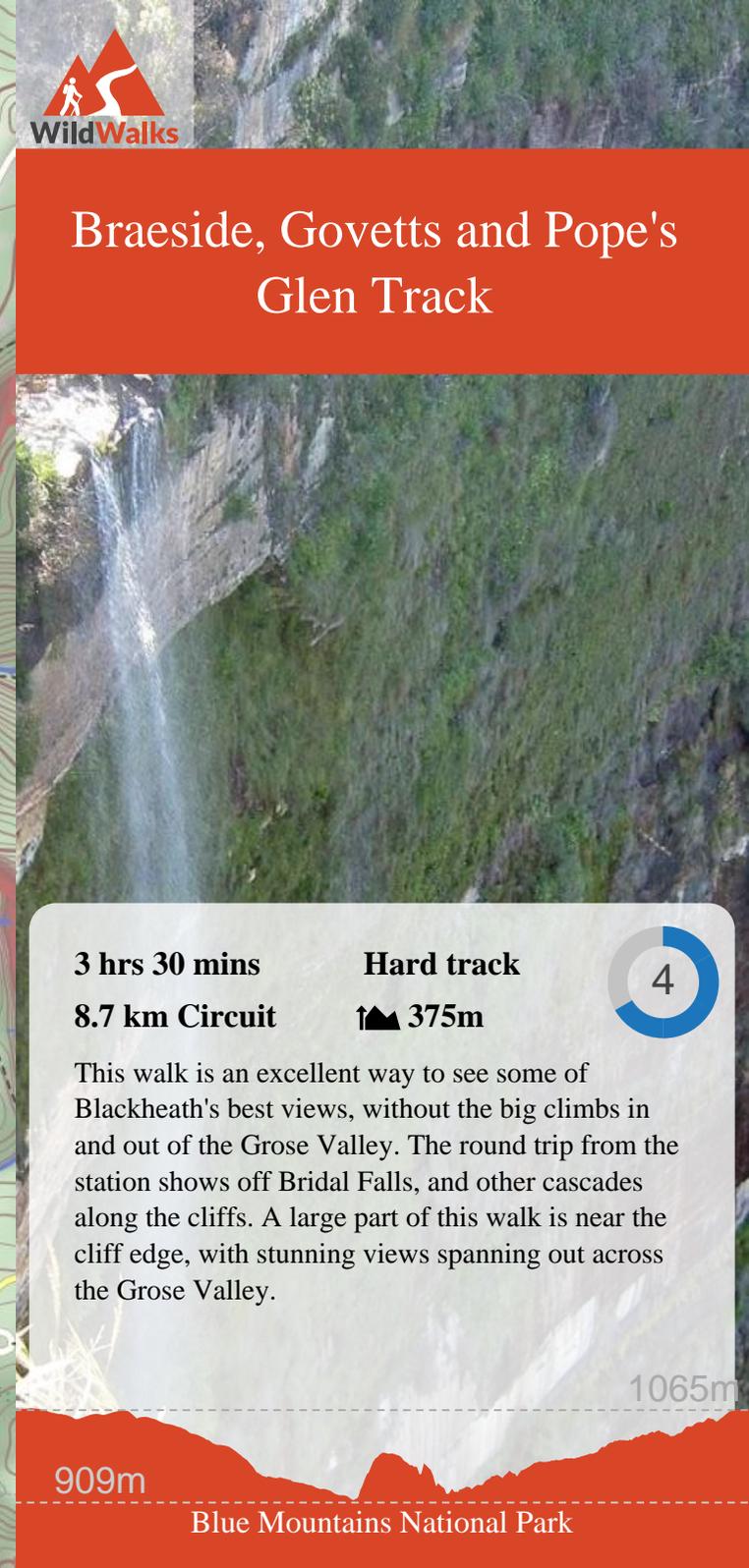
