



# Conservation Hut to Empress Lookout

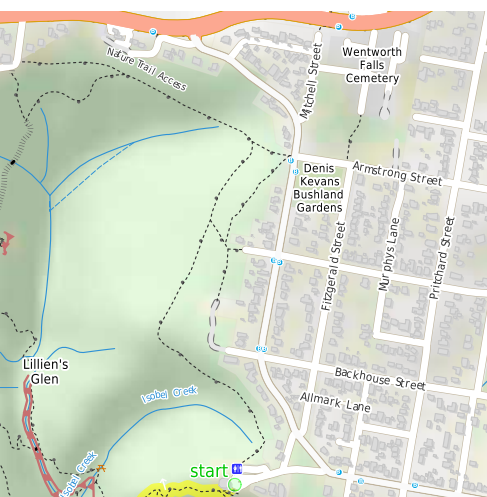
(Dharug & Gundungurra Country)

 30 min to 40 min

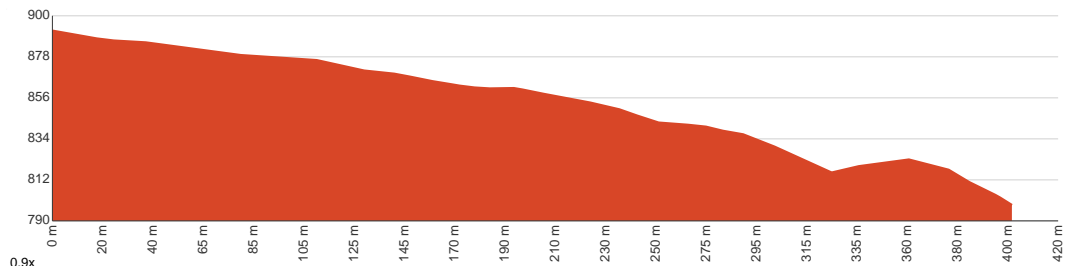
  
800 m  
Return

  
↑ 108 m  
↓ 108 m

  
Moderate track



This is a walk that engages the senses, from Conservation Hut into the Valley of the Waters. The walk starts off with coffee aromas from Conservation Hut and winds down through the inspiring bushland, with a number of views along the way. The turn-around point of Empress Lookout doesn't have the greatest views but the sounds of Empress Falls roaring through the canyon are quite enjoyable. Let us begin by acknowledging the Dharug & Gundungurra 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	Clear and well formed track or trail (2/6)
Gradient	Short steep hills (3/6)
Signage	Clearly signposted (1/6)
Infrastructure	Limited facilities, not all cliffs are fenced (3/6)
Experience Required	No experience required (1/6)
Weather	Weather generally has little impact on safety (1/6)

**Getting to the start:** From Great Western Highway, A32

- Turn on to Valley Road then drive for 1 km
- Turn right onto Fitzgerald Street and drive for another 90 m
- Turn right onto Fletcher Street and drive for another 60 m
- Continue onto Fletcher Street and drive for another 55 m

