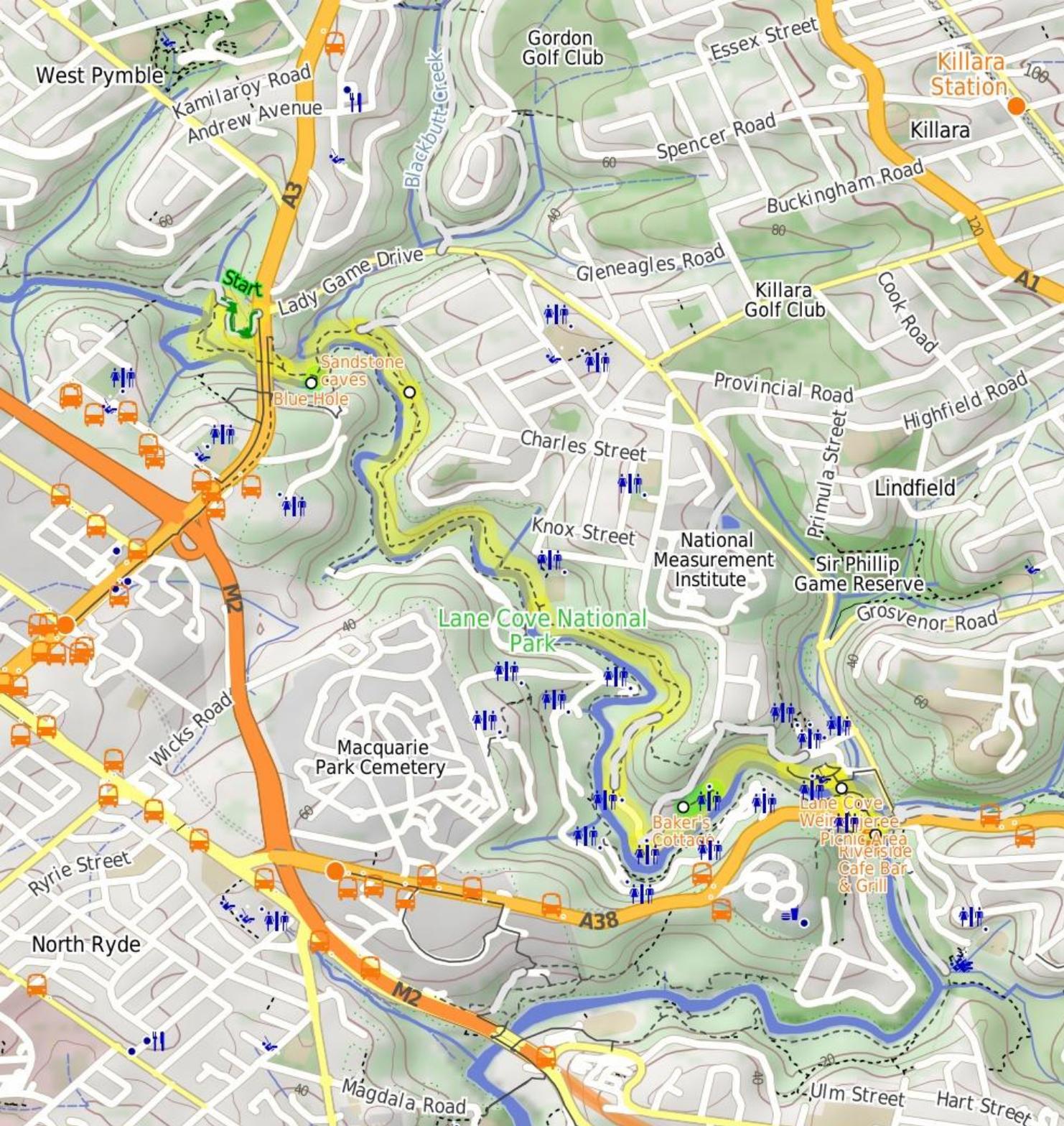




De Burghs Bridge to Fullers Bridge



2 hrs 30 mins

Hard track

6 km One way

↑ 200m



Following the Lane Cove River, this walk mostly follows a section of the Great North Walk and is well maintained and signposted. Things to look out for include Fiddens Wharf which is a very pleasant spot to sit and watch the ducks. The walk passes by Lane Cove National Park Headquarters, so pop by and check out the other experiences available in the park.

