

## Cherrybrook to Refuge Rock



1 hr 45 mins

Moderate track

3

4.1 km One way

147m

A nice walk around the fringes of Cherrybrook plus the interesting and atmospheric Refuge Rock. The optional sidetrip to the natural rock arch adds some beautiful scenery to the walk. The walk passes through an interesting mixture of moist creek side scenery and drier forest before reaching Refuge Rock with its nice views. The extensive rock platforms at Refuge Rock are interesting to explore, or a nice place just to relax.

123m

186m

Berowra Valley National Park



## Cherrybrook Village shopping centre

The Cherrybrook Village shopping centre is located at 41/47 Shepherds Drive, Cherrybrook. There are a number of local cafes and eateries here, plus some franchises such as Subway and Gloria Jeans, making a great stop for walkers. There is also a Woolworths supermarket. The centre is open 9:00-5:30 Mon-Wed & Fri, 9:00-9:00 Thu, 9:00-5:00 Sat and 10:00-4:00 Sun. Some of the cafes and eateries open directly outside so they may be open longer hours. [More info.](#)

## The Lakes Of Cherrybrook

The Lakes Of Cherrybrook is a park at the intersection of Shepherds Dr and Macquarie Dr, Cherrybrook. The lakes featured in the park were formed when the local creek was dammed for the benefit of farmers. The park has a free electric BBQ, sheltered picnic tables, taps and bubblers as well as a playground for the kids. There is a large shopping centre nearby. There are several signposted buswalks in the area, including the 5.1km 'Callicoma Walk' loop track.

## Refuge Rock

Refuge Rock is a large area of rock outcrops and platforms, at the end of the Refuge Rock walk near Cherrybrook. This area has a great atmosphere and is a nice spot to explore or relax, close to the suburbs, but feeling a million miles from it. The various rock platforms extend for hundreds of metres in all directions. At the far south-east edge of Refuge Rock is a natural arch, know as 'London Bridge'. Refuge Rock was used as a target area during military training around WWII. There are a number of visible marks in the rock surface from mortar shells. [More info.](#)

## Natural Arch

This natural arch, known locally as 'London Bridge' is at the south-eastern edge of Refuge Rock, near Cherrybrook. The arch is formed below a long, narrow block of rock at the edge of a larger rock platform. To see the arch, you walk down through the narrow chasms separating the block from the rock platform, to emerge underneath the arch. The arch itself, and the area around it is beautiful. [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 Metropolitan District](#))
- 2) Fire Dangers ([Greater Sydney Region](#))
- 3) Park Alerts ([Berowra Valley 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:

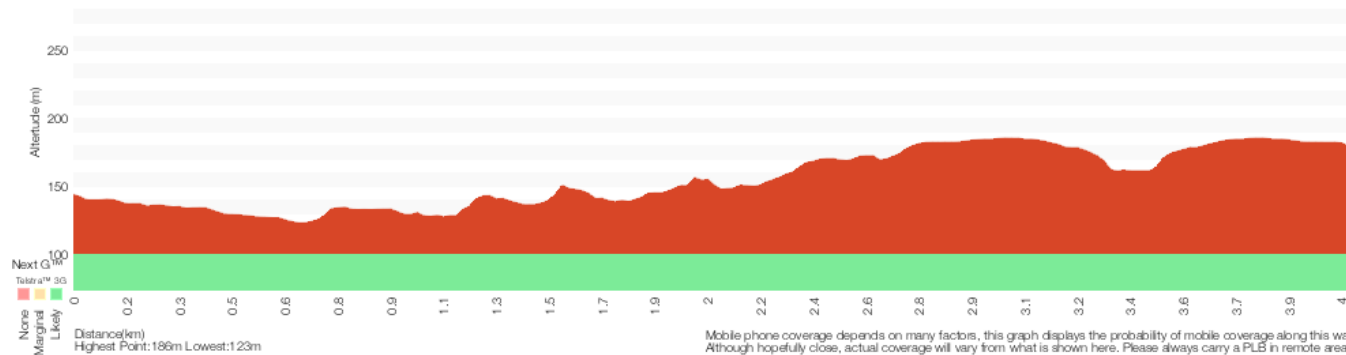
- T** Take adequate supplies of food, water, navigation and first aid equipment.
- R** Register your planned route and tell friends and family when you expect to return.
- E** Emergency beacon (PLB's) should be carried on walks with significant gaps in mobile coverage (check terrain profile).
- K** Keep 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:**91304S HORNSBY

**1:100 000 Map Series:**9130 SYDNEY



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.

