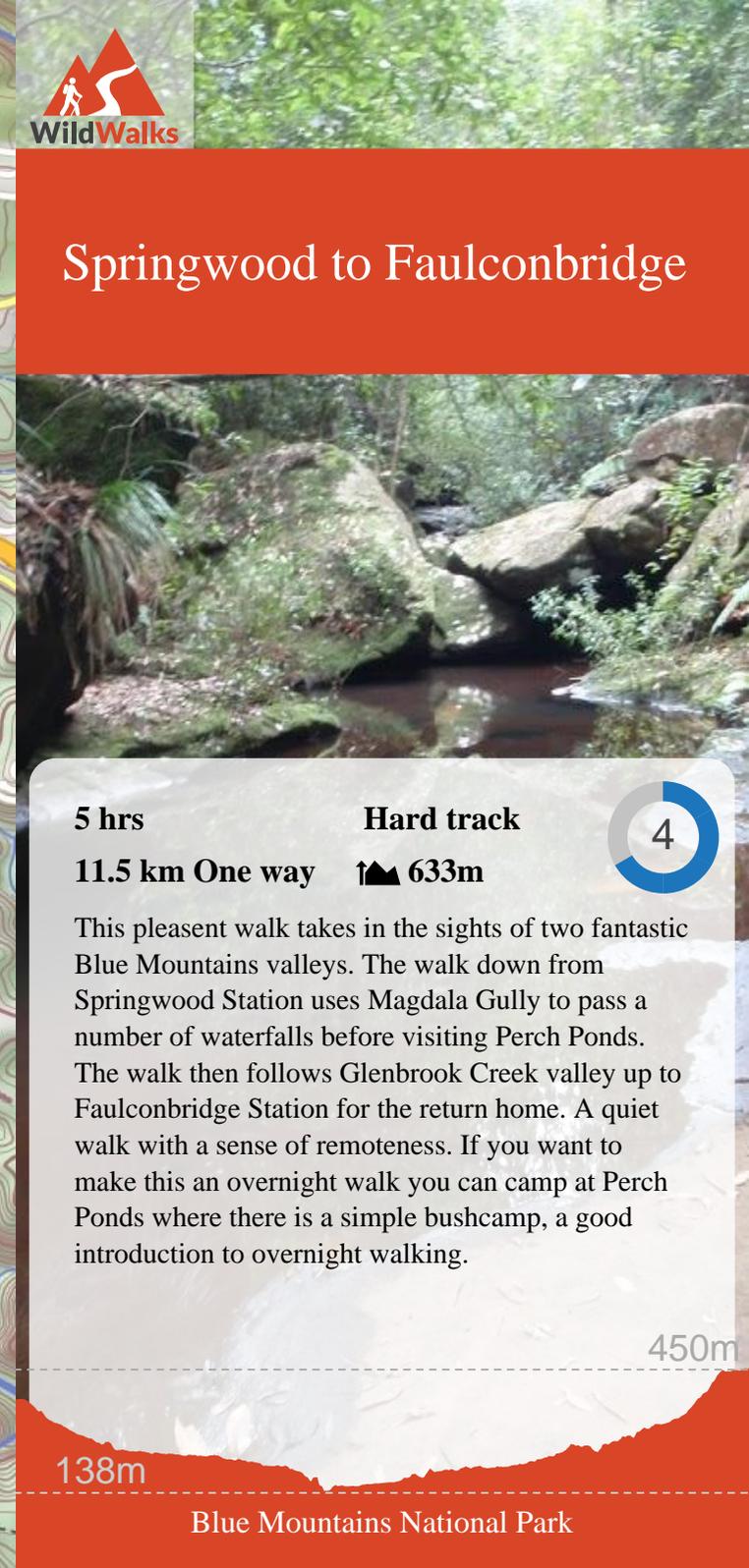
