



Fortress Ridge Trail

(Dharug & Gundungurra Country)

 2 h 45 min to 3 h

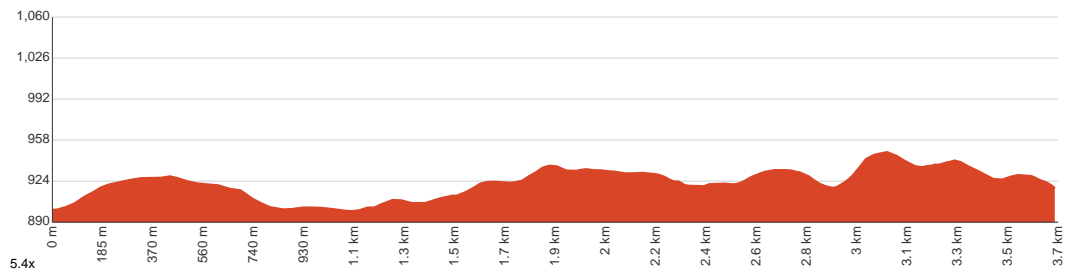

7.4 km
Return


↑ 232 m
↓ 232 m


Moderate track



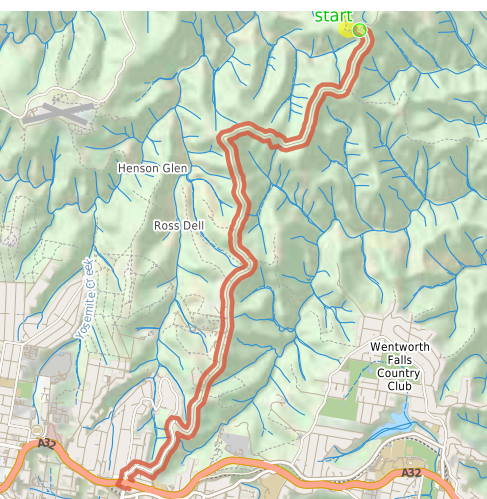
A fantastic return walk with stunning views, this track leads along the Fortress Ridge, out to the cliffs above the Grose Valley. The views from the lookout and along the trail are superb, with the sheer cliffs and a deep valley to put it all in perspective. The track is popular with canyoneers, who use it to access Fortress Canyon. Let us begin by acknowledging the Dharug & Gundungurra people, Traditional Custodians of the land on which we travel today, and pay our respects to their Elders past and present.



Class 3 of 6
Formed track, with some branches and other obstacles

Quality of track	Formed track, with some branches and other obstacles (3/6)
Gradient	Short steep hills (3/6)
Signage	Directional signs along the way (3/6)
Infrastructure	Limited facilities, not all cliffs are fenced (3/6)
Experience Required	No experience required (1/6)
Weather	Weather generally has little impact on safety (1/6)

Getting to the start: From Alexandra Terrace



- Turn on to Leura Mall then drive for 155 m
- Turn right onto Victory Lane and drive for another 115 m
- Keep right onto Churchill Street and drive for another 265 m
- Turn left onto Mount Hay Road and drive for another 760 m
- Turn right onto Mount Hay Road and drive for another 6.8 km
- Keep left onto Mount Hay Road and drive for another 920 m

