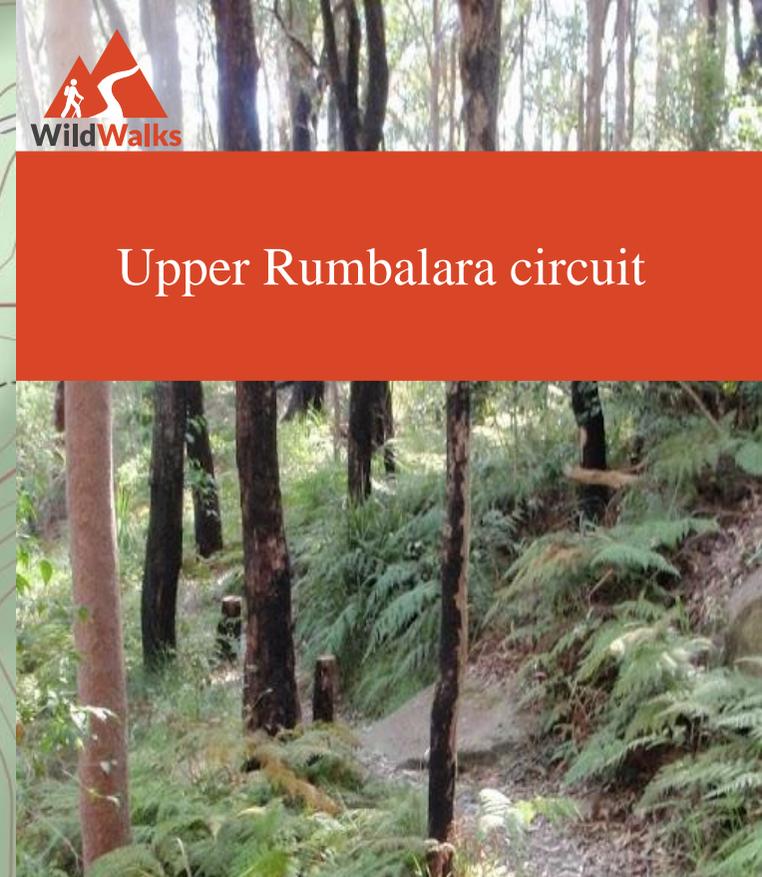
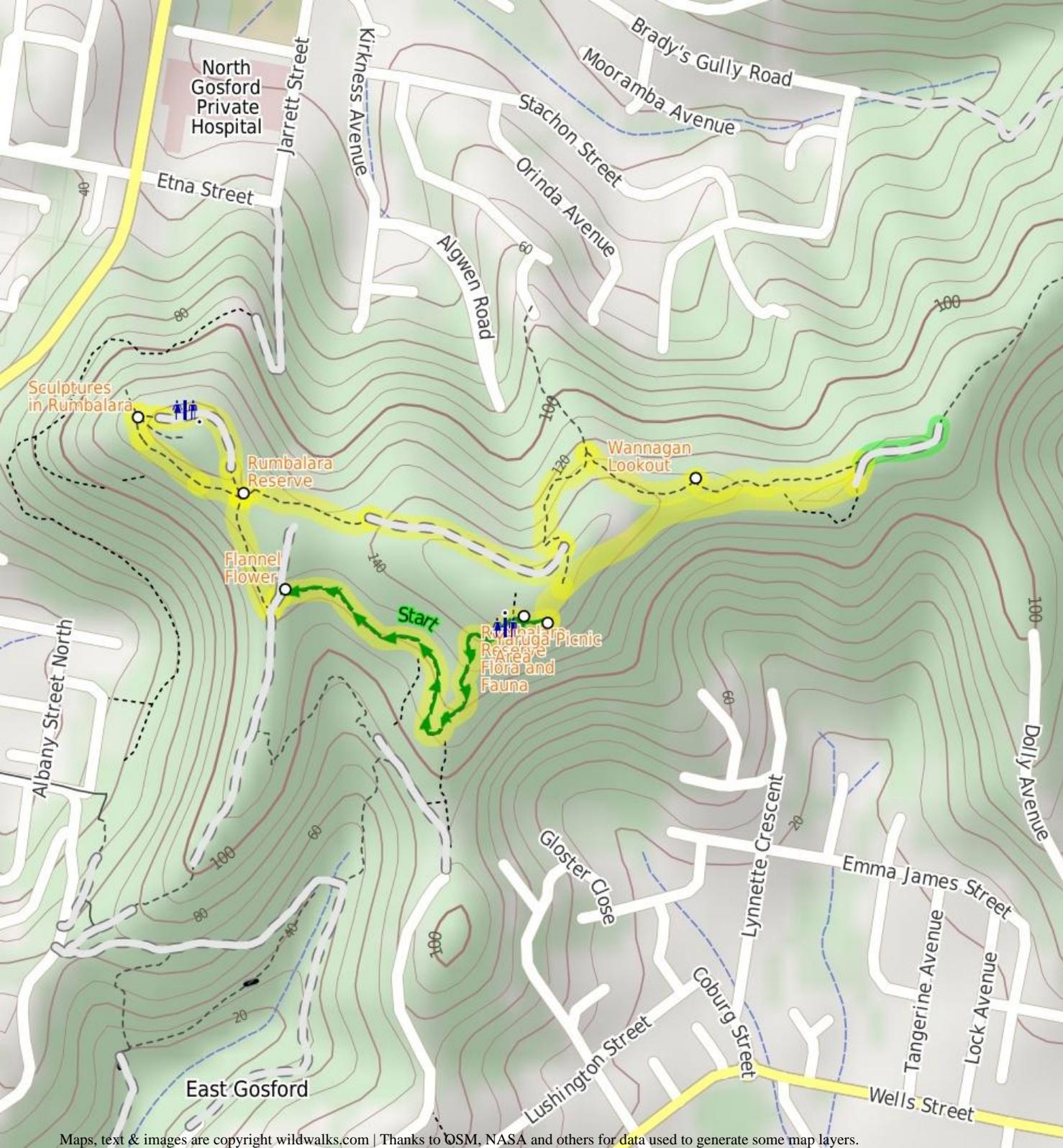