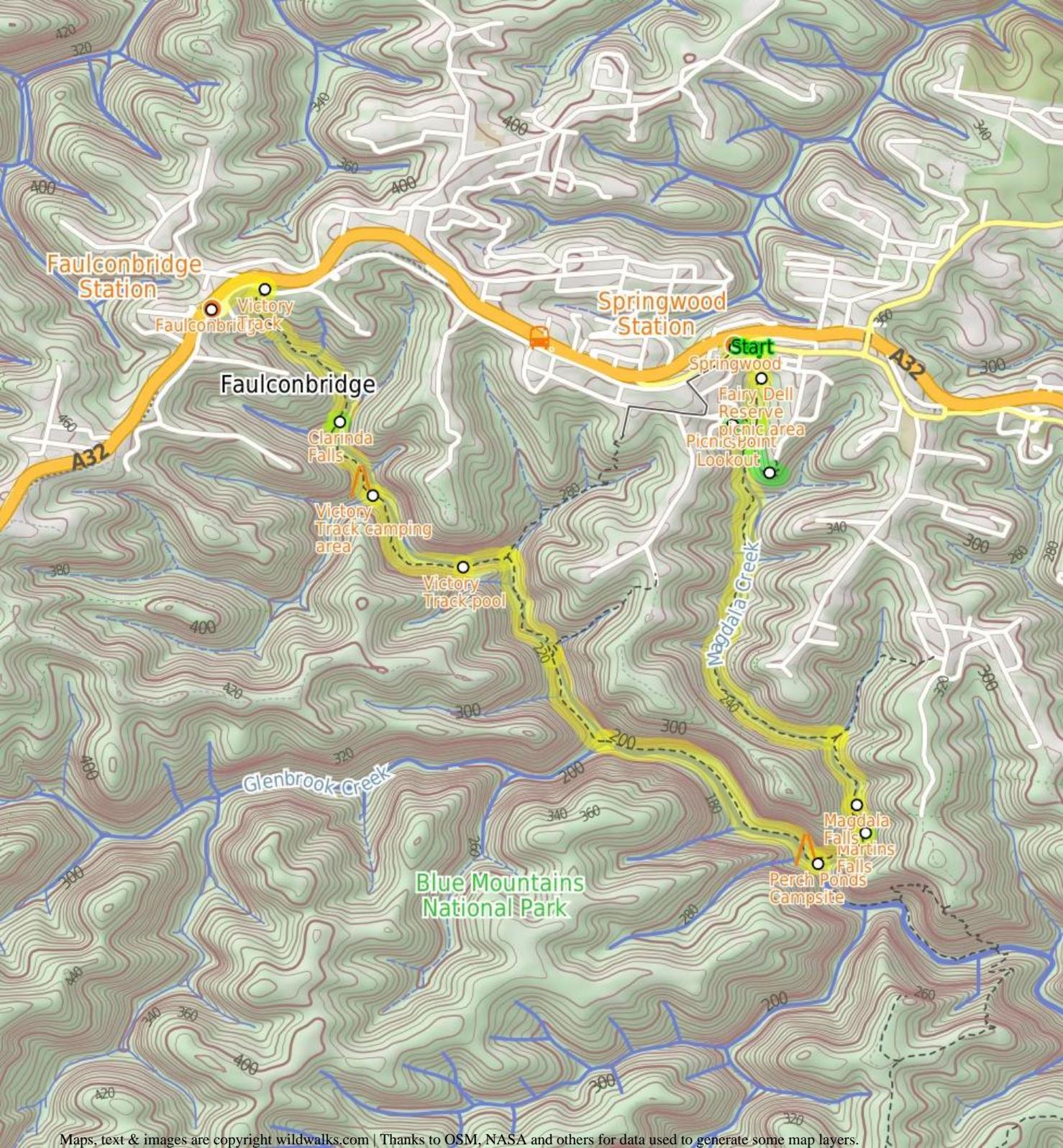


