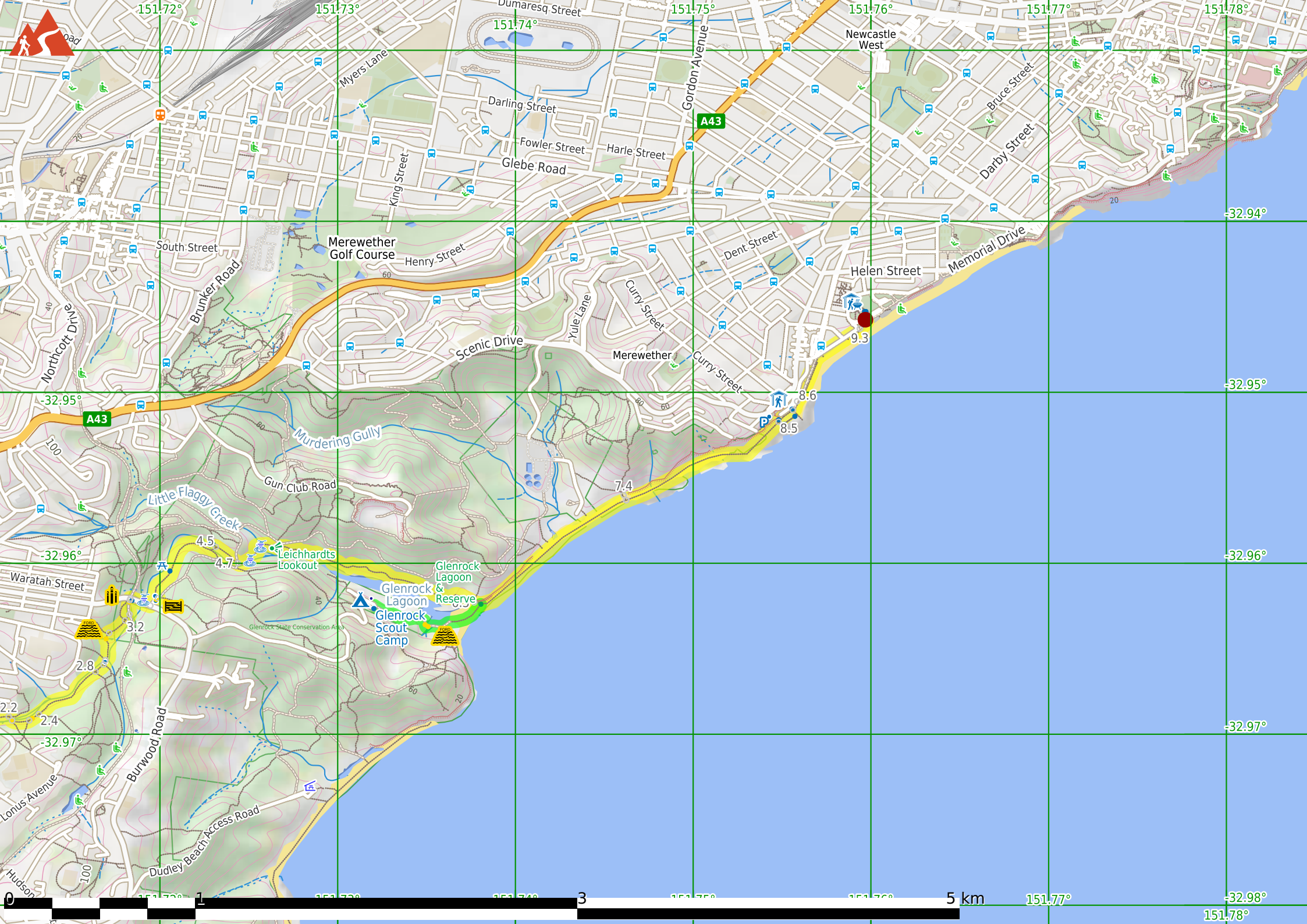
If not, change plans and stay safe. It is okay to delay and ask people for help.

