



# Cape Baily Lighthouse from Polo Street

 2 h 15 min to 2 h 30 min

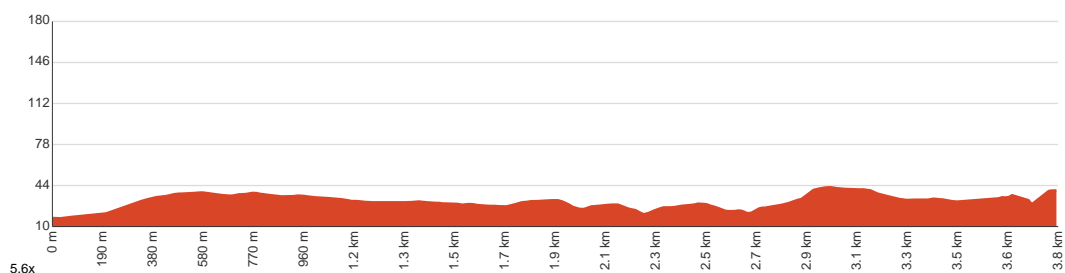
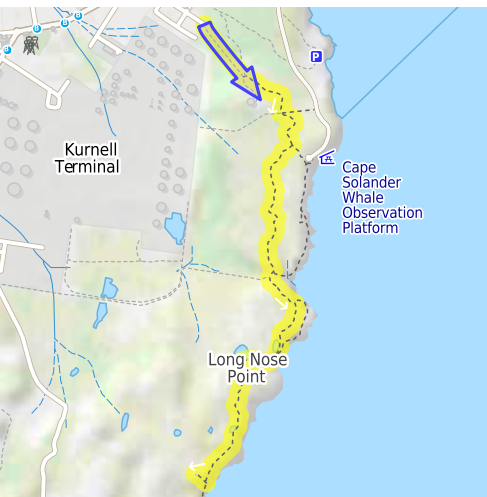
  
7.7 km  
Return

  
↑ 143 m  
↓ 143 m

  
Moderate track



This great return walk follows the Cape Baily walking track as it winds along the coast, through thick heath and small sand dunes, to the Cape Baily Lighthouse, with great ocean views all the way. Also of interest is the wide variety of flora and fauna that can be found on this walk, from a number of different types of reptiles and amphibians to the hanging swamps and wild flowers (in spring). There is even some good whale watching opportunities in June, July, Sept and Oct. 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.



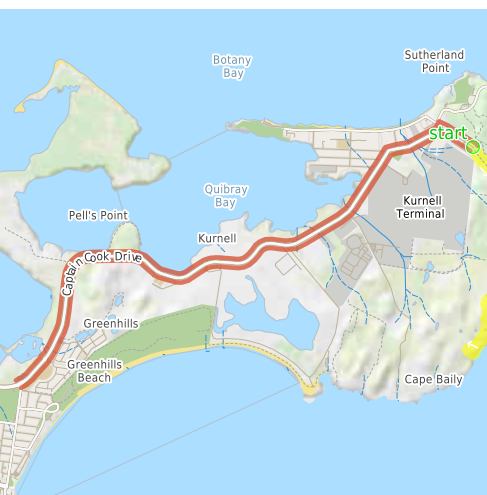
Class 3 of 6

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	Some bushwalking experience recommended (3/6)
Weather	Weather generally has little impact on safety (1/6)

**Getting to the start:** From Captain Cook Drive

- Turn on to Captain Cook Drive then drive for 460 m
- At roundabout, take exit 1 onto Captain Cook Drive and drive for another 3.5 km
- At roundabout, take exit 1 onto Captain Cook Drive and drive for another 2.9 km
- At roundabout, take exit 2 onto Captain Cook Drive and drive for another 820 m
- Turn right onto Polo Street and drive for another 520 m