Springwood to Faulconbridge



5 hrs

Hard track



11.5 km One way

▲ 633m

This pleasant walk takes in the sights of two fantastic Blue Mountains valleys. The walk down from Springwood Station uses Magdala Gully to pass a number of waterfalls before visiting Perch Ponds. The walk then follows Glenbrook Creek valley up to Faulconbridge Station for the return home. A quiet walk with a sense of remoteness. If you want to make this an overnight walk you can camp at Perch Ponds where there is a simple bushcamp, a good introduction to overnight walking.

450m

138m

Blue Mountains National Park

Springwood

Springwood, along the Great Western Highway, is the second largest town in the Blue Mountains. Springwood also takes the title for the oldest railway station in the Blue Mountains. There are a variety of shops in Springwood, with quite a few cafes, bakeries and two historic hotels. Springwood was named by Governor Macquarie, when his wife and he stopped for water from a deep glen spring, in 1815. It seems aptly named, with many springs and creeks leading away from the ridge at Springwood, including Sassafras Gully, Magdala Creek and Glenbrook Creek. [More info.](#)

Fairy Dell Reserve picnic area

Fairy Dell Reserve picnic area is a quiet and shady terraced garden at the head of the Magdala Gully. Fairy Dell is situated just south of Springwood in the Lower Blue Mountains. The picnic area has numerous tables, parking and a grassy area for the kids to play. The Fairy Dell Reserve Picnic area is also the starting point for a number of walks down to Magdala Creek, Picnic Point and nearby Lawson Lookout.

Picnic Point

Picnic Point, in Springwood, Blue Mountains, is a quiet, grassy clearing tucked behind the houses above Magdala Creek. The area has a gazebo, picnic table and water tank (water needs to be treated). The clearing has a track leading down to many popular walks, with Lawson's Lookout and Fairy Dell Reserves nearby.

Lawsons Lookout

Lawsons Lookout, in Springwood, Blue Mountains, is an unfenced rockshelf overlooking the wonderful Magdala Creek valley. The lookout is most easily accessed from Raymond Rd.

Magdala Falls

Magdala Falls is a disappointing set of falls. The view from the steep hillside doesn't show any of the falls, but instead lets you hear the water cascade into the pool below. A red-stained rock above the pool can be seen through the dense foliage of the trees.

Before You walk

Bushwalking is fun and a wonderful way to enjoy our natural places. Sometimes things go bad, with a bit of planning you can increase your chance of having an enjoyable and safer walk. Before setting off on your walk check

- 1) Weather Forecast ([BOM Central Tablelands District](#))
- 2) Fire Dangers ([Greater Sydney Region](#))
- 3) Park Alerts ([Blue Mountains National Park](#))
- 4) Research the walk to check your party has the skills, fitness and equipment required
- 5) Agree to stay as a group and not leave anyone to walk solo

Think before you TREK

The 'Think before you TREK' program developed by NSW Police & NPWS promotes the benefits of planning ahead for your bushwalking trip by using an easy to remember acronym:

- T** Take adequate supplies of food, water, navigation and first aid equipment.
- R** Register your planned route and tell friends and family when you expect to return.
- E** Emergency beacon (PLB's) should be carried on walks with significant gaps in mobile coverage (check terrain profile).
- K** Keep to your planned route and follow the map and walking trails.

Topo Maps

The maps provided on wildwalks are helpful, but there are times where you may need maps covering a broader area. Maps that cover this walk include;

1:25 000 Map Series:90304S SPRINGWOOD

1:100 000 Map Series:9030 PENRITH

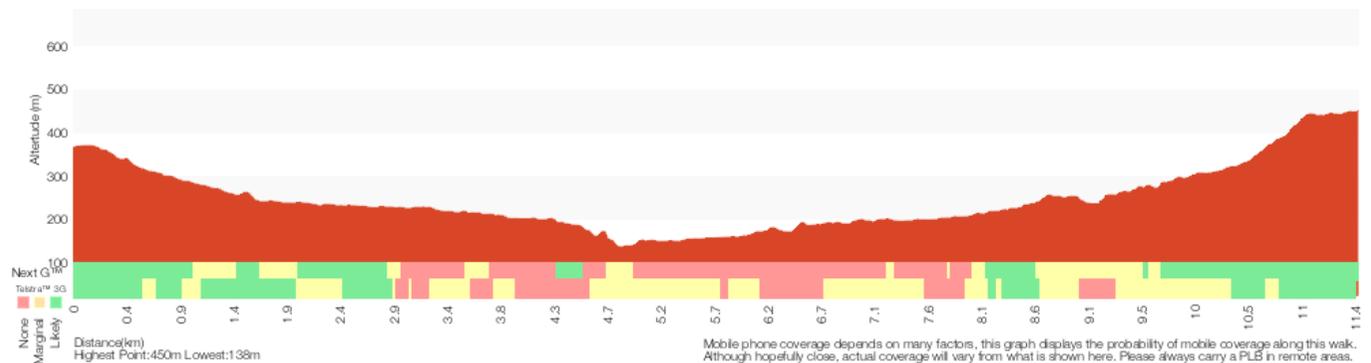
Grade

This walk has been graded using the AS 2156.1-2001. The overall grade of the walk is determined by the highest classification along the whole track.