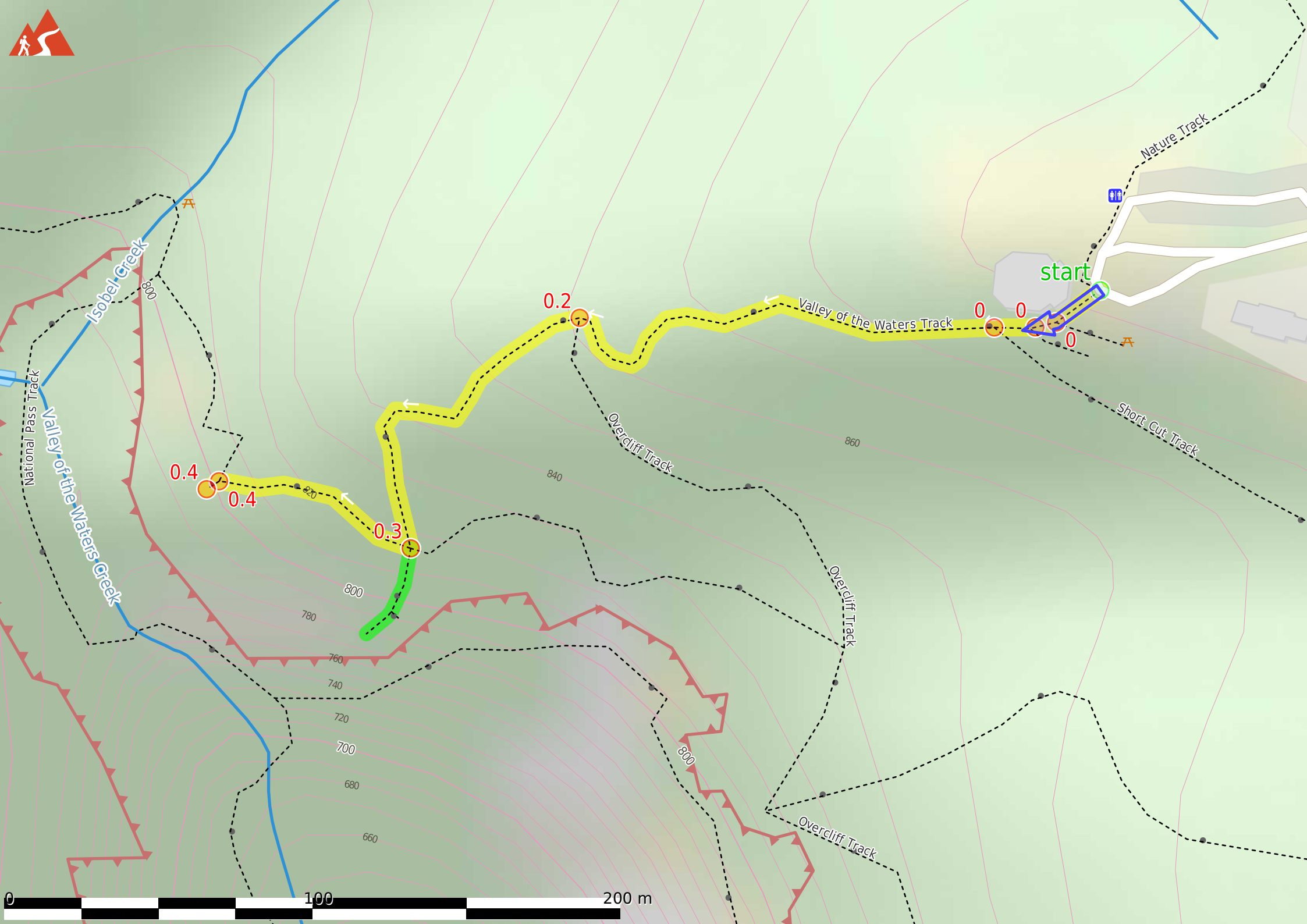
## Before you start any journey ensure you;

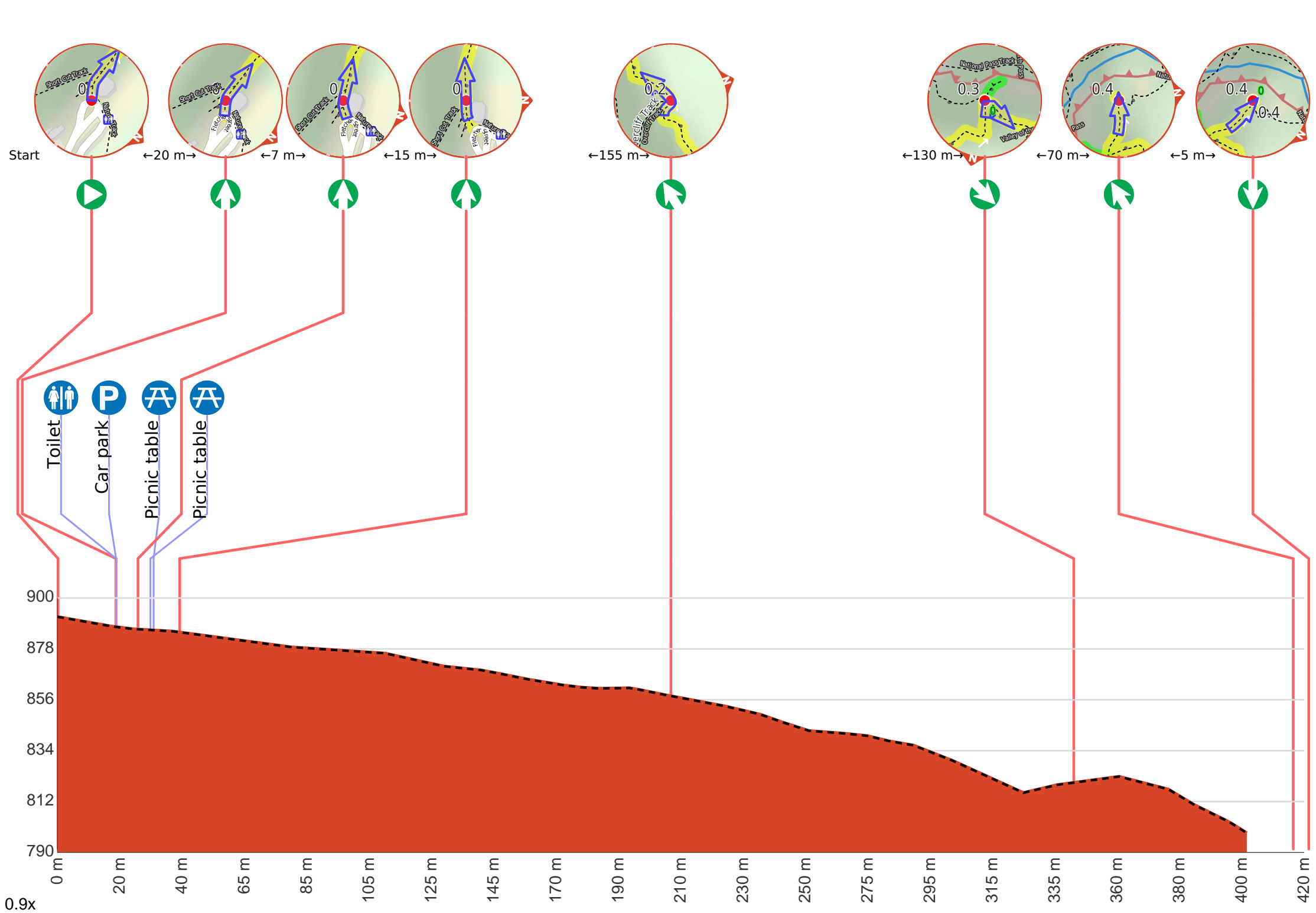
- Tell someone you trust where you are going and what to do if you are late returning
- Have adequate equipment, supplies, skills & knowledge to undertake this journey safely
- Consider weather forecasts, park/track closures & fire dangers
- Can respond to emergencies & call for help at any point
- Are 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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[/j/VAU5JN](https://bushwalk.com/j/VAU5JN)







