

Maps, text & images are copyright wildwalks.com | Thanks to OSM, NASA and others for data used to generate some map layers.

Brisbane Water National Park

# 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** Traveling by car is the only practical way to get to Warrah car park (gps: -33.55, 151.288). Car: There is free parking available.

You can get back from Pearl Beach (Amethyst Ave access) (gps: -33.5444, 151.3071) 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/wttpb">http://wild.tl/wttpb</a>

#### 0 | Warrah car park

(30 m 1 mins) From Warrah car park, this walk follows the 'Tony Doyle Track' sign up the steps and sandstone footpath. The path winds a short distance up to a rock platform with the old Warrah Trig station, and offering filtered distant views.

#### 0.03 | Warrah Trig Station

Warrah Trig Station is part of a national geodetic survey established during the 1970's. The 'Triangulation station' (aka trigonometrical or trig station) is a distinct marker once clear of trees, and would have been visible for many kilometers in the area. There are many such trig stations around Australia, which were used to help in surveying. Each station has a know position and altitude, which allows surveyors to use triangulation and determine another point's location. With advances in technology, these trig stations have been abandoned and superseded. The trig station is now surrounded by trees, with some filtered views along the Hawkesbury River. The area is rich with wildflowers in spring.

#### 0.03 | Warrah Trig Station

(310 m 7 mins) Continue straight: From the trig station, this walk heads toward the water view, down the timber staircase. At the bottom of the timber stairs, the walk follows the sandstone footpath (and another set of timber stairs) and stone steps, winding down the hill. The footpath passes over and between a few rock platforms on the way. The path leads to a signposted intersection with the Pearl Beach / Patonga fire trail and a sign pointing back up to 'Warrah Car Park'.

# 0.34 | Optional sidetrip to Warrah Lookout

(70 m 2 mins) Continue straight: From the intersection, this walk heads between the timber posts and follows the 'Warrah Lookout' sign along the sandstone footpath. The path leads through the bush

for a short distance, coming to the fenced Warrah Lookout. (Beware of informal side tracks that lead to unfenced sections of cliff.) At the end of this side trip, retrace your steps back to the main walk then Turn right.

# 0.34 | Warrah Lookout

Warrah Lookout is a mostly fenced lookout on a large sandstone platform. The lookout provides fantastic views across the Hawkesbury River. From left to right, you can see along the escarpment which forms the southern boundary of Brisbane Water National Park, out to the Pacific Ocean, Barrenjoey Headland, West Head, along Cowan Creek, Juno Point and along the escarpment to Patonga. This is a great place to spend some time soaking up the views.

## 0.34 | Warrah Lookout intersection

(1.2 km 23 mins) Turn left: From the intersection, this walk follows the 'Pearl Beach' sign downhill along the management trail. The trail leads down the hill and bends right soon after some filtered water views over Pearl Beach. The trail then start to bend around the side of a steep gully and, about 70m after passing between two large rocks, the trail rounds a left-hand bend, just below a long cliff face with several sandstone caves.

## 1.5 | Pearl Caves

Pearl Caves is an informal name for a couple of caves found on the Pearl Beach / Patonga fire trail. The two large overhangs are found near the base of a cliff. The caves look north and have outwardsloping floors. One cave has a few small columns and stalagmite/stalactite decorations growing at the back. To protect the caves (and yourself), the caves are best viewed from a distance.

# 1.5 | Pearl Caves

(460 m 10 mins) Continue straight: From the caves, this walk heads downhill along the management trail, keeping the steep valley to the left. There is a distinct change in vegetation as the trail winds down the hill. About 100m after seeing the house, the trail leads around a locked gate and a 'Pearl Beach / Patonga fire trail' sign onto Crystal St (about 60m up from the end of the sealed section of road).

## 1.96 | Lower end of Pearl Beach / Patonga fire trail

(730 m 12 mins) Turn right: From the intersection, this walk heads east along the dirt Crystal Ave, keeping the downhill slope (valley) on the left. After about 40m, the road becomes sealed and the walk continues past the houses, turning left onto Diamond Rd. The walk then crosses Green Point Creek on a bridge (with a detailed risk warning sign) and after a further 120m, the walk turns right to follow Tournaline Ave. Soon, the walk comes to some shops, turning left onto Pearl Parade, coming to the front of the cafe.

#### 2.68 | Pearl Beach General Store and Cafe

The Pearl Beach General Store and Cafe (ph 02 4343 1222) is found at 1 Pearl Pde, Pearl Beach, and is open 7 days. The cafe provides breakfast, lunch and dinners for about \$20 a meal. The general store provides cheaper take-away meals and general supplies (including ice-creams). Across the road is Pearl Beach and some children's play equipment. Alternatively for a more refined dining experience, 'Pearls on the Beach' is found on the other side of the road, open Thursday to Sundays for lunch and dinner (ph 02 4342 4400). More info.

### 2.68 | Pearl Beach Cafe

(120 m 2 mins) Continue straight: From the cafe, this walk follows Pearl Pde, keeping the water to the right. The footpath leads past a bus stop, crossing the road and heading past the play equipment. The walk comes to a toilet block and wide entrance to Pearl Beach, almost opposite Amethyst Ave.

## 2.8 | Pearl Beach

Pearl Beach is a 1.2km long crescent-shaped, yellow sand beach. The beach has rocky points at either end - the southern end is home to an ocean pool and the northern end has the old Pearl Beach Road carved through the rock (no longer in use for cars). The beach has many access points and is popular for sunbathers, picnickers, and swimmers, although there is no surf life saver presence. The south-east facing beach is lined with houses in the northern section, and shade-providing trees in the south.