## 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>	4.1 km One way
<b>Time</b>	1 hr 45 mins
<b>Quality of track</b>	Clear and well formed track or trail (2/6)
<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)

### 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 Top of The Lakes Of Cherrybrook park (gps: -33.7217, 151.0442) by car or bus. Car: There is free parking available.

You can get back from End of Trevors Ln (gps: -33.7083, 151.0577) 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/crrttl>

### 0 | Cherrybrook Village shopping centre

The Cherrybrook Village shopping centre is located at 41/47 Shepherds Drive, Cherrybrook. There are a number of local cafes and eateries here, plus some franchises such as Subway and Gloria Jeans, making a great stop for walkers. There is also a Woolworths supermarket. The centre is open 9:00-5:30 Mon-Wed & Fri, 9:00-9:00 Thu, 9:00-5:00 Sat and 10:00-4:00 Sun. Some of the cafes and eateries open directly outside so they may be open longer hours. [More info.](#)

### 0 | Top of The Lakes Of Cherrybrook park

*(50 m 1 mins)* From below 50 Shepherds Drive, opposite the shopping centre, the walk follows the concrete footpath into 'The Lakes Of Cherrybrook' park, keeping the playground to the right. The footpath comes to the signpost for 'Callicoma Walk' just before the unfenced lakes.

### 0.05 | The Lakes Of Cherrybrook

The Lakes Of Cherrybrook is a park at the intersection of Shepherds Dr and Macquarie Dr, Cherrybrook. The lakes featured in the park were formed when the local creek was dammed for the benefit of farmers. The park has a free electric BBQ, sheltered picnic tables, taps and bubblers as well as a playground for the kids. There is a large shopping centre nearby. There are several signposted buswalks in the area, including the 5.1km 'Callicoma Walk' loop track.

### 0.05 | Lakes trackhead

*(120 m 2 mins)* Veer left: From the 'Callicoma Walk' signpost, the walk follows the 'Sydney Cove' arrow along the concrete footpath, keeping the lakes on the right. The walk passes a free BBQ and picnic shelters on the left, and a couple of viewing platforms on the right before coming to an intersection just before the road and beside a low handmade stone wall.

### 0.17 | Int at stone wall

*(180 m 3 mins)* Turn right: From behind the low stone wall, the track follows the concrete footpath down the hill through the graffiti-covered tunnel, emerging in a clearing behind the 'Cherrybrook Girl Guides' building.

Veer right: From the clearing, the walk follows the bush track, initially keeping the Girl Guides hall on the left. The track passes a shortcut track on the right before coming to a 'T' intersection with a management trail marked with track arrows.

### 0.35 | Int. of Blackwattle Trail and Callicoma Walk

*(1.5 km 31 mins)* Veer right: From the intersection, the walk follows the management trail down the hill, keeping the houses to the left, arriving at the signposted intersection at the top of the stairs (with a track on the right).

Continue straight: From the intersection at the top of the steps, the walk follows the management trail, keeping the houses to the left, and soon comes to the intersection just before the gate at the end of Blackwattle Place.

Continue straight: From the intersection behind the gate at the end of Blackwattle Place, the walk follows the management trail steeply downhill to cross the concrete causeway. The track then meanders along before coming to the intersection with another management trail (which goes steeply down the hill on the right).

Continue straight: From the intersection, the walk follows the management trail, keeping the creek on the right, and soon bends to the right. The walk gently meanders along the management trail above the forested creek on the right, with only occasional glimpses of the houses up to the left. On a curve to the left, the walk comes to an intersection with another management trail (initially overgrown) going up the hill on the left, and a faint bush track going gently down the hill to the right.

Continue straight: From the intersection, the walk follows the management trail along the flat section, initially keeping the steep uphill management trail to the left, and soon crosses a concrete causeway. The walk meanders for a while before passing a gate and coming out opposite 21 Daphne Place.

### 1.89 | Opposite 21 Daphne Place

*(70 m 2 mins)* Turn right: From opposite 21 Daphne Place, the walk follows the road, keeping the houses to the left, for a short distance to the very end of Daphne Place.