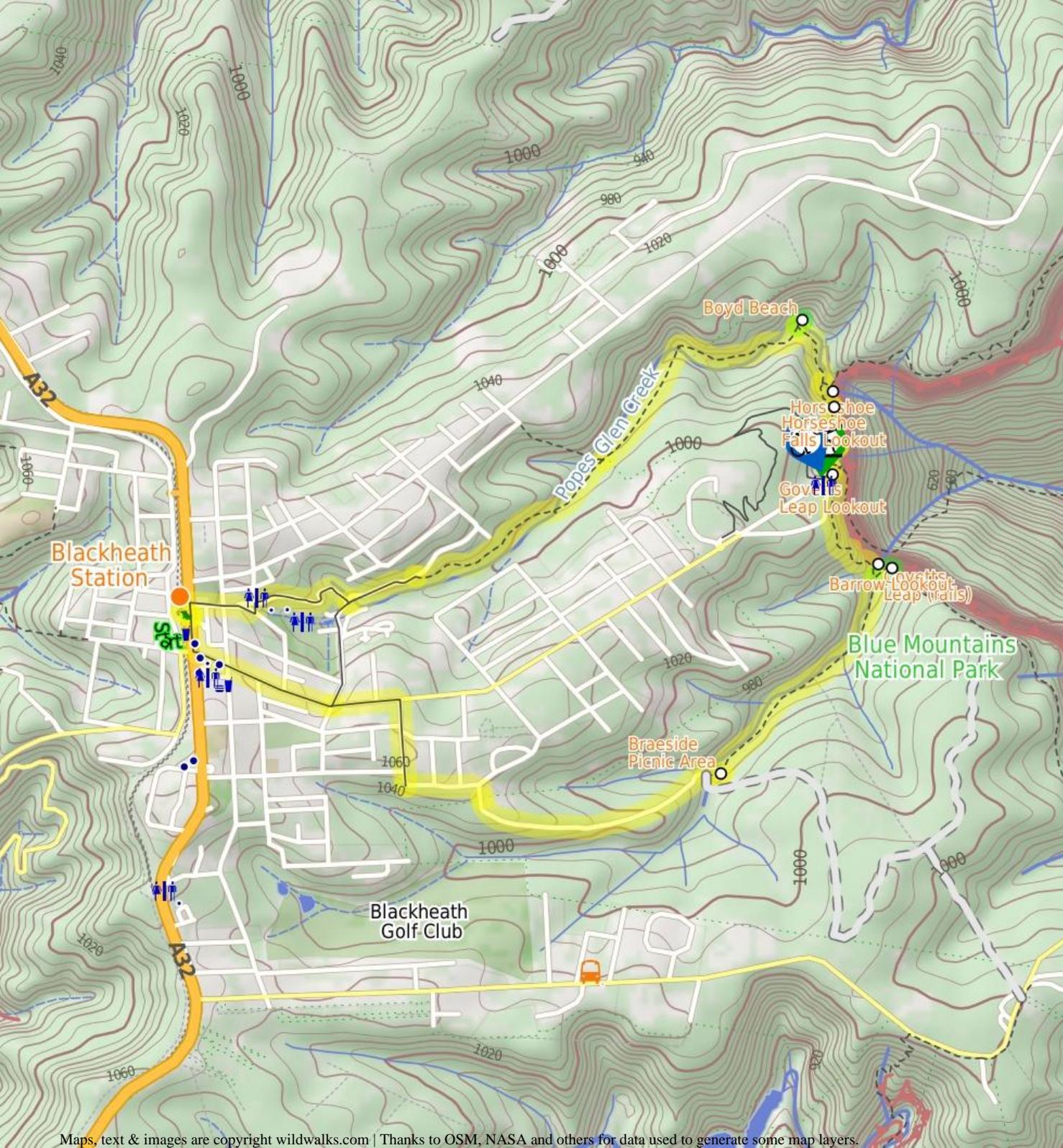