35m

Lane Cove National Park

Blue Hole

Blue Hole is found in the Lane Cove River, downstream of De Burghs Bridge. Within Lane Cove National Park this small pleasant waterhole has a flat rock and small sandy beach on the north side of the river. The water is polluted by run-off and rubbish, especially after rain, so it is not suitable for swimming. It is still a pleasant place to relax and enjoy the valley.

Sandstone caves

This fairly large sandstone overhang is found on the eastern side of the Lane Cove Valley. The walking track leads through the two caves that run in series, with the northern cave being larger. The lip of the overhang hangs down a bit, providing some extra protection from wind and rain. The cave also provide some shade and a cooler spot on hot days, and there are also a couple of well placed boulders forming nice seats.

Baker's Cottage

Baker's Cottage was built in 1865 as the residence of William Baker and his family. The cottage once stood in the middle of a well-kept garden and orchard. The cottage itself was once larger, with more rooms and a verandah surrounding it. The residence changed hands only twice, and was then appropriated by the Minister of Lands in 1938.

Lane Cove Weir

The Lane Cove River Weir was built in 1938 during the depression. The motivation for building the lake was to make the area more appealing for visitors' picnics. The weir created environmental issues such as silting and a decline in native fish populations. In much more recent years, a 'fish ladder' has been constructed to allow fish to undertake their natural migrating route for breeding. The weir proved an easy way for walkers to cross the Lane Cove River whilst enjoying the views up and downstream.

Koonjeree Picnic Area

Koonjeree Picnic Area is at the southern end of Lane Cove National Park, just near Fullers Bridge. The picnic area boasts free gas barbecues, flushing toilets, town tap water, picnic tables and shelters, a large open area and car parking. On the bank of the Lane Cove River, this is a pleasant spot to enjoy the park.

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, unknown](#))
- 3) Park Alerts ([Lane Cove 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:

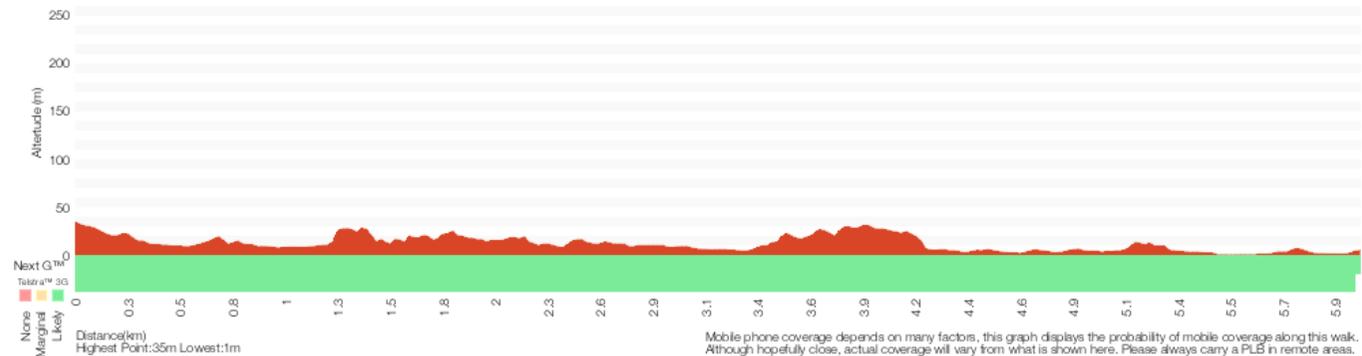
- T** Take adequate supplies of food, water, navigation and first aid equipment.
- R** Register your planned route and tell friends and family when you expect to return.
- E** Emergency beacon (PLB's) should be carried on walks with significant gaps in mobile coverage (check terrain profile).
- K** Keep 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:91303N PARRAMATTA RIVER

1:100 000 Map Series:9130 SYDNEY



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	6 km One way
Time	2 hrs 30 mins
Quality of track	Rough track, where fallen trees and other obstacles are likely (4/6)
Signs	Directional signs along the way (3/6)
Experience Required	Some bushwalking experience recommended (3/6)
Weather	Weather generally has little impact on safety (1/6)
Infrastructure	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 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 Int. Opposite the end of Lady Game Drive (gps: -33.7734, 151.1352) by car or bus. Car: There is free parking available. You can get back from Corner of Delhi Rd and River Ave (gps: -33.793, 151.1562) 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/dbbtfb>

0 | Int. Opposite the end of Lady Game Drive

(320 m 7 mins) From the intersection, this walk passes over the timber railing and turns left down the hill. The track winds down the hill for approximately 200m to the signposted intersection.

