




Cape Baily Coastline: Kurnell Visitor Centre to Boat Harbour Reserve

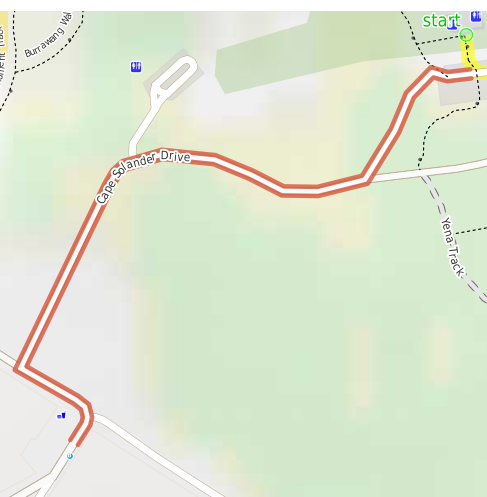
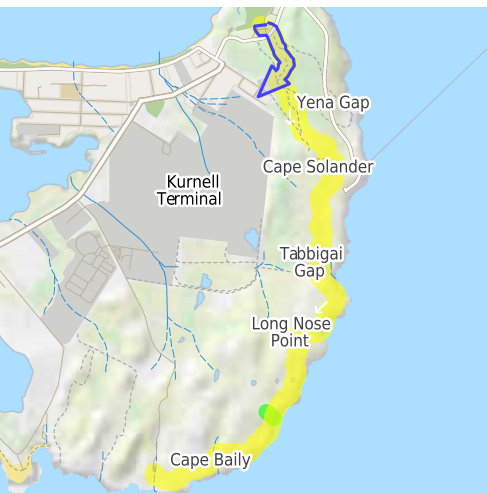
(Dharawal Country)

 2 h to 2 h 30 min

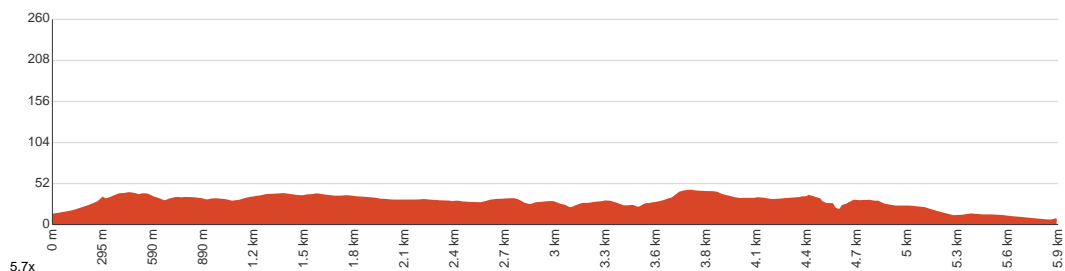

5.9 km
One way


↑ 113 m
↓ 119 m


4
Hard track



This walk starts from Kurnell's Botany Bay Visitor Centre and heads south through the national park. The track winds through dry gum forest until it breaks out into heath, joining onto the Cape Baily walking track. As it continues south, through small sand dunes and in between hanging swamps, the track winds in and out of the cliff top coastline to the end of the Sir Joseph Banks drive. The side trip up to the Cape Baily Lighthouse is well worth the small climb. Let us begin by acknowledging the Dharawal 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

Quality of track	Rough track, where fallen trees and other obstacles are likely (4/6)
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	Moderate level of bushwalking experience recommended (4/6)
Weather	Weather generally has little impact on safety (1/6)

Getting to the start: From Captain Cook Drive

- Turn on to Cape Solander Drive then drive for 420 m
- Keep left and drive for another 145 m