### 1.97 | End of Daphne Place

*(520 m 12 mins)* Veer right: From the very end of Daphne Place, the walk follows the bush track from the grassy nature strip, keeping all the houses (and the 'Tuscan Way' signpost) to the left, and immediately bends to the right and passes a signposted gate above a drainage culvert. The walk follows an arc to the left for some distance before going gently uphill, then bending to the right behind the houses, keeping the houses on the left. The track then becomes asphalted and goes more steeply up the hill, bending to the right before passing a gate and coming out opposite 5 Patricia Place.

### 2.48 | Opposite 5 Patricia Place

*(110 m 2 mins)* Turn right: From the intersection (opposite 5 Patricia Pl, Cherrybrook), the walk follows Patricia Pl down the hill. The walk soon passes the intersection with Philip Pl and climbs a little to reach the intersection with a management trail, to the right, beside 6 Patricia Pl. The intersection is signposted 'Berowra Valley Regional Park'.

### 2.59 | Beside 6 Patricia Pl

*(810 m 16 mins)* Turn right: From the intersection (beside 6 Patricia Pl, Cherrybrook), the walk passes around a gate and follows the management trail down the hill. The trail bends around to the left, behind a row of houses and soon reaches an intersection with another management trail.

Turn right: From the intersection, the walk follows the management trail, directly away from the houses. After a short distance, the trail reaches an intersection with another management trail, signposted '92A/92B ...'.

Veer left: From the intersection, the walk follows the 'ST22/23' arrow, going gently up the hill, along the management trail. After a very short distance, the trail passes under some high voltage powerlines and immediately reaches an intersection with a bush track, to the right, and management trail, to the left.

Continue straight: From the intersection, the walk follows the management trail away from the high voltage powerlines, leaving the visible tower to the left. The trail descends gently, through pleasant forest (ignoring an unmarked bush track to the right) and reaches an intersection with another management trail, signposted '92A 92B/16'.

Veer right: From the intersection, the walk follows the level management trail, leaving the '92A 92B/16' signpost behind on the left. After a short

distance, the trail passes a clearing, to the left, and descends for a while before arriving at a large, flat rock outcrop, the western edge of 'Refuge Rock'.

### 3.4 | Refuge Rock

Refuge Rock is a large area of rock outcrops and platforms, at the end of the Refuge Rock walk near Cherrybrook. This area has a great atmosphere and is a nice spot to explore or relax, close to the suburbs, but feeling a million miles from it. The various rock platforms extend for hundreds of metres in all directions. At the far south-east edge of Refuge Rock is a natural arch, known as 'London Bridge'. Refuge Rock was used as a target area during military training around WWII. There are a number of visible marks in the rock surface from mortar shells. [More info.](#)

### 3.4 | Optional sidetrip to Natural Arch

*(300 m 6 mins)* Turn right: From the western edge of Refuge Rock (where the management trail arrives), the walk heads south, across the rock outcrop toward a well defined bush track. Some parts of this section are a little difficult to follow as the track becomes faint in places. The walk then follows the bush track as it crosses another large rock outcrop (becoming faint at times) and bends to the left just before the end of the outcrop. The track is more distinct again here as it winds down through a gully, ignoring a bush track to the right, to climb over a rounded ridge of rock. The track continues a little further before reaching an intersection at the top of a small cliff line.

Veer left: From the intersection, the walk drops into the first of two very prominent slots in the rock platform to the north-east (beside a banksia tree). The walk follows this slot to the edge of the rock platform then bends around to the right to enter the next slot (closer to the cliff line). The walk drops through this very narrow slot to emerge at the base of the very cool natural arch. At the end of this side trip, retrace your steps back to the main walk then Turn left.

### 3.4 | Natural Arch

This natural arch, known locally as 'London Bridge' is at the south-eastern edge of Refuge Rock, near Cherrybrook. The arch is formed below a long, narrow block of rock at the edge of a larger rock platform. To see the arch, you walk down through the narrow chasms separating the block from the rock platform, to emerge underneath the arch. The arch itself, and the area around it is beautiful. [More info.](#)

### 3.4 | Refuge Rock

*(690 m 13 mins)* Turn around: From the western edge of 'Refuge Rock', the walk follows the management trail up the hill, away from the rock outcrop. The trail climbs for a while, through nice forest before passing a small clearing, to the right, and levelling out. A short distance later, the trail reaches an intersection with another management trail, signposted '92A 92B/16'.