Upper Rumbalara circuit



1 hr 30 mins

Hard track

3.3 km Circuit

176m



A great circuit walk, covering most of the walking tracks and sights in the upper section of the Rumbalara Reserve. There is some really nice forest walking and plenty of spots along the way offer fantastic views across various parts of Gosford and the surrounding areas. Note that the entrance gate on Dolly Ave, for the upper section of Rumbalara, is locked at 8pm each evening.

158m

100m

Rumbalara Reserve

Rumbalara Reserve

Rumbalara Reserve lies just to the east of the Gosford CBD and is part of Gosford's Coastal Open Space System (COSS). There is an extensive set of well marked walking tracks within the reserve. Yaruga Picnic Area has free electric BBQs while both Yaruga and Nurrunga picnic areas have toilets, picnic tables, nearby lookouts and proximity to walking tracks. The picnic areas are accessed via Dolly Ave, Springfield, with the gate being locked at 8pm each evening. The Rumbalara Environmental Education Centre, at the end of Donnison St, Gosford, is one of several good access points to the walking tracks in the lower section of the reserve. [More info.](#)

Yaruga Picnic Area

This picnic area is right beside Dolly Ave, within the Rumbalara Reserve, Gosford. The facilities include free electric BBQs, picnic tables, toilets and garbage bins. There are information boards with details of the walking tracks and other features of the reserve. There are a couple of lookout points at the edge of the picnic area with great views out across Gosford and the surrounding areas.

Flannel Flower

Actinotus helianthi, popularly known as the Sydney flannel flower, is frequently spotted by spring-time bushwalkers in the Sydney region. Generally growing up to 50 cm, the stem, branches and leaves of the plant are a pale grey in colour, covered in downy hair (rather like flannel in texture). [More info.](#)

Rumbalara Reserve Flora and Fauna

The reserve is home to a wide range of flora and fauna. The vegetation types range from the relatively dry 'Coastal Narrabeen Ironbark Forest' to pockets of 'Coastal Warm Temperate Rainforest'. Commonly seen birds include Kookaburras, Eastern Rosellas and Magpies. Rarer birds such as the Glossy Black Cockatoo and Swift Parrot are sometimes sighted here as well. Sugar Gliders, Brush-tailed possums, Blue-tongued lizards and Tree snakes can be seen in the reserve if you are patient and lucky enough.

Sculptures in Rumbalara

There are four bronze figurative sculptures in the Rumbalara Reserve that were 'commissioned in the series "Salute to Famous Australians", which includes Captain Charles Sturt, Edward Eyre, and Sir Charles Kingsford Smith.' Matthew Flinders is the fourth in the series. They were 'commissioned by Sara Lee Kitchens (Australia) Pty Ltd and Gosford City Council for the State Bicentennial Celebrations 1987.'. Smith and Flinders are the most easily reached, at the Nurrunga picnic area. [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 Hunter District](#))
- 2) Fire Dangers ([Greater Sydney Region](#))
- 3) Park Alerts ()
- 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:91312S GOSFORD

1:100 000 Map Series:9131 GOSFORD

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	3.3 km Circuit
Time	1 hr 30 mins
Quality of track	Formed track, with some branches and other obstacles (3/6)
Signs	Minimal directional signs (4/6)
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)



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.