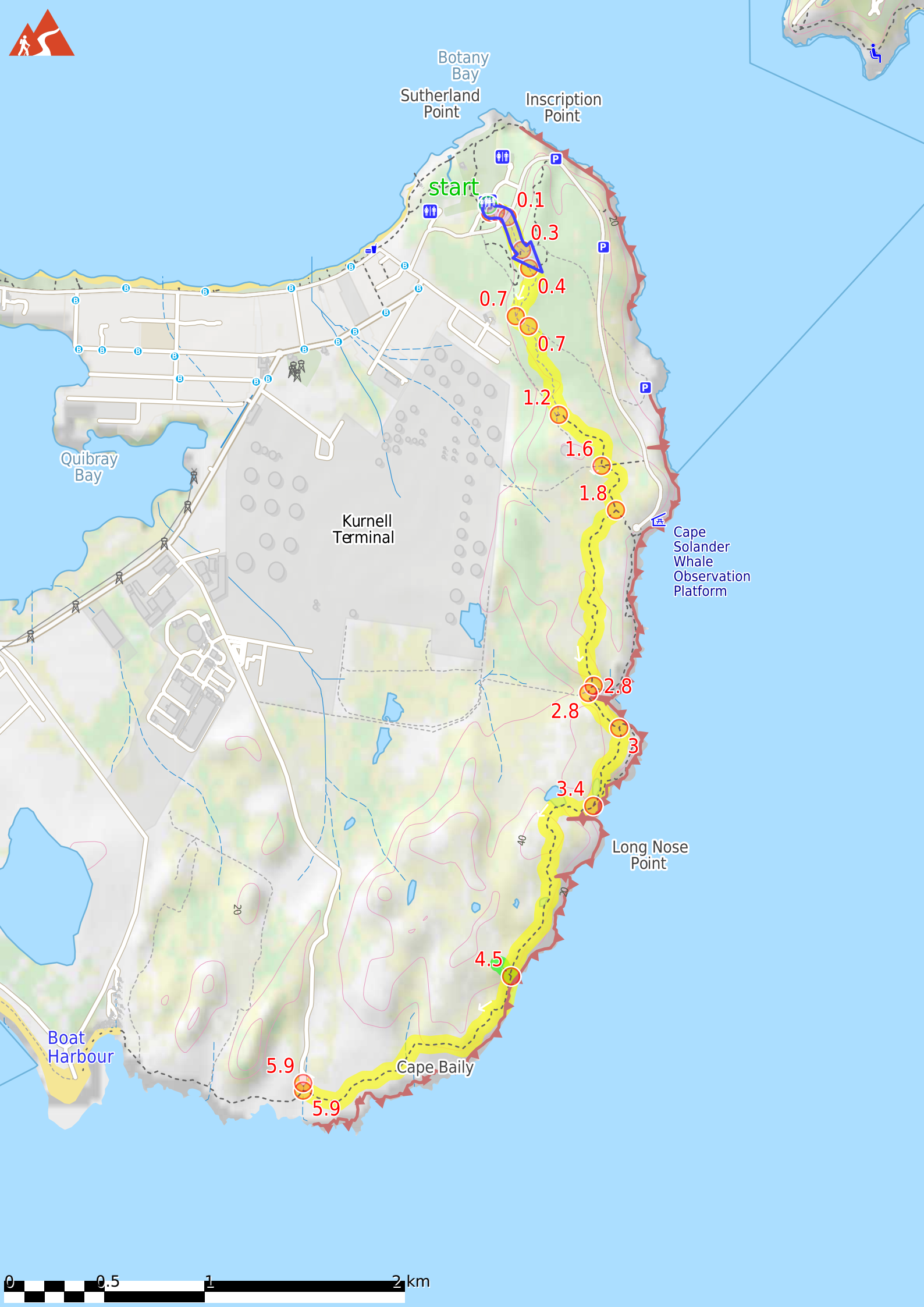
Before you start any journey ensure you;