Veer left: From the intersection, the walk follows the management trail up the hill and immediately bends to the right. The trail climbs gently for a while (ignore the bush track to the left), through pleasant forest, and flattens out before reaching an intersection with a bush track, to the left, and management trail, to the right, immediately before the high voltage powerlines.

Continue straight: From the intersection, the walk follows the management trail, immediately passing under the high voltage powerlines, leaving the visible tower to the right. After a short distance, the trail reaches an intersection with another management trail, signposted '92A/92B ...'.

Veer right: From the intersection, the walk follows the (unsignposted) management trail down the hill and immediately bends to the left. After a short distance, the trail arrives at an intersection with another management trail, at the back of a row of houses.

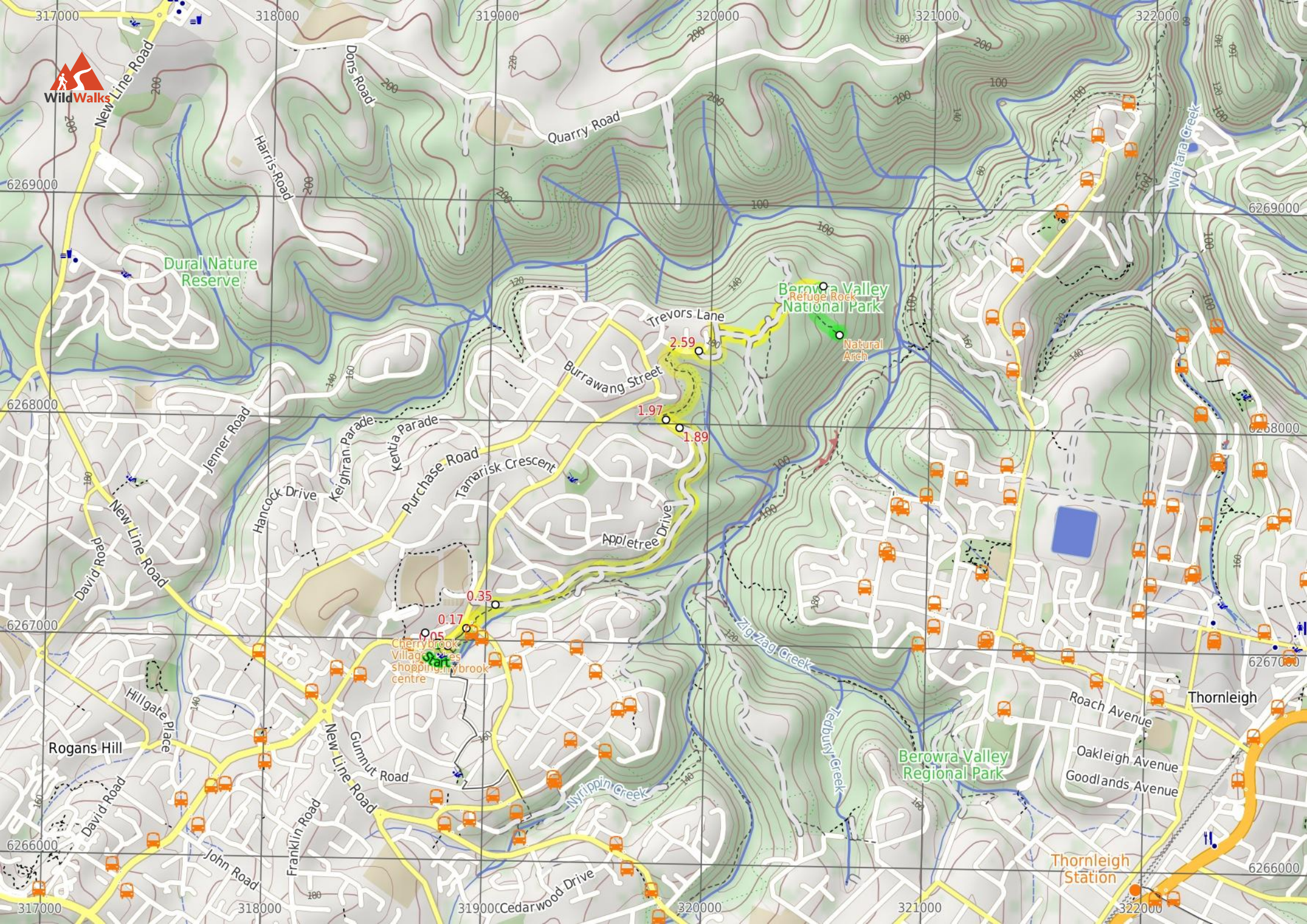
Turn right: From the intersection, the walk follows the management trail, keeping the houses to the left. The walk almost immediately, passes around a



