



BEAUFORT • VICTORIA

www.ballarat.com/bushwalking

**Bushwalking
Victoria** 

Bushwalking
Victoria 



Book early

Mt Disappointment State Forest • Sunday 5th April 2009

Accommodation available

B&B - \$15pp • Dorm \$10pp

Camping available • Afternoon tea provided

Join the celebrations!

See website for more details and booking form

www.bushwalkingvictoria.org

BUSHWALKING VICTORIA Inc.

Our organisation was born in 1934 as the Federation of Victorian Walking Clubs. To better identify our core activity the name was changed to Bushwalking Victoria Inc in December 2006.

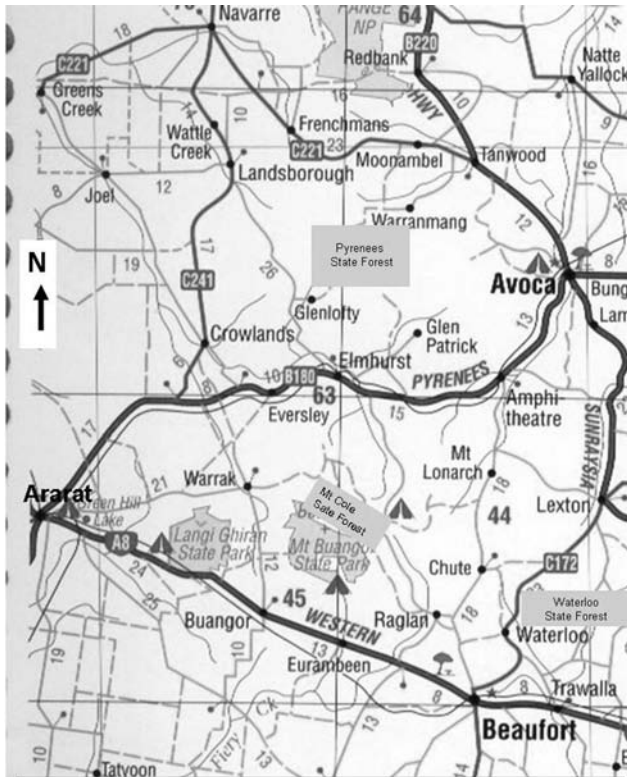
Bushwalking Victoria has eighty member clubs with about 10,000 members.



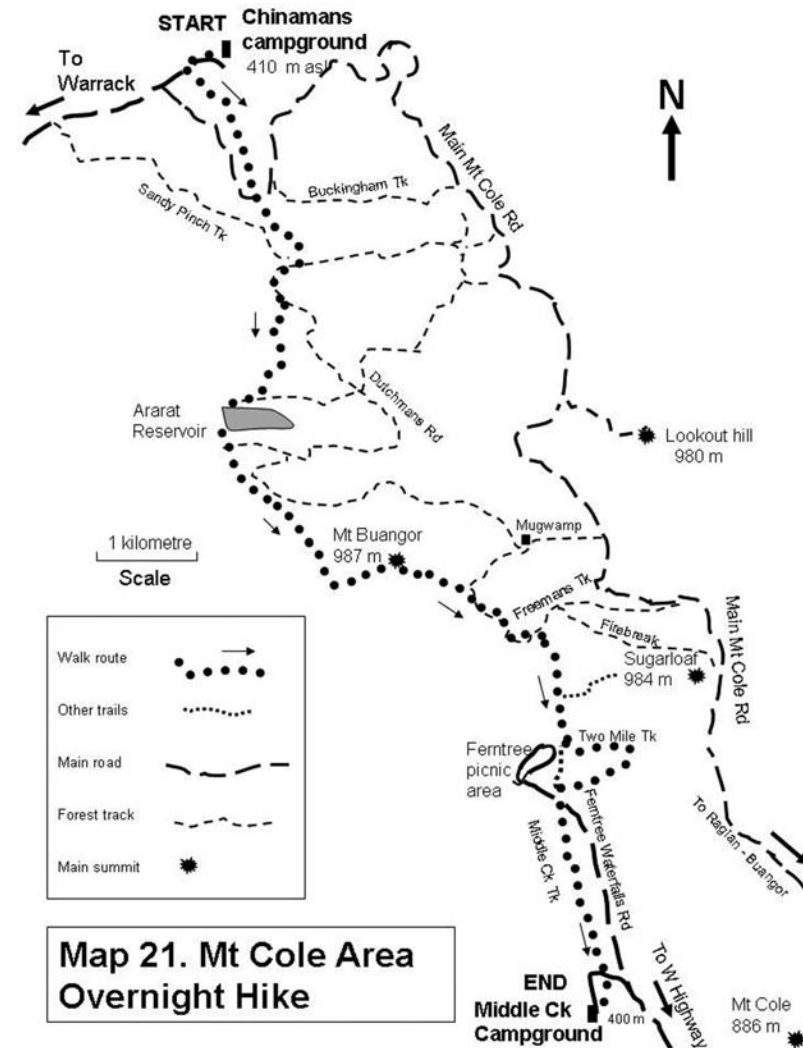
Our role is to “promote bushwalking, engage in activities that add value to the community and proactively represent the interests of all recreational walkers.” We do this through member services, Bushwalkers Search and Rescue and the activities of the Bushwalking Environment Committee, Full details are outlined in our monthly newsletter VicWalk News and further information is available by visiting our website at www.bushwalkingvictoria.org.au.

