

Boxvale Loop (Gundungurra Country)



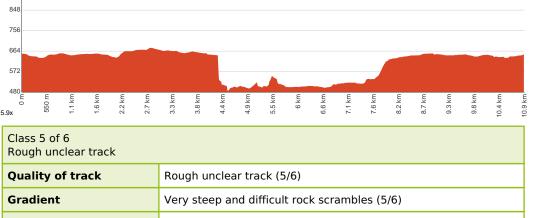






Starting from the Boxvale Tramway Walking Track car park off Boxvale Road, Mittagong, this walk takes you on a circuit past the Nattai Gorge Lookout and Forty Foot Falls via the Boxvale Loop. This challenging hike follows the route of a historic railway line used to transport coal from Welby to the Nattai escarpment in the 1800s, passing the Nattai Gorge Lookout, then descends steeply into Nattai Gorge and follows the Nattai River, passing Forty Foot Falls. The walk initially crosses the Nattai and Kells creeks, passing through lush forest, fern-lined valleys and along paths carved out between the cliffs. After passing through an 84m long tunnel carved through the rock, the walk reaches the signposted location of the 'Incline', where the coal was brought up from the gorge. Shortly ahead, the walk passes a side trip to the Nattai Gorge Lookout, which offers stunning views over Nattai Gorge, the Nattai River and towards the Blue Mountains. After visiting the lookout, adventurous bushwalkers can tackle the steep cable-assisted descent into Nattai Gorge. At the bottom, the walk crosses the Nattai River and meanders through the gorge, guided by occasional signs and markers on trees. After crossing the river a second time, the walk follows Nattai Creek to the spectacular Forty Foot Falls, which has a cave behind the cascade. From there, the walk climbs steeply out of the gorge via a series of ladders and steps, passing a lookout above the falls, then follows a wide fire track back to the car park. This walk consists of wide and narrow walking trails and fire tracks, with uneven natural surfaces, compacted natural surfaces, off-track sections, rock scrambling sections, creek crossings, steep hills and steps. Suitable for high fitness levels. Let us begin by acknowledging the Gundungurra people, Traditional Custodians of the land on which we travel today, and pay our respects to their Elders past and present.