0.32 | Int of GNW and Ryde Road trail (west)

(660 m 13 mins) Turn left: From the intersection, this walk follows the 'Great North Walk' sign south, gently downhill past the NPWS no bikes or pets post and along the track which soon bends left. The track leads gently down through a weedy section, then among the rocks and grass trees for about 400m to come to a metal handrail. The walk follows the two sections of handrail down this steeper stretch of rocky track, then the track mostly flattens out and leads under the large concrete Deburghs Bridge, with some graffiti. Once on the other side of the bridge, this track leads along the side of the valley for another 50m to climb up a couple of steps and come to three-way intersection, where a 'Thornleigh via Great North Walk' sign points back along the track.

Continue straight: From the intersection, the walk follows the sign to 'Lane Cove River Weir via Great North Walk' down the hill and steps, keeping the valley to your right. The track soon leads down some stone steps, then a little further along, partway down some timber steps, this walk comes to a three-way intersection, marked with a GNW arrow post.

0.98 | Optional sidetrip to Blue Hole

(30 m) Veer right: From the intersection, this walk heads straight down the timber steps. Partway down the hill, metal steps lead between a couple of rocks, where the track then comes to a sandy beach and water hole, 'Blue Hole' on the Lane Cover River, in view of Deburghs Bridge. At the end of this side trip, retrace your steps back to the main walk then Veer right.

0.98 | Blue Hole

Blue Hole is found in the Lane Cove River, downstream of De Burghs Bridge. Within Lane Cove National Park this small pleasant waterhole has a flat rock and small sandy beach on the north side of the river. The water is polluted by run-off and rubbish, especially after rain, so it is not suitable for swimming. It is still a pleasant place to relax and enjoy the valley.

0.98 | Int. GNW and Blue Hole Trk

(660 m 16 mins) Turn left: From the intersection, this walk follows the GNW arrow post along the flat track, keeping the valley to your right. The track soon bends left then follows a GNW arrow post down off a rock platform to cross the rocky Blackbutt Creek. Here, the walk heads up a series of timber steps, then the track flattens out and turns right at another GNW arrow post. Here the track widens into a trail and leads up over a partially buried, green

metal pipeline (sometimes hissing) then follows the power lines for about 50m before turning left and coming to a signposted intersection partway up the hill. There is a 'Great North Walk - Deburghs Bridge' sign pointing back downhill. Veer right: From the intersection, this walk follows the GNW arrow post down the steps and along the narrower track, directly away from the face of the 'Great North Walk' sign. This track soon passes under some power lines then continues through the open forest for about 50m to head down some rocky steps. From here, the walk follows the base of the rock wall to head through a long tunnel-like sandstone overhang. Here the track leads down to cross a mossy and rocky gully, then heads up around the left side of a large cube boulder (know as 'The Block'). The walk then follows along the base of long sandstone wall (on your left) for about 130m and then enters a sandstone overhang.

1.64 | Sandstone caves

This fairly large sandstone overhang is found on the eastern side of the Lane Cove Valley. The walking track leads through the two caves that run in series, with the northern cave being larger. The lip of the overhang hangs down a bit, providing some extra protection from wind and rain. The cave also provide some shade and a cooler spot on hot days, and there are also a couple of well placed boulders forming nice seats.

1.64 | Sandstone caves

(1.6 km 32 mins) Continue straight: From the cave, this walk follows the track through the second cave, keeping the valley to your right. Soon after the second cave, the track bends right and leads down to an unfenced rock platform. Here the walk turns left and follows the rocky track down for 100m, then crosses a small flat timber bridge. Just past the bridge, this walk turns right at the top of a smaller unfenced cliff and heads down the small gully, where the track then turns sharply left to follow along the base of this cliff. The track continues for just shy of 400m, passing a few more rock walls (on your left), to then pass along the top of an unfenced cliff (to your right). The track continues through the eucalypt and grass tree forest and soon starts leading down the side of the hill, then follows the track along the bank of the Lane Cove River for about 250m. The track leaves the river and climbs a small rise to a signposted intersection. The walk continues straight, following the 'Visitors Centre' sign downhill, then soon goes down some steps to cross the creek on a timber foot bridge. The track turns right on the other side of the bridge and leads out of the lush gully to follow the bank of the Lane Cover River again for about 120m, coming to rock platform and small beach on the bank of the river. Here the walk heads over the rock and follows the short section of timber boardwalk, where the track then leads past a small sandstone overhang. About 60m later, the track crosses over a flat timber boardwalk bridge and comes to a signposted three-way intersection and a 'Blue Hole' sign pointing back along the track.