Grade 4/6
Hard track

Length	11.5 km One way
Time	5 hrs
Quality of track	Rough track, where fallen trees and other obstacles are likely (4/6)
Signs	Minimal directional signs (4/6)
Experience Required	No experience required (1/6)
Weather	Weather generally has little impact on safety (1/6)
Infrastructure	Limited facilities (such as cliffs not fenced, significant creeks not bridged) (4/6)



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 walk's 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 Springwood Station (gps: -33.6991, 150.5638) by car, train or bus. Car: There is free parking available.

You can get back from Faulconbridge Station (gps: -33.6966, 150.5349) by car or bus. Car: There is free parking available.

Find up to date and more information including: travel directions, weather, park closures and walker feedback at <http://wild.tl/stf>

0 | Springwood

Springwood, along the Great Western Highway, is the second largest town in the Blue Mountains. Springwood also takes the title for the oldest railway station in the Blue Mountains. There are a variety of shops in Springwood, with quite a few cafes, bakeries and two historic hotels. Springwood was named by Governor Macquarie, when his wife and he stopped for water from a deep glen spring, in 1815. It seems aptly named, with many springs and creeks leading away from the ridge at Springwood, including Sassafras Gully, Magdala Creek and Glenbrook Creek. [More info.](#)

0 | Springwood Station

(270 m 5 mins) From Springwood Station, the walk crosses the road at the pedestrian crossing and turns left. The walk continues past the shop front for about 150 metres before turning right at a quadrangle, which leads the walk down through a car park. The walk passes through the car park and crosses Macquarie Rd, to the 'Fairy Dell' sign.

0.27 | Int. Springwood Ave and Fairy Dell Reserve

(150 m 3 mins) Continue straight: From the 'Fairy Dell, 49 Springwood Ave' sign, the walk heads downhill into the reserve (along the smaller road), past the signs. The walk winds down past the units (on the left) to the bottom of the road. The walk continues on the left side of the cul-de-sac, to a grassy area with picnic tables.

0.41 | Fairy Dell Reserve picnic area

Fairy Dell Reserve picnic area is a quiet and shady terraced garden at the head of the Magdala Gully. Fairy Dell is situated just south of Springwood in the Lower Blue Mountains. The picnic area has numerous tables, parking and a grassy area for the kids to play. The Fairy Dell Reserve Picnic area is also the starting point for a number of walks down to Magdala Creek, Picnic Point and nearby Lawson Lookout.

0.41 | Fairy Dell Reserve picnic area

(390 m 9 mins) Veer left: From the picnic area, the walk follows the 'Sassafras Gully' sign down the stairs. The walk quickly passes the vandalised building (which has since been reported as demolished by another walker), then a map sign before meeting a creek. The walk keeps the creek on the right and soon comes to a bridge with direction signs.

0.8 | Optional sidetrip to Picnic Point

(160 m 6 mins) Turn right: From the intersection, the walk crosses the bridge, following the 'Picnic Point' signs. The walk immediately climbs many stairs which wind up to a picnic shelter and grass area of Picnic Point. At the end of this side trip, retrace your steps back to the main walk then Turn right.

0.8 | Picnic Point

Picnic Point, in Springwood, Blue Mountains, is a quiet, grassy clearing tucked behind the houses above Magdala Creek. The area has a gazebo, picnic table and water tank (water needs to be treated). The clearing has a track leading down to many popular walks, with Lawson's Lookout and Fairy Dell Reserves nearby.

0.8 | Int. Fairy Dell and Picnic Point Tracks

(140 m 3 mins) Continue straight: From the intersection at the bridge, the walk heads in the direction of the 'Perch Ponds' arrow, keeping the creek on the right of the track. The walk soon comes to a 'Lawson's Lookout' sign, above a cascade in the creek.

