

Boyds Tower to Red Sands Bay

1 h 45 min to 2 h





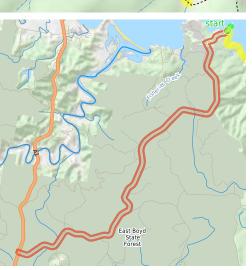
Starting near Boyds Tower, this walk follows the Light to Light walk to a bay with a fine red gravel beach. The walk passes scenic views of Boyds Tower, through the scrub, as it continues past awesome examples of geological rock folding in the cliffs of the bays. Red Sands Bay itself is something quite different with its large grain red sand/gravel mixed with smooth round white pebbles and other rocks. The contrast in colours with the ocean and a blue sky is quite something. Let us begin by acknowledging the Yuin people, Traditional Custodians of the land on which we travel today, and pay our respects to their Elders past and present.



Class 4 of 6 Rough track, where fallen trees and other obstacles are likely	
Rough track, where fallen trees and other obstacles are likely (4/6)	
Short steep hills (3/6)	
Directional signs along the way (3/6)	
Limited facilities (such as cliffs not fenced, significant creeks not bridged) (4/6)	
No experience required (1/6)	
Storms may impact on navigation and safety (3/6)	

Getting to the start: From Princes Highway, A1

• Turn on to Edrom Road then drive for 17.1 km

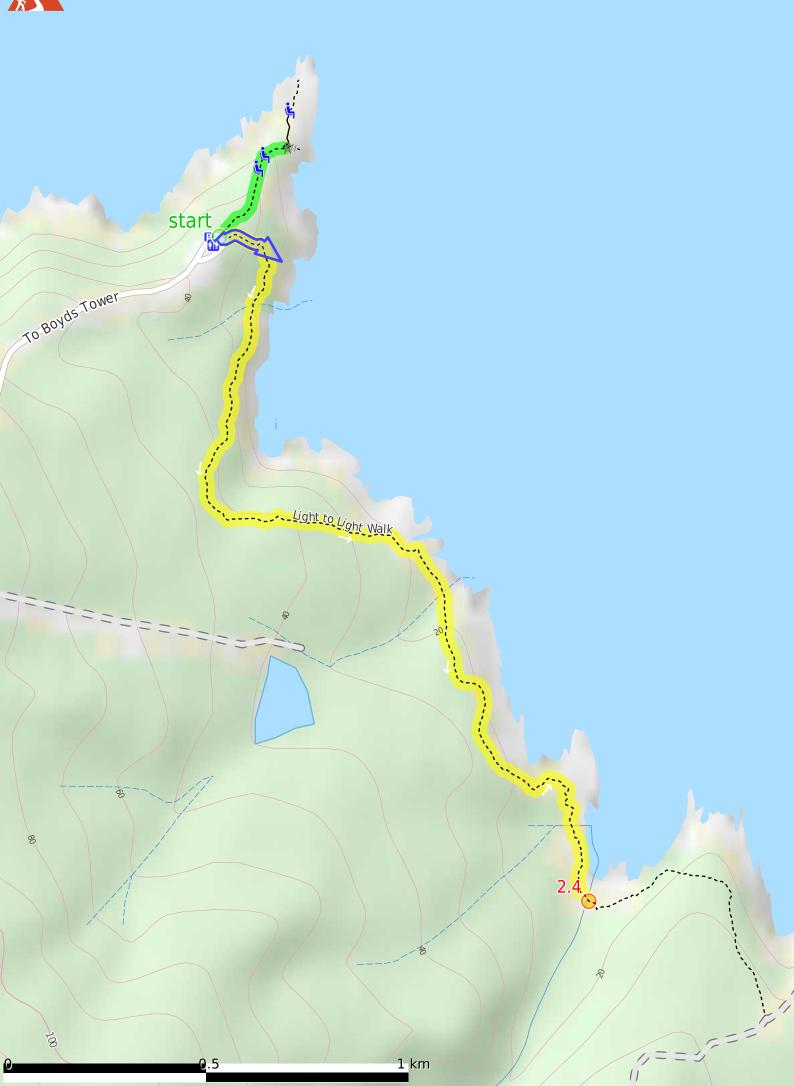


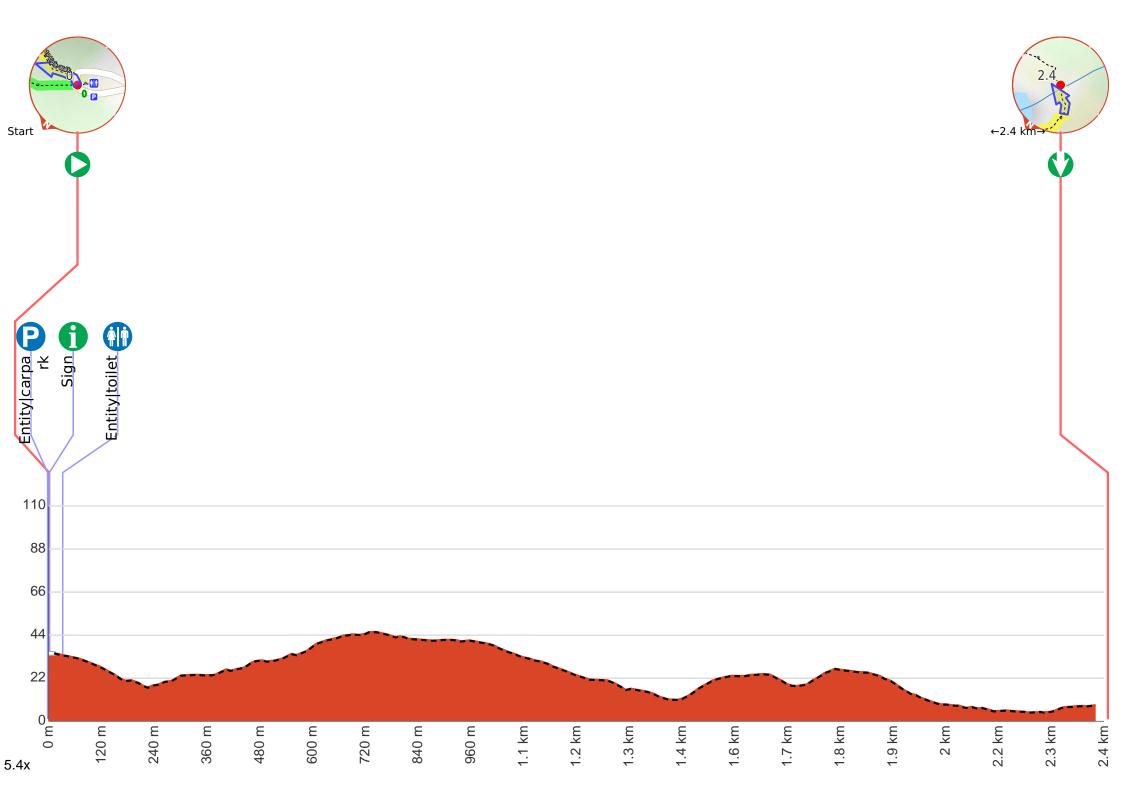
Before you start any journey ensure you;

- 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.





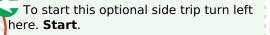




Getting started: From the information sign, the walk heads down the hill, following the low posts away from the information sign, to a signposted intersection on the left. From the intersection, the track follows the sign for 'Coastal Walk' down the hill away from the car park. The track soon passes an information sign on the right before tending right, down the hill to be above the coastline. The walk then continues with the coast on your left, down stairs into a gully and back out. The track winds and undulates for some time, leading away from the coast. The track then continues back towards the coast, to a view of the tower on your left and a rock island below in the sea.

From the intersection, this walk heads along the track, keeping the the coast to the left. The track soon leads out of the heath and winds along the hillside, tending away from the coast (which disappears below the trees on the left). The walk then winds down into a gully with access to the rocks (below on your left). Rising up and out of the gully, the track winds across the hillside and then down into a rocky bay with an arrow marker. The walk continues across the red flat rock at the back of the bay, coming to the arrow marker pointing inland, in the middle of the bay.

Start of an optional side trip: An optional side trip to Boyd Tower Intersection.





Culvert under path with exposed drainage ditch on the very edge of path. A drop of about 25cm. Marked with timber bollards, there are a series of 4 more similar drainage ditches about every 40m.

