



Eastern Girrakool Loop

(Darkinjung & Guringai Country)

 20 min to 40 min

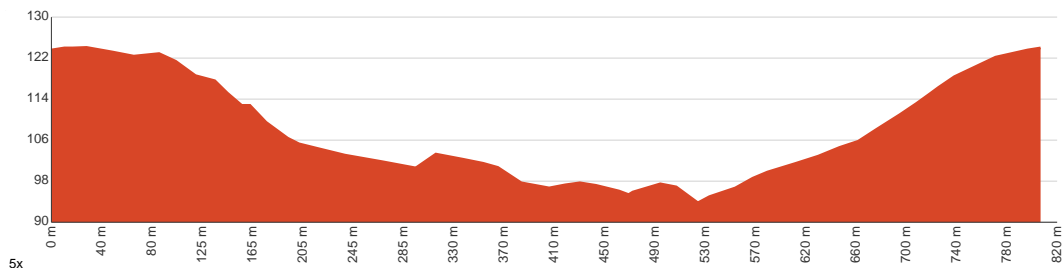

810 m
Circuit


↑ 37 m
↓ 37 m


Moderate track



This walk explores the eastern branch of the Girrakool Loop track. Starting from the car park, this walk first visits the Aboriginal Engraving site. Before reaching Broula Lookout, there is an optional side trip to a lovely section of Piles Creek. There is a second optional side trip, to Illoura Lookout, offering limited views down to Piles Creek waterfall. The walk concludes along the footpath, which returns to the Girrakool picnic area. The lookouts do not provide the most expansive views, but it is still a lovely walk. Let us begin by acknowledging the Darkinjung & Guringai people, Traditional Custodians of the land on which we travel today, and pay our respects to their Elders past and present.



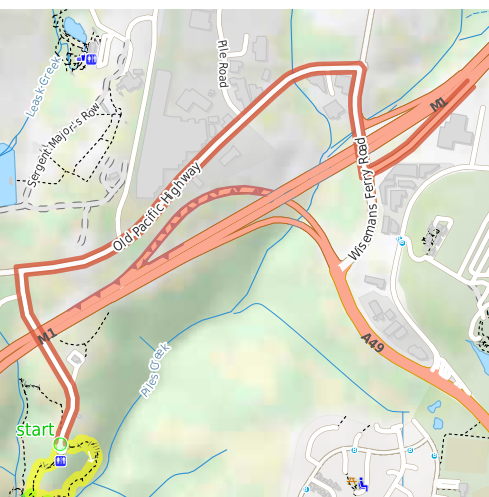
Class 3 of 6

Formed track, with some branches and other obstacles

Quality of track	Formed track, with some branches and other obstacles (3/6)
Gradient	Gentle hills with occasional steps (2/6)
Signage	Directional signs along the way (3/6)
Infrastructure	Generally useful facilities (such as fenced cliffs and seats) (1/6)
Experience Required	No experience required (1/6)
Weather	Weather generally has little impact on safety (1/6)

Getting to the start: From Wisemans Ferry Road Offramp

- Turn on to Wisemans Ferry Road Offramp then drive for 55 m
- Turn right onto Wisemans Ferry Road, B83 and drive for another 390 m
- At roundabout, take exit 1 onto Old Pacific Highway, B83 and drive for another 1.6 km
- Turn left onto Quarry Road and drive for another 75 m
- Keep left onto Girrakool Road and drive for another 630 m



