

## Strickland Tour



**3 hrs 30 mins**

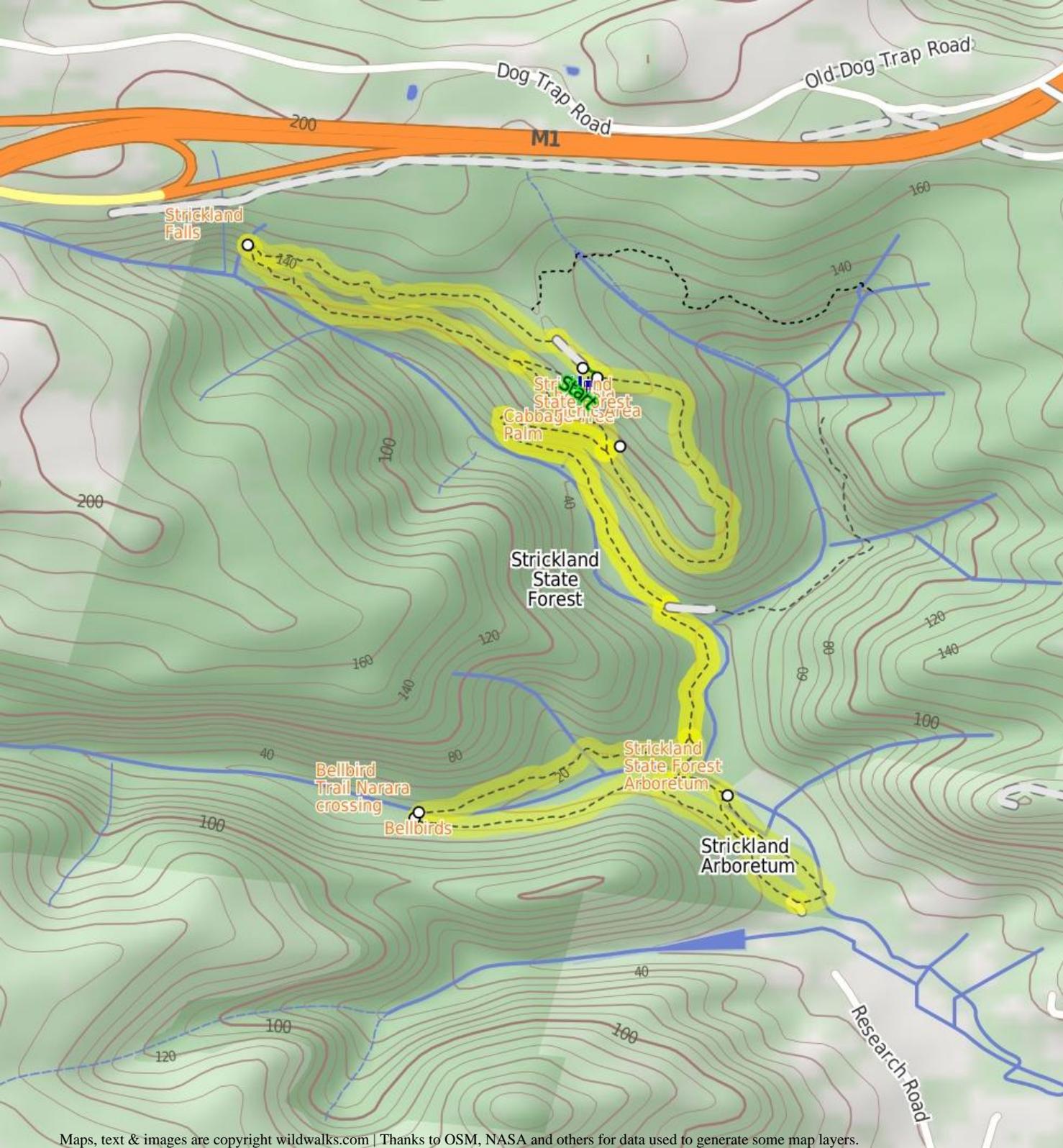
**Moderate track**

3

**8.1 km Circuit**

**402m**

A grand tour of the Strickland State Forest. This great walk covers most of the established walking tracks in Strickland and enjoys much of the excellent scenery available in the area. Plenty of time is spent in the lush green, rainforest-filled valleys, and there is some really nice boulder and cliff scenery along the way. A loop through the old arboretum adds further interest to the walk.