FEDERATION WALKS

The first Federation Walk was held in 1935 to provide an opportunity for walkers from all clubs to walk and engage in fellowship. The event is a set of walks either on one day or over a weekend. The event is organised and hosted by a club or clubs in partnership. The Federation Walk is open to all members of affiliate or associate clubs and individual supporter members of Bushwalking Victoria.



Road map: Towns and centres around Buangor Langi Ghiran State Parks, and Mt Cole, Waterloo and Pyrenees State Forests



Map 21. Mt Cole Area Overnight Hike

Walk 21. MT COLE OVERNIGHT WALK

Type: Circuit
Time: 2 days
Distance: 18kms
Grade: Hard
Start: 8:30am Chinaman Camping Ground
Finish: Middle Creek Camping Ground

Walk Description

Traversing North/South through Mt. Cole and Mt. Buangor Forests, walkers will have the opportunity to visit Mt. Cole Reservoir, climb the highest peak on the plateau Mt. Buangor (990m), marvel at Mugwamp hut and relax at Fern Tree Waterfalls.

Getting to the start

From Beaufort, travel west on the highway through Buangor, turning right at the Warrak turn off. Travel 12 km to Warrak. Turn right, after 4 km take the left fork to Chinamans.

Directions

Day 1

Start at Chinaman Camping Ground, follow track markers along Blue Gum Tk, cross Main Mt. Cole Road to reach junction of Sandy Pinch & Dutchman's Rd. Onward to Mt. Cole Reservoir, we will, weather permitting, enjoy views over Langi Ghiran. Head south-east to camp overnight in the Mt. Buangor/Mugwamp area.

Day 2

Reach Freemans & Firebreak Tk junction, descend to Fern Tree Waterfall Picnic Area, and via Two Mile and Middle Creek Tk, arrive at Middle Creek Camping Ground.

What You'll Need

Be an experienced overnight walker, self-sufficient in bush camping, also carry personal first-aid kit, wet weather gear, and a sense of humour. Be comfortable with off track, steep prolonged up-and-down, rock-face walking and other challenging 'bits'. Good gripping shoes (and knees!) are recommended. Appropriate repellent/treatment for leeches may be needed, particularly if rainy.

WALKERS RESPONSIBILITIES

Below are some requirements that we ask walkers to follow to enable us to appreciate the experience of bushwalking and help ensure the safety of all participants:

1. Stop at all intersections and track junctions and wait for the group to catch up so people do not take a wrong turn. Always keep someone in front and behind in sight.
2. Respect flora and fauna. Minimize any damage or disturbance that your presence may cause
3. Be considerate of others in your party and any groups you meet during the day
4. Always walk on the track. Do not cut corners or create new tracks
5. Carry adequate food and water for the walk you are on.
6. Wear strong comfortable footwear and carry appropriate wet weather gear, extra clothing, personal first aid kit and sunscreen at all times
7. Bush toilet etiquette requires human waste be buried and a minimum of 100 metres from any water course
8. Carry out all rubbish, including food scraps
9. Always respect the leader's judgement
10. Should you require a toilet stop during a walk, please advise a walker in front of you, put your pack on the track for the whip to see and please take note of the direction and distance you travel from the track to enable you to easily return to the group

Note: all times listed for the walks include an allowance for rests

BALLARAT BUSHWALKING & OUTDOOR CLUB Inc.

The Ballarat Bushwalking & Outdoor Club was formed on August 14th 1980. A strong and vibrant club since its conception it remains that way 28 years on. We currently have approximately 80 single and 35 family memberships.

Our activities are as varied as our members and include day walks, extended walks and base camps, cycling, canoeing, skiing and abseiling. We have many intrepid members with activities being held locally in the Central Highlands and Western districts as well as throughout the state, interstate and indeed beyond.

We have strong links with our local community and have successfully run the Ballarat Autumn Day ride known as the BAD Ride for the past 18 years. This event is held the first Sunday in May.

The club meets monthly on the first Thursday of the month (except January). For information visit www.ballarat.com/bushwalking



Walk 20. PYRENEES WALKING TRAIL

(also known as the Pyrenees Endurance Walk)

Type: Linear walk
Distance: 24 kilometres
Time: 9-10 hours
Grading: Hard
Mapsheet: Avoca 7523-N, 1st ed., 2006
Start: GR974908: Glenlofty-Warrenmang Rd / Hankin Tk Junction
Finish: GR103915: Mount Avoca Waterfalls picnic ground

Cautions

Concentration required throughout. Steep and possibly slippery, markers on posts but trail often indistinct. Hiking boots and gaiters to be worn, generous supply of food and water to be carried.

Walk Description

A long, strenuous walk through a pleasant variety of timbered forests, traversing the Pyrenees Range from west to east.