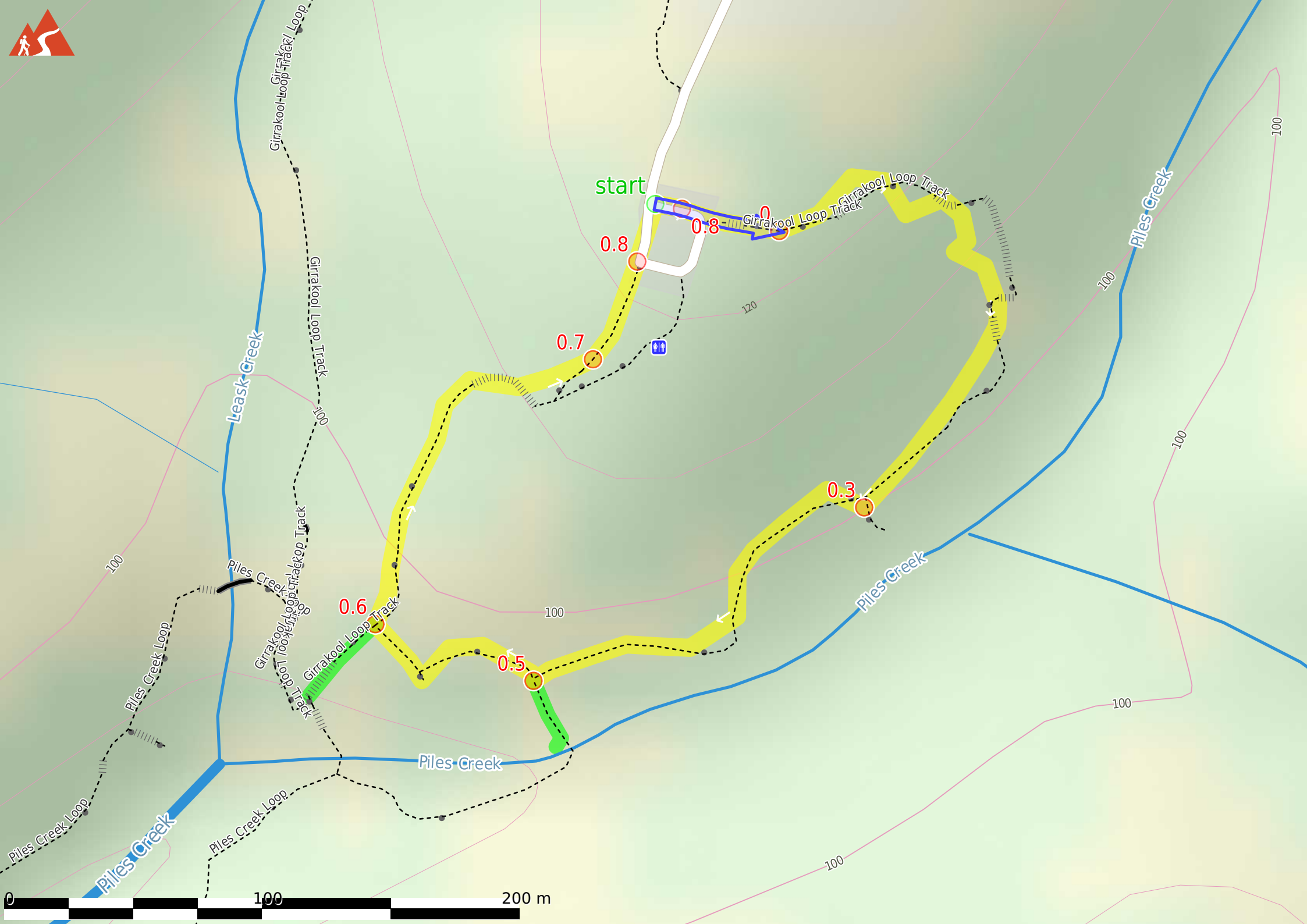
Before you start any journey ensure you;