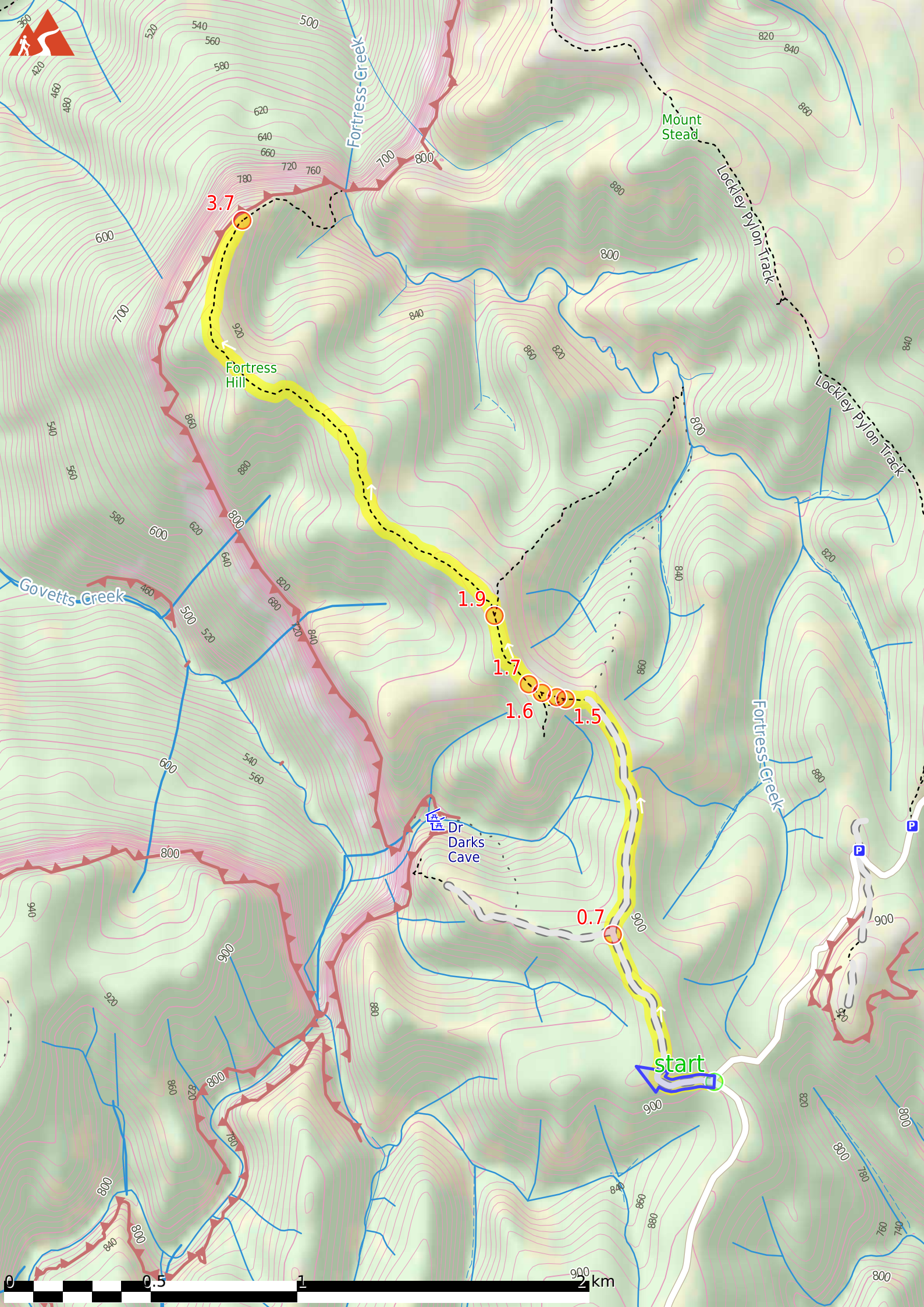
Before you start any journey ensure you;

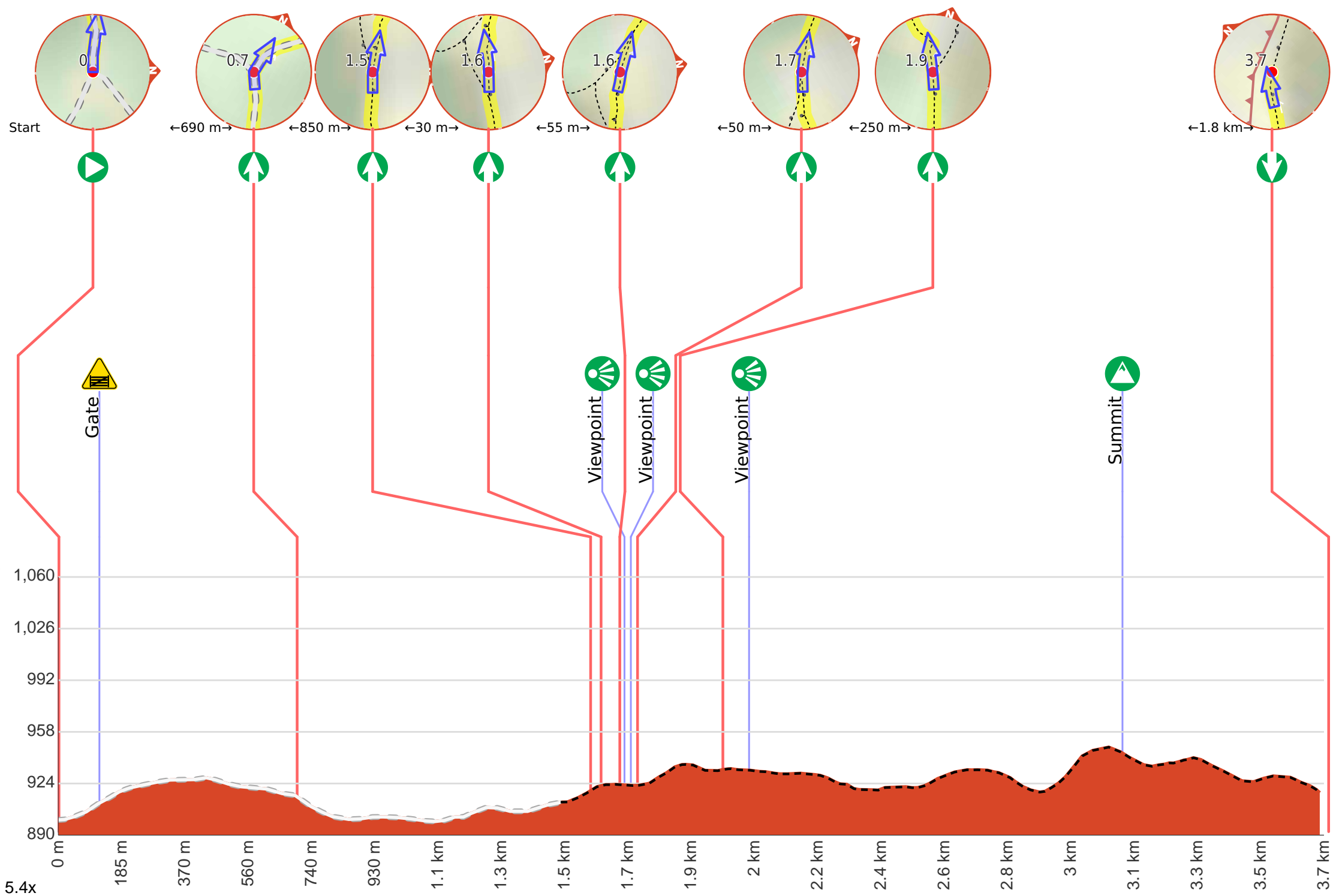
- Tell someone you trust where you are going and what to do if you are late returning
- Have adequate equipment, supplies, skills & knowledge to undertake this journey safely
- Consider weather forecasts, park/track closures & fire dangers
- Can respond to emergencies & call for help at any point
- Are healthy and fit enough for this journey

