



# Rawnsley Bluff and Wilpena Pound

## Lookout

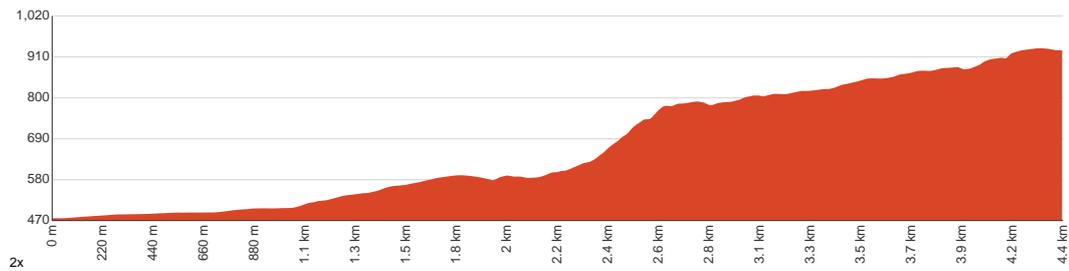
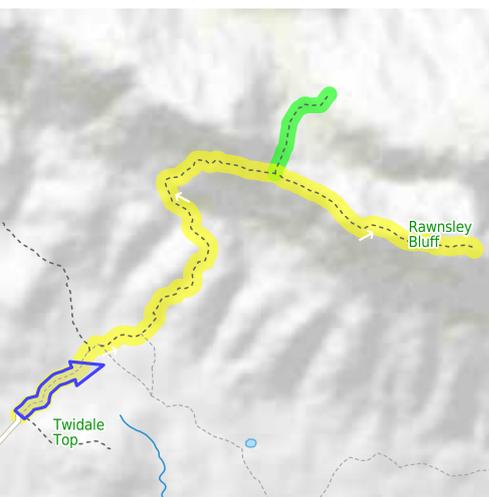
3 h 15 min to 5 h

8.8 km  
Return

↑ 549 m  
↓ 549 m

5  
Very challenging

Starting from the Rawnsley Bluff Carpark at the end of the Mawson Trail, near the Rawnsley Park Station, Flinders Ranges, this walk leads to Rawnsley Bluff and the Wilpena Pound Lookout via the Rawnsley Bluff Trail. Flinders Ranges has a beautiful, rugged and unique landscape with vivid red, yellow and green colours. It is a paradise for hikers, and presents a great opportunity to explore the outback of South Australia. From the carpark, the trail follows the creek bed for about 600m before you begin climbing the foothills of the main range. The trail gradually steepens to a climb until reaching the Lone Pine Lookout, from where there are views along the escarpment and towards Elder Range. From here, the worst of the climb is over and the trail becomes less steep as you approach the summit. Along the way you'll pass the Wilpena Pound Lookout, which provides an excellent view down the centre of Wilpena Pound. Further along, at the top of Rawnsley Bluff, there are panoramic views to the south and east overlooking Chace Range. This is a challenging hike, involving a very tough climb early on, and a lot of scrambling up rocks. The trail is generally well formed, and has clear signage. This hike is best suited for reasonably fit and experienced bushwalkers. Sturdy walking shoes are recommended, as the trail is very rough in places. Let us begin by acknowledging the Traditional Custodians of the land on which we travel today, and pay our respects to their Elders past and present.



Class 5 of 6 Rough unclear track	
<b>Quality of track</b>	Rough track, where fallen trees and other obstacles are likely (4/6)
<b>Gradient</b>	Very steep (4/6)
<b>Signage</b>	Clearly signposted (2/6)
<b>Infrastructure</b>	No facilities provided (5/6)
<b>Experience Required</b>	Moderate level of bushwalking experience recommended (4/6)
<b>Weather</b>	Foretasted & unexpected storms and severe weather may impact on navigation and safety (4/6)