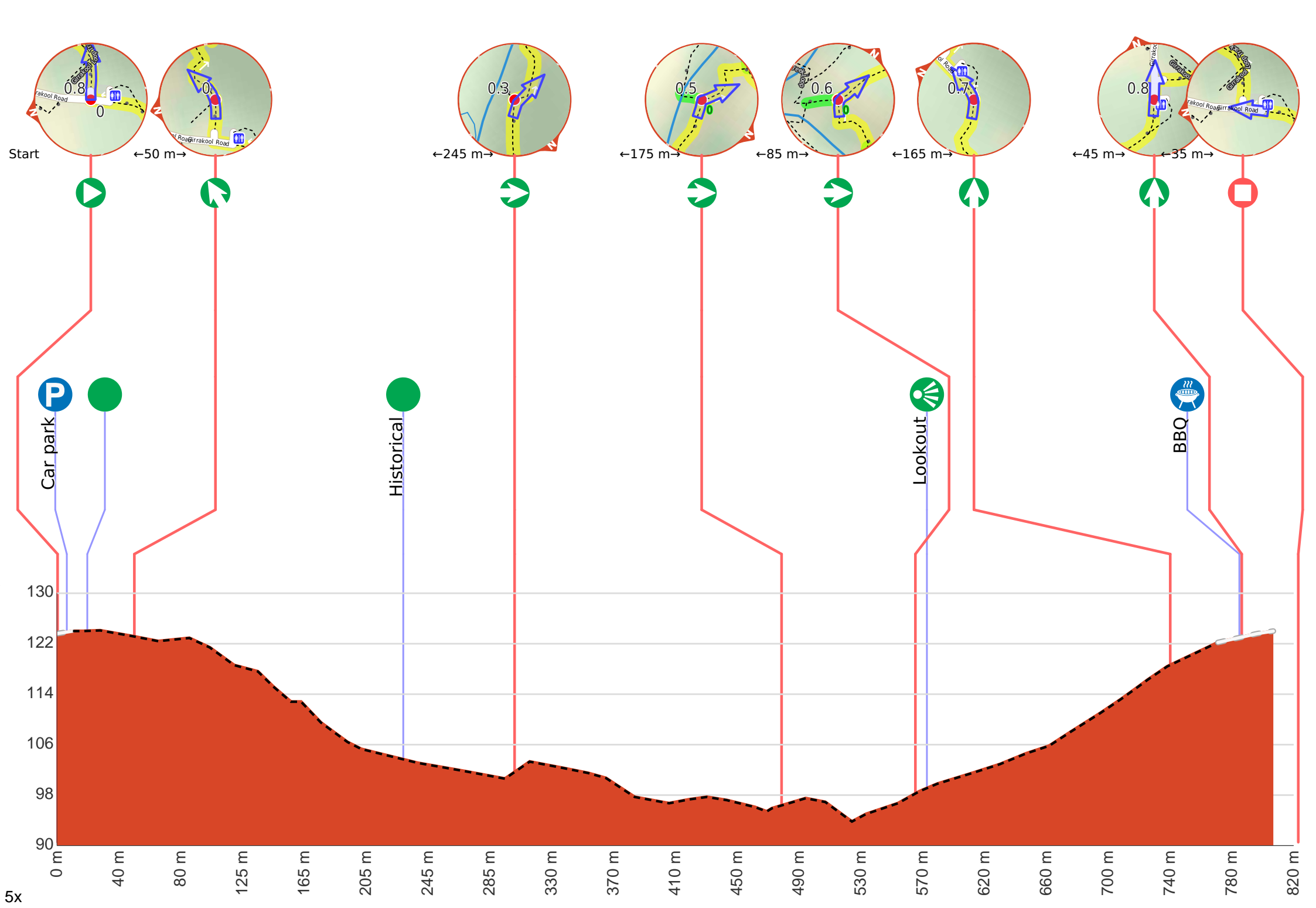
- Tell someone you trust where you are going and what to do if you are late returning
- Have adequate equipment, supplies, skills & knowledge to undertake this journey safely
- Consider weather forecasts, park/track closures & fire dangers
- Can respond to emergencies & call for help at any point
- Are 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/8B79DG)
[/j/8B79DG](https://bushwalk.com.au/j/8B79DG)







Getting started: From the Girrakool picnic area car park and information sign, this walk heads across the car park to the 'Girrakool Loop 2km' signpost on the other side. The walk then follows this sign and track into the bush, leaving the freeway noise behind. The track crosses a rock platform then heads down a series of steps, to come to a large rock platform with a pine log and 'Aboriginal Site' sign. The cliff edge around the rock is unfenced.



Start.



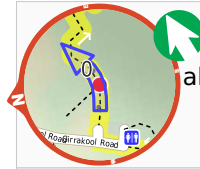
Find the car park at the start.



After 15 m find the "Girrakool Picnic Area" (10 m on your left).



Girrakool picnic area is a wonderful family destination, just 5 minutes' drive from Kariong. The picnic area provides all the necessary facilities for a full day's activities, including barbecues, tables, shelters, water and toilets. National Park fees apply. The main picnic area is on the eastern side of the car park, and smaller, older picnic area is at the north-eastern corner of the car park. The southern Girrakool picnic area is located near the toilets. The picnic area is dedicated to John 'Jack' Higgs, the first superintendent of Brisbane Water National Park, and Mrs Vera Murdoch, who provided the funds. 'Girrakool' is an Aboriginal word meaning 'place of still waters'.



