

Blue Mountains National Park

991m

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. **Experainced walkers only: This walk passes through very remote areas and sections have no visible track. At least one person in your group should have training and experience in off track walking and navigation. Even with these notes and a GPS these extra skills and equipment are required.**

Getting there Traveling by car is the only practical way to get to Int. Victoria Falls Rd and Asgard Swamp Trail East (gps: -33.568, 150.2846). Car: There is free parking available.

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

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

0 | Int. Victoria Falls Rd and Asgard Swamp Trail East

(2 km 39 mins) From the car park with the 'Asgard Swamp 3km' sign, this walk passes the closed gate and heads down the hill. After a short distance, the track tends left, more steeply down the hill, to then follow the spur for approximately 500m. The walk then comes to a creek crossing in a swampy area, after which the trail heads up the hill and tends right, continuing for a few hundred metres to an area between two rock outcrops, the larger one on the right.

2.02 | Pyramid Shaped Rock

The pyramid-shaped rock, Blue Mountains NP, is, as the name suggests, a rock shaped like a pyramid. This rock is situated just south of Asgard Swamp, next to the service trail. The campsite has a well-established fireplace and nicely cleared area for tents. The pyramid shaped rock adds some character to the campsite, providing views over the swamp.

2.02 | Int. Asgard Swamp Trail and Pyramid Rock camping T

(250 m 4 mins) Continue straight: From the intersection, this walk keeps the large rocky outcrop on the right, as the trail follows near to its base. The track leads up a slight hill and onto a small rise, at the top of which is . (If the track starts to slowly drop past this ridge on the left, you have gone too far.)

2.28 | Optional sidetrip to Asgard Kiln

 $(520 \ m \ 11 \ mins)$ Veer right: From the intersection, this walk continues down an increasingly thin and more overgrown service trail, keeping the large rocky outcrop on the right, away from the track. The track continues to a signposted intersection. Turn left: From the intersection, this walk follows the sign 'Asgard

Swamp Coal Mine' downhill towards the cliffs (which are across the valley). The track winds down the hill for approximately 100m to a small creek, then turns left to meet a more defined creek with a bridge. This walk crosses the small bridge and turns right, heading down the hill to where the track meets a small waterfall. This intersection is just up the gully from an overhang, on the left of the track.

Continue straight: From the intersection, this walk crosses the creek and follows the cliffline for approximately 10m. The track then zigzags down the hill to come back on itself while leading down the hill. From the last step, the track ducks under a log to the mine entrance in the cliff, on the left.

Continue straight: From the mine, this walk continues along the cliffline, keeping the cliffs to the left of the track. The walk crosses the creek to the north and contours around the base of the cliffs for approximately 20m to the overgrown kiln. At the end of this side trip, retrace your steps back to the main walk then Turn right.

2.28 | Asgard Mine

Asgard mine is the entrance to an old coal mine. The mine and kiln are the only heritage links to such industrial efforts of the 1860's to 1920's, in New South Wales. The mine's entrance is approximately 1.6m tall and wide and expands some 30m into the hill, so pack a torch if peering in. (The integrity of the mine is unknown.) <u>More info.</u>

2.28 | Int. Asgard Swamp Trail and Thor Head Track

(940 m 25 mins) Veer left: From the management trail, this walk heads north-east, following the high point of the ridge. The track continues along the ridgeline for approximately 500m before coming to a rockshelf on the cliffline. The track then meanders close to the cliffline for some time, traversing a few rocky knolls before going down the hill to Thor Head. Some people choose to walk down to Thor Head and climb it.

3.22 | Thor Head

Thor Head, Blue Mountains NP, is a small monolith of rock separated from the hill side. The climb onto it takes some nerve and skill, however the rocky outcrop to the south gives views over the Grose Valley that are just as good, without the climb.