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 Traveling by car is the only practical way to get to Yaruga Picnic Area BBQs (gps: -33.4255, 151.3553). 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.it/urc>

0 | Rumbalara Reserve

Rumbalara Reserve lies just to the east of the Gosford CBD and is part of Gosford's Coastal Open Space System (COSS). There is an extensive set of well marked walking tracks within the reserve. Yaruga Picnic Area has free electric BBQs while both Yaruga and Nurrunga picnic areas have toilets, picnic tables, nearby lookouts and proximity to walking tracks. The picnic areas are accessed via Dolly Ave, Springfield, with the gate being locked at 8pm each evening. The Rumbalara Environmental Education Centre, at the end of Donnison St, Gosford, is one of several good access points to the walking tracks in the lower section of the reserve. [More info.](#)

0 | Yaruga Picnic Area

This picnic area is right beside Dolly Ave, within the Rumbalara Reserve, Gosford. The facilities include free electric BBQs, picnic tables, toilets and garbage bins. There are information boards with details of the walking tracks and other features of the reserve. There are a couple of lookout points at the edge of the picnic area with great views out across Gosford and the surrounding areas.

0 | Yaruga Picnic Area BBQs

(720 m 17 mins) From the BBQs, this walk goes across the picnic area, keeping the road to the right. The walk passes the information board, to the left, and follows the paved path toward the nearby toilet block. The walk turns left just before the toilet block and follows the 'Nurrunga Picnic Area' arrow down the paved steps and along the bush track. The walk descends gently for a while with numerous sandstone steps, then meanders around the side of the hill, for some distance. Ignoring a bush track, to the left, and another soon after, to the right, the walk continues for some distance until reaching an intersection with a management trail, with a 'Flannel Flower Track' signpost pointing back to the 'Yaruga Picnic Area'.

0.72 | Flannel Flower

Actinotus helianthi, popularly known as the Sydney flannel flower, is frequently spotted by spring-time bushwalkers in the Sydney region. Generally growing up to 50 cm, the stem, branches and leaves of the plant are a pale grey in colour, covered in downy hair (rather like flannel in texture). [More info.](#)

0.72 | Flannel Flower walk signpost

(30 m 1 mins) Veer left: From the intersection, this walk follows the management trail down the hill, towards the views of Gosford. After a very short distance, the walk arrives at an intersection with a paved path, signposted 'Casuarina Track'.

0.75 | Int of Casuarina walk and Flannel Flower walk

(180 m 5 mins) Turn right: From the intersection, this walk follows the 'Nurrunga Picnic Area' arrow along the paved track, keeping the views of Gosford to the left. The walk climbs gently for a short distance before arriving at a track junction with signposts for the 'Ironbark Loop', the 'Casuarina Track' and the 'Flannel Flower Track'.

0.93 | Rumbalara Reserve Flora and Fauna

The reserve is home to a wide range of flora and fauna. The vegetation types range from the relatively dry 'Coastal Narrabeen Ironbark Forest' to pockets of 'Coastal Warm Temperate Rainforest'. Commonly seen birds include Kookaburras, Eastern Rosellas and Magpies. Rarer birds such as the Glossy Black Cockatoo and Swift Parrot are sometimes sighted here as well. Sugar Gliders, Brush-tailed possums, Blue-tongued lizards and Tree snakes can be seen in the reserve if you are patient and lucky enough.

0.93 | Junction of Ironbark, Casuarina and Flannel flower

(180 m 4 mins) Turn left: From the track junction, this walk follows the 'Loop to Gosford' arrow (Casuarina Track) along the bush track, directly away from the nearby car park. After a short distance, the walk arrives at an intersection signposted for the 'Casuarina Track' and the 'Ironbark Loop'. At the time of writing, this part of the Casuarina Track, going down the hill, was closed. Continue straight: From the intersection, this walk follows the 'Nurrunga Picnic Area' arrow (Ironbark Loop sign), along the bush track, keeping the views of Gosford to the left. After a short distance, the walk arrives at an intersection, with an 'Ironbark Loop' signpost pointing back 'To Casuarina Track', beside a sculpture of Matthew Flinders.