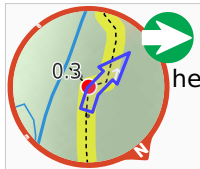
After another 30 m **veer left**, to head along Girrakool Loop Track.



After another 175 m find the "Girrakool Aboriginal Engravings site" (8 m on your left).



This rock platform has a log and 'Aboriginal Site' sign. Make an effort to not walk on the the engravings as this will only fade the engraving further. The engraving on this rock have faded but with a bit of effort you can make out a man and kangaroo.

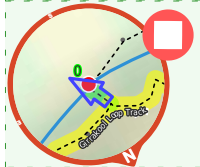


After another 70 m **turn right**, to head along Girrakool Loop Track.

Start of an optional side trip: An optional side trip to Piles Creek Cascades.



To start this optional side trip turn left here. **Start.**



After another 30 m come to the end.



About 15 m past the end is "Piles Creek Cascades".



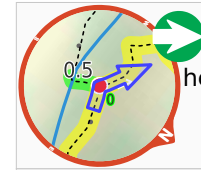
Piles Creek Cascades are an informally named set of cascades on a wide rock platform and Piles Creek, in Brisbane Water National Park. The creek, at this point, flows across a rock platform with many interesting sink holes, small water holes and cascades. this is a nice spot to explore. Care is needed as the rocks are slippery, with unfenced drops, and the area may not be passable after rain.



Turn around and retrace your steps back the 30 m to the main route.



Back at the main route continue straight and follow on from the 470 m waypoint.



After another 175 m **turn right**, to head along Girrakool Loop Track.

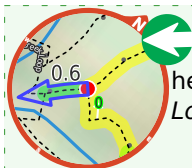


After another 95 m find the "Broula Lookout" (on your left).

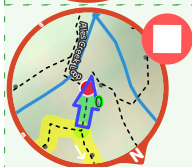


Broula Lookout is fenced and a fairly short walk down from the Girrakool picnic area. Over time, the trees in the area have grown, filtering what would otherwise be a great vantage point for the Piles Creek waterfall. Broula is an Aboriginal word referring to a place of trickling water.

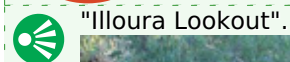
Start of an optional side trip: An optional side trip to Illoura Lookout.



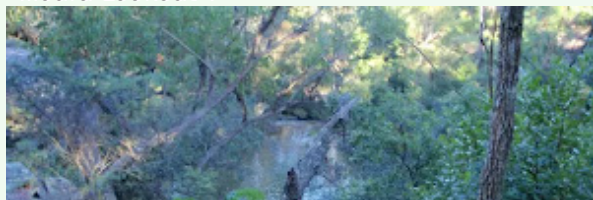
To start this optional side trip turn left here. **Start** heading along *Girrakool Loop Track*.



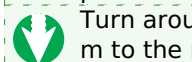
After another 40 m come to the end.



"Illoura Lookout".



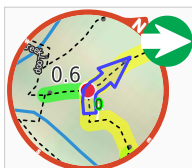
Illoura Lookout, Brisbane Water National Park, can be found a short walk south-west of the Girrakool picnic area, following the Great North Walk sign. This lookout provides a filtered view up and down the Leask and Piles Creek junction. There is a view of a waterfall from Piles Creek. Illoura is an Aboriginal word referring to a pleasant or peaceful place.



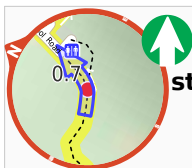
Turn around and retrace your steps back the 40 m to the main route.



Back at the main route turn right and follow on from the 560 m waypoint.



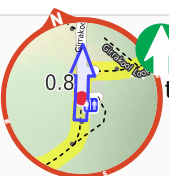
Turn right.



After another 165 m **continue straight.**



After another 45 m pass the BBQ (25 m on your right).



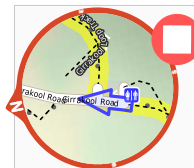
After another 2 m **continue straight**, to head along Girrakool Road.



After another 25 m come to a toilet.



After another 10 m come to a sign.



The end.