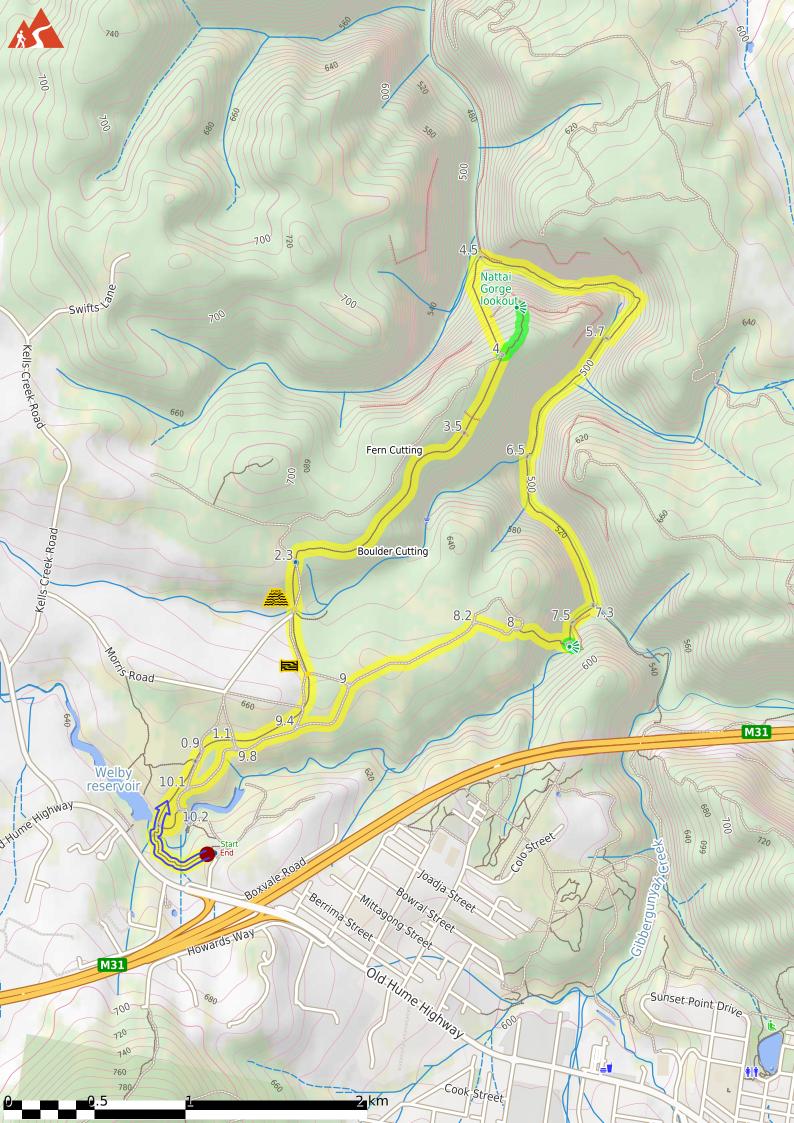


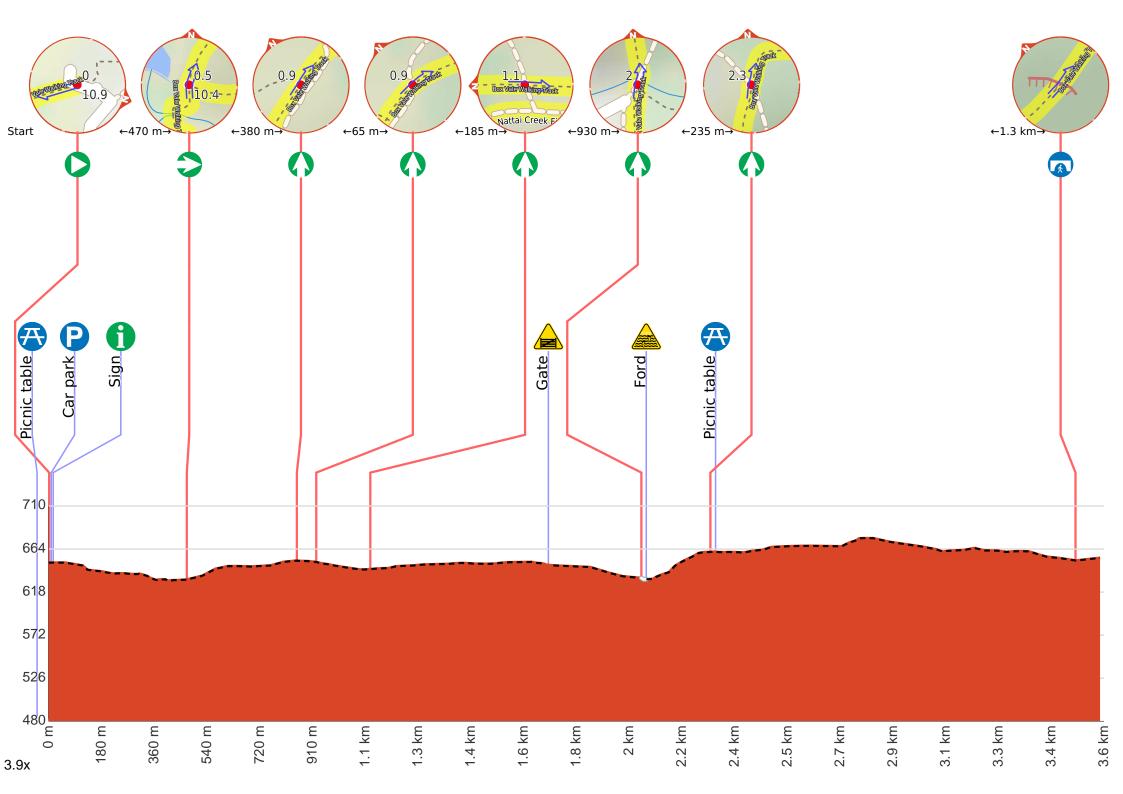


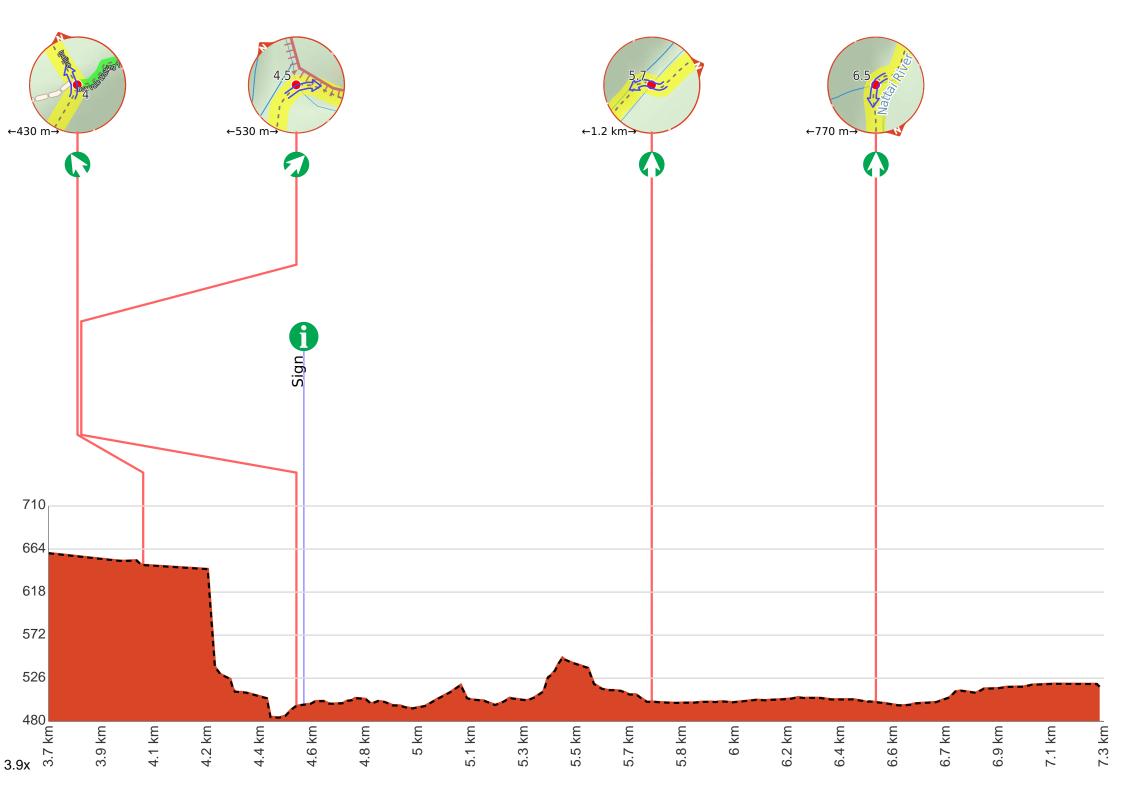
Quality of track	Rough unclear track (5/6)
Gradient	Very steep and difficult rock scrambles (5/6)
Signage	Minimal directional signs (4/6)
Infrastructure	Limited facilities (such as cliffs not fenced, significant creeks not bridged) (4/6)
Experience Required	High level of bushwalking experience recommended (5/6)
Weather	Forecasted & unexpected severe weather likely to have an impact on your navigation and safety (5/6)