1.11 | Matthew Flinders sculpture

(40 m 1 mins) Continue straight: From the intersection, this walk follows the bush track in the opposite direction to the 'To Casuarina Track' arrow, leaving the sculpture behind on the right. The walk then goes across the end of the picnic area to the sculpture of Sir Charles Kingsford Smith.

1.15 | Sculptures in Rumbalara

There are four bronze figurative sculptures in the Rumbalara Reserve that were 'commissioned in the series "Salute to Famous Australians", which includes Captain Charles Sturt, Edward Eyre, and Sir Charles Kingsford Smith.' Matthew Flinders is the fourth in the series. They were 'commissioned by Sara Lee Kitchens (Australia) Pty Ltd and Gosford City Council for the State Bicentennial Celebrations 1987.'. Smith and Flinders are the most easily reached, at the Nurrunga picnic area. [More info.](#)

1.15 | Sir Charles Kingsford Smith sculpture

(280 m 5 mins) Turn right: From the sculpture, this walk goes along the edge of the picnic area, in the direction pointed by Sir Charles' raised right elbow, keeping the picnic area to the right. The walk soon arrives at an 'Ironbark Loop' sign on the northern edge of the picnic area.

Continue straight: From this 'Ironbark Loop' sign, this walk follows the 'To Casuarina Track' arrow along the management trail, initially keeping the picnic area to the right. The walk continues, passing a toilet block, to the right, then arrives at a sign, beside the road, pointing back to 'Nurrunga Picnic Area'.

Continue straight: From the 'Ironbark Loop' sign, the walk immediately crosses the road and follows the bush track a little to a track junction with signposts for the 'Ironbark Loop', the 'Casuarina Track' and the 'Flannel Flower Track'.

Turn left: From the intersection, this walk follows the 'Loop to Yaruga Picnic Area' arrow between the metal posts and across the edge of the small car park. The walk immediately crosses the road to an intersection with a track, with a 'Flannel Flower Track' signpost pointing back to 'Yaruga Picnic Area'.

1.43 | Western int of Flannel Flower walk and Dolly Ave

(960 m 24 mins) Continue straight: From the intersection, this walk follows the 'Loop to Yaruga Picnic Area' arrow along the track, going gently down the hill. The walk meanders gently downhill for a short distance before passing under some power lines and continuing a little further to an intersection with a management trail.

Veer right: From the intersection, this walk follows the management trail up the hill, keeping the nearby power lines to the right. After a short distance, the walk passes a management trail (to the right) and continues, passing some sort of underground pipe access point, on the left. After a while, the trail reaches an intersection with tracks to the left and right.

Turn left: From the intersection, this walk follows the track down the steps, leaving the nearby water reservoir to the right. The track soon bends to the left at a rock outcrop, and winds down the hill for a while with plenty of steps.

The walk levels out and meanders for a while, with occasional steps, to an intersection with a faint track, going down the hill to the left (just before the main track bends to the right and goes uphill a little).

Veer right: From the intersection, this walk follows the track as it goes gently up the hill, immediately bending to the right. The walk meanders through some good scenery for a short distance before reaching the fenced Wannagan Lookout, with great views to the north.

2.38 | Wannagan Lookout

The fenced Wannagan Lookout, on the Red Gum Walk, has great views over North Gosford. The fenced lookout sits at the top of a small cliff. Out of sight, beneath the lookout, is some great cliff and overhang scenery.

2.38 | Wannagan Lookout

(290 m 6 mins) Turn right: From the intersection, this walk follows the track a very short distance up the hill, away from the lookout, then turns left (ignoring the track to the right which goes a short distance up the hill to the road). The walk meanders along the side of the hill for some distance, keeping the valley to the left, going up and down occasional steps before reaching an intersection with a management trail.