**Getting started:** From Conservation Hut, this walk follows the 'Valley of the Waters' sign down some timber and dirt steps passing a couple of picnic shelters. The track soon leads to the signposted intersection with the 'Short Cut Track' (still in view of the Conservation Hut).

From the intersection, this walk follows the 'Valley of the Waters' sign down the steps, passing an information sign. After the handrail and more signs, the track passes a couple of faint tracks (on the left, leading to an old picnic area). Further down the steps, the walk comes the end of another handrail and a three-way intersection (signposted 'Overcliff Track' and 'National Pass').

From the intersection, this walk follows the 'National Pass - Valley of the Waters' sign down the timber steps. The track passes a few faint tracks (on the left, that lead to an unfenced view point). The walk continues down the steps, soon coming to an unsignposted intersection with the Lyrebird Cliff track (on a small sandstone rock platform).

From the intersection, this walk heads down the wooden steps to almost immediately come to the signposted intersection with 'Queen Victoria Lookout' track.



**Start.**



After another 20 m **continue straight.**



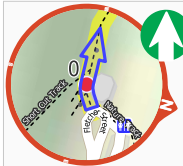
Then pass the toilet (40 m on your left).



Then pass the car park (35 m on your left).



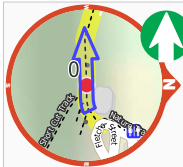
After another 10 m pass the picnic table (25 m on your left).



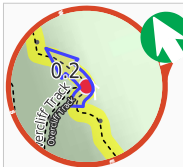
**Continue straight.**



Then pass the picnic table (8 m on your left).

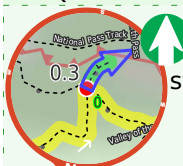


After another 9 m **continue straight.**

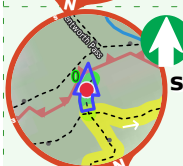


After another 155 m **veer left.**

**Start of an optional side trip:** An optional side trip to Queen Victoria Lookout.



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



After another 25 m **continue straight.**



After another 10 m come to "Queen Victoria Lookout".



The Queen Victoria Lookout is perched above the Valley of the Waters, south-west of Conservation Hut. The fenced lookout has views into the narrow section of the valley. The views are made more dramatic by the roar of the waterfalls below and the mists which frequent the area. Empress Falls are only just visible - the main views extend down Jamison Valley. Kings Tableland (left) and Sublime Point(right) dominate the views and the eastern edge of Mount Solitary and beyond is also visible.



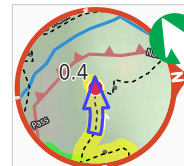
Turn around and retrace your steps back the 35 m to the main route.



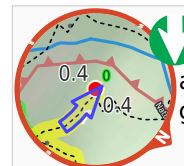
Back at the main route turn left and follow on from the 325 m waypoint.



After another 130 m **turn sharp right.**



After another 70 m **veer left.**



(Empress Lookout) Turn around here and retrace the main route for 400 m to get back to the start.



"Empress Lookout".