


Wondabyne to Woy Woy



6 hrs

Hard track

4

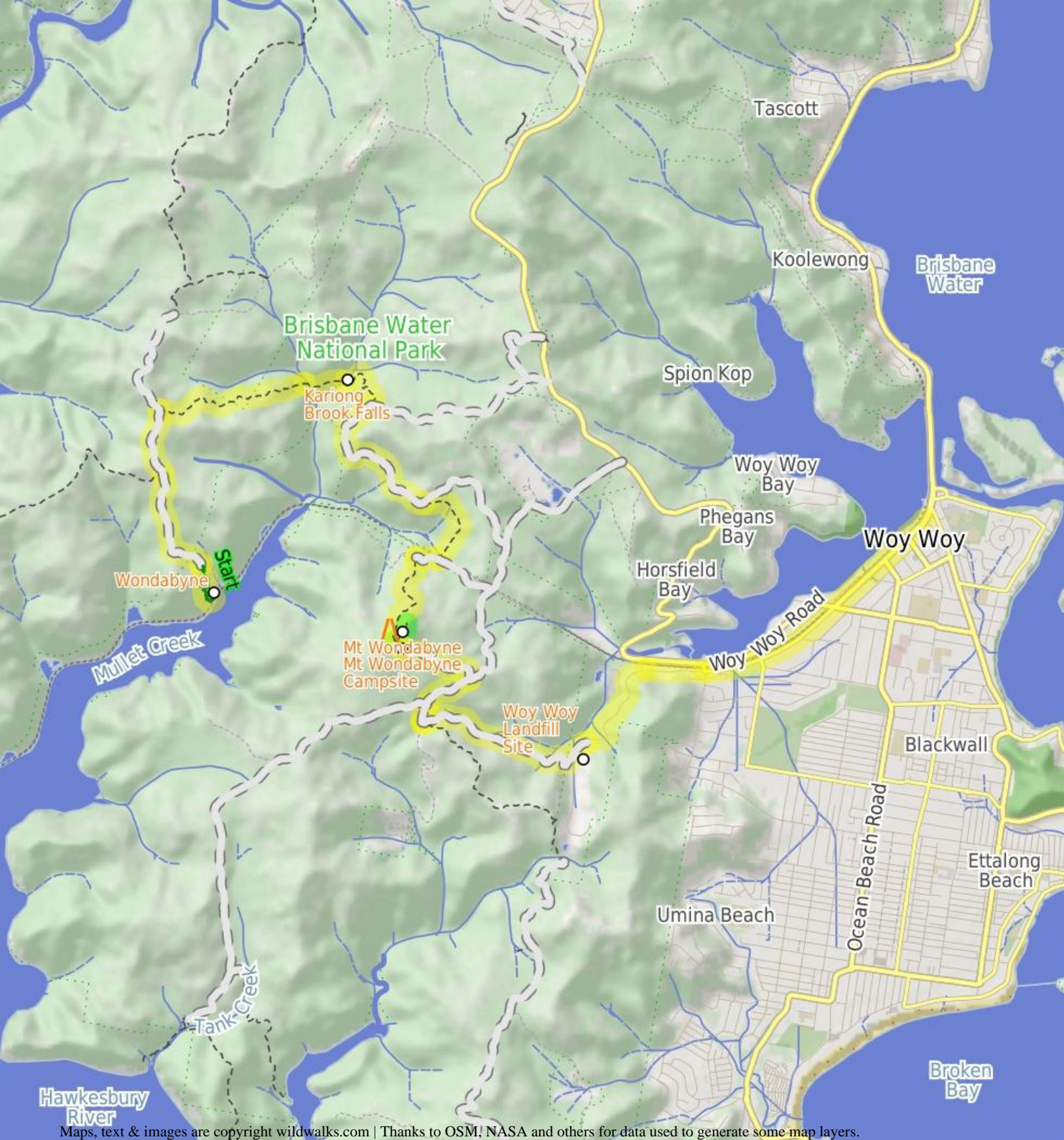
15.4 km One way  646m

This walk starts at a small isolated train station, and takes in some great scenery on the way to Woy Woy station. The walk gets most of the climbing out of the way quickly. Once up on the main ridge there are great views along the Hawkesbury River and Mooney Mooney creek. Highlights of the walk include Kariong Brook Falls and Mt Wondabyne, the highest point in the area. The walk does pass Woy Woy tip, and has a bit of a road slog at the end, but overall is a lovely one way walk.