3.19 | Bottom of Fiddens Wharf Oval Trk

(1.1 km 23 mins) Continue straight: From the intersection, the track follows the 'Visitors Centre Loop' arrow along the track, keeping the river to your right. After about 50m, this walk heads over a short timber boardwalk and crosses the 'weedy' creek. The walk then heads up some steps and a staircase to the top of a rock platform, where there is a 'Blackbutts' information sign. The track leads gently up along the side of hill for about 70m, passing an unfenced cliff to your right, where the track bends left to lead across a rock gully. The track then leads past the 'Sydney Peppermint' and 'Sandstone Gully Community' information signs and across a ferny gully to find a 'Sydney Red Gum' information sign. From here, the walk heads up a series of timber steps to where the track suddenly widens into a mostly flat trail. This trail soon bends right and leads through the casuarina forest, past the 'Scribbly Gum' information sign to an intersection (with a narrower track on your left), just before the 'Sandstone Hillslope Community' information sign.

Continue straight: From the intersection, this walk heads around the hillside, with the river below on the right. The walk tends left as it contours around the hill. It then descends over speed bumps for approximately 50m to the car park of Thistlethwaytes picnic area.

4.34 | Thistlethwaytes Picnic Area

(620 m 12 mins) Continue straight: From the picnic area, this walk heads down the road, with the water to the right. The walk continues down the road for a short time, to the intersection with the entrance of the National Parks and Wildlife Service's Depot on the left, and the Schwartz Homestead a short distance up the hill.

Continue straight: From the intersection, this walk heads along the road, with the water on the right. The walk tends left, continuing up the road to pass a brick building on the right, before coming to the signposted intersection, opposite Baker's Flat.

4.97 | Optional sidetrip to Baker's Cottage

(120 m 3 mins) Turn left : From the intersection, the walk heads up the stairs tending right, up the hill. The walk passes a sign about native grasses before continuing right, to Baker's Cottage. At the end of this side trip, retrace your steps back to the main walk then Turn left.

4.97 | Baker's Cottage

Baker's Cottage was built in 1865 as the residence of William Baker and his family. The cottage once stood in the middle of a well-kept garden and orchard. The cottage itself was once larger, with more rooms and a verandah surrounding it. The residence changed hands only twice, and was then appropriated by the Minister of Lands in 1938.

4.97 | Int. Opposite Bakers Flat

(330 m 7 mins) Continue straight: From the intersection, this walk heads down the road towards the car park at '29 Bakers Flat'. The walk continues along the road to pass the clearing and tend right, up the hill, to an intersection with a bush track on the right.

5.3 | Int. Max Allen Dr and Jenkins Hill Trk

(260 m 6 mins) Turn right: From the intersection, this walk heads down the path for approximately 50m to pass a toilet block on the left of the track. The track continues to an intersection with a railed footpath.

Veer right: From the intersection, this walk heads down the slight gradient, away from the toilet block to the large concreted area above the weir.

Turn right: From the intersection, this walk heads directly down the hill to the weir at the water.

Continue straight: From the intersection, this walk follows GNW arrow post across the top of the weir to another GNW arrow post of other side of the weir, just past the sandstone pillars. After heavy or prolonged rain this crossing may be closed if water is flowing over the top.

5.56 | Lane Cove Weir

The Lane Cove River Weir was built in 1938 during the depression. The motivation for building the lake was to make the area more appealing for visitors' picnics. The weir created environmental issues such as silting and a decline in native fish populations. In much more recent years, a 'fish ladder' has been constructed to allow fish to undertake their natural migration route for breeding. The weir proved an easy way for walkers to cross the Lane Cove River whilst enjoying the views up and downstream.

5.56 | Lane Cove Weir South

(100 m 2 mins) Turn left: From the intersection, this walk follows the GNW arrow post along the concrete footpath, keeping the river to the left. The path leads around the edge of the 'Koonjeree picnic area' and comes to an

intersection with another footpath (leading through the middle of the picnic area).

5.66 | Koonjeree Picnic Area

Koonjeree Picnic Area is at the southern end of Lane Cove National Park, just near Fullers Bridge. The picnic area boasts free gas barbecues, flushing toilets, town tap water, picnic tables and shelters, a large open area and car parking. On the bank of the Lane Cove River, this is a pleasant spot to enjoy the park.