9m

Strickland State Forest

## Strickland State Forest

The Strickland State Forest, managed by State Forests of NSW, is located on the NSW Central Coast, close to the F3. The Strickland State Forest has a wide range of vegetation, including patches of rainforest along the sheltered creeks. The walking tracks take in some beautiful scenery, including a mixture of native forest and the remnants of an old arboretum. 'Strickland is no longer actively harvested and is managed for education and recreation purposes'. The 'Friends of Strickland' undertake projects including the construction of walking tracks. Note: Access into Strickland is during the daytime only with the entrance gate being unlocked between 7am and 5pm (Apr - Oct) and between 7am and 7pm (Nov - Mar) [More info.](#)

## Banksia Picnic Area

This picnic area is in the Strickland State Forest, on the NSW Central Coast. The facilities include picnic tables, pit toilets, BBQ fire places, garbage bins and tank water. A few bush walking tracks start from the picnic area.

## Cabbage-Tree Palm

The Cabbage-Tree Palm (*Livistona australis*) is a tall, slender palm growing up to about 25 m in height and 0.35 m diameter. It is found in moist open forest, often in swampy sites and on margins of rainforests or near the sea. It is widely spread along the New South Wales coast and extends north into Queensland and southwards to eastern Victoria, growing further south than any other native Australian palm. [More info.](#)

## Strickland State Forest Arboretum

This arboretum is apparently one of the oldest in Australia, with plantings dating from 1887-1924. Numerous signs have been placed along the walking tracks to identify some of the species of trees. There are very tall, and impressive, examples of Hoop Pine, Bunya Pine, Tallow Wood and Red Cedar. [More info.](#)

## Bellbirds

The Bellbird (more properly known as the Bell Miner) is a member of the Honeyeater family. These birds live and breed in large colonies, aggressively defending their territory. More often heard than seen, their call is described as a "Sweet, musical, bell-like 'tink'". They are 'mostly olive-green, with a short, down-curved, bright yellow bill, a red-orange bare eye patch and orange-yellow feet and legs'. [More info.](#)

## 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 Hunter District](#))
- 2) Fire Dangers ([Greater Sydney Region](#))
- 3) Park Alerts ()
- 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:**91312S GOSFORD, 91312N WYONG

**1:100 000 Map Series:**9131 GOSFORD

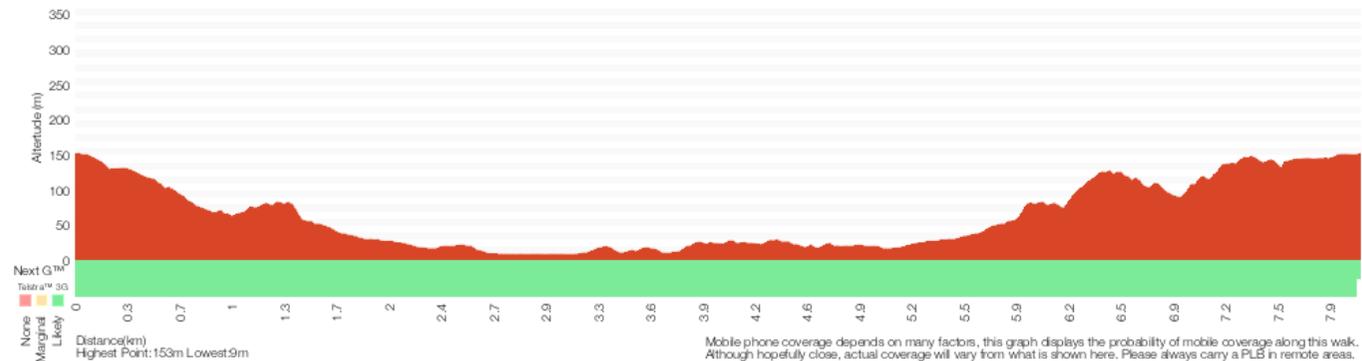
## Grade

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 3/6  
Moderate track

<b>Length</b>	8.1 km Circuit
<b>Time</b>	3 hrs 30 mins
<b>Quality of track</b>	Formed track, with some branches and other obstacles (3/6)
<b>Signs</b>	Directional signs along the way (3/6)
<b>Experience Required</b>	Some bushwalking experience recommended (3/6)
<b>Weather</b>	Storms may impact on navigation and safety (3/6)
<b>Infrastructure</b>	Limited facilities, not all cliffs are fenced (3/6)