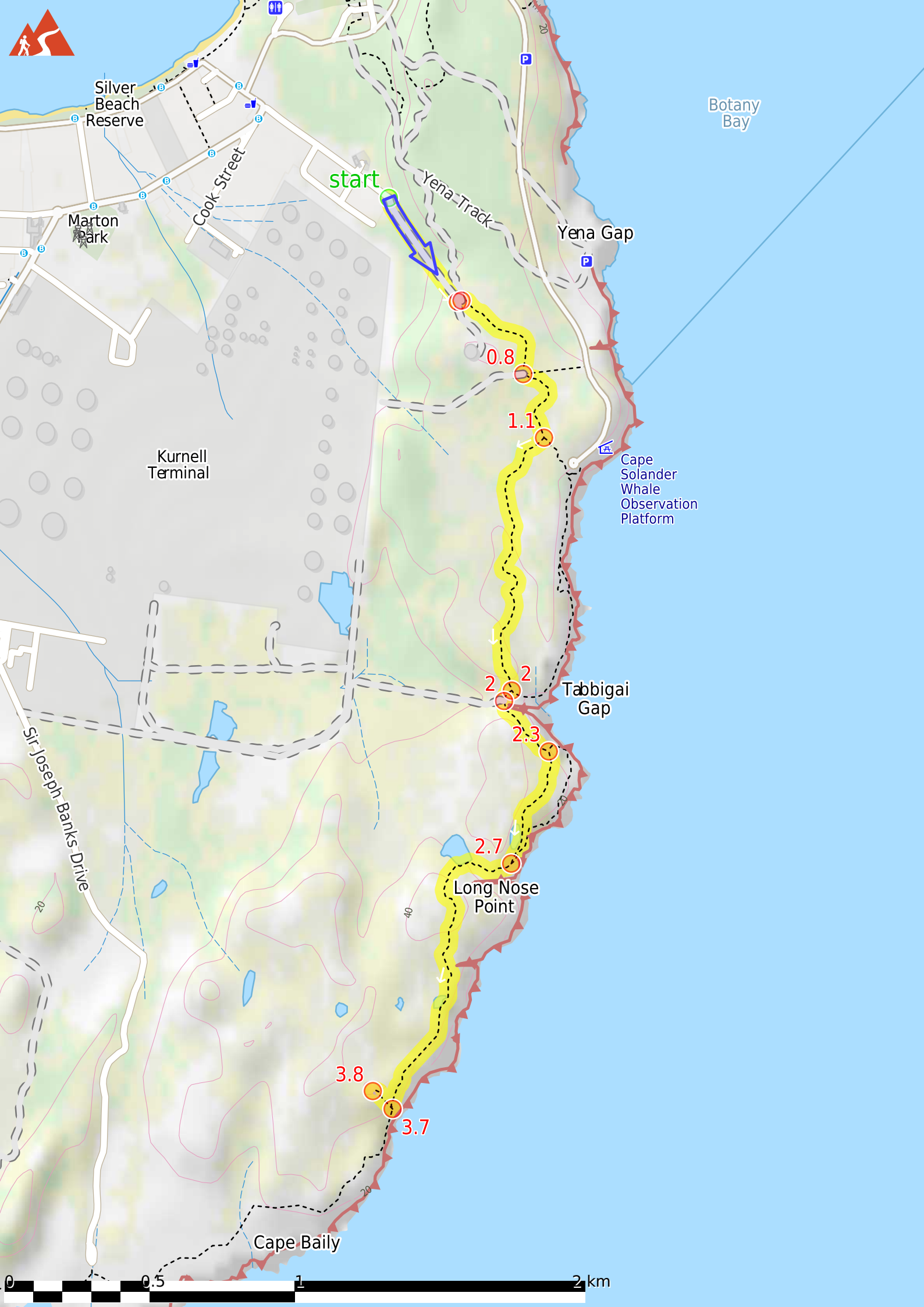
## Before you start any journey ensure you;