5.66 | Koonjeree Middle Trk

(190 m 4 mins) Turn right: From the intersection, this walk heads towards the road then passes over it, to the toilet blocks.

Turn left: From the toilets, this walk heads through the low bushes, following the car park (which is on the left). The walk winds through the bushes to pass a stone seat on the left before crossing the entrance road to the Lane Cove National Park. This walk then continues along the footpath for a few metres to the road, which it crosses to come to the bus stop.

5.85 | Fullers Bridge Bus Stop

(40 m) Turn left : From the intersection between the bus stop and bridge, this walk heads down the steps (away from the road) to almost immediately come to an intersection with another footpath.

Turn right: From the intersection, this walk follows the footpath under Fullers Bridge and comes to the end of a minor road, in front of the 'Riverside Cafe Bar AND Grill'.

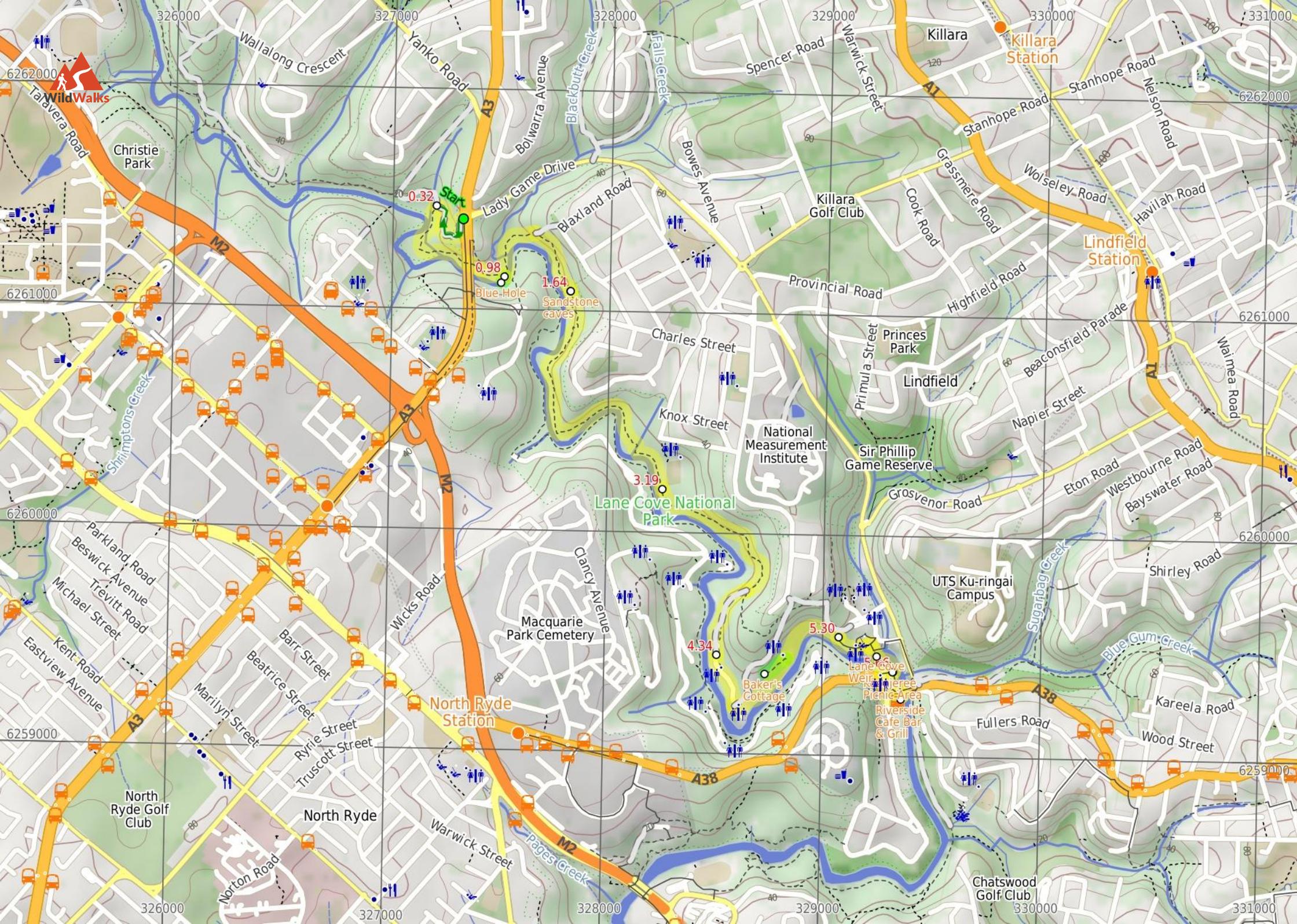
5.89 | Riverside Cafe Bar & Grill

The Riverside Cafe is found at the end of service road on the south-west corner of Fullers Bridge. The nicely renovated building looks over the Lane Cove River and is open 7 days, serving breakfast, lunch and dinner. The food is cafe-style and meals are priced upwards from \$13. Ph: (02) 9412 3773.