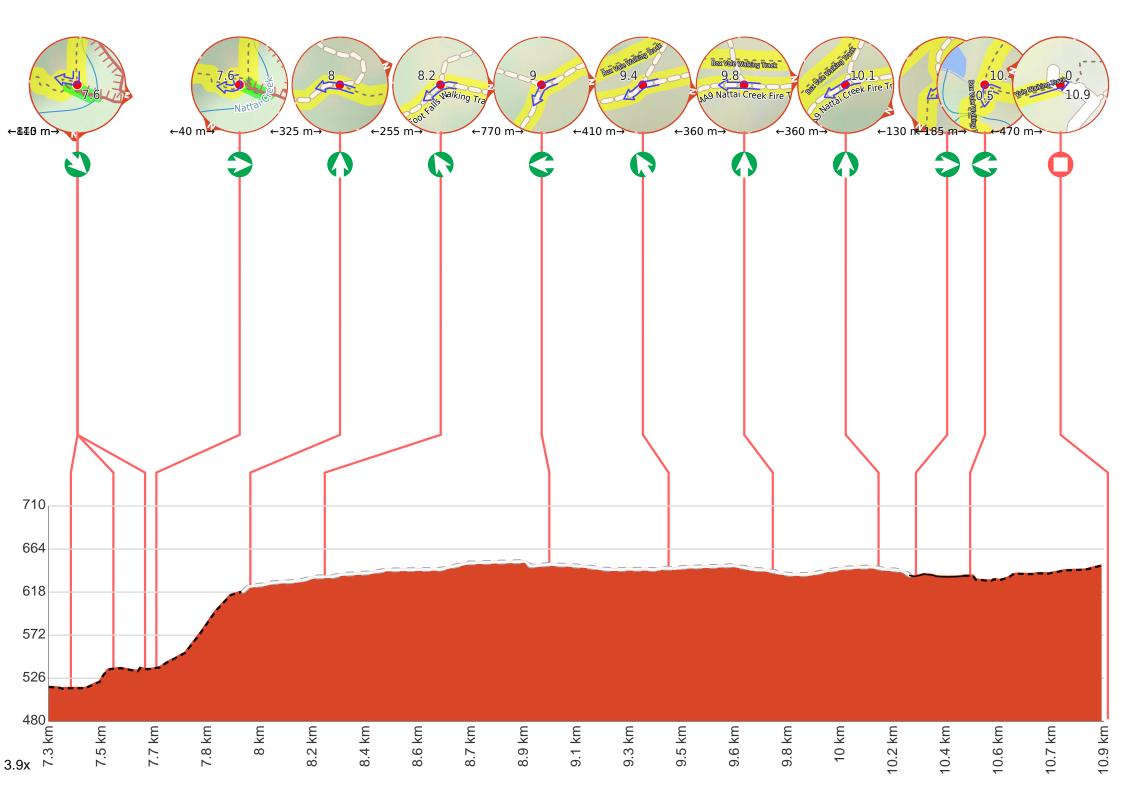
 $\textbf{Getting to the start} : \mathsf{From} \ , \ \mathsf{Woodlands}.$



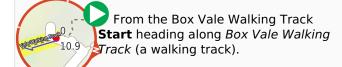








Getting started: From the Boxvale Tramway Walking Track car park off Boxvale Road, Mittagong, head along the signposted Boxvale Tramway Walking Track, passing a sheltered 'Flora and Fauna of Mt Alexandra Reserve' informative sign (to your left) and a green 'Box Vale Track' trail marker (to your right). Follow the trail ahead for about 450m, crossing Nattai Creek before reaching a junction. From there, head along the walking trail to your left and continue the Boxvale Loop (clockwise).



- There is a picnic table (about 40 m back from the start).
- Find the Boxvale Tramway Walking Track Carpark at the start.
- Find the sign at the start.

After another 460 m (from the Box Vale Walking Track) **turn right**.

After another 380 m (from the Box Vale Walking Track) **continue straight**, to head along Box Vale Walking Track.

After another 65 m (from the Box Vale Walking Track) **continue straight**, to head along Box Vale Walking Track.

After another 185 m (from the Box Vale Walking Track) continue straight, to head along Box Vale Walking Track.



After another 610 m head through/around the gate.