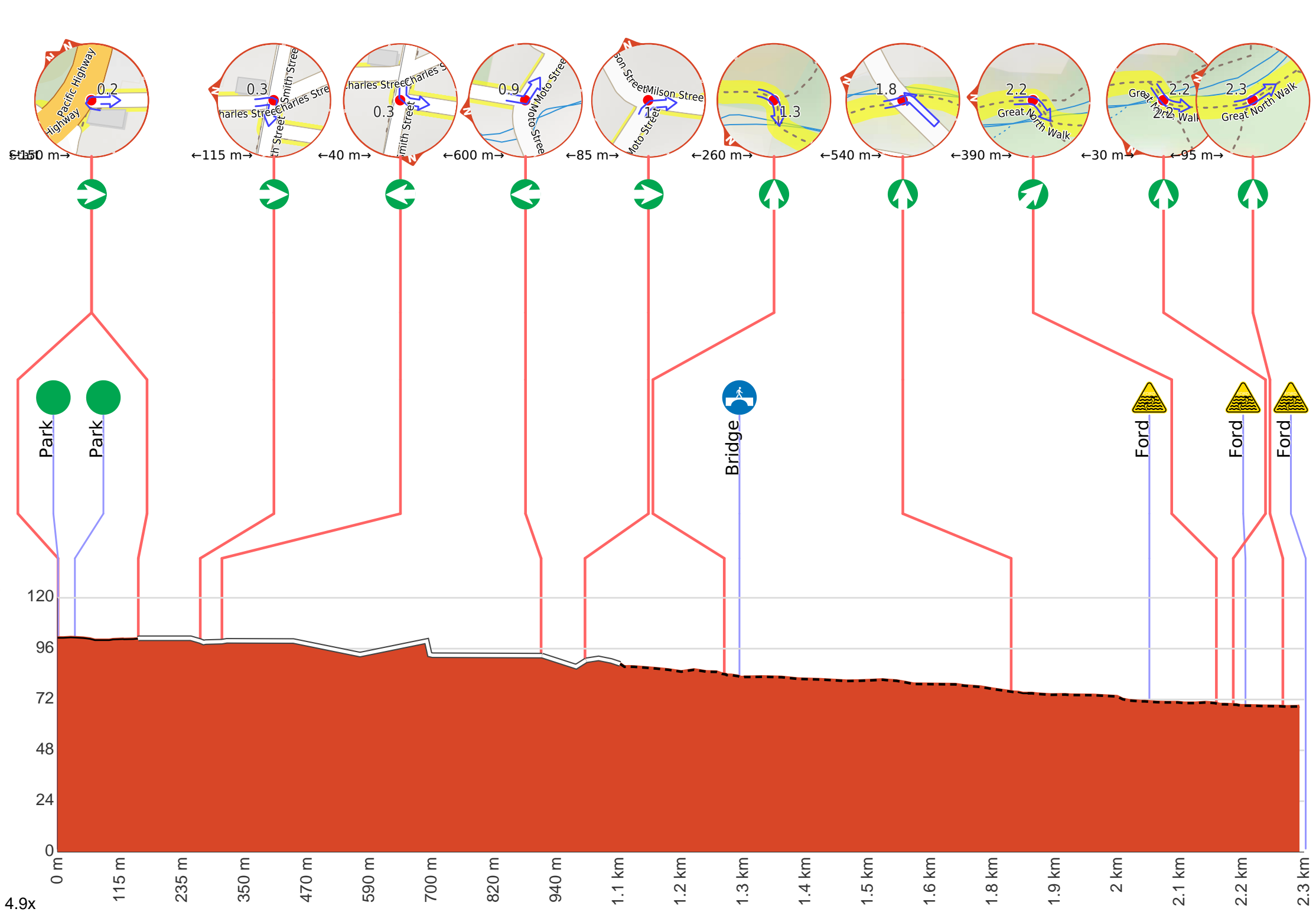
Share
[Bushwalk.com](https://bushwalk.com/j/DJ700K)
[/j/DJ700K](https://bushwalk.com/j/DJ700K)