5.89 | Riverside Cafe

(70 m 1 mins) Turn right: From in front of 'Riverside Cafe Bar & Grill', this walk heads up along the minor road. At the T-intersection with River Ave, this walk crosses the road to find a 'Great North Walk' signposted intersection.





Summary navigation sheet for the De Burghs Bridge to Fullers Bridge



km	From	Up/Dwn	Length	Initial directions (Use full tracknotes and maps for more detail)
Start	Int. Opposite the end of Lady Game Drive -33.7734,151.1352 (GR Parramatta River, 273614)	3 -23	320 m 7 mins	From the intersection, this walk passes over the timber railing and turns left down the hill.
0.32	Int of GNW and Ryde Road trail (west) -33.7728,151.1339 (GR Parramatta River, 272615)	15 -22	660 m 13 mins	Turn left: From the intersection, this walk follows the 'Great North Walk' sign south, gently downhill past the NPWS no bikes or pets post and along the track which soon bends left.
0.98	Int. Great North Walk and Blue Hole Trk -33.7757,151.1372 (GR Parramatta River, 275611)	0 0	30 m	Optional sidetrip to Blue Hole. Veer right: From the intersection, this walk heads straight down the timber steps.
0.98	Int. Great North Walk and Blue Hole Trk -33.7757,151.1372 (GR Parramatta River, 275611)	44 -34	660 m 16 mins	Turn left: From the intersection, this walk follows the GNW arrow post along the flat track, keeping the valley to your right.
1.64	Sandstone caves -33.7763,151.1405 (GR Parramatta River, 278611)	49 -62	1.6 km 32 mins	Continue straight: From the cave, this walk follows the track through the second cave, keeping the valley to your right.
3.19	Bottom of Fiddens Wharf Oval Trk -33.7845,151.145 (GR Parramatta River, 283602)	49 -51	1.1 km 23 mins	Continue straight: From the intersection, the track follows the 'Visitors Centre Loop' arrow along the track, keeping the river to your right.
4.34	Thistlethwaytes Picnic Area -33.7912,151.1477 (GR Parramatta River, 285594)	13 -13	620 m 12 mins	Continue straight: From the picnic area, this walk heads down the road, with the water to the right.
4.97	Int. Opposite Bakers Flat -33.7914,151.1511 (GR Parramatta River, 288594)	10 -1	120 m 3 mins	Optional sidetrip to Baker's Cottage. Turn left : From the intersection, the walk heads up the stairs tending right, up the hill.
4.97	Int. Opposite Bakers Flat -33.7914,151.1511 (GR Parramatta River, 288594)	15 -10	330 m 7 mins	Continue straight: From the intersection, this walk heads down the road towards the car park at '29 Bakers Flat'.
5.30	Int. Max Allen Dr and Jenkins Hill Trk -33.7905,151.1537 (GR Parramatta River, 291595)	0 -9	260 m 6 mins	Turn right: From the intersection, this walk heads down the path for approximately 50m to pass a toilet block on the left of the track.
5.56	Lane Cove Weir South -33.7915,151.1558 (GR Parramatta River, 293594)	1 -1	100 m 2 mins	Turn left: From the intersection, this walk follows the GNW arrow post along the concrete footpath, keeping the river to the left.
5.66	Koonjeree Middle Trk -33.792,151.1564 (GR Parramatta River, 293594)	7 -6	190 m 4 mins	Turn right: From the intersection, this walk heads towards the road then passes over it, to the toilet blocks.
5.85	Fullers Bridge Bus Stop -33.7927,151.1568 (GR Parramatta River, 294593)	0 0	40 m	Turn left : From the intersection between the bus stop and bridge, this walk heads down the steps (away from the road) to almost immediately come to an intersection with another footpath.
5.89	Riverside Cafe -33.7929,151.1569 (GR Parramatta River, 294593)	4 0	70 m 1 mins	Turn right: From in front of 'Riverside Cafe Bar & Grill', this walk heads up along the minor road.