Braeside, Govetts and Pope's Glen Track



3 hrs 30 mins

Hard track

8.7 km Circuit

▲ 375m



This walk is an excellent way to see some of Blackheath's best views, without the big climbs in and out of the Grose Valley. The round trip from the station shows off Bridal Falls, and other cascades along the cliffs. A large part of this walk is near the cliff edge, with stunning views spanning out across the Grose Valley.

909m

Blue Mountains National Park

Braeside Picnic Area

Braeside Picnic Area, Blue Mountains National Park, is a small picnic area on the southern end of the Braeside walking track. The picnic area has a bench table and stone barbeque. The picnic area is situated next to a small weir and waterfall amongst the ferns.

Barrow Lookout

Barrow Lookout, Blue Mountains National Park, looks down to Govetts Leap falls and across the Grose Valley. The lookout is fenced and has a bench seat to rest.

Govetts Leap (falls)

Govetts Leap, is a waterfall in the Blue Mountains National Park. The fall is fed by Govetts Leap Brook which runs over the cliff into the Grose Valley. The falls are best viewed from Govetts Leap and Barrow Lookouts. Leap is a scots dialect word for cataract or waterfall.

Govetts Leap Lookout

Govetts Leap Lookout is named after the first European man to have enjoyed this view, William Govett, as an assistant surveyor in June 1831. Govetts Leap Lookout offers wonderful views over the Grose Valley and the spectacular Bridal Falls. The word 'leap' is an old Scottish word meaning waterfall. The lookout is easily accessed from the car park, there are also toilets and picnic shelters nearby.

Horseshoe Falls Lookout

Horseshoe Falls Lookout, Blue Mountains National Park, is a small fenced lookout. There are views down to Horseshoe Falls and across the Grose Valley.

Horseshoe Falls

Horseshoe Falls, Blue Mountains National Park, are sourced by Popes Glen Creek which runs over the cliff into the Grose Valley. The Horseshoe Falls seem to be named after the shape of the valley into which they drop.

Boyd Beach

Boyd Beach, Blue Mountains National Park, is a small sandy bank on Popes Glen Creek. The beach is a quiet spot with nice ferns and shade. The beach is a short distance from the Popes Glen track.

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 Central Tablelands District](#))
- 2) Fire Dangers ([Greater Sydney Region](#))
- 3) Park Alerts ([Blue Mountains 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:89301S KATOOMBA, 89301N MOUNT WILSON

1:100 000 Map Series:8930 KATOOMBA

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	8.7 km Circuit
Time	3 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	No experience required (1/6)
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 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 Blackheath Station (gps: -33.6339, 150.2844) by car, train or bus. 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/bgapgt>

0 | Blackheath Station

(2.9 km 52 mins) From the top of the station steps, this walk heads towards the Great Western Highway and Gardners Inn. The walk turns right down a flight of stairs, then turns left across the Great Western Highway at the pedestrian crossing.

Turn right: From the pedestrian crossing, this walk heads towards Gardners Inn, keeping the road to the right. The walk continues along the footpath, turning left opposite the Ivanhoe Hotel, onto Govetts Leap Rd. The walk continues down Govetts Leap Rd to the intersection with Prince Edward St. Continue straight: From the intersection, this walk heads west along Govetts Leap Rd for a block, to the intersection with Boreas St. This walk turns right, down Boreas St to the intersection with Braeside St.

Turn left: From the intersection, this walk follows the green signpost to 'Braeside Walk' along the houses on the right-hand of Braeside Street. This walk turns right at the 'Braeside Walk' sign. The walk continues for approximately 70m to the intersection with another service trail.

Continue straight: From the intersection, this walk heads down the management track, to the signposted intersection after a parking area on the left.

2.86 | Int. Braeside Service Trail and Braeside Picnic Ar

(60 m 1 mins) Veer left: From the signposted intersection, this walk follows the scratched arrow, next to the 'Braeside Walk' sign, down the steps to traverse the stepping stones across the creek. The walk winds left through the ferns, to a picnic table and barbeque above the weir's brick wall, lower down the stream.

2.92 | Braeside Picnic Area

Braeside Picnic Area, Blue Mountains National Park, is a small picnic area on the southern end of the Braeside walking track. The picnic area has a bench table and stone barbeque. The picnic area is situated next to a small weir and waterfall amongst the ferns.

2.92 | Braeside Picnic Area

(1.1 km 20 mins) Continue straight: From the Braeside Picnic area, this walk heads down the hill, leaving the weir behind on the left. The walk continues parallel to Govetts Leap Brook, below on the left. Approximately 500m down the brook, the track passes a few large boulders (on the left of the track). The walk continues downstream, passing an overgrown track (which heads underneath power lines to join up with a management trail above on the hill). This track is passed by, as the brook is followed for a short time to a set of stairs. The stairs lead the track to a section of stepping stones which lead downstream. The track then rises out of the brook to continue approximately 100m to the intersection.