219m

1m

Brisbane Water National Park



Wondabyne

Wondabyne is situated in Brisbane Waters National Park on the banks of Mullet River, which feeds into the Hawkesbury River north of Brooklyn. The area is defined by the National Park's flora and fauna, the quarry, railway station and a few houses sitting above the water around the river. The quarry produced sandstone building materials, used in the construction of the National War Memorial in Canberra. More recently, in 2000, the quarry was re-opened for restoration of St Mary's Cathedral spire in Sydney. Wondabyne Station, named after the nearby Mt Wondabyne, was built in 1889 and exclusively used for the quarry - it was then known as Mullet Creek Station. The station is one of the smallest on the line and one of very few railway stations in a NSW National Park. When you catch the train to Wondabyne, let the guard know you want to get off at Wondabyne Station, otherwise the train will not stop. Travel in the last carriage as the platform is very short. To catch the train from Wondabyne, wave to the driver.

Kariong Brook Falls

This tranquil spot of the Great North Walk is home to some lovely falls and a water hole. The eastern side of the creek has a tall sandstone cave and wall. After rain these falls can become very spectacular, other times is a cool place to rest. A great spot to stop for a snack.

Mt Wondabyne

Mount Wondabyne is one of the most prominent peaks in Brisbane Water National Park. The long cone-shaped hill has a rocky top and is home to a trig station. Walkers can enjoy full 360-degree panoramic views from the top. To the east are good views over the Brisbane Water, Woy Woy and other central coast suburbs. West, down next to Mullet Creek, you can see some buildings near Wondabyne Station and the train line. Otherwise, most of the expansive views are over much of Brisbane Water National Park. There are some small trees providing limited shade, a great place to soak up the views.

Mt Wondabyne Campsite

This basic campsite is found at the end of a management trail, near the base of Mt Wondabyne. The campsite is at the bottom of a small (east facing) rock wall and has trees surrounding much of the area, providing some shelter. There is an established fire circle and a basic seat. There is no water or other facilities. (There is also small cave suitable for sleeping a few people about half way up Mount Wondabyne).

Before You walk

Bushwalking is fun and a wonderful way to enjoy our natural places. Sometimes things go bad, with a bit of planning you can increase your chance of having an enjoyable and safer walk. Before setting off on your walk check

- 1) Weather Forecast ([BOM Hunter District](#))
- 2) Fire Dangers ([Greater Sydney Region](#))
- 3) Park Alerts ([Brisbane Water National Park](#))
- 4) Research the walk to check your party has the skills, fitness and equipment required
- 5) Agree to stay as a group and not leave anyone to walk solo

Think before you TREK

The 'Think before you TREK' program developed by NSW Police & NPWS promotes the benefits of planning ahead for your bushwalking trip by using an easy to remember acronym:

- T** Take adequate supplies of food, water, navigation and first aid equipment.
- R** Register your planned route and tell friends and family when you expect to return.
- E** Emergency beacon (PLB's) should be carried on walks with significant gaps in mobile coverage (check terrain profile).
- K** Keep to your planned route and follow the map and walking trails.

Topo Maps

The maps provided on wildwalks are helpful, but there are times where you may need maps covering a broader area. Maps that cover this walk include;