Mobile phone coverage depends on many factors, this graph displays the probability of mobile coverage along this walk. Although hopefully close, actual coverage will vary from what is shown here. Please always carry a PLB in remote areas.

### 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** Traveling by car is the only practical way to get to Banksia car park (gps: -33.3733, 151.3225). Car: There is free parking available.

This is a circuit, so you will finish back at the start.

Find up to date and more information including; travel directions, weather, park closures and walker feedback at <http://wild.tl/29>

### 0 | Strickland State Forest

The Strickland State Forest, managed by State Forests of NSW, is located on the NSW Central Coast, close to the F3. The Strickland State Forest has a wide range of vegetation, including patches of rainforest along the sheltered creeks. The walking tracks take in some beautiful scenery, including a mixture of native forest and the remnants of an old arboretum. 'Strickland is no longer actively harvested and is managed for education and recreation purposes'. The 'Friends of Strickland' undertake projects including the construction of walking tracks. Note: Access into Strickland is during the daytime only with the entrance gate being unlocked between 7am and 5pm (Apr - Oct) and between 7am and 7pm (Nov - Mar) [More info.](#)

### 0 | Banksia car park

(50 m 1 mins) From the car park (near the end of Strickland Rd in the Strickland State Forest), this walk passes around the gate and goes across the picnic area to the track intersection at the opposite end. There is a track signpost ('Strickland Falls Loop Trail') a little to the left.

### 0.05 | Banksia Picnic Area

This picnic area is in the Strickland State Forest, on the NSW Central Coast. The facilities include picnic tables, pit toilets, BBQ fire places, garbage bins and tank water. A few bush walking tracks start from the picnic area.

### 0.05 | Banksia picnic area

(1.1 km 25 mins) Veer left: From the intersection, the walk follows the 'Cabbage Tree Walk Trail' arrow along the bush track, leaving the 'Gosford Lookout' sign behind, to the right. The walk initially passes through relatively dry forest, with signs naming some of the trees, before descending through moist forest, filled with cabbage palms. After a while the track reaches the intersection signposted 'Stoney Creek Trail'.

### 1.17 | Cabbage-Tree Palm

The Cabbage-Tree Palm (*Livistona australis*) is a tall, slender palm growing up to about 25 m in height and 0.35 m diameter. It is found in moist open forest, often in swampy sites and on margins of rainforests or near the sea. It is widely spread along the New South Wales coast and extends north into Queensland and southwards to eastern Victoria, growing further south than any other native Australian palm. [More info.](#)

### 1.17 | Int of Cabbage Tree and Stoney Creek trails

(920 m 20 mins) Veer left: From the intersection, the walk follows the 'Stoney Creek Trail' arrow along the bush track, going down the hill. The track descends gently through forest filled with ferns and cabbage palms, before passing a 'Rainforests and Preservation' information sign, and arriving at an intersection with a management trail, beside Stoney Creek.

### 2.09 | Int of Stoney Creek and Bellbird trails

(450 m 8 mins) Turn right: From the intersection, the walk crosses the creek and follows the 'Arboretum Loop Trail' arrow along the old management trail. The trail meanders through shaded forest, filled with cabbage palms, for some time before reaching a signposted intersection with a bush track.

### 2.54 | Arboretum junction

(230 m 4 mins) Continue straight: From the intersection, the walk follows the 'Arboretum Trail' arrow down the timber steps and along the overgrown management trail. After a short distance, the walk crosses a suspension bridge over Narara Creek, bends to the left and almost immediately reaches an unmarked intersection with a narrow bush track, to the right.