2.67 | Optional sidetrip to Sculpture of Edward John Eyre

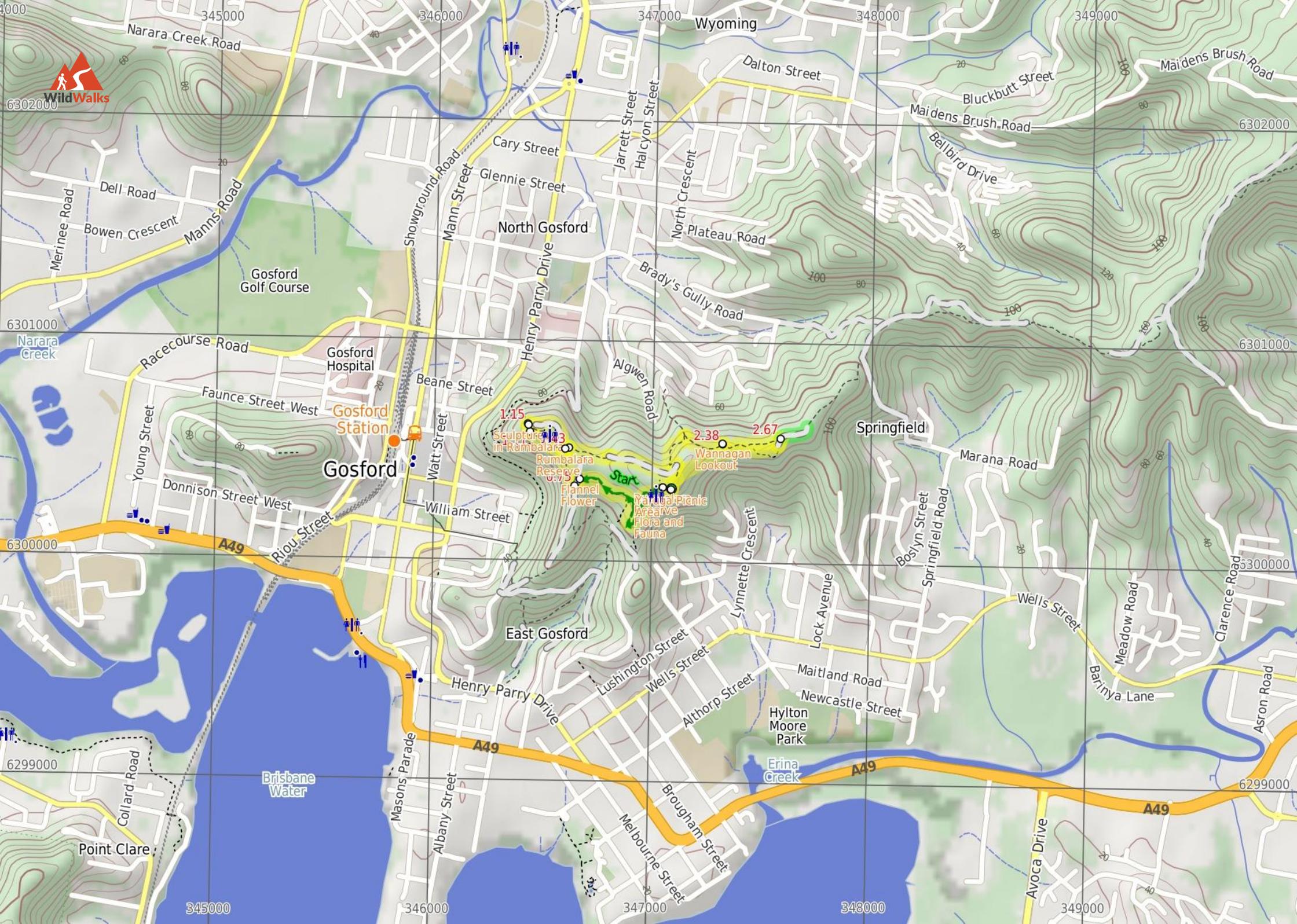
(150 m 2 mins) Veer left: From the intersection, this walk follows the management trail away from the nearby gate (beside the road). The trail almost immediately bends to the right then meanders for a short distance to the sculpture of Edward John Eyre, on the right. At the end of this side trip, retrace your steps back to the main walk then Continue straight.

2.67 | Int of Red Gum walk and Mout Walk

(600 m 13 mins) Turn right: From the intersection, this walk follows the management trail gently up the hill towards the gate. The walk passes around the gate to the intersection with Dolly Ave, with a 'Mouat Walk' signpost pointing back to the 'Statue of Edward John Eyre 50 metres'.

Turn right: From the intersection, this walk follows the road gently up the hill, leaving the signposted 'Mouat Walk' behind on the right. After a short distance, the walk passes a small parking area and fenced lookout point, on the left, and continues along the road for some distance, passing a large water reservoir tank, to the right. A little further on the walk reaches an intersection with a bush track, to the right, marked by a low boulder (within sight of the sandstone walled Yaruga picnic area).

Continue straight: From the intersection, this walk follows the road gently up the hill towards the sandstone walls of the nearby Yaruga picnic area. The walk climbs the first set of steps on the left, near the 'Yaruga Picnic Area' signpost, and goes across the picnic area to the nearby electric BBQs.