1:25 000 Map Series:91312S GOSFORD, 91301N BROKEN BAY

1:100 000 Map Series:9131 GOSFORD, 9130 SYDNEY

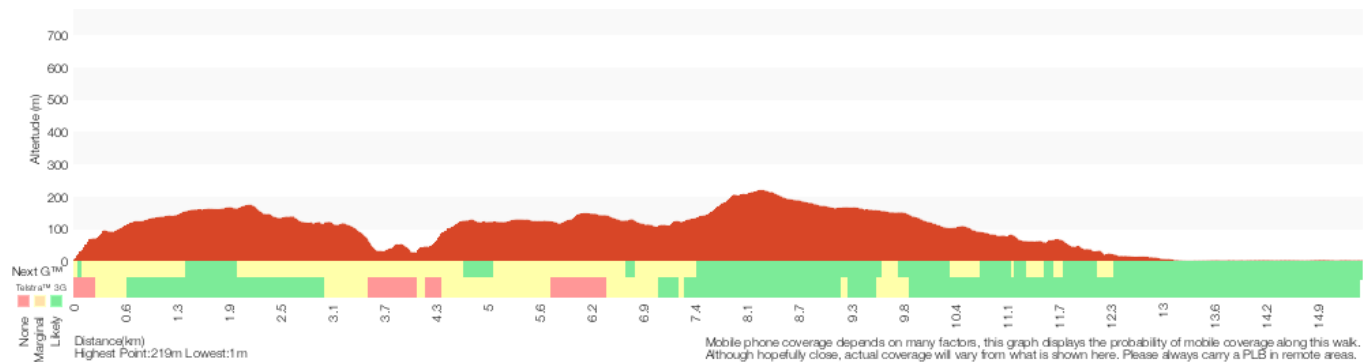
Grade

This walk has been graded using the AS 2156.1-2001. The overall grade of the walk is determined by the highest classification along the whole track.



**Grade 4/6
Hard track**

Length	15.4 km One way
Time	6 hrs
Quality of track	Rough track, where fallen trees and other obstacles are likely (4/6)
Signs	Minimal directional signs (4/6)
Experience Required	Some bushwalking experience recommended (3/6)
Weather	Storms may impact on navigation and safety (3/6)
Infrastructure	Limited facilities, not all cliffs are fenced (3/6)



Are you ready to have fun?

Please ensure you and your group are well prepared and equipped for all possible hazards and delays. Check park closures, weather information and Fire Danger Rating before setting out. Optional side trips and alternate routes noted are not included in this walk's overall grade, length or time estimate. Please allow extra time for resting and exploring areas of interest. The authors, staff and owners of wildwalks take care in preparing this information but will not accept responsibility for any inconvenience, loss or injury you may experience. Please take care, have fun - Happy Walking.

Getting there Traveling by train is the only practical way to get to Wondabyne Station (gps: -33.4921, 151.257). You can get back from Woy Woy train station (gps: -33.4858, 151.3236) by car, train or bus. Car: There is free parking available.

Find up to date and more information including: travel directions, weather, park closures and walker feedback at <http://wild.tl/wtwv>

0 | Wondabyne

Wondabyne is situated in Brisbane Waters National Park on the banks of Mullet River, which feeds into the Hawkesbury River north of Brooklyn. The area is defined by the National Park's flora and fauna, the quarry, railway station and a few houses sitting above the water around the river. The quarry produced sandstone building materials, used in the construction of the National War Memorial in Canberra. More recently, in 2000, the quarry was re-opened for restoration of St Mary's Cathedral spire in Sydney. Wondabyne Station, named after the nearby Mt Wondabyne, was built in 1889 and exclusively used for the quarry - it was then known as Mullet Creek Station. The station is one of the smallest on the line and one of very few railway stations in a NSW National Park. When you catch the train to Wondabyne, let the guard know you want to get off at Wondabyne Station, otherwise the train will not stop. Travel in the last carriage as the platform is very short. To catch the train from Wondabyne, wave to the driver.

0 | Wondabyne Station

(1.5 km 32 mins) From the north-bound platform of Wondabyne Station, this walk follows the 'The Great North Walk' sign off the southern end of the platform, keeping the train lines (and water) to your left. The track soon leads past a strangler fig and a large boulder then bends right and heads up a timber staircase with a metal landing at the top. The track winds steeply uphill, up a series of timber and rock steps for just over 200m to pass a filtered view of the cranes (right), down at the old Gosford Quarry. Here the walk continues a bit more steeply uphill for another 150m, up a series of rock steps, and then, soon after passing up the carved steps in a cleft in a rock, the track flattens out and comes to a clearing at the end of a management trail, marked with a 'Brisbane Water National Park' sign.

Continue straight: From the clearing, this walk follows the wide management trail uphill past the 'Brisbane Water National Park' sign. The trail leads up quite steeply for about 250m, where the trail bends right then leads gently uphill for about 600m. Here the trail leads up a short but quite steep hill, to then bend left and, about 150m later, come to an intersection with the Pindar Cave track (that leads over a rock platform, on your left), marked with a GNW arrow post (on your right).