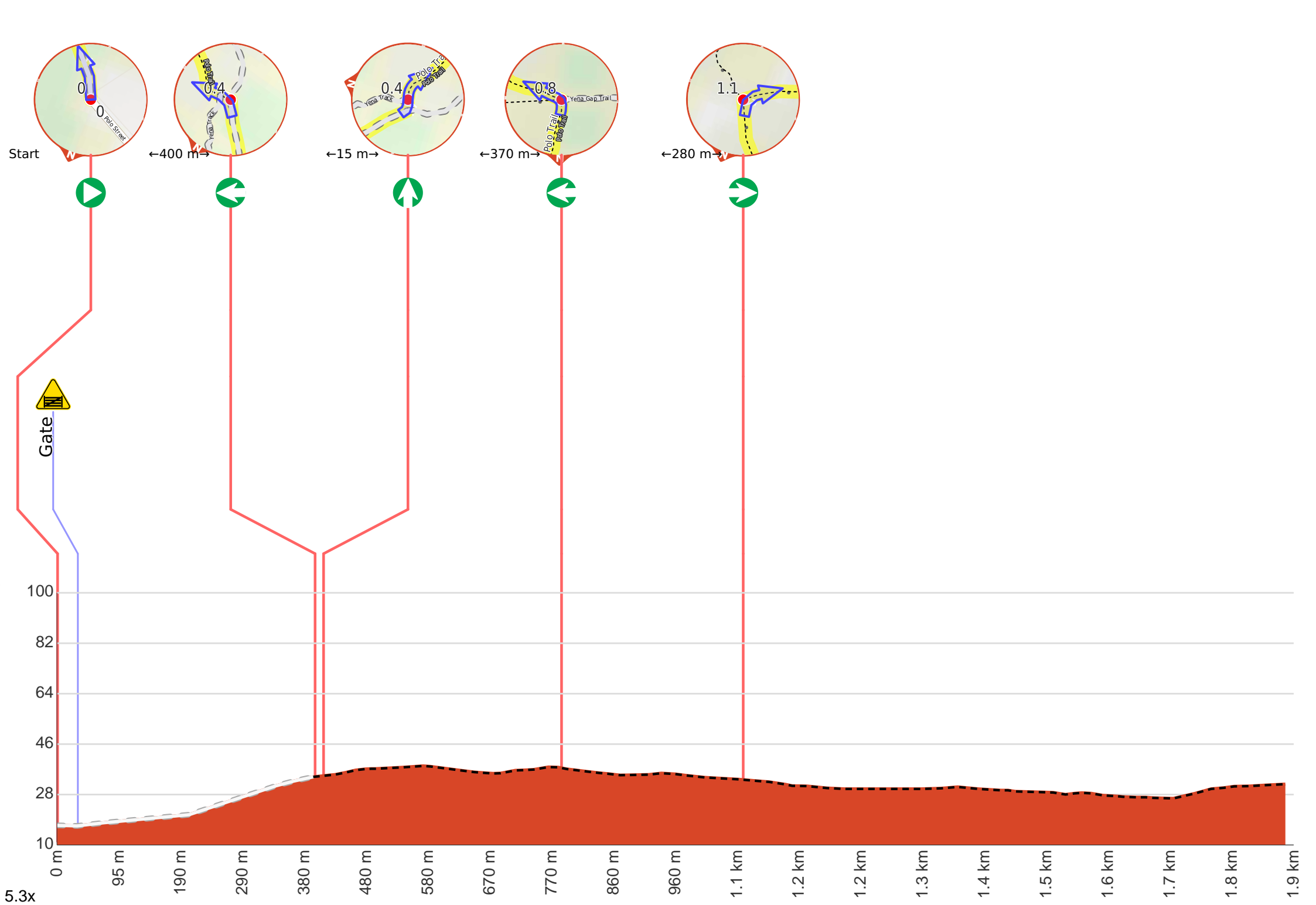
- Tell someone you trust where you are going and what to do if you are late returning
- Have adequate equipment, supplies, skills & knowledge to undertake this journey safely
- Consider weather forecasts, park/track closures & fire dangers
- Can respond to emergencies & call for help at any point
- Are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