If not, change plans and stay safe. It is okay to delay and ask people for help.

Share
[Bushwalk.com](https://bushwalk.com.au/j/4Y3A0E)
[/j/4Y3A0E](https://bushwalk.com.au/j/4Y3A0E)

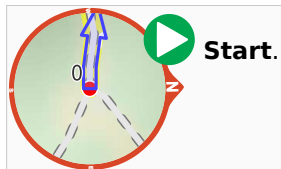






Getting started: From the car park (and 'Fortress Ridge' sign), this walk heads around the gate and up the hill. The management trail swings right for approximately 50m then turns left. The trail leads to an area of low heath, then tends right (down the hill) for approximately 100m before coming to an intersection.

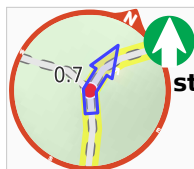
From the intersection, this walk heads down the hill in a northerly direction. The trail soon rises up a slight hill, passing low heath on the left before continuing up the hill. The walk then flattens out for approximately 200m before slowly rising up another hill for approximately 100m more, coming to an intersection with a smaller track on the left.



Start.



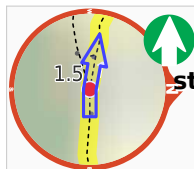
After 115 m head through/around the gate.



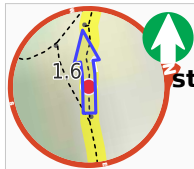
After another 570 m **continue straight.**



After another 770 m **continue straight.**



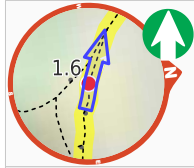
After another 85 m **continue straight.**



After another 30 m **continue straight.**



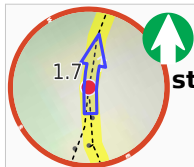
After another 70 m come to the viewpoint (6 m on your left).



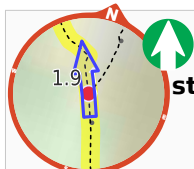
Continue straight.



After another 30 m come to the viewpoint (9 m on your left).



After another 20 m **continue straight.**



After another 250 m **continue straight.**



After another 75 m come to the viewpoint (15 m on your left).



After another 1.1 km pass the "Fortress Hill" (20 m on your right).



Continue another 600 m to find the end. Then turn around here and retrace the main route for 3.7 km to get back to the start.



"Fortress Ridge".



Fortress Ridge lookout has stunning views over the Grose Valley to Govetts Leap, Horseshoe Falls and Blackheath. From the lookout, the vista to the west includes the impressive Lockley's Pylon, with Mount Hay in the background.