0.94 | Optional sidetrip to Lawsons Lookout

(410 m 11 mins) Turn left: From the intersection, the walk follows the direction of the 'Lawsons Lookout' signs, up the hill. The track heads up to a rocky outcrop, where the track turns back on itself and steps through some bushes to the rocky surface of the lookout. At the end of this side trip, retrace your steps back to the main walk then Turn left.

0.94 | Lawsons Lookout

Lawsons Lookout, in Springwood, Blue Mountains, is an unfenced rockshelf overlooking the wonderful Magdala Creek valley. The lookout is most easily accessed from Raymond Rd.

0.94 | Int. Lawsons Lookout Trk and Fairy Dell Trk

(3.2 km 1 hr 7 mins) Continue straight: From the intersection, the walk follows the direction of the 'Perch Ponds' sign, keeping the creek on the right. The track crosses the creek many times, passing a number of caves. The track passes a burnt 'Perch Ponds' sign as it crosses a creek to immediately come to an intersection (with arrows engraved in the rocks).

Turn right: From the intersection, the walk follows the arrows engraved in the rock, keeping the creek to the right. The walk winds down the hillside then crosses the creek, continuing to follow the creek (now on the left) to a 'Magdala Falls' sign.

4.18 | Magdala Falls

Magdala Falls is a disappointing set of falls. The view from the steep hillside doesn't show any of the falls, but instead lets you hear the water cascade into the pool below. A red-stained rock above the pool can be seen through the dense foliage of the trees.

4.18 | Int. Magdala Ck and Magdala Falls trks

(300 m 7 mins) Continue straight: From the intersection, the walk keeps the creek on the left as it heads down the gully. The walk winds down the hill, passing a few rock overhangs as it leads to a 'Martins Lookout' sign.

4.47 | Optional sidetrip to Behind Martins Falls

(30 m 1 mins) Turn left : From the intersection, the walk heads to the left of the 'Martins Falls' sign (towards the falls). The walk skirts around the edge of the valley, coming under the rock overhang of the falls, and then arriving behind the falls. At the end of this side trip, retrace your steps back to the main walk then Turn left.

4.47 | Martins Falls

Martins Falls are at a rock overhang on Magdala Creek, near Springwood, almost 400m upstream from the Glenbrook Creek junction. The water falls off a rock platform, over the overhang into a large pond. There is a faint track leading behind the falls, giving a different perspective of the pond and falls - extra care is required. This is a lovely area to enjoy the cool temperatures on warmer days, and is more spectacular after recent rain.

4.47 | Int. Martins Falls and Magdala Ck trks

(380 m 10 mins) Continue straight: From the 'Martins Falls' intersection, the track heads up a small hill, then downhill with the creek on the left. The walk meanders above the creek for a short time then opens out onto the 'Perch Ponds' campground clearing.

4.86 | Perch Ponds Campsite

Perch Ponds is a lovely waterhole, with a clearing suitable to pitch a tent, located at the junction of Magdala Creek and Glenbrook Creeks. The meeting of the two creeks provides a relaxing sound of rushing water and a cool spot to rest on warmer days. The campsite is a flat area above the pool marked with a fire scar. A great shady and quiet area for a camp. There are no facilities and water from the creek needs to be treated.

4.86 | Perch Ponds camping area

(3.4 km 1 hr 11 mins) Turn right: From the intersection, the walk follows the 'Sassafras Gully Rd' sign, keeping the creek on the left. The walk leads up the hill, passing a track (on the left, which leads to an overhang). The walk continues up the hill, then down across a junction of two creeks, immediately entering a clearing with a fireplace in the middle.

Continue straight: From the campground clearing, the walk exits the clearing, keeping the creek on the right. The track follows the creek, undulating and meandering for some time, and passing through a steeply banked creek junction. The walk tends left and slightly uphill to a 'Perch Ponds' sign (pointing back the way you came).

Veer left: From the intersection, the track heads across the hillside in the opposite direction to the 'Perch Ponds' sign . The track winds for some time, crossing a creek and passing a blue track marker on the other side. The track follows the creek, now on the left, up to a 'To Wiggins Track' sign (pointing back the way you came).