1.47 | Eastern end of the Pindar Cave Track

(630 m 11 mins) Continue straight: From the intersection, this walk follows the GNW arrow post north, gently uphill along the wide trail. The trail gently undulates along the top of the ridge for about 600m to come to an intersection with the 'Great North Walk' track (on your right), marked with a 'Wondabyne Station' sign pointing back down the hill.

2.1 | Int of GNW and Wondabyne Station Trail

(2 km 47 mins) Turn right: From the intersection, this walk follows the 'Patonga' sign heading east down along the rocky track. The track soon bends right and heads around a rock outcrop then continues down through the heath and scribbly gums for about 400m to come to a flat rock platform. Here the track continues downhill over several more rock platforms, becoming progressively steeper for just over 1km to head into the cool valley and come to the bank beside Myron Brook.

Continue straight: From the western side of Myron Brook, this walk crosses the creek on the sandstone rock platform to follow the track up a few stone steps and up the short steep hill. The track then flattens out as it leads around the side of the hill for about 200m to pass alongside a long rock wall (on your left). Now leading downhill, the track continues for another 100m then heads down a short steep section into the dense moist gully, coming to a faint intersection in front of Kariong Brook Falls (on your left) (just before crossing the creek, which is often underground).

4.07 | Kariong Brook Falls

This tranquil spot of the Great North Walk is home to some lovely falls and a water hole. The eastern side of the creek has a tall sandstone cave and wall. After rain these falls can become very spectacular, other times is a cool place to rest. A great spot to stop for a snack.

4.07 | Kariong Brook crossing

(690 m 24 mins) Continue straight: From Kariong Brook, the walk crosses the creek and heads up the hill towards the cave (keeping the waterfall to the left). The track leads under the overhang and then winds up the rocky path for about 400m, past a few rock walls and among the grass trees. The walk then heads up some more stone steps, bending left on the steps with a metal handrail. The rocky track continues up for another 130m over a few more rocks to come to a flat clearing (on your right, that has been used as a campsite). From the clearing, the track continues uphill, passing another rocky outcrop after about 60m, then after about 80m more, the track leads to a T-intersection with a management trail (and a sign pointing back to 'Girrakool').

4.76 | Int of the GNW and Patonga service trail

(1.5 km 28 mins) Veer right: From the intersection, this walk follows the GNW arrow post and 'Patonga' sign downhill along the management trail. The trail then winds along the side of the hill for about 1.3km (passing a pleasant grove of large Sydney Redgums) to then step up onto a particularly large rock platform. After crossing this rock platform, the trail continues for another 120m to come to a Y-intersection (at another rock platform) where a 'Girrakool' sign points back along the track.

6.25 | Int of GNW and Thommos Loop trail

(2 km 43 mins) Veer right: From the intersection, this walk follows the GNW arrow post and 'Patonga' sign east, gently downhill along the narrow track. After about 250m, the track leads to a notably large rock platform with a clear view across the valley to Mt Wondabyne. Here the track continues gently downhill, crossing more rock platforms for about 300m to head over a section of timber boardwalk and past a few disused power poles. The track then continues over another rock platform for another 200m to cross a small ephemeral creek. From the creek, the track leads up a short distance up under the power lines to come to a T-intersection with a wide trail, where a sign points back to 'Girrakool'.

Turn right: From the intersection, the track follows the GNW arrow post along the management trail, initially keeping the power lines to your right. The trail soon bends left and leads uphill. As the trail flattens out again, it comes to a three-way intersection marked with a 'Great North Walk' and 'Wondabyne Station' sign, pointing back along the trail.

Turn left: From the intersection, this walk follows the 'Mt Wondabyne' sign

south up the trail. The trail soon begins to narrow and after almost 200m, the track steps up to cross a rock platform, following a few GNW arrow posts to find a GNW 'Walker Register' tube. After writing a comment, the walk continues uphill along the track for about 700m, as the track become progressively flatter, passing beside the Mt Wondabyne Peak (up to your left). Then about 50m after leaving the trees and entering a section of low heath, this track then comes to a three-way intersection (the Mt Wondabyne peak track, on the left), marked with a GNW arrow post.