Continue straight: From the intersection, the walk follows the old management trail away from the suspension bridge. The walk soon arrives at the intersection signposted 'Arboretum Loop Trail'.

### 2.77 | Strickland State Forest Arboretum

This arboretum is apparently one of the oldest in Australia, with plantings dating from 1887-1924. Numerous signs have been placed along the walking tracks to identify some of the species of trees. There are very tall, and impressive, examples of Hoop Pine, Bunya Pine, Tallow Wood and Red Cedar. [More info.](#)

### 2.77 | North int of Arboretum Loop and Bellbird trail

(430 m 7 mins) Veer left: From the intersection, this walk follows the 'Arboretum Loop Trail' arrow along the bush track, away from the old management trail. The walk passes through moist forest, filled with cabbage palms, with the creek visible to the left. The walk crosses over a number of fallen tree trunks with steps cut into them. There are small signs in places identifying some of the trees. After a while the walk passes a track marker arrow, where a large fallen tree trunk spans the creek, to the left. The walk then passes a 'Forest Arboretum' information board and continues, passing a metal box on a post (marked 'Water Research'), and following several track arrows to reach an intersection with a management trail (with a gate visible to the left). There is a grove of tall 'Bunya Pine' trees beside this intersection.

### 3.2 | Bunya pine grove

(1 km 21 mins) Veer right: From the intersection, the walk follows the old management trail away from the nearby gate, going gently up the hill. After a short distance the walk arrives at an intersection with a bush track, signposted 'Bellbird Trail'.

Turn left: From the intersection, the walk follows the 'Bellbird Trail' arrow along the bush track, going up the hill. There are some track markers on short brown posts in this area, although they are often obscured in the undergrowth. The narrow, and sometimes faint, bush track goes through vine filled forest for a short distance to a 'T' intersection marked with a number of arrows.

Turn left: From the intersection, the walk follows the bush track, in the opposite direction to the arrow on the tree, following the short brown arrow post. The walk follows the narrow bush track for some time through beautiful forest, filled with cabbage palms, ferns and vines. Narara Creek is often visible just to the right. After a while, the walk arrives at some concreted steps just before crossing Narara Creek.

### 4.19 | Bellbirds

The Bellbird (more properly known as the Bell Miner) is a member of the Honeyeater family. These birds live and breed in large colonies, aggressively defending their territory. More often heard than seen, their call is described as a "Sweet, musical, bell-like 'tink'". They are mostly olive-green, with a short, down-curved, bright yellow bill, a red-orange bare eye patch and orange-yellow feet and legs'. [More info.](#)

### 4.19 | Bellbird Trail Narara crossing

This picturesque crossing of Narara Creek is on the 'Bellbird Trail' in the Strickland State Forest. It is a great spot to break for a rest, or lunch, on your walk. There are no facilities, however, there are some steps and rocks to sit on while you soak up the scenery.

### 4.19 | Bellbird Narara crossing

(2.3 km 52 mins) Continue straight: From the concreted steps, the walk crosses Narara Creek and follows the bush track, which immediately bends to the right, following the creek downstream. The walk passes signs naming some of the trees and meanders through the beautiful forest for some time before reaching an intersection signposted 'Return To Carpark'.

Turn left: From the intersection, the walk follows the 'Return To Carpark' arrow along the old management trail, going up the hill. The trail meanders through shaded forest, filled with cabbage palms, for some time before crossing Stoney Creek to an intersection signposted 'Stoney Creek Walk Trail'.

Turn left: From the intersection, the walk follows the 'Stoney Creek Walk Trail' arrow along the bush track, keeping the creek to the left. The walk passes a 'Rainforests and Preservation' information sign, then gently climbs through forest filled with ferns and cabbage palms for some time before reaching the intersection, signposted 'Stoney Creek Trail'.

Turn left: From the intersection, the walk follows the 'Cabbage Tree Trail' arrow along the bush track, going up the hill. This section of the walk passes through forest filled with cabbage palms and ferns. The walk also passes some interesting boulders, before reaching an intersection, signposted 'Strickland Falls Trail'.