Turn left: From the intersection, the walk follows the 'Faulconbridge Station' sign across a gully. The track winds and undulates above the creek (keeping the creek to the left) and soon drops down and crosses the creek. The walk continues, now with the creek on the right, to an intersection with a faint track (which leads to a pool in the creek).

8.23 | Victory Track pool

The Victory Track pool is an unofficially-named pond in Sassafras Creek. The pond is deep in parts but not adequate for a swim. It does, however, offer a chance to rest and gaze over the water. There is a small sandy beach, some moss-covered rocks and a lovely grove of Sassafras trees around the pool. This is a nice spot to stop, catch your breath and soak up your surroundings.

8.23 | Victory Trk pool

(880 m 24 mins) Continue straight: From the intersection, the walk heads up the hill, keeping the creek on the right. The track winds up and away from the creek and back down to the creek a few times before arriving at a campground clearing (directly under power lines).

9.11 | Victory Track camping area

Victory Track camping area is a fairly large, informal camping place at the junction of Sassafras and Numantia Creeks. The clearing is in a moist section of forest with plenty of shade. Water from the creek should be treated before use.

9.11 | Victory Trk camping area

(630 m 18 mins) Continue straight: From the clearing, the walk crosses the creek junction. The walk then leads up the hill away from the creek for a short time, before dropping to the creek again and crossing it at a junction. The walk leads up the valley, keeping the creek on the right, arriving at a 'Clarinda Falls' sign.

9.74 | Optional sidetrip to Clarinda Falls

(30 m 1 mins) Continue straight: From the intersection, the track follows the 'Clarinda Falls' sign towards the log fallen on the rock. The track tends left around the hillside, coming to Clarinda Falls. At the end of this side trip, retrace your steps back to the main walk then Turn right.

9.74 | Clarinda Falls

Clarinda Falls is a charming waterfall on Sassafras Creek. The water cascades over a near-vertical wall, into a sandy pool below. The falls are signposted from the main track and provide a nice cool detour, especially on warmer days. The falls are named for the first wife of Sir Henry Parkes, 'Father of Australian Federation'.

9.74 | Int. Victory Trk and Clarinda Falls

(1.3 km 38 mins) Turn left: From the intersection, the walk follows the 'Faulconbridge Station' sign up the hill. The walk steeply climbs up the hill and passes a smaller track (on the right, which leads to the top of the falls), and then crosses the creek and leads under a few rock overhangs. The walk comes up the hill beside No. 10 Sir Henrys Pde (marked with a 'Victory Track' sign).

11.06 | Victory Track

The Victory Track is more formally known as the 'Sir Henry Parkes Victory Track' and is called the 'Victoria Track' in many guide books. The track starts near Sir Henry Parkes' grave in Faulconbridge and leads to Sassafras Gully Creek. Sir Henry Parkes (1815-1896) was a politician and journalist, born in England. He is considered to be the 'Father of Federation' for Australia, although he died of natural causes 5 years before Australia's federation. Parkes was the premier of New South Wales five times. The town Parkes was named in his honour. Parkes would sometime write under the pseudonym 'Faulconbridge' (his mother's maiden name) for the Sydney Morning Herald and other papers and Faulconbridge (the township) was named after his mother when Parkes purchased 600 acres in 1877. [More info.](#)