gate and then arrives at the end of Trevors Ln, Cherrybrook.







WildWalks

Dural Nature Reserve

Berowra Valley National Park

Natural Arch

Cherrybrook Village Shopping Centre

Berowra Valley Regional Park

Thornleigh Station

317000

318000

319000

320000

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322000

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6268000

6267000

6266000

317000

318000

319000

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6269000

New Line Road

Duons Road

Quarry Road

Harris Road

Jenner Road

Hancock Drive

Keighran Parade

Kentia Parade

Purchase Road

Tamarisk Crescent

Appletree Drive

Burrawang Street

Trevors Lane

Hillgate Place

Rogans Hill

David Road

Franklin Road

New Line Road

Gumnut Road

Cedarwood Drive

Nyripping Creek

Zig Zag Creek

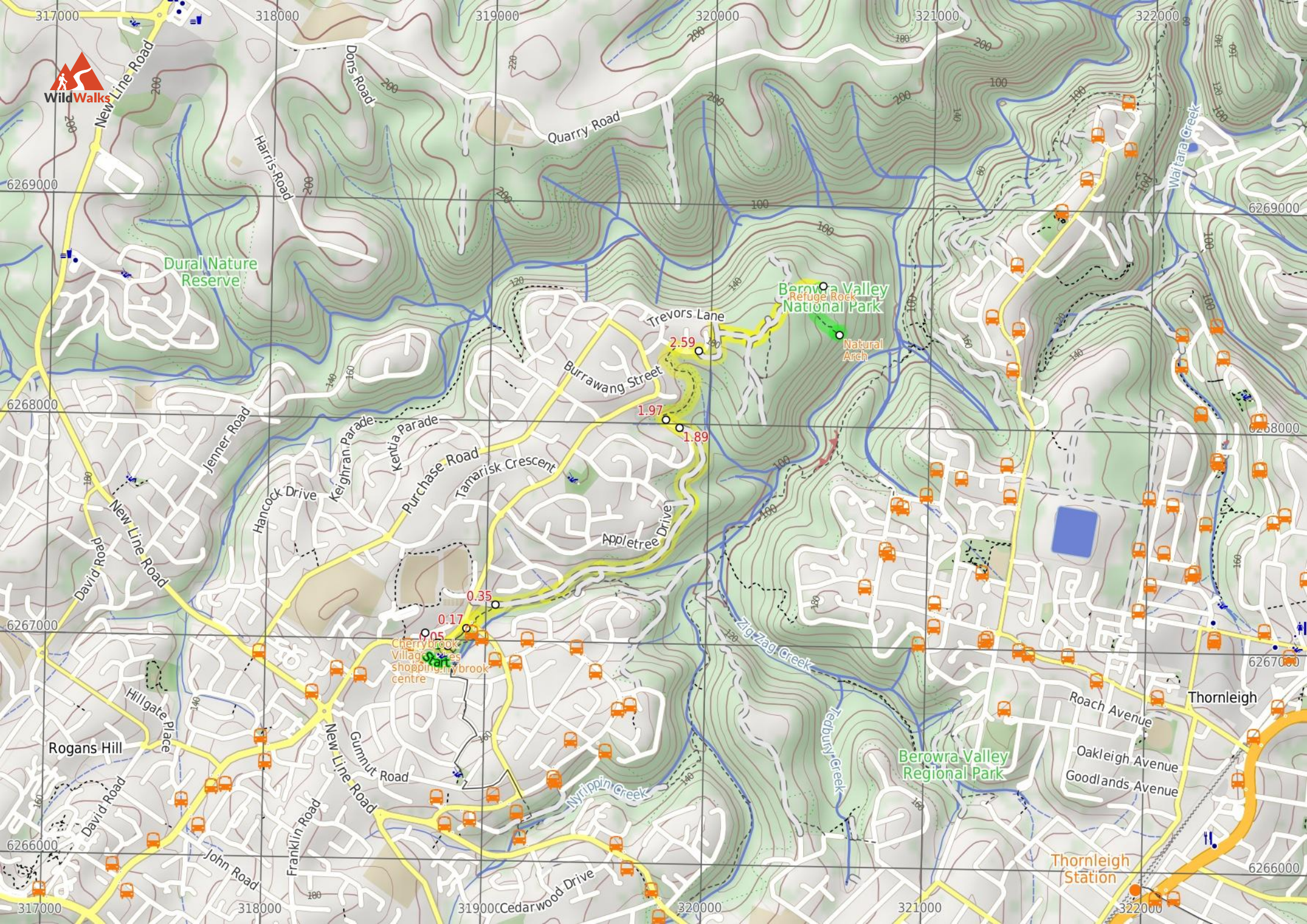
Tedybury Creek

Roach Avenue

Oakleigh Avenue

Goodlands Avenue

Thornleigh





## Summary navigation sheet for the Cherrybrook to Refuge Rock



km	From	Up/Dwn	Length	Initial directions (Use full tracknotes and maps for more detail)
Start	Top of The Lakes Of Cherrybrook park -33.7217,151.0442 (GR Hornsby, 188670)	0 -4	50 m 1 mins	From below 50 Shepherds Drive, opposite the shopping centre, the walk follows the concrete footpath into 'The Lakes Of Cherrybrook' park, keeping the playground to the right.
0.05	Lakes trackhead -33.7218,151.0447 (GR Hornsby, 188670)	1 -4	120 m 2 mins	Veer left: From the 'Callicoma Walk' signpost, the walk follows the 'Sydney Cove' arrow along the concrete footpath, keeping the lakes on the right.
0.17	Int at stone wall -33.7211,151.0456 (GR Hornsby, 189671)	4 -7	180 m 3 mins	Turn right: From behind the low stone wall, the track follows the concrete footpath down the hill through the graffiti-covered tunnel, emerging in a clearing behind the 'Cherrybrook Girl Guides' building.