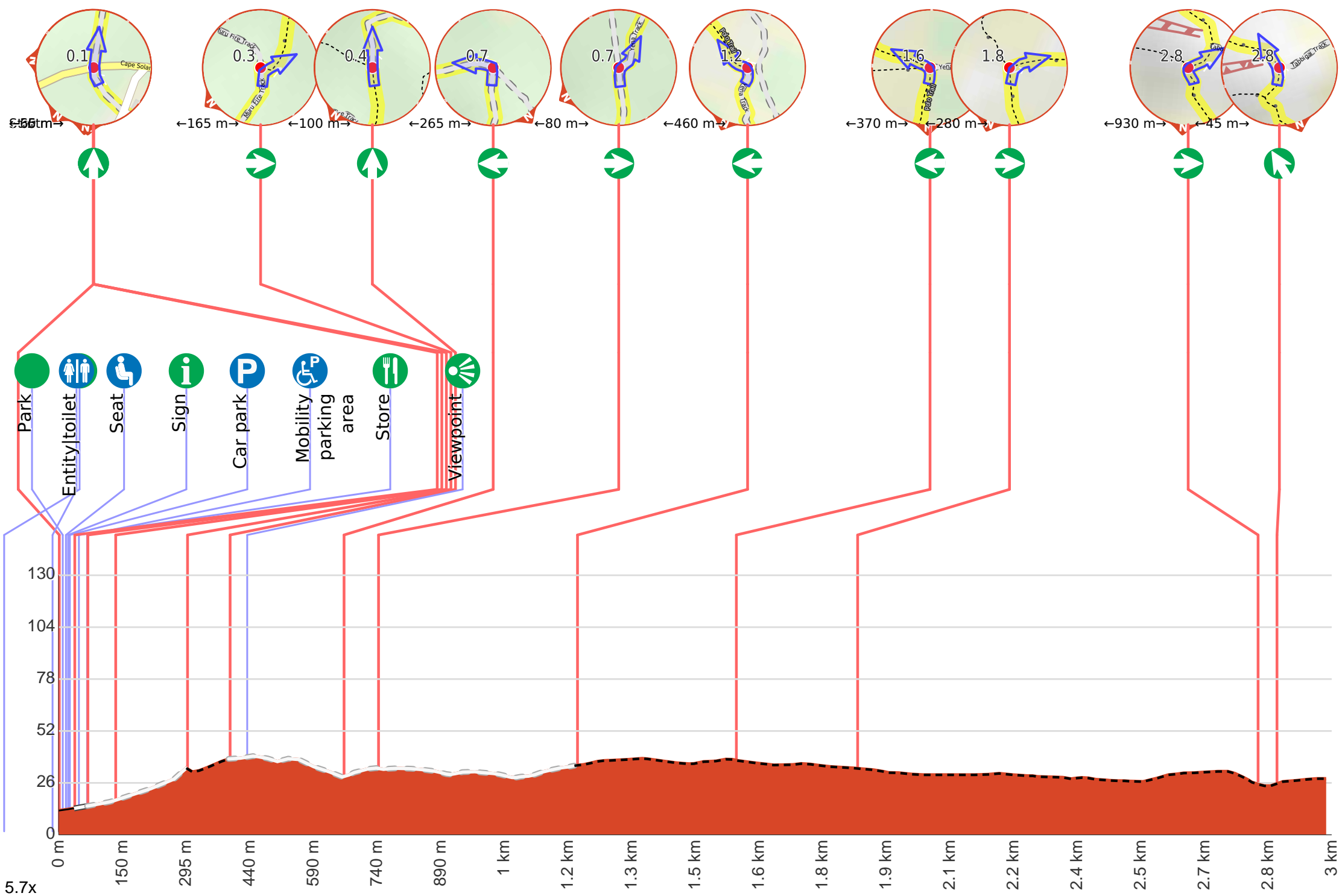
- Tell someone you trust where you are going and what to do if you are late returning
- Have adequate equipment, supplies, skills & knowledge to undertake this journey safely
- Consider weather forecasts, park/track closures & fire dangers
- Can respond to emergencies & call for help at any point
- Are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