### 6.53 | Int of Cabbage Tree and Strickland Falls trails

(700 m 22 mins) Veer left: From the intersection, this walk follows the 'Strickland Falls Trail' arrow along the bush track, keeping the valley to the left. The track meanders through some beautiful scenery with ferns, cabbage palms and boulders. A cliff line is often visible through the trees to the right. After a while, the walk crosses a gully below some imposing cliffs and continues further before reaching the signposted 'Strickland Falls'.

### 7.23 | Strickland Falls

Strickland Falls are a short walk from the Banksia Picnic Area in the Strickland State Forest, Central Coast, NSW. The falls are often just a trickle, but will be more impressive after good rain. The scenery around the falls is still beautiful with moist rainforest scenery to enjoy.

### 7.23 | Strickland Falls

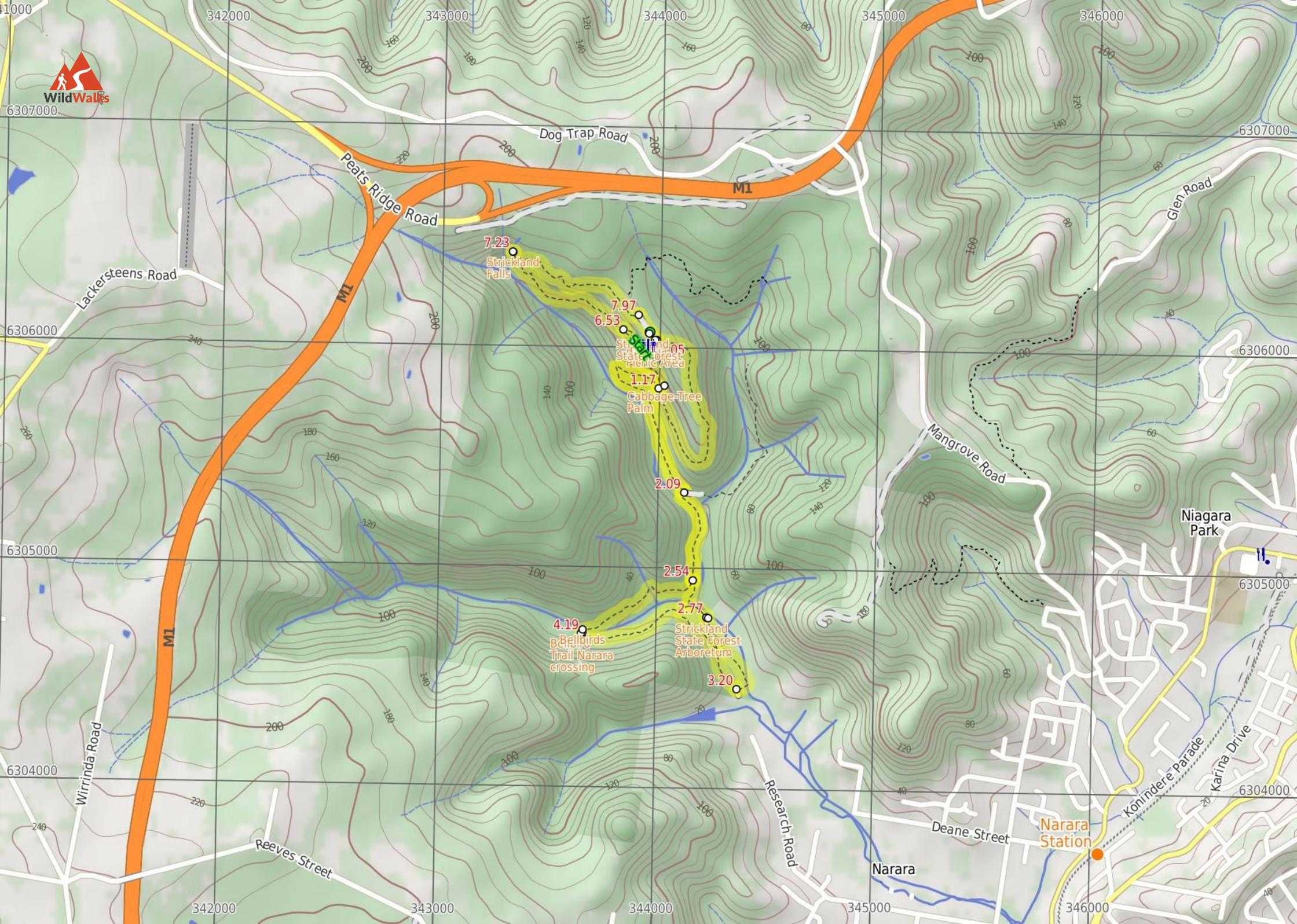
(740 m 18 mins) Turn sharp right: From the intersection, this walk follows the 'Banksia Picnic Area' arrow along the bush track, going up the steps. The walk climbs up through a series of boulders, with some nice overhangs along the way. The vegetation becomes much drier as the walk climbs out of the valley. After a while the track comes to an intersection with the road, signposted 'Strickland Falls'.