0.35	Int. of Blackwattle Trail and Callicoma Walk -33.7201,151.047 (GR Hornsby, 190672)	58 -46	1.5 km 31 mins	Veer right: From the intersection, the walk follows the management trail down the hill, keeping the houses to the left, arriving at the signposted intersection at the top of the stairs (with a track on the right).
1.89	Opposite 21 Daphne Place -33.7129,151.056 (GR Hornsby, 199680)	5 0	70 m 2 mins	Turn right: From opposite 21 Daphne Place, the walk follows the road, keeping the houses to the left, for a short distance to the very end of Daphne Place.
1.97	End of Daphne Place -33.7125,151.0554 (GR Hornsby, 198680)	35 -15	520 m 12 mins	Veer right: From the very end of Daphne Place, the walk follows the bush track from the grassy nature strip, keeping all the houses (and the 'Tuscan Way' signpost) to the left, and immediately bends to the right and...
2.48	Opposite 5 Patricia Place -33.7096,151.0558 (GR Hornsby, 198683)	4 -2	110 m 2 mins	Turn right: From the intersection (opposite 5 Patricia Pl, Cherrybrook), the walk follows Patricia Pl down the hill.
2.59	Beside 6 Patricia Pl -33.7097,151.057 (GR Hornsby, 199683)	16 -27	810 m 16 mins	Turn right: From the intersection (beside 6 Patricia Pl, Cherrybrook), the walk passes around a gate and follows the management trail down the hill.
3.40	Refuge Rock -33.7072,151.0629 (GR Hornsby, 205686)	4 -21	300 m 6 mins	Optional sidetrip to Natural Arch. Turn right: From the western edge of Refuge Rock (where the management trail arrives), the walk heads south, across the rock outcrop toward a well defined bush track.
3.40	Refuge Rock -33.7072,151.0629 (GR Hornsby, 205686)	24 -14	690 m 13 mins	Turn around: From the western edge of 'Refuge Rock', the walk follows the management trail up the hill, away from the rock outcrop.