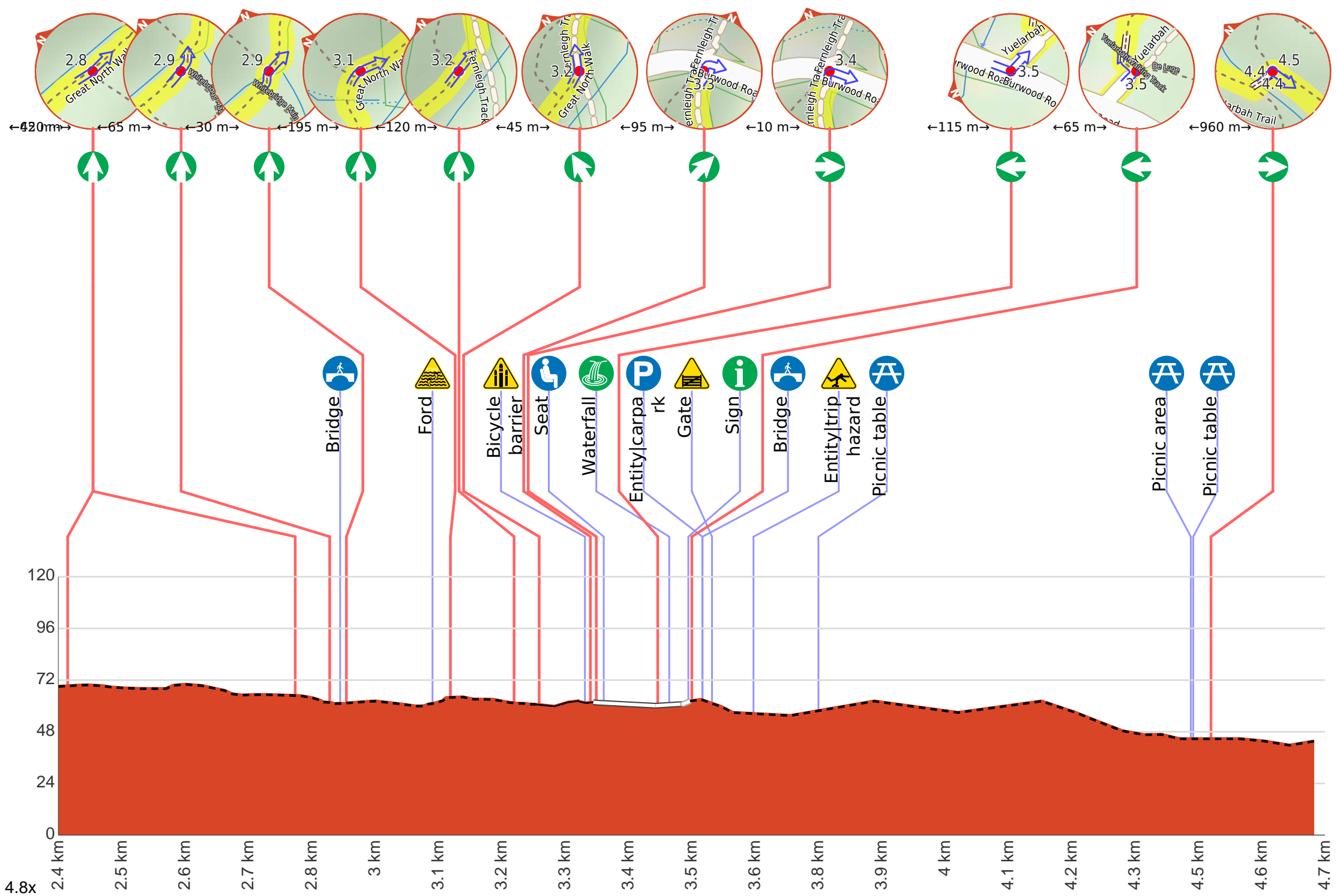


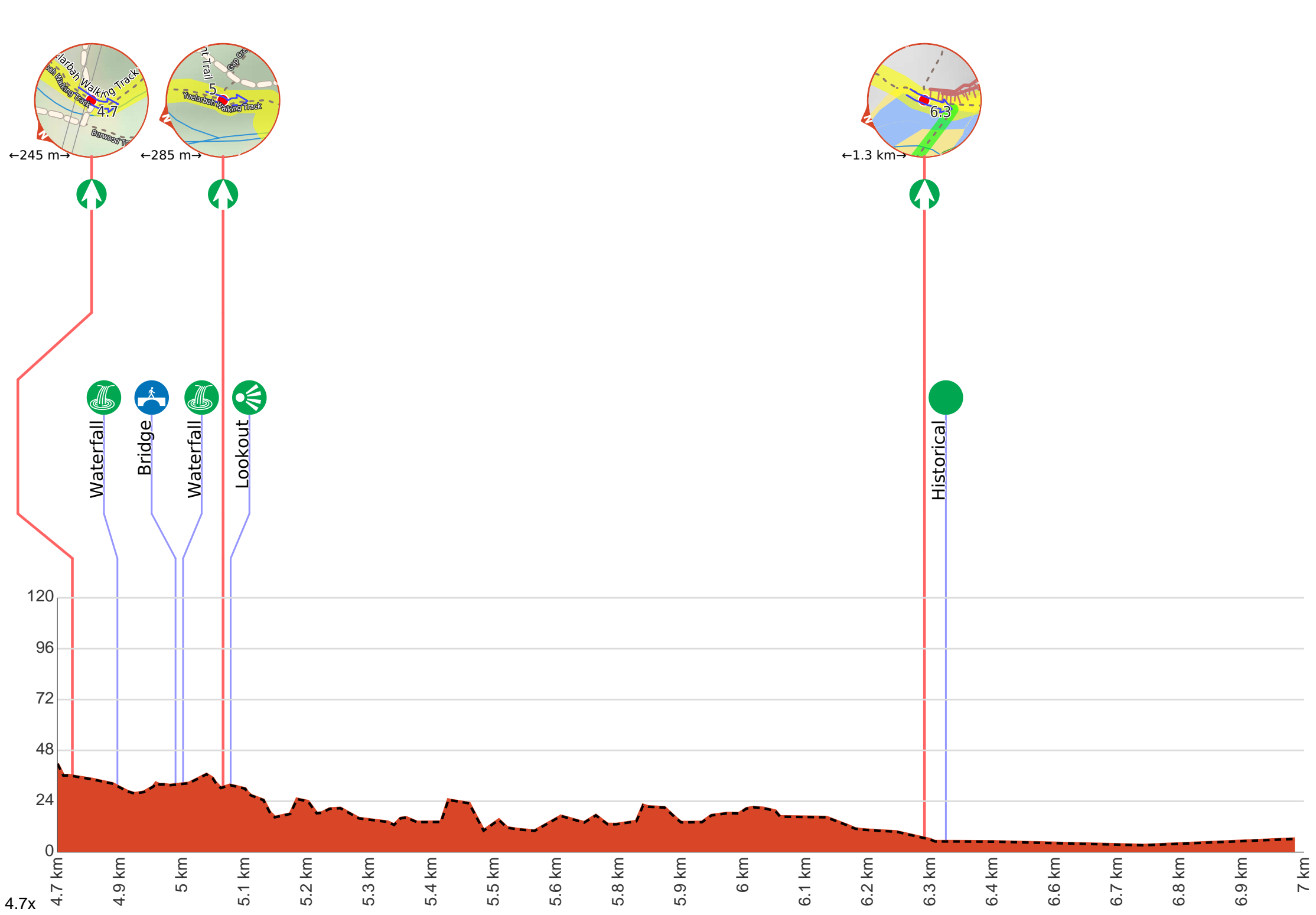


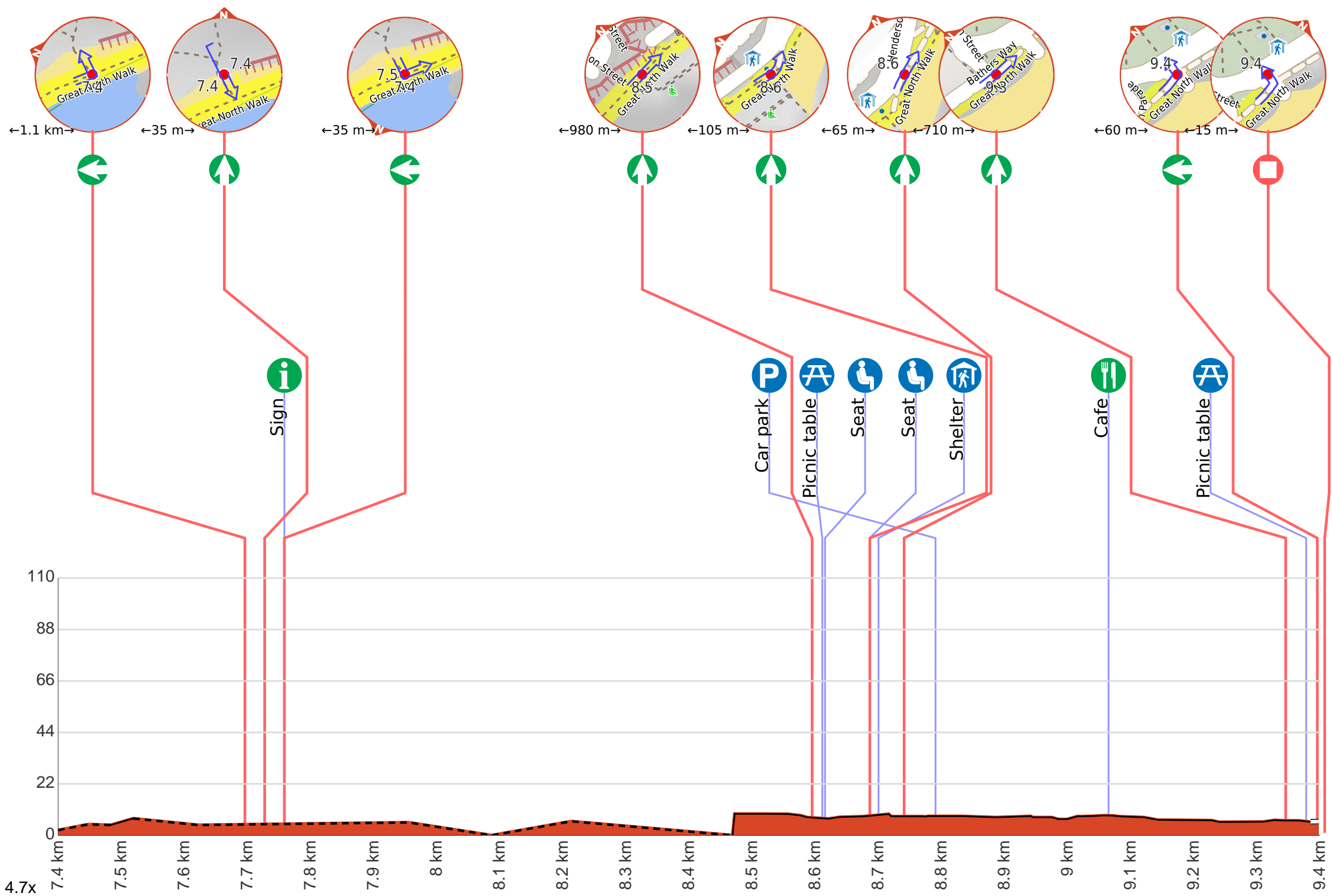












Getting started: From Charlestown Park, this walk follows the 'Newcastle' sign across the Pacific Highway at the traffic lights. The walk then turns left to cross 'Dudley Road' and follow the GNW arrow post along the foot path towards the service station on the Pacific Highway. Just before the service station, this walk turns right to following Charles Street gently downhill.



From the Ferris Street **Start** (a footpath).



Find the Anniversary Grove at the start.



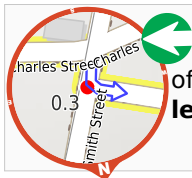
After 30 m pass the "Charlestown Oval" (on your left).



After another 120 m (from the Charles Street) **turn right**, to head along Charles Street (a residential road).



After another 115 m (at the intersection of Smith Street & Charles Street) **turn right**, to head along Smith Street.



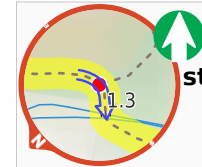
After another 40 m (at the intersection of Mulbinga Street & Smith Street) **turn left**, to head along Mulbinga Street.



After another 600 m (at the intersection of Moto Street & Mulbinga Street) **turn left**, to head along Moto Street (a highway|tertiary).



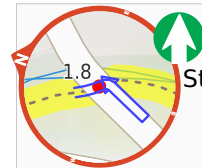
After another 85 m (at the intersection of Milson Street & Moto Street) **turn right**, to head along Milson Street (a residential road).



After another 260 m **continue straight**.



After another 30 m cross the bridge (about 5 m long)



After another 510 m (from the Guna Street) **continue straight**.



After another 260 m cross the ford.



After another 125 m **veer right**.