4.05 | Optional sidetrip to Barrow Lookout

(80 m 2 mins) Veer right: From the intersection, this walk heads up the winding stairs towards the cliffs. The soon comes to the railed Barrow Lookout, where there is a bench seat. At the end of this side trip, retrace your steps back to the main walk then Turn right.

4.05 | Barrow Lookout

Barrow Lookout, Blue Mountains National Park, looks down to Govetts Leap falls and across the Grose Valley. The lookout is fenced and has a bench seat to rest.

4.05 | Govetts Leap (falls)

Govetts Leap, is a waterfall in the Blue Mountains National Park. The fall is fed by Govetts Leap Brook which runs over the cliff into the Grose Valley. The falls are best viewed from Govetts Leap and Barrow Lookouts. Leap is a scots dialect word for cataract or waterfall.

4.05 | Braeside Walk North

(620 m 15 mins) Veer left: From the intersection, the walk follows the sign to 'Govetts Leap Lookout' down to the creek and across the cement steppingstones. The track then zigzags up to the top of the hill via stairs. From here, the walk continues down the hill for approximately 400m, keeping the valley to the right, coming to 'Govetts Leap' lookout.

4.67 | Govetts Leap Lookout

Govetts Leap Lookout is named after the first European man to have enjoyed this view, William Govett, as an assistant surveyor in June 1831. Govetts Leap Lookout offers wonderful views over the Grose Valley and the spectacular Bridal Falls. The word 'leap' is an old Scottish word meaning waterfall. The lookout is easily accessed from the car park, there are also toilets and picnic shelters nearby.

4.67 | Govetts Leap Lookout

(340 m 11 mins) Continue straight: From Govetts Leap Lookout, this walk heads down the stairs at the edge of the lookout, keeping the valley to the right. The walk then crosses a grassed area to a well-signposted intersection on the edge of the tree line.

Turn left: From the intersection, this walk heads down some stairs, keeping the valley to the right. The walk turns right over a bridge, continuing around the hillside to drop down onto a viewing area and intersection.

Veer left: From the intersection, this walk heads down steep stairs, keeping the valley to the right. The track then winds along the cliff top until coming to an intersection, near Horseshoe Falls Lookout.

5.01 | Horseshoe Falls Lookout

Horseshoe Falls Lookout, Blue Mountains National Park, is a small fenced lookout. There are views down to Horseshoe Falls and across the Grose Valley.

5.01 | Horseshoe Falls

Horseshoe Falls, Blue Mountains National Park, are sourced by Popes Glen Creek which runs over the cliff into the Grose Valley. The Horseshoe Falls seem to be named after the shape of the valley into which they drop.

5.01 | Horseshoe Falls Lookout

(440 m 11 mins) Continue straight: From the intersection, this walk heads along the cliff top towards Horseshoe Falls, with the valley below to the right. The track winds for some time around the hillside, to a lookout on the right, before continuing around to a railing some steep stairs. The stairs lead to Popes Glen Creek, where the track continues through the ferns to meet a street sign.

Continue straight: From the intersection, this walk follows the sign to 'Popes

Glen' keeping the creek below on the right. The track continues for approximately 100m, rising to the left of a prominent rock feature. The walk passes another track on the right (with access to the creek), then continues to rise past the rock feature (on the right - The rock feature has a trail to its top.) This walk continues from the rock feature, heading down the hill to a signposted intersection.

5.45 | Optional sidetrip to Boyd Beach

(40 m 1 mins) Turn right: From the intersection, this walk heads down the hill following the 'Boyd's Beach' sign (under the bush). The walk winds down the rocky steps for approximately 40m to Boyd Beach. At the end of this side trip, retrace your steps back to the main walk then Continue straight.

5.45 | Boyd Beach

Boyd Beach, Blue Mountains National Park, is a small sandy bank on Popes Glen Creek. The beach is a quiet spot with nice ferns and shade. The beach is a short distance from the Popes Glen track.

5.45 | Int. Popes Glen Trk and Boyd Bch Trk

(2.1 km 49 mins) Turn left : From the intersection, this walk heads up the hill, following the arrow on the sign pointing to 'Blackheath'. The track continues above the creek (on the right) for some time, then crosses a bridge so that the creek is now on the left. The walk crosses a second bridge, then continues for some time up a rocky hill to an intersection below power lines, with a bridge below on the right.