Gosford

Gosford Station

1.15

1.13

2.38

2.67

Start

Wannagan Lookout

Rumbalara Reserve

Flannel Flower

Yaralla Picnic Area

Flora and Fauna

6302000

6301000

6300000

6299000

345000

346000

347000

348000

349000

6302000

6301000

6300000

6299000

Wyoming

Springfield

Point Clare

Hylton Moore Park

Gosford Golf Course

Gosford Hospital

North Gosford

East Gosford

Newcastle Street

Maitland Road

Erina Creek

Narara Creek Road

Dalton Street

Bluckbutt Street

Maidens Brush Road

Maidens Brush Road

Bellbird Drive

Merinee Road

Dell Road

Bowen Crescent

Manns Road

Showground Road

Mann Street

Cary Street

Glennie Street

Jarrett Street

Halcyon Street

North Crescent

Plateau Road

Brady's Gully Road

Henry Parry Drive

Algwen Road

Racecourse Road

Fauce Street West

Gosford Station

Beane Street

Watt Street

Young Street

Donnison Street West

Riou Street

William Street

Springfield

Marana Road

Boslyn Street

Springfield Road

Wells Street

Meadow Road

Clarence Road

Barinya Lane

Asron Road

Henry Parry Drive

Lushington Street

Wells Street

Althorp Street

Lock Avenue

Maitland Road

Newcastle Street

Collard Road

Brisbane Water

Masons Parade

Albany Street

Melbourne Street

Brougham Street

Avoca Drive

349000

Summary navigation sheet for the Upper Rumbalara circuit



km	From	Up/Dwn	Length	Initial directions (Use full tracknotes and maps for more detail)
0.00	Yaruga Picnic Area BBQs -33.4255,151.3553 (GR Gosford, 471003)	30 -57	720 m 17 mins	From the BBQs, this walk goes across the picnic area, keeping the road to the right.
0.72	Flannel Flower walk signpost -33.4252,151.3507 (GR Gosford, 467004)	0 -4	30 m 1 mins	Veer left: From the intersection, this walk follows the management trail down the hill, towards the views of Gosford.
0.75	Int of Casuarina walk and Flannel Flower walk -33.4254,151.3505 (GR Gosford, 466003)	21 -3	180 m 5 mins	Turn right: From the intersection, this walk follows the 'Nurrunga Picnic Area' arrow along the paved track, keeping the views of Gosford to the left.
0.93	Junction of Ironbark, Casuarina and Flannel flower walks -33.4239,151.35 (GR Gosford, 466005)	7 -10	180 m 4 mins	Turn left: From the track junction, this walk follows the 'Loop to Gosford' arrow (Casuarina Track) along the bush track, directly away from the nearby car park.
1.11	Matthew Flinders sculpture -33.4231,151.3483 (GR Gosford, 464006)	1 0	40 m 1 mins	Continue straight: From the intersection, this walk follows the bush track in the opposite direction to the 'To Casuarina Track' arrow, leaving the sculpture behind on the right.
1.15	Sir Charles Kingsford Smith sculpture -33.4228,151.3482 (GR Gosford, 464006)	11 -11	280 m 5 mins	Turn right: From the sculpture, this walk goes along the edge of the picnic area, in the direction pointed by Sir Charles' raised right elbow, keeping the picnic area to the right.
1.43	Western int of Flannel Flower walk and Dolly Ave -33.4238,151.3502 (GR Gosford, 466005)	64 -71	960 m 24 mins	Continue straight: From the intersection, this walk follows the 'Loop to Yaruga Picnic Area' arrow along the track, going gently down the hill.
2.38	Wannagan Lookout -33.4237,151.3578 (GR Gosford, 473005)	7 -10	290 m 6 mins	Turn right: From the intersection, this walk follows the track a very short distance up the hill, away from the lookout, then turns left (ignoring the track to the right which goes a short distance up the hill to th...
2.67	Int of Red Gum walk and Mouat Walk -33.4234,151.3606 (GR Gosford, 476006)	1 -2	150 m 2 mins	Optional sidetrip to Sculpture of Edward John Eyre. Veer left: From the intersection, this walk follows the management trail away from the nearby gate (beside the road).
2.67	Int of Red Gum walk and Mouat Walk -33.4234,151.3606 (GR Gosford, 476006)	35 -11	600 m 13 mins	Turn right: From the intersection, this walk follows the management trail gently up the hill towards the gate.