After another 320 m (at the intersection of Box Vale Walking Track & Box Vale Fire Trail (GMA8)) continue straight, to head along Box Vale Walking Track (a vehicle track).



After another 15 m cross the ford.



At the intersection of Box Vale Walking Track & Box Vale Fire Trail (GMA8) **continue straight**, to head along Box Vale Walking Track (a walking track).

Keep left.



After another 240 m pass the picnic table (6 m on your right).

At the intersection of Box Vale Walking Track & Box Vale Fire Trail (GMA8) **continue straight**, to head along Box Vale Walking Track.

After another 1.3 km head through the tunnel (about 85 m long)

Start of an optional side trip: An optional side trip to the Nattai Gorge Lookout, which offers stunning views over Nattai Gorge, the Nattai River and

towards the Blue Mountains



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After another 295 m come to a picnic table.



"Nattai Gorge lookout".



Continue another 0 m to find Nattai Gorge lookout at the end.



Turn around and retrace your steps back the 295 m to the main route.



Back at the main route turn right and follow on from the 4 km waypoint.



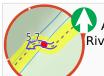
After another 350 m (at the intersection of Incline & Box Vale Walking Track) **veer left**, to head along Incline.



After another 530 m (from the Nattai River) **veer right**.



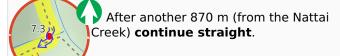
After another 25 m pass the "Nattai River Crossing" (6 m on your right).



After another 1.2 km (from the Nattai River) **continue straight**.



After another 770 m (from the Kells Creek) **continue straight**.



After another 8 m (from the Forty Foot Falls Walking Track) **turn right**, to head along Forty Foot Falls Walking Track.

After another 140 m (at the intersection of Forty Foot Falls Walking Track & Nattai Creek) continue straight, to head along Forty Foot Falls Walking Track.

Start of an optional side trip: This little side trip takes you to the bottom of Forty Foot Falls.

To start this optional side trip veer left here. from the Forty Foot Falls Walking Track **Start** heading along *Forty Foot Falls Walking Track* (a walking track).

After another 35 m come to a viewpoint.



Continue another 0 m to find Forty Foot Falls at the end.

Turn around and retrace your steps back the 35 m to the main route.

Back at the main route continue straight and follow on from the 7.6 km waypoint.



After another 110 m (from the Forty Foot Falls Walking Track) **turn sharp right**.

Start of an optional side trip: This side trip takes you to the viewpoint above the waterfall.

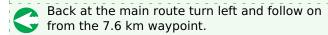
To start this optional side trip continue straight here. **Start**.

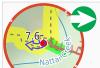
After another 35 m come to a viewpoint.



The end.

Turn around and retrace your steps back the 35 m to the main route.

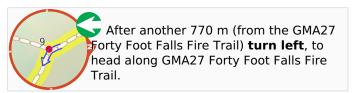




After another 40 m **turn right**.

After another 325 m (from the GMA27 Forty Foot Falls Fire Trail) **continue straight**, to head along GMA27 Forty Foot Falls Fire Trail (a vehicle track).

After another 255 m (from the GMA27 Forty Foot Falls Fire Trail) **veer left**, to head along GMA27 Forty Foot Falls Fire Trail.



After another 410 m (at the intersection of GMA9 Nattai Creek Fire Trail & GMA27 Forty Foot Falls Fire Trail) veer left, to head along GMA9 Nattai Creek Fire Trail.

After another 360 m (from the GMA9 9.8 Nattai Creek Fire Trail) **continue straight**, to head along GMA9 Nattai Creek Fire Trail.

After another 360 m (from the GMA9 Nattai Creek Fire Trail) continue straight, to head along GMA9 Nattai Creek Fire Trail.

After another 130 m (from the GMA9 Nattai Creek Fire Trail) **turn right** (a footpath).

After another 185 m (from the Box Vale Walking Track) **turn left**, to head along Box Vale Walking Track (a walking track).

Continue another 470 m to find from the Box Vale Walking Track at the end.