

# Are you ready to have fun?

Please ensure you and your group are well prepared and equipped for all possible hazards and delays. Check park closures, weather information and Fire Danger Rating before setting out. Optional side trips and alternate routes noted are not included in this walks overall grade, length or time estimate. Please allow extra time for resting and exploring areas of interest. The authors, staff and owners of wildwalks take care in preparing this information but will not accept responsibility for any inconvenience, loss or injury you may experience. Please take care, have fun - Happy Walking.

Getting there You can get to Corner of Delhi Rd and River Ave (gps: -33.793, 151.1561) by car or bus. Car: There is free parking available. You can get back from Mowbray car park (near oval) (gps: -33.8005, 151.1465) by car or bus. Car: There is free parking available.

Find up to date and more information inlcuding; travel directions, weather, park closures and walker feedback at <a href="http://wild.tl/fbter">http://wild.tl/fbter</a>

## 0 | Corner of Delhi Rd and River Ave

(880 m 19 mins) From the intersection on River Ave (near Delhi Rd), this walk follows the 'Great North Walk - Sydney Cove' sign up along the rocky track. The track soon leads up a steep rock staircase and past a small bench seat. The track continues to wind quite steeply up, passing a few GNW arrow posts and winding among some large boulders to climb up onto a large, flat rock platform. Here, the walk veers left and follows a mostly flat narrow track through the bush for about 170m, then heads around a locked gate to find the end of Ouebec Rd.

Continue straight: From the locked gate, this walk follows the sealed Quebec Rd, keeping the fenced Northern Suburbs Memorial Gardens on your right. The narrow road continues for about 300m passing a couple of driveways (to your left) to come to a T-intersection with Quebec Rd and Fairylands Ave. Here the walk turns right and follows the now wider Quebec Rd as it bends left and leads downhill. Just before the road bends left again (near the bottom of this hill) this walk comes to an intersection with a track (on your right), marked with a GNW arrow post.

## 0.88 | Int of Quebec Rd and Fairyland Track

(130 m 3 mins) Turn right: From the opposite number 101 Quebec Rd, this walk follows the GNW arrow post, under the power lines and down the track past the 'Dogs Strictly Prohibited' and 'Lane Cove National Park - Fairlyland Track' signs. The track soon leads over a short section of timber boardwalk and along the track for a bit over 100m to an unfenced rock platform, with river views (on your left).

## 1.01 | Lookout

This small, informal and unfenced viewpoint is atop a large natural rock platform, between Fairyland and River Ave. There are a few in the area, but this is the most distinct. From here, there are nice views down the Lane Cove River. The area is unfenced and there is a significant drop off the side.

#### 1.01 | River view

(360 m 7 mins) Continue straight: From the view point, this walk heads along the flat track whilst keeping the river below to your left. After about 150m, this walk starts to lead down a set of timber steps, winding down then along short timber boardwalk to come to a 'Site of Fairyland Pleasure Grounds' information sign. The walk continues along the track through the ferns to an intersection beside a large palm tree, just past the 'Fairyland Pleasure Grounds' sign where a short track on the left leads to a seat beside Lane Cove River.

# 1.37 | Fairyland

Once formally known as 'Fairyland Pleasure Grounds', and casually as 'The

Rest', this site was similar to several others in Sydney. The land was purchased by Robert Swan in 1896 and encompassed about 17 acres in total. Part of the land was cleared for a market garden, growing strawberries and melons. By the early 1900s, the market garden had closed and the area had become a popular picnic and play ground, for people arriving mostly by boat. This was a very popular spot to visit for a special day out. Today, the buildings have (mostly) gone and the cleared area has grown back, but it still can offer a relaxing picnic and lunch spot by the river.

## 1.37 | Fairyland

(820 m 19 mins) Continue straight: From the centre of Fairylands, this walk follows the GNW arrow post, keeping the Lane Cove River through the trees to your left and soon passing the 'Take Yourself Back to Fairyland' photo sign. The walk then follows the timber boardwalk through the moist forest to the 'Site of Fairyland Pleasure Grounds' information sign, where the track then leads up a series of timber and dirt steps out of the old pleasure grounds. At the top of the steps, the track bends sharply left then continues uphill for another 70m or so. Here, the track leads down and over a small flat timber bridge then up to a signposted intersection in view of a concrete building (up to your right) and a high tension transmission tower (to your left).

Continue straight: From the intersection, this walk follows the GNW arrow downhill along the track, passing under the power lines whilst keeping the transmission tower to your left. Soon after passing closer to this tower, the rocky track leads uphill for about 100m and crosses a timber bridge with a hand rail. From here, the walk crosses two short flat timber bridges then leads past a short rock wall. Soon after this, the track leads up a series of timber steps and just after flattening out, this walk comes to a signposted intersection with a concrete footpath, beside Epping Road bridge.

# 2.18 | Int on NW side of Epping Rd bridge

(460 m 9 mins) Veer left: From the intersection, this walk follows the 'Great North Walk' sign down a few steps and along the footpath under the bridge. On the other side of the bridge, this walk turns right and heads up the stairs to an intersection with a wide shared footpath beside Epping Rd.

Turn right: From the intersection, this walk follows the GNW arrow post down across the main bridge span, keeping the traffic to your left. After almost 100m, this walk comes to the other side of the bridge, where there is an intersection with another set of stairs (on your right) and another GNW arrow.

Turn right: From the intersection, this walk heads down the stairs away from the main road, to turn right under the bridge. The track heads under the bridge to come out the other side, continuing along the river bank for approximately 50m to the car park.