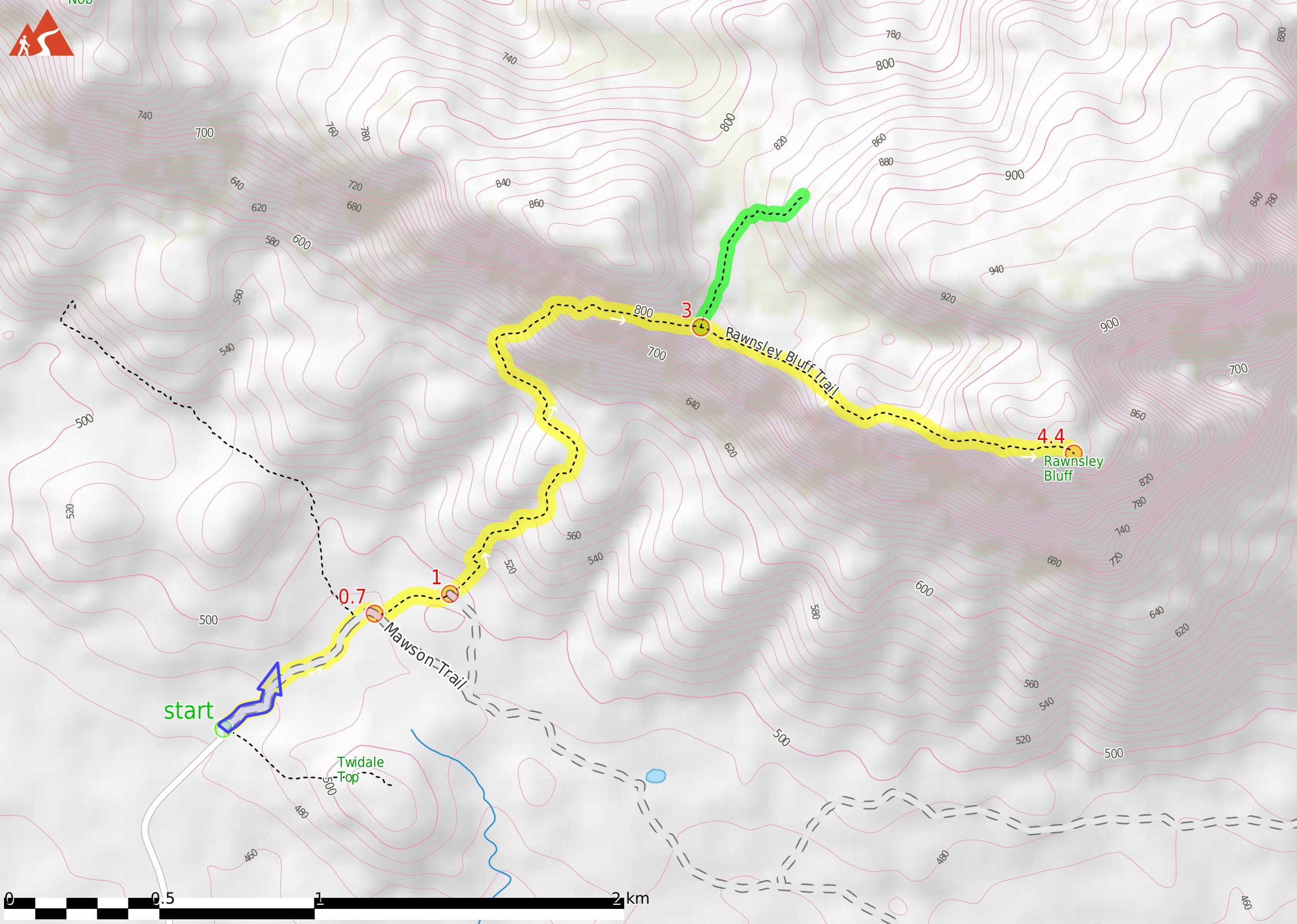
**Getting to the start:** From Augusta Highway, A1

