



Bobbin Head Rainforest Walk

(Darug Country)

 40 min to 1 h 20 min

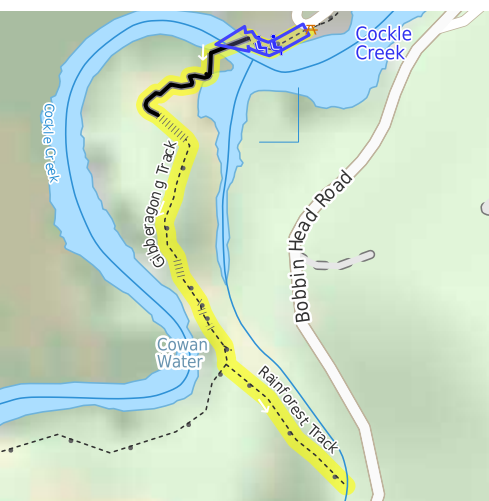
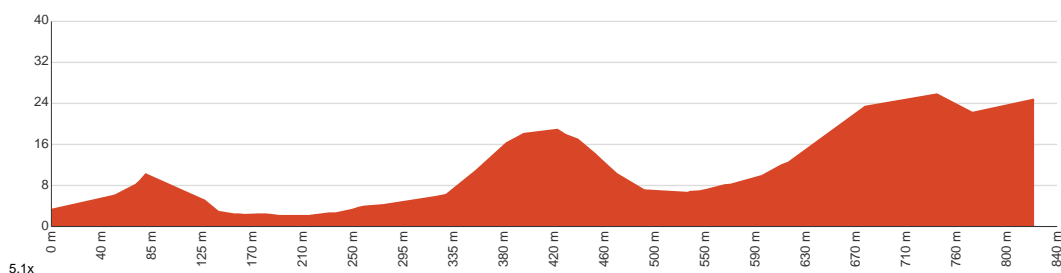

1.6 km
Return


↑ 70 m
↓ 70 m


Moderate track



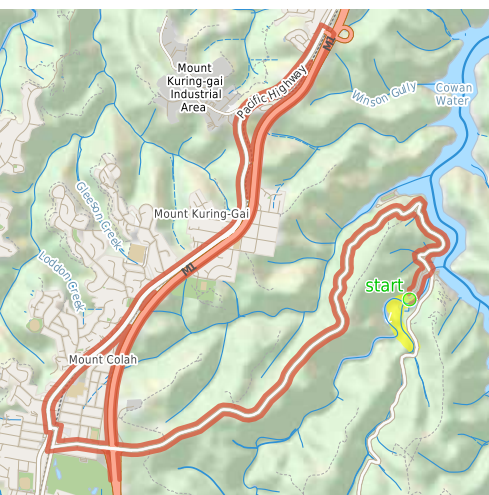
This pleasant walk starts from the southern end of Bobbin Head, and enjoys a blend of mangrove and rainforest environs. The well-signposted track gives you the opportunity to see the mangrove wildlife up close and also an historic Aboriginal axe grinding stone and some temperate rainforest. Let us begin by acknowledging the Darug 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	Clearly signposted (1/6)
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 Pacific Motorway, M1

- Turn on to Berowra Offramp then drive for 630 m
- Turn slight left onto Windybanks Interchange and drive for another 55 m
- Turn left onto Pacific Highway, B83 and drive for another 6 km
- Turn left onto Belmont Parade and drive for another 75 m
- Turn right onto Belmont Parade and drive for another 210 m
- Turn left onto Ku-Ring-Gai Chase Road and drive for another 7.1 km
- Turn right and drive for another 300 m
- Turn slight right and drive for another 155 m