After another 55 m cross the ford.



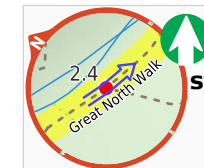
Continue straight.



After another 95 m **continue straight**.



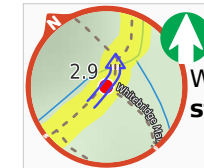
After another 45 m cross the ford.



After another 20 m **continue straight**.



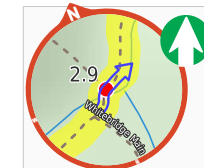
After another 420 m **continue straight**.



After another 65 m (from the Whitebridge Main Track) **continue straight**.



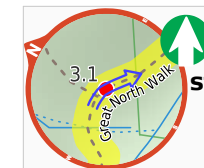
After another 20 m cross the bridge (about 5 m long)



After another 6 m **continue straight**.



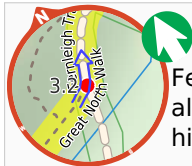
After another 160 m cross the ford.



After another 35 m **continue straight**.



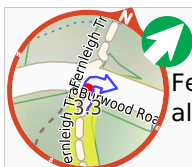
After another 120 m **continue straight**.



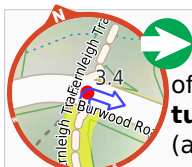
After another 45 m (from the Fernleigh Track) **veer left**, to head along Fernleigh Track (a highway/cycleway).



After another 85 m head through the bicycle barrier.



After another 10 m (from the Fernleigh Track) **veer right**, to head along Fernleigh Track.



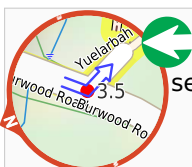
After another 10 m (at the intersection of Burwood Road & Fernleigh Track) **turn right**, to head along Burwood Road (a road).



After another 15 m pass a seat (9 m on your right).



After another 120 m pass the waterfall (20 m on your left).



From the Burwood Road **turn left** (a service road).



After another 85 m find the "Yuelarbah car park" (on your right).



Yuelarbah car park on Burwood Rd, Kahibah is the starting point to a number of walking and MTB tracks within the Glenrock State Conservation Area. There is a sheltered information sign with historical and natural heritage information. There are about 25 parking bays, and a mobility parking bay.



After another 20 m head through/around the gate.



Then pass the "NPWS Cycling Noticeboard" (5 m on your right).



After another 7 m (at the intersection of Yuelarbah Walking Track & De Luge) **turn left**, to head along Yuelarbah Walking Track (a walking track).



After another 20 m cross the bridge (about 35 m long)



After another 60 m find the "Trip Hazard" (on your right).



Between the gravel path and timber boardwalk is a 5cm step, 1.5m wide.



After another 120 m find the "Picnic Table" (8 m on your left).



A timber slat picnic table and bench seat. The table is 85cm high, 75cm deep and 2.1m wide. The seats are 54cm high, 29cm deep and 2.1m wide (no backrest). The seat is found about 10m down a rough track (with 13cm step), from the main path.



After another 690 m find the "Flaggy Creek picnic area" (40 m on your left).



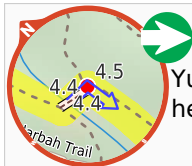
The Flaggy Creek picnic area, is an unsignposted picnic area on the northern side of Flaggy Creek, near the suspension bridge. There are two picnic tables on a large concrete slab. There is a rough track that leads down to the cascades on the creek. There is also a warning sign saying that the creek water may be contaminated from sewerage overflow and swimming is not advised.. It is, however, a very pleasant spot to enjoy the quiet and peaceful valley.



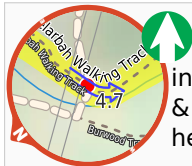
Then find the "Picnic Table" (25 m on your left).



Two timber slat picnic tables with bench seats. The tables are 79cm high, 93cm deep and 2.1m wide. The seats are 44cm high, 30cm deep and 2.1m wide (no backrest). The tables are on a large paved flat area.



After another 35 m (from the Yuelarbah Walking Track) **turn right**, to head along Yuelarbah Walking Track.



After another 245 m (at the intersection of Yuelarbah Walking Track & Yuelarbah Trail) **continue straight**, to head along Yuelarbah Walking Track.