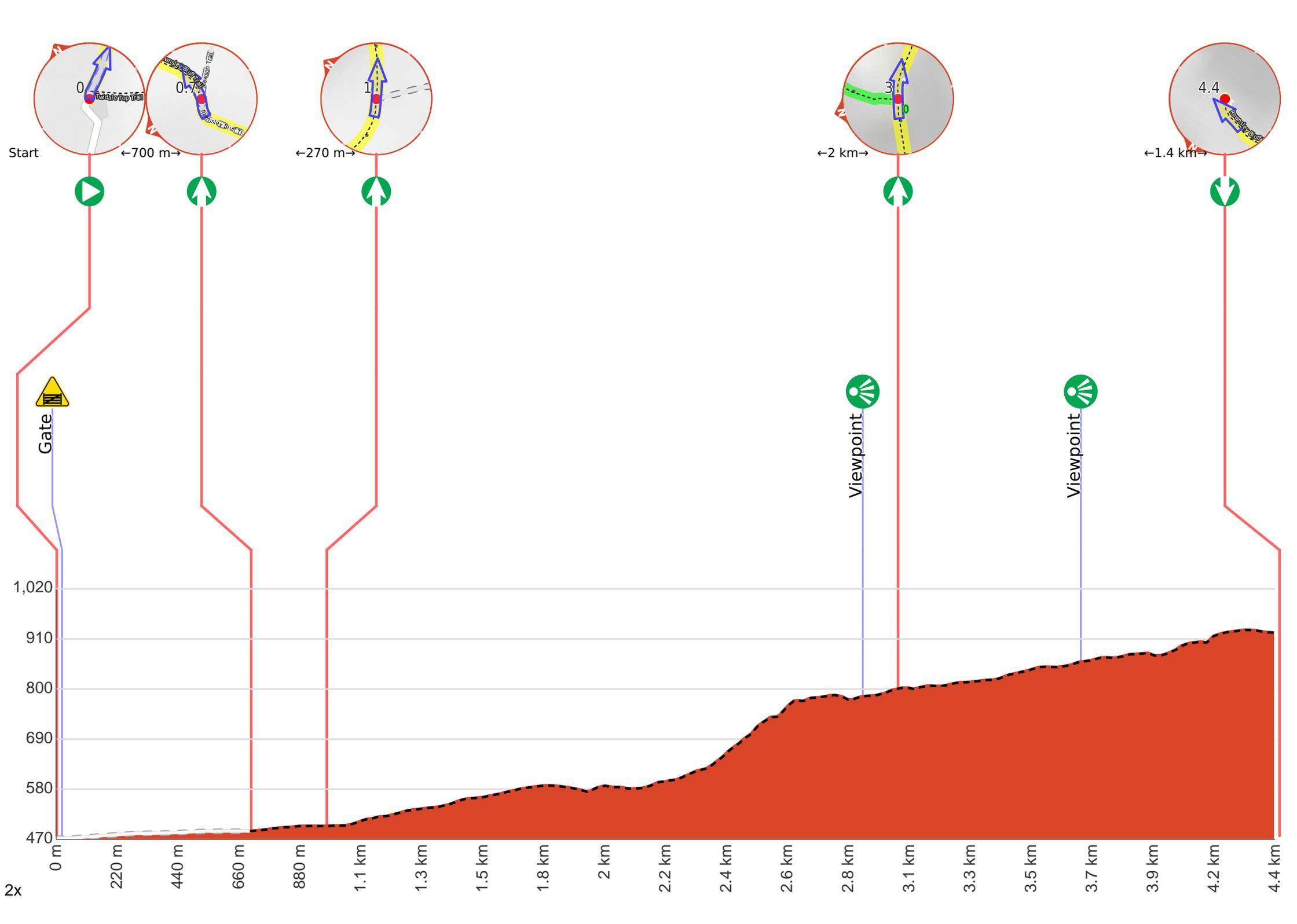
- Turn on to Range View Road, B83 then drive for 33.1 km
- Turn left onto Railway Terrace, B83 and drive for another 66.4 km
- Turn right onto Wilpena Road and drive for another 33.8 km
- Turn sharp left onto Rawnsley Park Station and drive for another 3.4 km
- Turn right and drive for another 1.3 km



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**Getting started:** Starting from the Rawnsley Bluff Carpark at the end of Mawson Trail (1.20km north of intersection with Rawnsley Park Road), head towards the metal gate along the dirt path. Pass by the brown trailhead signpost in front of the treeline keeping it to your left as you're moving directly away from the carpark. Move parallel to the treeline and follow the dirt trail for about 275 metres from the trailhead, then keep left as the trail splits into two. Keep following the signage to continue along Rawnsley Bluff and Wilpena Pound Lookout Track.



**Start.**



Find the gate at the start.



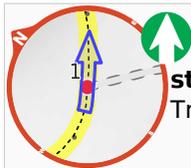
At the intersection of Twidale Top Trail & Rawnsley Bluff Trail **continue straight**, to head along Rawnsley Bluff Trail.



After another 600 m (at the intersection of Rawnsley Bluff Trail & Fern Tree Falls Trail) **continue straight**, to head along Rawnsley Bluff Trail.



After another 80 m (at the intersection of Mawson Trail & Rawnsley Bluff Trail) **continue straight**, to head along Rawnsley Bluff Trail (a walking track).

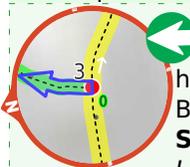


After another 270 m **continue straight**, to head along Rawnsley Bluff Trail.

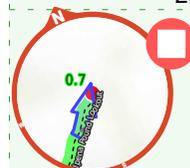


After another 1.9 km come to the viewpoint (10 m on your right).

**Start of an optional side trip:** A side trip to Wilpena Pond Lookout providing you with a great view down the centre of Wilpena Pound, as mentioned in the description.



To start this optional side trip turn left here. at the intersection of Rawnsley Bluff Trail & Wilpena Pound Lookout **Start** heading along *Wilpena Pound Lookout* (a walking track).



After another 680 m come to the end.



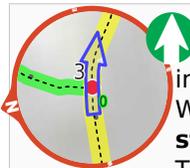
"Wilpena Pound Lookout".



Turn around and retrace your steps back the 680 m to the main route.



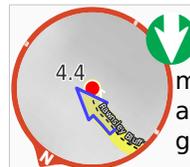
Back at the main route turn left and follow on from the 3 km waypoint.



After another 125 m (at the intersection of Rawnsley Bluff Trail & Wilpena Pound Lookout) **continue straight**, to head along Rawnsley Bluff Trail.



After another 650 m come to the viewpoint (15 m on your right).



(Rawnsley Bluff) Continue another 710 m to find the end. Then turn around here and retrace the main route for 4.4 km to get back to the start.



"Rawnsley Bluff".