8.24 | Optional sidetrip to Mt Wondabyne Peak

(210 m 5 mins) Turn left: From the intersection, this walk follows the Mt Wondabyne peak track north-east as it heads uphill directly towards Mt Wondabyne. The track leads gently at first then starts to climb up a series of rock ledges. After about 60m, the track passes a small cave (large enough for 2 or 3 people to lie in). The track then continues to climb for another 90m, up the rocky track then through a grove of small trees, to come to the first peak. The faint track continues along the ridge for another 60m then comes to the main peak, where there is an old trig station and great panoramic views. At the end of this side trip, retrace your steps back to the main walk then Turn left.

8.24 | Mt Wondabyne

Mount Wondabyne is one of the most prominent peaks in Brisbane Water National Park. The long cone-shaped hill has a rocky top and is home to a trig station. Walkers can enjoy full 360-degree panoramic views from the top. To the east are good views over the Brisbane Water, Woy Woy and other central coast suburbs. West, down next to Mullet Creek, you can see some buildings near Wondabyne Station and the train line. Otherwise, most of the expansive views are over much of Brisbane Water National Park. There are some small trees providing limited shade, a great place to soak up the views.

8.24 | Int of GNW and Mt Wondabyne Peak tracks

(90 m 2 mins) Continue straight: From the intersection, this walk follows the GNW arrow post south over a small rise then gently downhill along the rocky track, leaving Mt Wondabyne peak behind and to your left. After about 90m, the track leads down to a clearing at the end of a management trail, where there is a sign pointing back to 'Mooney Mooney rest area'. This is the Mt Wondabyne campsite.

8.32 | Mt Wondabyne Campsite

This basic campsite is found at the end of a management trail, near the base of Mt Wondabyne. The campsite is at the bottom of a small (east facing) rock wall and has trees surrounding much of the area, providing some shelter. There is an established fire circle and a basic seat. There is no water or other facilities. (There is also small cave suitable for sleeping a few people about half way up Mount Wondabyne).

8.32 | Mt Wondabyne Campsite

(760 m 16 mins) Turn left: From the clearing (campsite), this walk follows the 'Patonga' sign down the wide management trail. The trail winds downhill for about 300m, enjoying some views back to Mount Wondabyne as well as to Woy Woy and Brisbane Water. From here, the trail continues downhill through the heath for another 400m to come to a T-intersection with another management trail (Tunnel Track), where there is a 'Mt Wondabyne' and 'Girrakool' sign pointing back up the hill.

9.08 | Int of Tunnel Track and Mt Wondabyne trail

(650 m 12 mins) Turn right: From the intersection, this walk follows the GNW arrow post west, gently down along the wide management trail, keeping the main wide valley to your left. The trail winds along the side of the hill for just over 450m to come to a clear three-way intersection with the

signposted with the 'Rocky Ponds Trail' (on your right). There is a sign here, pointing back up the trail to 'Girrakool'.

Continue straight: From the intersection, this walk follows the 'Patonga' sign south, downhill along the wide trail. After just over 100m, the trail passes through a metal gate and fence then continues for another 50m to come to an intersection with a narrow track (on your left), marked with a GNW arrow post and 'Tunnel Trail' (on your right).

Turn left: From the intersection, this walk follows the GNW arrow post directly away from the face of the 'Tunnel Trail' sign along the narrow track. After about 20m, this short track leads to an intersection with the signposted 'Dillons Trail'.

9.73 | Int of GNW service trail and Patonga track

(1.8 km 34 mins) Turn left: With the Patonga-bound bush track on the right, this walk follows the management trail east, down the long, gentle hill. The trail gradually steepens as it winds down to the Woy Woy Landfill site. The walk then follows the landfill fence past a building and steps through a gap in the fence. The walk then heads along the gravel driveway to the landfill road.

11.49 | Woy Woy Landfill Site

Gosford Council operates this landfill site for the disposal of solid wastes. For more details, phone 02 4342 5255. Hours of operation are Monday to Friday 7am-5pm and Saturday to Sunday 8am-4pm.