After another 150 m come to "Seat".



A timber bench seat, 55cm high, 22cm deep and 2.4m wide with no backrest. The seat is 1.7m off the side of the path.

Then find the "Seat" (on your right).

A timber bench seat, 58cm high, 22cm deep and 2.4m wide with no backrest.

After another 10 m turn left.

After another 2 m come to the end.

About 20 m past the end is "Boyds Tower".



Boyds Tower was commissioned by Benjamin Boyd and originally designed to be a lighthouse. After the Government rejected the proposal of the private lighthouse, Boyd changed tact and built the Sydney sandstone tower for whale spotting. The tower gave his whaling ships a strong advantage over other whalers in the area. Built in 1847, Boyds Tower is a large sandstone tower on the southern head of Twofold Bay in Ben Boyd National Park. The top of the tower bears the BOYD title, and boast several viewing points. The ground floor of the tower is open to the public and is well worth exploring. Boyd was declared bankrupt soon after completing the tower and left Australia for the Californian goldfields. Boyd died in the Solomon Islands in 1851 whilst hunting game. "Ben Boyd's Tower is watching - Watching o'er the sea Ben Boyd's Tower is waiting For her and me." Henry Lawson (1910) The bottom floor of the tower is open to the public via a 1.2m wide sandstone door frame.

Turn around and retrace your steps back the 275 m to the main route.

Back at the main route turn left and follow on
from the 0 m waypoint.





Boyd car park is found at the end 1.1km long unsealed Boyd Tower Rd, Edrom. The car park is spread around a turning circle at the end of the road. There is a concrete path leading to a toilet and water tank (empty) in the middle of the turning circle. Car parking bays are not marked, and there is space for about 20 cars plus a bus. There are no marked mobility parking areas. The surface is a fairly smooth gravel/clay. A manual pay station is available for park entry fees near the sheltered large information sign. The carpark is the start of the Light to Light walk and the path to Boyd Tower.

There is a sign (about 10 m back from the start).

After 30 m find the "Toilet" (30 m on your right). Unisex non-flushing toilet. Entrance is 90cm wide, toilet seat 40cm high, handrails 80cm high. Bolt lock 1m high.



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P

Continue another 2.4 km to find the end. Then turn around here and retrace the main route for 2.4 km to get back to the start.



Red sands bay (not officially named) is a northfacing bay between Boyd Tower and Leather Jacket Bay in Ben Boyd National Park. The rocky bay is accessed via the Light to Light walk. The beach in this bay is made up of small boulders and a fine red gravel. Most of the red gravel is on the western side of the bay. The gravel is made from the sea smashing the red siltstone into small pieces. The red sands/gravel of this bay makes for a fantastic contrast on sunny days.