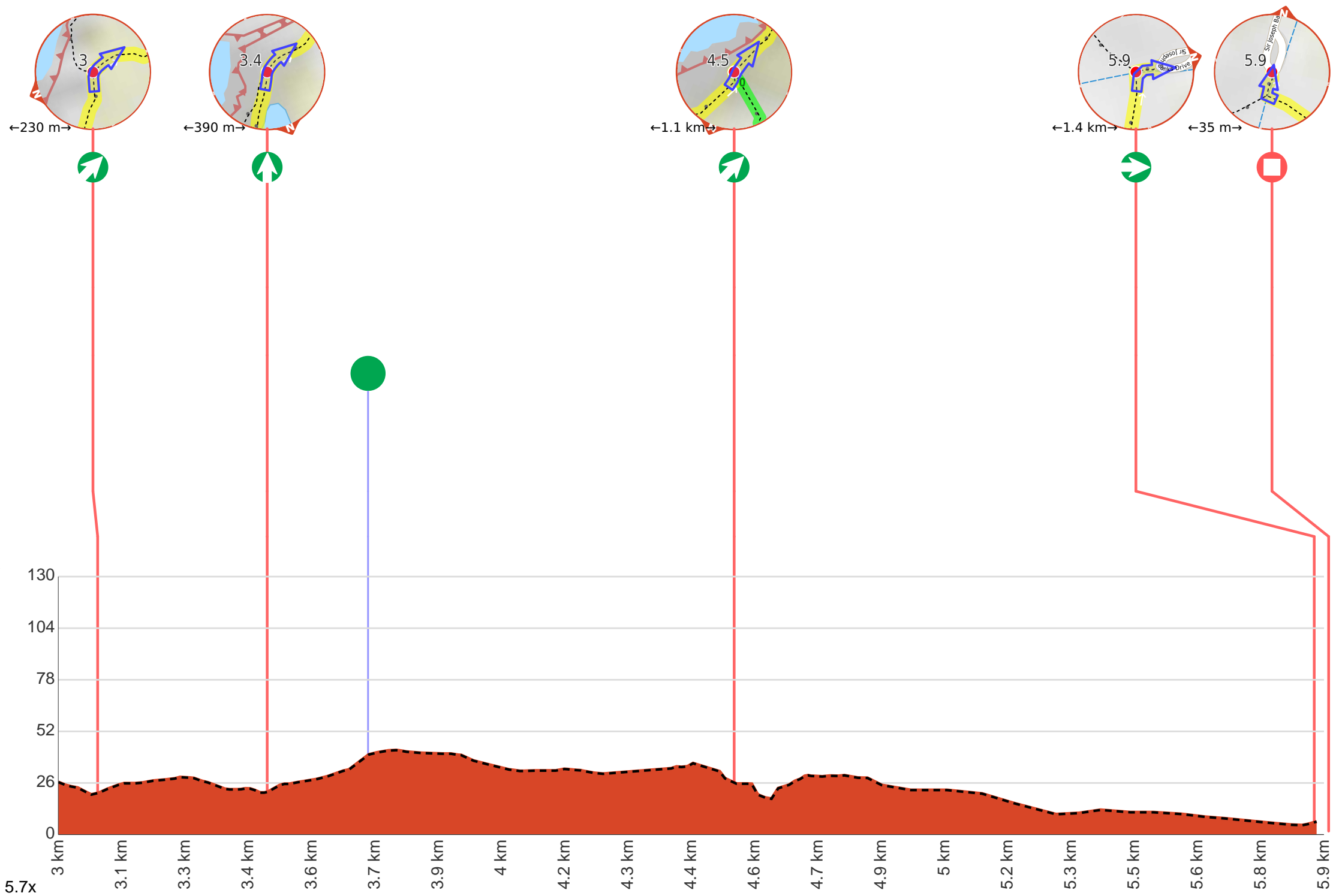
If not, change plans and stay safe. It is okay to delay and ask people for help.

Share
[Bushwalk.com](https://bushwalk.com.au/HFBJFQ)
[/i/HFBJFQ](https://bushwalk.com.au/HFBJFQ)



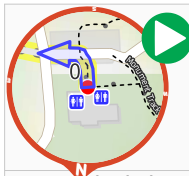






Getting started: From the main exit of the Botany Bay Discovery Centre car park, the track heads south-east, out of the car park along the old service trail (Not on the Banks Solander Track). Partway along, the track passes over a small bridge. This is shortly before an intersection with Cape Solander Drive. Just across the road, another service trail begins.

From Cape Solander Dr, this walk heads south-east away from the discovery centre and along the management trail for approximately 200m until coming to an intersection with a sandy track on the left.



Start.

Find the park at the start.

The Meeting Place (about 150 m back from the start).



This circular seating area provides an opportunity to reflect on the history of this land. A chance to consider the Aboriginal people, their connection to this land and that 'At this place in April 1770 Aboriginal people gathered as a converted British coal ship, the Endeavour, appeared on the horizon and continued into the bay. As the landing party approached, two Aboriginal men advanced to the beach to challenge the group of strangers as they prepared to come ashore.'



Toilet (about 40 m back from the start).



Male and female toilet block. Entrance is 110cm wide, hand basins 90cm high, cubical doors 56cm wide, toilet seat 44cm high. Male toilet has a urinal 40 and 60cm high. No handrails. Toilet entrance is around the eastern side of visitor centre building.



Seat (about 7 m back from the start).



A series of four timber slat bench seat, 44cm high, 32cm deep and 1.8m wide with no arm or backrest. The seats are outside the visitors center.



Visitor Centre.

W: botanybayeec.nsw.edu.au



Then pass the car park (on your right).



After another 40 m find the "Parking Accessible" (on your left).



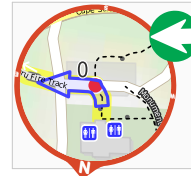
There are about 60 car parking bays in front of the visitors center. Two are marked mobility parking bays. The mobility parking area is asphalt, 3.8m wide and 4.6m deep.