### 7.97 | Int of Strickland Falls trail and Strickland Rd

(90 m 2 mins) Turn right: From the intersection, the walk follows the road to the gate in the car park, just before the picnic area.



Wild Walks



## Summary navigation sheet for the Strickland Tour



km	From	Up/Dwn	Length	Initial directions (Use full tracknotes and maps for more detail)
0.00	Banksia car park -33.3733,151.3225 (GR Wyong, 440061)	0 -2	50 m 1 mins	From the car park (near the end of Strickland Rd in the Strickland State Forest), this walk passes around the gate and goes across the picnic area to the track intersection at the opposite end.
0.05	Banksia picnic area -33.3736,151.3229 (GR Wyong, 440060)	31 -106	1.1 km 25 mins	Veer left: From the intersection, the walk follows the 'Cabbage Tree Walk Trail' arrow along the bush track, leaving the 'Gosford Lookout' sign behind, to the right.
1.17	Int of Cabbage Tree and Stoney Creek trails -33.3756,151.323 (GR Gosford, 440058)	23 -73	920 m 20 mins	Veer left: From the intersection, the walk follows the 'Stoney Creek Trail' arrow along the bush track, going down the hill.
2.09	Int of Stoney Creek and Bellbird trails -33.3799,151.3242 (GR Gosford, 441053)	6 -10	450 m 8 mins	Turn right: From the intersection, the walk crosses the creek and follows the 'Arboretum Loop Trail' arrow along the old management trail.
2.54	Arboretum junction -33.3835,151.3246 (GR Gosford, 442049)	0 -11	230 m 4 mins	Continue straight: From the intersection, the walk follows the 'Arboretum Trail' arrow down the timber steps and along the overgrown management trail.
2.77	North int of Arboretum Loop and Bellbird trail -33.385,151.3253 (GR Gosford, 442048)	3 -2	430 m 7 mins	Veer left: From the intersection, this walk follows the 'Arboretum Loop Trail' arrow along the bush track, away from the old management trail.
3.20	Bunya pine grove -33.3879,151.3268 (GR Gosford, 444045)	44 -30	1 km 21 mins	Veer right: From the intersection, the walk follows the old management trail away from the nearby gate, going gently up the hill.
4.19	Bellbird Narara crossing -33.3857,151.3192 (GR Gosford, 437047)	162 -62	2.3 km 52 mins	Continue straight: From the concreted steps, the walk crosses Narara Creek and follows the bush track, which immediately bends to the right, following the creek downstream.
6.53	Int of Cabbage Tree and Strickland Falls trails -33.3732,151.3212 (GR Wyong, 438061)	82 -70	700 m 22 mins	Veer left: From the intersection, this walk follows the 'Strickland Falls Trail' arrow along the bush track, keeping the valley to the left.
7.23	Strickland Falls -33.37,151.3158 (GR Wyong, 433064)	49 -35	740 m 18 mins	Turn sharp right: From the intersection, this walk follows the 'Banksia Picnic Area' arrow along the bush track, going up the steps.
7.97	Int of Strickland Falls trail and Strickland Rd -33.3726,151.322 (GR Wyong, 439061)	2 -1	90 m 2 mins	Turn right: From the intersection, the walk follows the road to the gate in the car park , just before the picnic area.