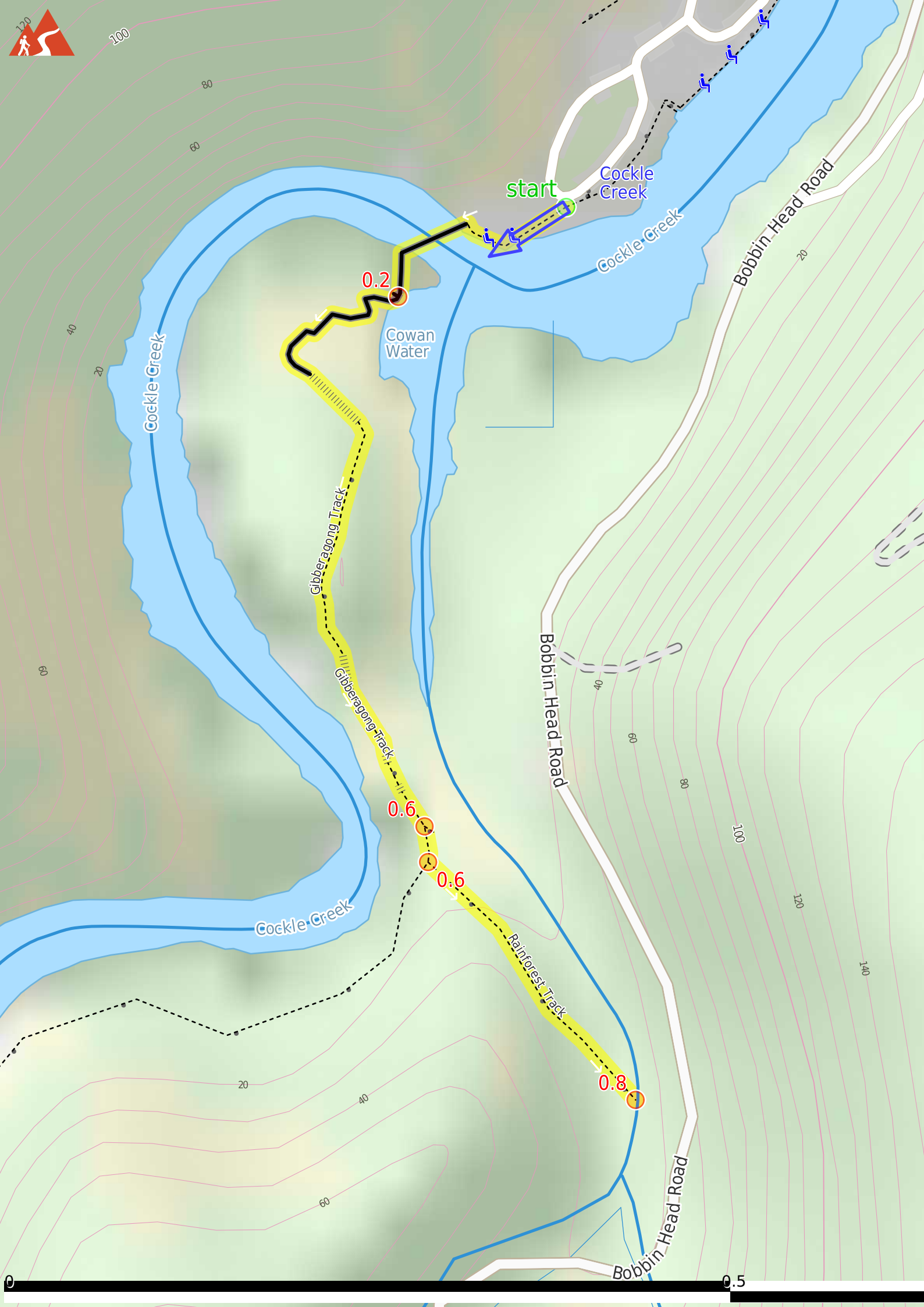
Before you start any journey ensure you;