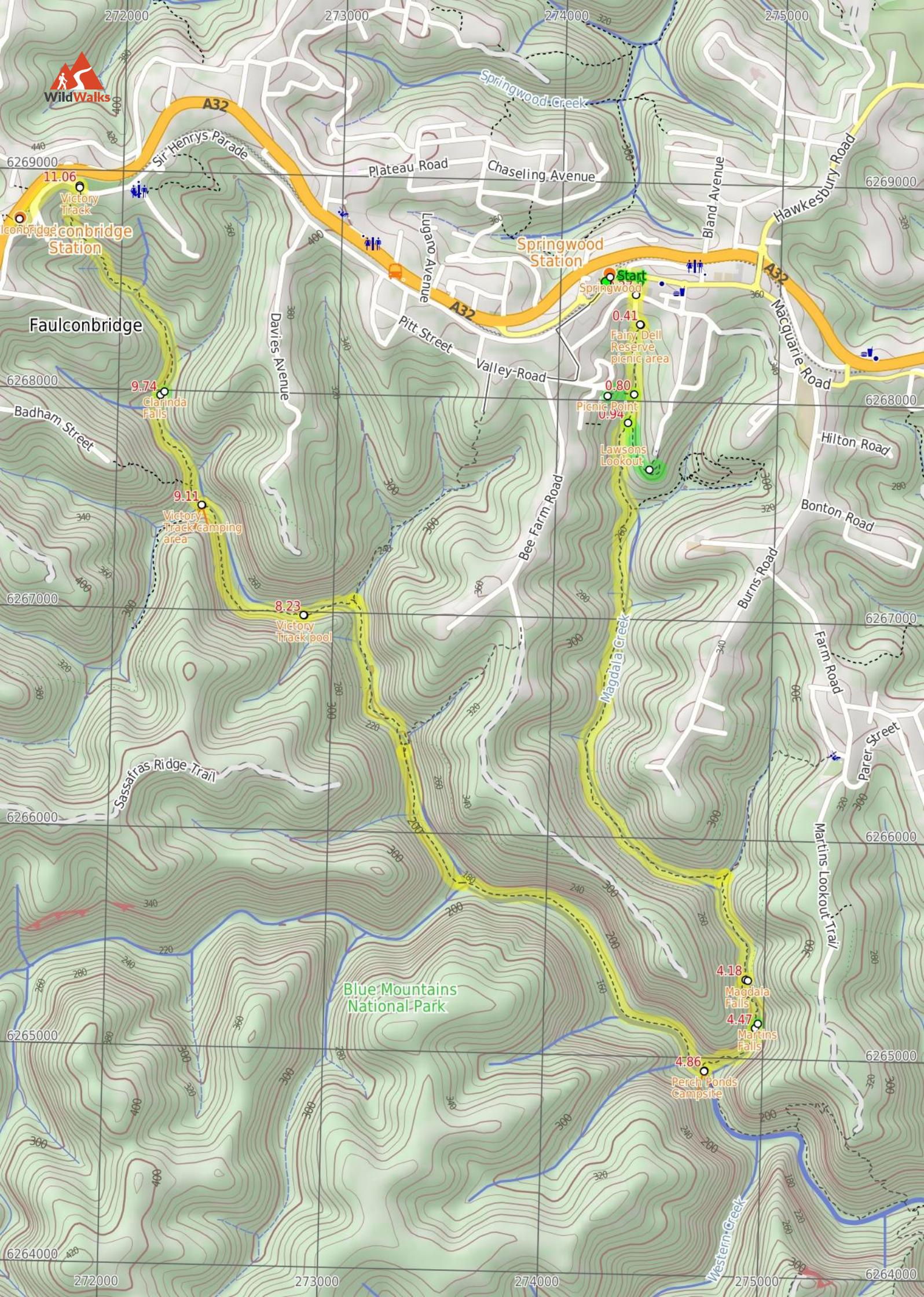
11.06 | No. 10 Sir Henrys Pde

(410 m 8 mins) Turn left: From the intersection, the walk heads towards the power pole (if you come to a rail line, you have taken the wrong road). The walk continues along the road, keeping the rail line above on the right for some time to where the road turns left. The walk then continues along the management trail, with Faulconbridge Station in sight. Soon, the walk arrives at the entry to train station.

11.47 | Faulconbridge

Faulconbridge, in the Blue Mountains, New South Wales, was named after the maiden name of Sir Henry Parkes' mother. Faulconbridge sits on the Great Western Highway and is surrounded by valleys of lush bushland. This picturesque town was a home, and final resting place, for Sir Henry Parkes, heralded as the 'Father of Federation'. Faulconbridge was originally explored by non-indigenous Australians in 1813, by Blaxland, Wentworth and Lawson who were searching for a route over the Blue Mountains.