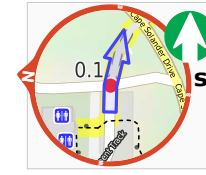
Then find the "Visitor Centre" (9 m on your right).



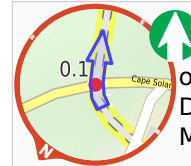
This visitors' centre can be found on Cape Solander Drive, inside Kamay Botany Bay National Park. It provides great information about the area's history and environment, plus there is a souvenir shop, where some simple food and drink is also available. A Trailrider is also available for free hire for people with limited mobility. There is a male & female toilet block on the eastern side of the Visitor Centre. And a large parking area in front.



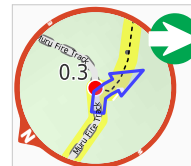
Turn left.



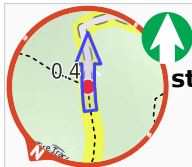
After another 30 m **continue straight**, to head along Muru Fire Track.



After another 65 m (at the intersection of Muru Fire Track & Cape Solander Drive) **continue straight**, to head along Muru Fire Track.



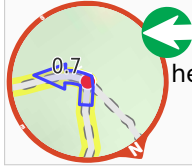
After another 165 m **turn right**.



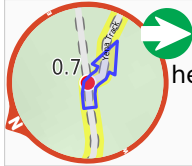
After another 100 m **continue straight**.



After another 40 m come to the "Kurnell Lookout" (9 m on your left).



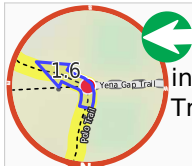
After another 225 m **turn left**, to head along Yena Track.



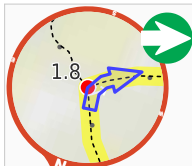
After another 80 m **turn right**, to head along Yena Track.



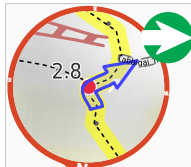
After another 460 m (at the intersection of Polo Trail & Yena Track) **turn left**, to head along Polo Trail (a walking track).



After another 370 m (at the intersection of Yena Gap Trail & Polo Trail) **turn left**.



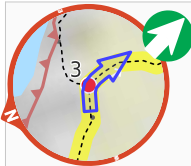
After another 280 m **turn right**.



After another 930 m **turn right**.



After another 45 m **veer left**.



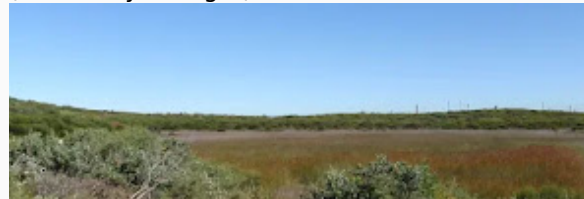
After another 230 m **veer right**.



After another 390 m **continue straight**.



After another 235 m find the "Hanging Swamps" (40 m on your right).

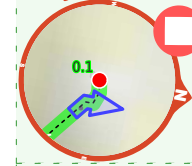


There are a number of hanging swamps that can be found along the Cape Baily walk. They are home to a number of different plants and animals like reeds and frogs. Hanging swamps are formed on high ground when rainfall seeps out of surrounding hills and accumulates in a slight depression, over time forming a swamp. Interestingly, they are sometimes difficult to see from far away as the thick build up of reeds and other plant life often cover the water.

Start of an optional side trip: An optional side trip to Cape Baily Lighthouse.



To start this optional side trip turn sharp right here. **Start**.



After another 95 m come to the end.



About 15 m past the end is "Cape Baily Lighthouse".



Established in 1950, the lighthouse was required so north-bound shipping could hug the coast and avoid the strong southerly currents further out to sea. This lighthouse can be found a stone's-throw from the Cape Baily coastal walk, about 1.5 kilometres north from the Joseph Banks Drive car park.

"Cape Baily Lighthouse".

W: www.nationalparks.nsw.gov.au



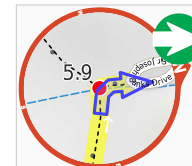
Turn around and retrace your steps back the 95 m to the main route.



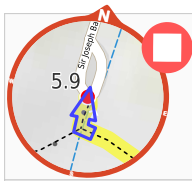
Back at the main route continue straight and follow on from the 4.5 km waypoint.



After another 850 m **veer right**.



After another 1.4 km **turn right**.



After another 35 m come to the end.



A car park.