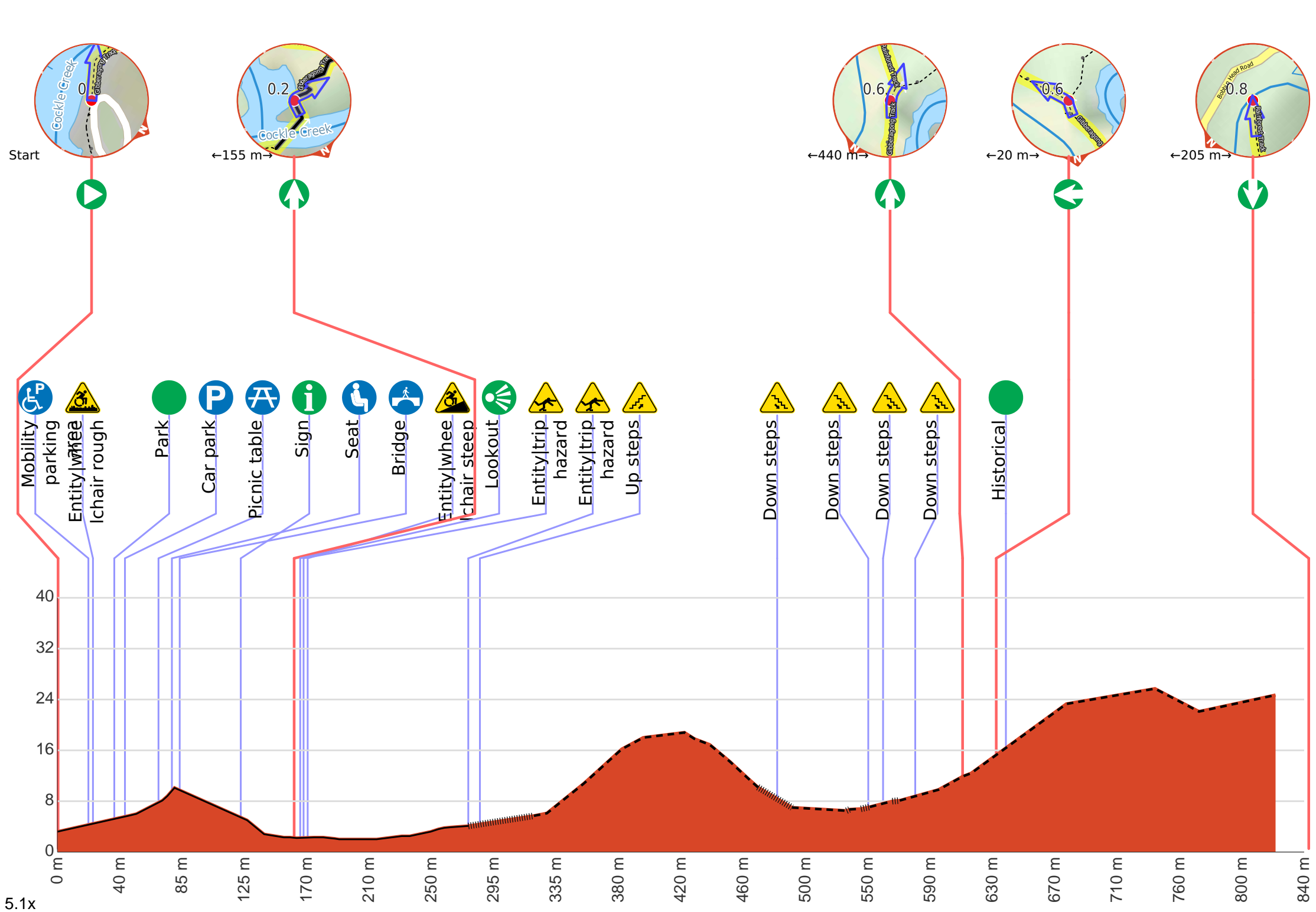
- Tell someone you trust where you are going and what to do if you are late returning
- Have adequate equipment, supplies, skills & knowledge to undertake this journey safely
- Consider weather forecasts, park/track closures & fire dangers
- Can respond to emergencies & call for help at any point
- Are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

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

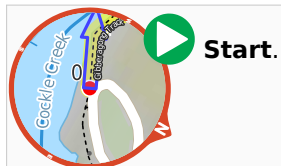
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Getting started: From the far southern end of the Bobbin Head car park, this walk follows the footpath behind the 'Gibberagong Track. Mangrove Boardwalk.' sign (away from the car park and picnic tables) for about 20m to the sheltered 'Welcome to the Mangrove Boardwalk & Gibberagong Track' information sign. Here the walk continues along the patterned concrete path beside the water for just under 20m to pass a bench seat where the path bends right. After just shy of 20m the path leads past another bench seat to find a sandstone cave (with a 1.9m clearance) with a 'Rock Solid?' information sign. Here the path bends left and crosses Cockle Creek on a cable-stayed foot bridge. Enjoy the great water and cliff views from the bridge. The walk now follows the fenced timber boardwalk for about 25m to come to a viewing area marked with a 'Teeming with life' information sign. Continue straight: From the viewing area, this walk follows the timber boardwalk away from the fenced area initially keeping the main view of water to your left. This section of boardwalks does not have handrails or side capping. Over the next 100m the boardwalk winds among the mangroves and saltmarsh and past the 'Natural Recycler' and 'Land Developers?' information signs to come to the end of the boardwalk, marked with a 'More? You want more?' information sign. There is a turning area for wheelchairs at the end of the boardwalk.