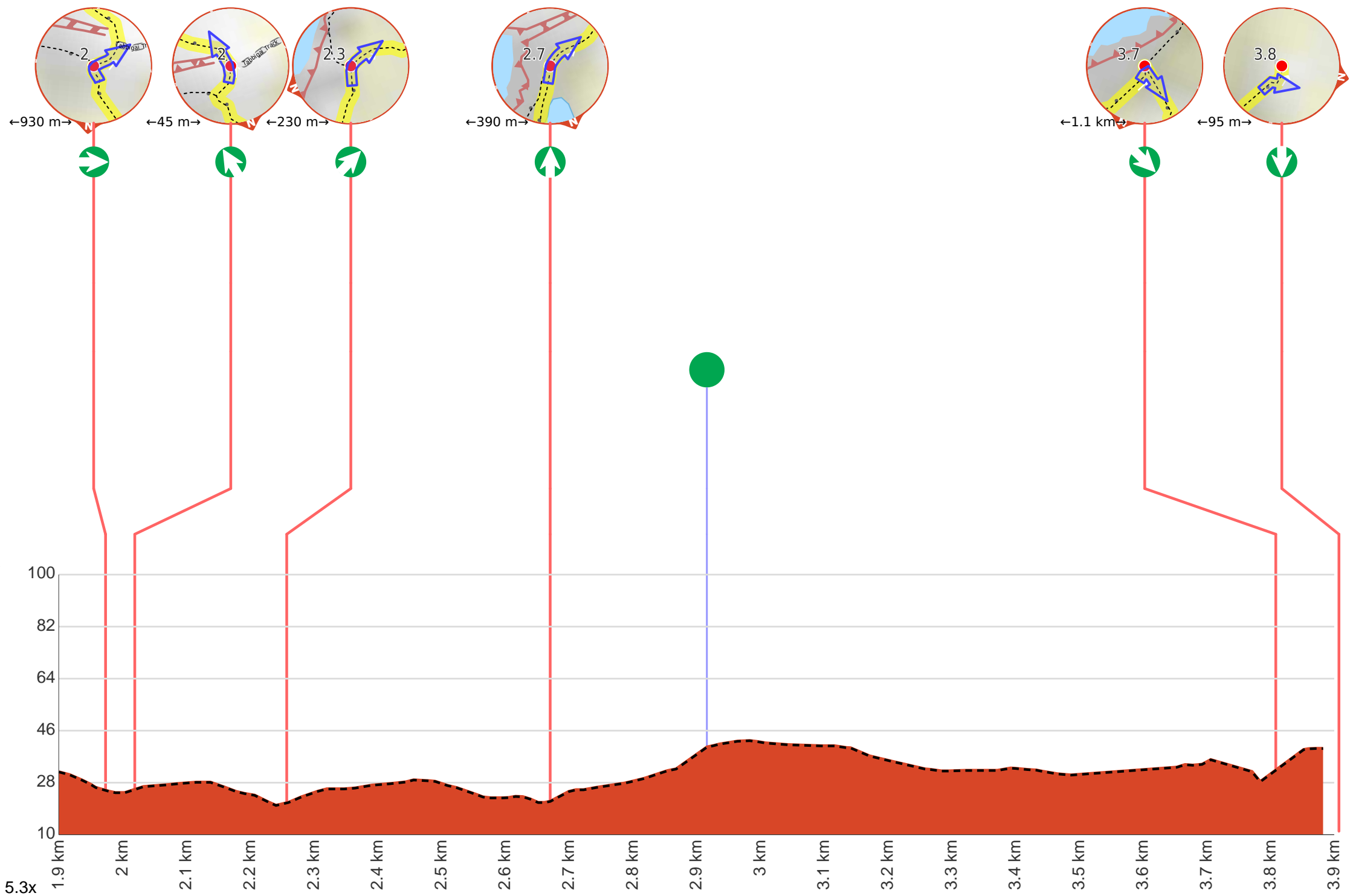
If not, change plans and stay safe. It is okay to delay and ask people for help.

Share  
[Bushwalk.com](https://bushwalk.com.au/CLCR52)  
[/i/CLCR52](https://bushwalk.com.au/CLCR52)

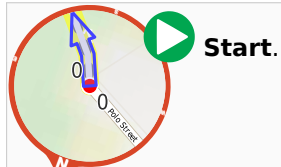








**Getting started:** From the end of the Polo St, this walk heads around the metal National Parks gate and south-east along the service trail, with some power lines on the right-hand side. As the track heads further south-east, the track steadily climbs up to the top of a gentle hill and continues along until it comes to the intersection of the Cape Bailey walk and the radar service trail.

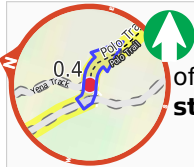


**Start.**

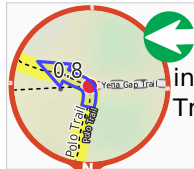
After 30 m head through/around the gate.



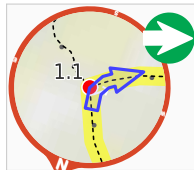
After another 370 m **turn left**, to head along Polo Trail.



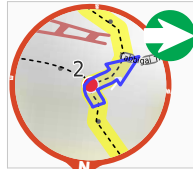
After another 15 m (at the intersection of Polo Trail & Yena Track) **continue straight**, to head along Polo Trail.



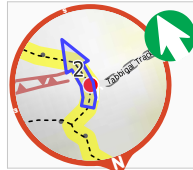
After another 370 m (at the intersection of Yena Gap Trail & Polo Trail) **turn left**.



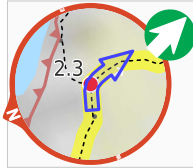
After another 280 m **turn right**.



After another 930 m **turn right**.



After another 45 m **veer left**.



After another 230 m **veer right**.



After another 390 m **continue straight**.



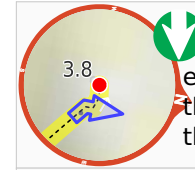
After another 235 m find the "Hanging Swamps" (40 m on your right).



There are a number of hanging swamps that can be found along the Cape Bailey 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.



After another 850 m **turn sharp right**.



Continue another 95 m to find the end. Then turn around here and retrace the main route for 3.8 km to get back to the start.



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 Bailey coastal walk, about 1.5 kilometres north from the Joseph Banks Drive car park.