Continue straight: From the intersection, this walk heads up the hill, keeping the creek below on the right. The walk soon crosses the creek at a bridge, continuing along the other side to a small waterfall (on the left). The track then continues up the hill for for a short time, passing an intersection (with access tracks to Clarence Rd). The track continues to head up the hill for approximately 300m to the intersection with Dell St.

7.56 | Int. Pope's Glen Trk and Dell St

(1.2 km 26 mins) Veer left: From the intersection, this walk heads down Dell St, keeping the bush to the left of the road and houses to the right. The walk soon passes Cleopatra St on the right and continues along Dell St to the intersection with Gipps Lane, on the right (where Dell St changes name to Wills St).

Turn right: From the intersection, this walk heads along Gipps Lane, passing a large wooden house to the right of the road. The road tends left onto Robertson Lane which then becomes Wills St. The walk follows Wills Street for sometime to turn left onto Inconstant St and then right onto Gardiner Cres. Gardiner Cres is followed to the Great Western Highway, where there is a petrol station on the left. From here, this walk turns left to follow the Great Western Highway, keeping the petrol station on the left, as the walk heads towards the Gardners Inn pub. This walk continues to the pedestrian crossing, opposite Blackheath Station steps.

Turn right: From the pedestrian crossing, this walk crosses the Great Western Highway to turn right up the covered station steps. The walk follows the railway bridge to the top of the station staircase.

Summary navigation sheet for the Braeside, Govetts and Pope's Glen Track



km	From	Up/Dwn	Length	Initial directions (Use full tracknotes and maps for more detail)
Start	Blackheath Station -33.6339,150.2844 (GR Katoomba, 481751)	24 -125	2.9 km 52 mins	From the top of the station steps, this walk heads towards the Great Western Highway and Gardners Inn.
2.86	Int. Braeside Service Trail and Braeside Picnic Area -33.6407,150.3062 (GR Katoomba, 502744)	0 -8	60 m 1 mins	Veer left: From the signposted intersection, this walk follows the scratched arrow, next to the 'Braeside Walk' sign, down the steps to traverse the stepping stones across the creek.
2.92	Braeside Picnic Area -33.6406,150.3068 (GR Katoomba, 502744)	5 -52	1.1 km 20 mins	Continue straight: From the Braeside Picnic area, this walk heads down the hill, leaving the weir behind on the left.
4.05	Braeside Walk North -33.6324,150.3132 (GR Katoomba, 508754)	5 -2	80 m 2 mins	Optional sidetrip to Barrow Lookout. Veer right: From the intersection, this walk heads up the winding stairs towards the cliffs.
4.05	Braeside Walk North -33.6324,150.3132 (GR Katoomba, 508754)	82 -17	620 m 15 mins	Veer left: From the intersection, the walk follows the sign to 'Govetts Leap Lookout' down to the creek and across the cement steppingstones.
4.67	Govetts Leap Lookout -33.628,150.3113 (GR Katoomba, 506758)	23 -62	340 m 11 mins	Continue straight: From Govetts Leap Lookout, this walk heads down the stairs at the edge of the lookout, keeping the valley to the right.
5.01	Horseshoe Falls Lookout -33.6254,150.3114 (GR Katoomba, 506761)	31 -41	440 m 11 mins	Continue straight: From the intersection, this walk heads along the cliff top towards Horseshoe Falls, with the valley below to the right.
5.45	Int. Popes Glen Trk and Boyd Bch Trk -33.622,150.31 (GR Mount Wilson, 505765)	0 -3	40 m 1 mins	Optional sidetrip to Boyd Beach. Turn right: From the intersection, this walk heads down the hill following the 'Boyd's Beach' sign (under the bush).
5.45	Int. Popes Glen Trk and Boyd Bch Trk -33.622,150.31 (GR Mount Wilson, 505765)	145 -48	2.1 km 49 mins	Turn left : From the intersection, this walk heads up the hill, following the arrow on the sign pointing to 'Blackheath'.
7.56	Int. Pope's Glen Trk and Dell St -33.6324,150.2941 (GR Katoomba, 490753)	65 -27	1.2 km 26 mins	Veer left: From the intersection, this walk heads down Dell St, keeping the bush to the left of the road and houses to the right.