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Parking Accessible (about 30 m back from the start).





There are many car parking bays around Bobbin Head Picnic Area. There are two marked mobility parking bays at the southern end. The parking area is tarmac, 2.8m wide and 5.8m deep.
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Wheelchair Rough (about 25 m back from the start).




There is a single ramp to access the path from the car park. The concrete ramp is 1.2m wide. The ramp is in a marked parking bay and may be blocked by a car.
- 


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


There is a car park.
- 

After another 20 m find the "Picnic Table" (9 m on your right).





A series of 3 timber slat picnic tables and bench seats. The tables are 74cm high, 74cm deep and 2.9m wide. The seats are 40cm high, 23cm deep and 1.8m wide (no backrest). The tables are centred on 3.5x4.5m concrete slabs. Access over grass.


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After another 55 m pass the sign (on your right).
- 


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




A timber slat bench seat, 43cm high, 30cm deep and 1.6m wide with a 41cm high backrest. The seat is on concrete beside the track.
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After another 5 m cross the bridge (about 50 m long)
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After another 35 m find the "Wheelchair Steep" (on your left).



The bridge over Cockle Creek is 1.8m wide, has 1m high handrail and a timber decking. The steepest section is 5.3° (1:10 or 9.2% grade). The bridge is 40m long.
- 

Continue straight, to head along Gibberagong Track.



Then find the "Cockle Creek viewing platform" (on your left).



Part way along the timber Bobbin Head boardwalk is a partially fenced timber viewing platform. There is a beautiful view over Cockle Creek and a 'Teeming with life' information sign to enjoy. The platform area is 7.3m deep and 3.9m wide.



Then find the "Trip Hazard" (on your left).



Approximately 120m of elevated timber boardwalk has no handrails, edge capping or markings - there is a risk of falling from the boardwalk. The board walk is 1.7m wide, with approximately 2cm gaps between boards.



After another 110 m come to the "Trip Hazard".



A section of board is missing leaving a 7cm gap in the boardwalk. Other gaps on this section of the walk may develop.



After another 8 m head up the stone steps (about 45 m long)



After another 150 m head down the 24 earthen steps (about 25 m long)



After another 35 m head down the 4 earthen steps



After another 8 m head down the 5 earthen steps (about 6 m long)



After another 15 m head down the 6 earthen steps (about 5 m long)



After another 25 m **continue straight**, to head along Gibberagong Track.



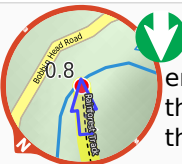
After another 30 m find the "Aboriginal Axe Grindings" (7 m on your left).



This protected site clearly shows 23 oval-shaped grooves that were worn by Indigenous Australian people, making axe heads from hard rock. Using a blank axe head, the Aboriginal people would use this rock platform, with water from the nearby creek, to sharpen the stone into a useful tool. The rubbing ground the axe head to a sharp edge and left behind these tell-tale signs.



At the intersection of Gibberagong Track & Rainforest Track **turn left**, to head along Rainforest Track.



Continue another 205 m to find the end. Then turn around here and retrace the main route for 820 m to get back to the start.



"Bobbin Head Rainforest".



A well-protected piece of rainforest is found just a short walk from the popular Bobbin Head picnic area in Ku-Ring-Gai Chase National Park. The rainforest is distinct when compared to much of the dry eucalypt forests that dominate the area. The rainforest is beside a small creek, just below Bobbin Head Road, and is a safe haven for many birds that frequent the area.