After another 85 m pass the waterfall (7 m on your right).



After another 110 m cross the bridge (about 10 m long)



Then pass the waterfall (10 m on your right).



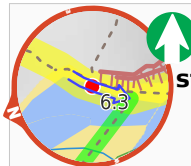
After another 75 m (from the Yuelarbah Walking Track) **continue straight**, to head along Yuelarbah Walking Track.



After another 15 m find the "Leichhardt's Lookout" (5 m on your right).



Leichhardt's Lookout is within the Glenrock State Conservation Area. This lookout is a timber platform, looking east across Glenrock Lagoon and out to the ocean. Leichhardt's Lookout is named after Ludwig Leichhardt a Prussian naturalist and explorer who, in 1842, described the view down into Glenrock Lagoon as well as other important geological sightings in the area.



After another 1.3 km **continue straight**.



After another 40 m find the "Glenrock Lagoon & Reserve" (on your left).



The Glenrock Lagoon is within the Glenrock State Conservation Area and has a rich history. It was named for 'Glen' meaning narrow valley and 'rock' because of the rocky nature of the valley. The site was first occupied by the local aboriginals of the Awabakal Tribe, who were known to roam and hunt in the Glenrock Lagoon, with evidence near the mouth of the lagoon. The Awabakal Tribe had a large sacred cave, which was filled with paintings, however, these paintings are now gone. Glenrock was the site of the first coal deposits found in Australia. Deep in the valley, there are remnants of the early Colliery. Coal was mined at Glenrock for over 100 years - a good example of this is Smelters Beach, just north of the lagoon exit, which contains historic rail tracks in the cliff side. The Scout camp was established here in 1932, with a 99 year lease and continues today.



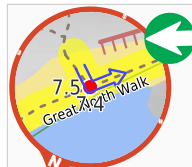
After another 1 km **turn left**.



After another 75 m pass the sign (about 20 m ahead).



From the Oyster Hill boardwalk **continue straight** (a walking track).



After another 35 m **turn left**.



After another 1.2 km pass the car park (40 m on your left).



From the Great North Walk Bathers Way **continue straight**, to head along Great North Walk Bathers Way.



After another 20 m pass the picnic table (8 m on your left).



After another 5 m pass a seat (30 m on your right).



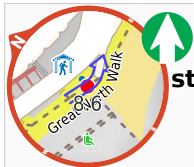
After another 65 m (at the intersection of Bathers Way & Great North Walk Bathers Way) **continue straight**, to head along Bathers Way.



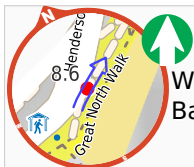
After another 20 m pass a seat (35 m on your right).



After another 15 m pass the shelter (7 m on your left).



From the Bathers Way **continue straight**, to head along Bathers Way.



After another 65 m (from the Bathers Way) **continue straight**, to head along Bathers Way.



After another 85 m (from the Bathers Way) **continue straight**, to head along Bathers Way.



After another 3 m (from the Bathers Way) **continue straight**, to head along Bathers Way.



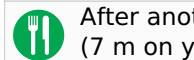
After another 50 m (from the Bathers Way) **continue straight**, to head along Bathers Way.



After another 210 m (from the Bathers Way) **continue straight**, to head along Bathers Way.



After another 10 m (from the Bathers Way) **continue straight**, to head along Bathers Way.



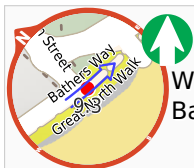
After another 25 m pass the "Juicy Beans Cafe" (7 m on your left).

This cafe is wheelchair accessible.

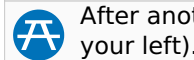
W:www.juicybeanscafe.com.au T: +61 2 49633407



After another 5 m (from the Bathers Way) **continue straight**, to head along Bathers Way.



After another 325 m (from the Bathers Way) **continue straight**, to head along Bathers Way.



After another 40 m pass the picnic table (5 m on your left).



After another 20 m (from the Bathers Way) **continue straight**, to head along Bathers Way.



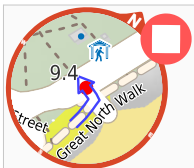
After another 2 m (from the Bathers Way) **turn left** (a service road).



About 55 m past the end is a shelter.



About 55 m past the end is a BBQ.



The end.