Summary navigation sheet for the Springwood to Falconbridge



km	From	Up/Dwn	Length	Initial directions (Use full tracknotes and maps for more detail)
Start	Springwood Station -33.6991,150.5638 (GR Springwood, 742685)	4 -11	270 m 5 mins	From Springwood Station, the walk crosses the road at the pedestrian crossing and turns left.
0.27	Int. Springwood Ave and Fairy Dell Reserve -33.6996,150.5653 (GR Springwood, 743685)	0 -21	150 m 3 mins	Continue straight: From the 'Fairy Dell, 49 Springwood Ave' sign, the walk heads downhill into the reserve (along the smaller road), past the signs.
0.41	Fairy Dell Reserve picnic area -33.7009,150.5655 (GR Springwood, 744683)	5 -44	390 m 9 mins	Veer left: From the picnic area, the walk follows the 'Sassafras Gully' sign down the stairs.
0.80	Int. Fairy Dell and Picnic Point Tracks -33.7037,150.5652 (GR Springwood, 743680)	33 -2	160 m 6 mins	Optional sidetrip to Picnic Point. Turn right: From the intersection, the walk crosses the bridge, following the 'Picnic Point' signs.
0.80	Int. Fairy Dell and Picnic Point Tracks -33.7037,150.5652 (GR Springwood, 743680)	1 -13	140 m 3 mins	Continue straight: From the intersection at the bridge, the walk heads in the direction of the 'Perch Ponds' arrow, keeping the creek on the right of the track.
0.94	Int. Lawsons Lookout Trk and Fairy Dell Trk -33.7049,150.5649 (GR Springwood, 743679)	39 -11	410 m 11 mins	Optional sidetrip to Lawsons Lookout . Turn left: From the intersection, the walk follows the direction of the 'Lawsons Lookout' signs, up the hill.
0.94	Int. Lawsons Lookout Trk and Fairy Dell Trk -33.7049,150.5649 (GR Springwood, 743679)	92 -181	3.2 km 1 hr 7 mins	Continue straight: From the intersection, the walk follows the direction of the 'Perch Ponds' sign, keeping the creek on the right.
4.18	Int. Magdala Ck and Magdala Falls trks -33.7279,150.5706 (GR Springwood, 749654)	13 -25	300 m 7 mins	Continue straight: From the intersection, the walk keeps the creek on the left as it heads down the gully.
4.47	Int. Martins Falls and Magdala Ck trks -33.7299,150.5711 (GR Springwood, 750651)	1 -2	30 m 1 mins	Optional sidetrip to Behind Martins Falls. Turn left : From the intersection, the walk heads to the left of the 'Martins Falls' sign (towards the falls).
4.47	Int. Martins Falls and Magdala Ck trks -33.7299,150.5711 (GR Springwood, 750651)	14 -63	380 m 10 mins	Continue straight: From the 'Martins Falls' intersection, the track heads up a small hill, then downhill with the creek on the left.
4.86	Perch Ponds camping area -33.7317,150.5686 (GR Springwood, 747649)	165 -85	3.4 km 1 hr 11 mins	Turn right: From the intersection, the walk follows the 'Sassafras Gully Rd' sign, keeping the creek on the left.
8.23	Victory Trk pool -33.7129,150.549 (GR Springwood, 729670)	78 -61	880 m 24 mins	Continue straight: From the intersection, the walk heads up the hill, keeping the creek on the right.
9.11	Victory Trk camping area -33.7083,150.544 (GR Springwood, 724675)	72 -23	630 m 18 mins	Continue straight: From the clearing, the walk crosses the creek junction.
9.74	Int. Victory Trk and Clarinda Falls -33.7038,150.5419 (GR Springwood, 722680)	1 -4	30 m 1 mins	Optional sidetrip to Clarinda Falls. Continue straight: From the intersection, the track follows the 'Clarinda Falls' sign towards the log fallen on the rock.
9.74	Int. Victory Trk and Clarinda Falls -33.7038,150.5419 (GR Springwood, 722680)	173 -15	1.3 km 38 mins	Turn left: From the intersection, the walk follows the 'Falconbridge Station' sign up the hill.
11.06	No. 10 Sir Henrys Pde -33.6951,150.538 (GR Springwood, 718689)	16 -10	410 m 8 mins	Turn left: From the intersection, the walk heads towards the power pole (if you come to a rail line, you have taken the wrong road).