11.49 | Woy Woy Landfill

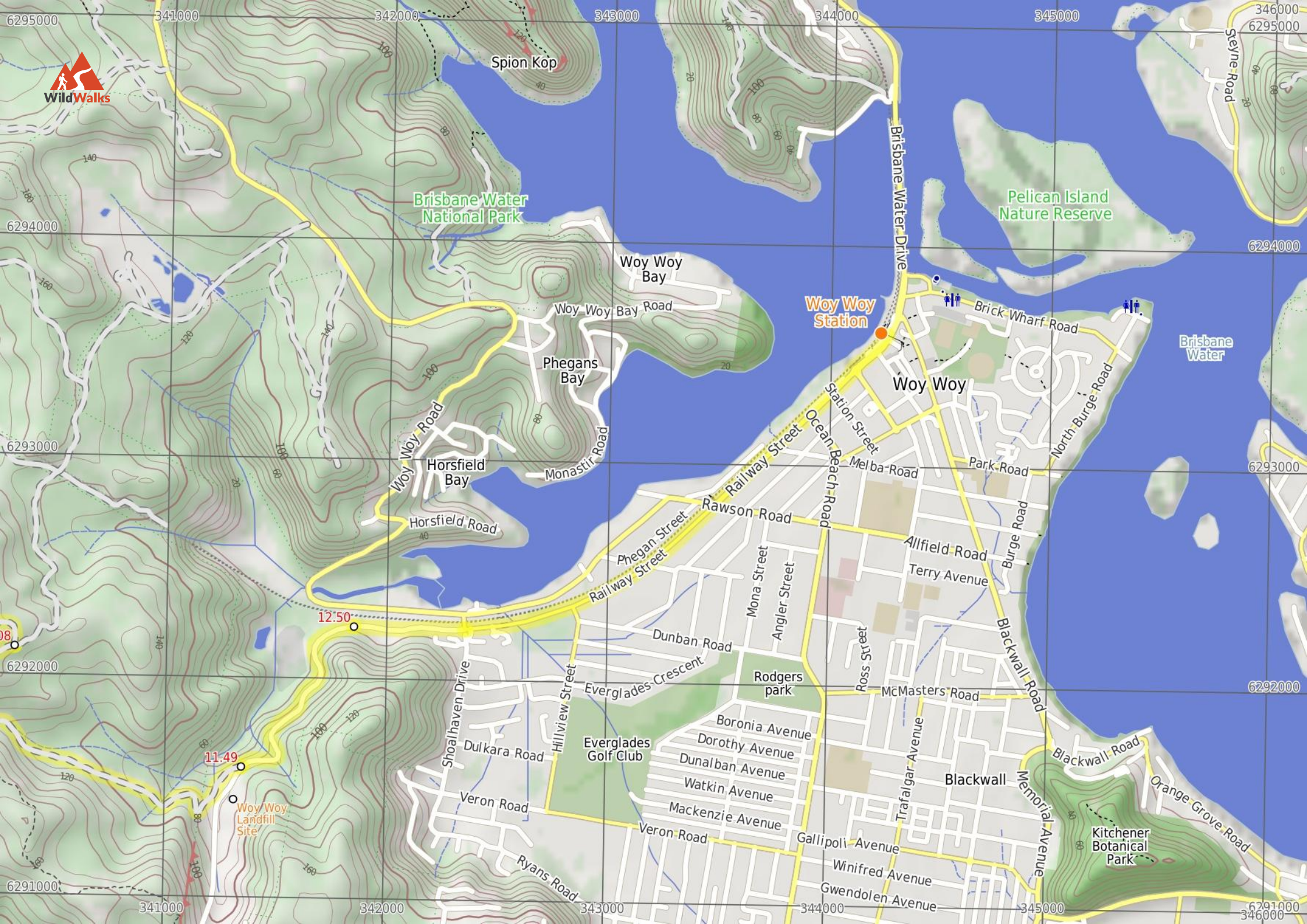
(1 km 23 mins) Veer left: From the Woy Woy landfill site, this walk down the road, winding to the bottom where it flattens out at the Woy Woy Landfill front gates (these gates are locked at night but there is a gap for walkers to get through just up to the right of the gates).

12.5 | Woy Woy Landfill site front gates

(2.9 km 45 mins) Continue straight: From the landfill gates, this walk follows Nagari Road past the large self-storage facility on the right, and along to the intersection of Shoalhaven Drive.

Continue straight: From the intersection, this walk follows Railway Street through the residential area, past the shopping centre to the Woy Woy train station.





Spion Kop

Brisbane Water National Park

Pelican Island Nature Reserve

Woy Woy Bay

Woy Woy Station

Woy Woy

Horsfield Bay

Phegans Bay

Railway Street

Rawson Road

Allfield Road

12.50

11.49

Woy Woy Landfill Site

Everglades Golf Club

Rodgers park

Blackwall

Kitchener Botanical Park

6295000

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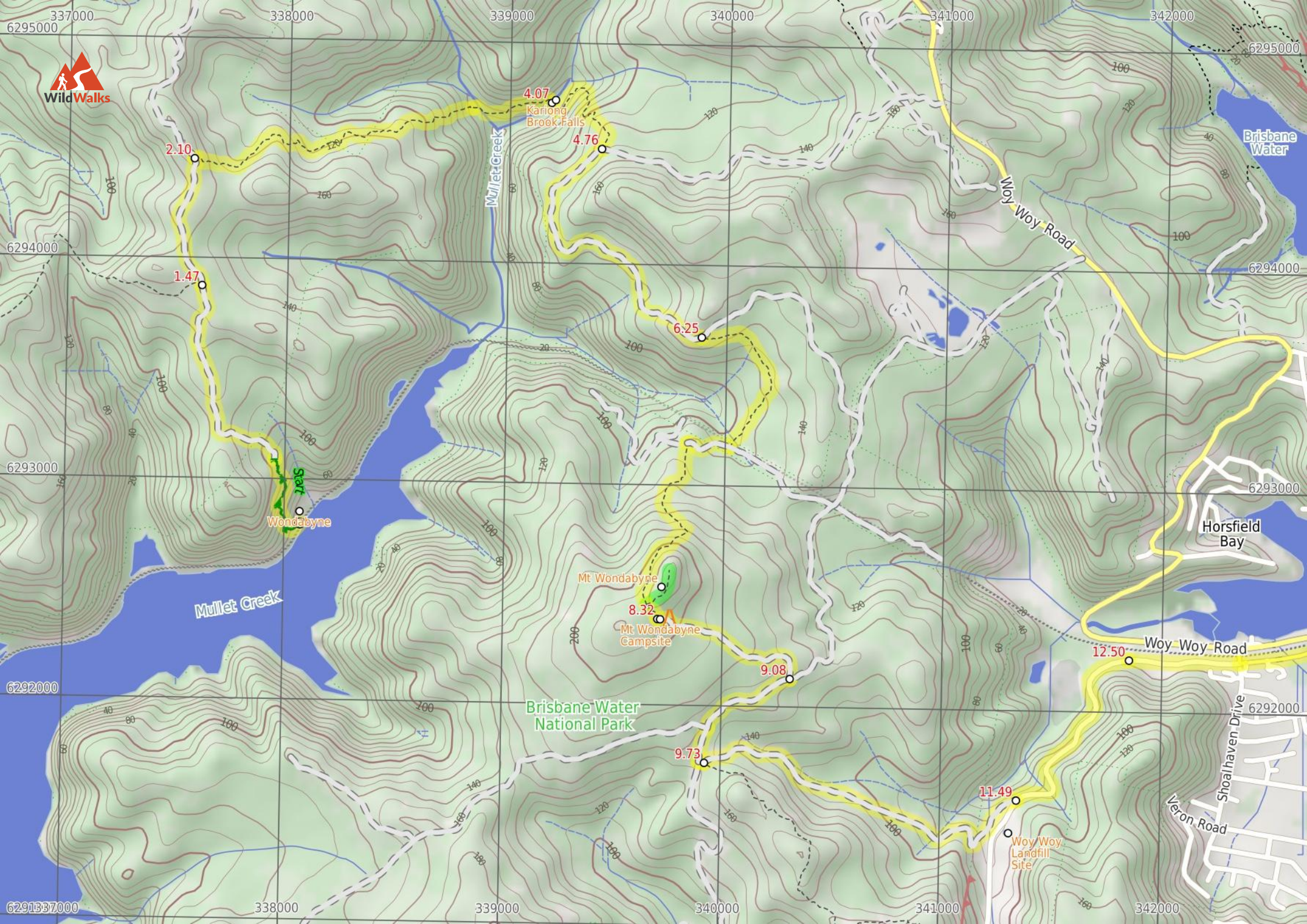
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Summary navigation sheet for the Wondabyne to Woy Woy



km	From	Up/Dwn	Length	Initial directions (Use full tracknotes and maps for more detail)
Start	Wondabyne Station -33.4921,151.257 (GR Gosford, 381928)	172 -18	1.5 km 32 mins	From the north-bound platform of Wondabyne Station, this walk follows the 'The Great North Walk' sign off the southern the end of the platform, keeping the train lines (and water) to your left.
1.47	Eastern end of the Pindar Cave Track -33.4823,151.2522 (GR Gosford, 376939)	19 -5	630 m 11 mins	Continue straight: From the intersection, this walk follows the GNW arrow post north, gently uphill along the wide trail.
2.10	Int of GNW and Wondabyne Station Trail -33.4771,151.2518 (GR Gosford, 376944)	64 -211	2 km 47 mins	Turn right: From the intersection, this walk follows the 'Patonga' sign heading east down along the rocky track.
4.07	Kariong Brook crossing -33.4749,151.2693 (GR Gosford, 392947)	122 -21	690 m 24 mins	Continue straight: From Kariong Brook, the walk crosses the creek and heads up the hill towards the cave (keeping the waterfall to the left).
4.76	Int of the Great North Walk and Patonga service trail -33.4768,151.2717 (GR Gosford, 394945)	54 -34	1.5 km 28 mins	Veer right: From the intersection, this walk follows the GNW arrow post and 'Patonga' sign downhill along the management trail.
6.25	Int of GNW and Thommos Loop trail -33.4845,151.2766 (GR Gosford, 399937)	138 -65	2 km 43 mins	Veer right: From the intersection, this walk follows the GNW arrow post and 'Patonga' sign east, gently downhill along the narrow track.
8.24	Int of Great North Walk and Mt Wondabyne Peak tracks -33.4954,151.2739 (GR Gosford, 397925)	20 -1	210 m 5 mins	Optional sidetrip to Mt Wondabyne Peak. Turn left: From the intersection, this walk follows the Mt Wondabyne peak track north-east as it heads uphill directly towards Mt Wondabyne.
8.24	Int of Great North Walk and Mt Wondabyne Peak tracks -33.4954,151.2739 (GR Gosford, 397925)	0 -6	90 m 2 mins	Continue straight: From the intersection, this walk follows the GNW arrow post south over a small rise then gently downhill along the rocky track, leaving Mt Wondabyne peak behind and to your left.
8.32	Mt Wondabyne Campsite -33.496,151.2744 (GR Gosford, 397924)	0 -49	760 m 16 mins	Turn left: From the clearing (campsite), this walk follows the 'Patonga' sign down the wide management trail.
9.08	Int of Tunnel Track and Mt Wondabyne trail -33.4985,151.2809 (GR Gosford, 403921)	9 -23	650 m 12 mins	Turn right: From the intersection, this walk follows the GNW arrow post west, gently down along the wide management trail, keeping the main wide valley to your left.
9.73	Int of Great North Walk service trail and Patonga track -33.5019,151.2767 (GR Broken Bay, 399917)	24 -112	1.8 km 34 mins	Turn left: With the Patonga-bound bush track on the right, this walk follows the management trail east, down the long, gentle hill.
11.49	Woy Woy Landfill -33.5035,151.292 (GR Broken Bay, 413916)	38 -84	1 km 23 mins	Veer left: From the Woy Woy landfill site, this walk down the road, winding to the bottom where it flattens out at the Woy Woy Landfill front gates (these gates are locked at night but there is a gap for walkers to ...
12.50	Woy Woy Landfill site front gates -33.4977,151.2975 (GR Gosford, 419922)	6 -21	2.9 km 45 mins	Continue straight: From the landfill gates, this walk follows Nagari Road past the large self-storage facility on the right, and along to the intersection of Shoalhaven Drive.