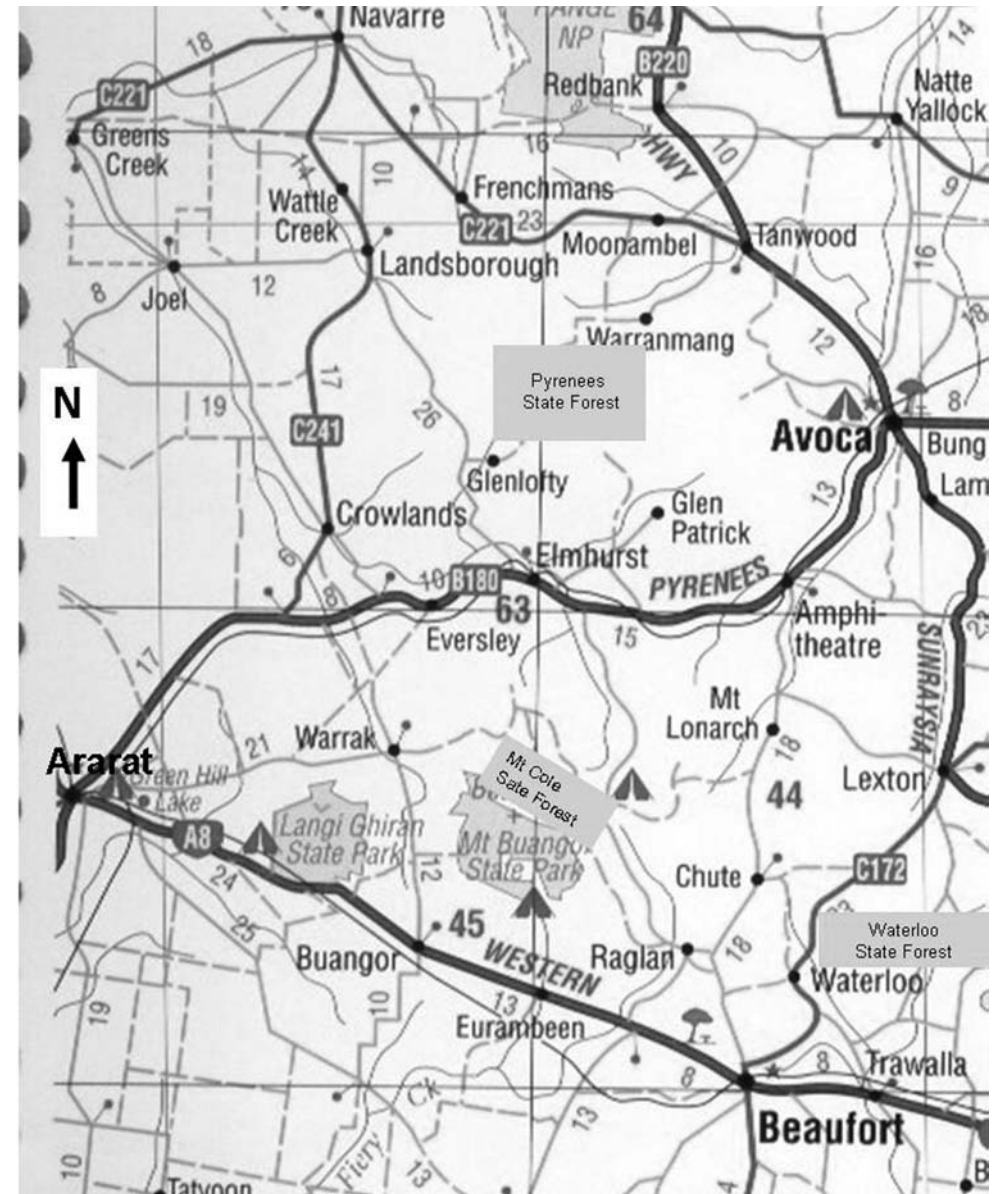
Getting to start

From Beaufort, travel north through Raglan and on to Elmhurst. Turn left onto the Pyrenees Hwy, continue towards Ararat for 2 km, then turn right across railway line onto the Landsborough–Elmhurst Rd. Follow this for approx 7 km, turning right onto the Glenlofty–Warrenmang (dirt) Rd. Follow for approx 2km looking for Hankin Tk and the start of the walk on the right. Beaufort to start: 45 min. approx.

Directions

This walk starts on the western side of the Pyrenees Range at Glenlofty. The trail climbs steeply through lightly timbered bush to Smiths Tk, which is then ascended to Black Range Tk, which, in turn, continues to rise further along a ridgeline. We then leave the 4WD track and continue ENE through moderately treed bushland following trail markers before dropping down to a wet gully. The route then contours around the heads of several more gullies while heading E towards Camerons Tk. We cross Camerons Tk and continue contouring the top of numerous watercourses, crossing disused forestry tracks (take the time to look for the track markers, as they can be just out of sight), then descend and cross Nowhere Ck.

From Nowhere Ck the trail is poorly marked, and it rises brutally upwards towards Emery Tk, crossing a major rise before a rest stop is reached. We then descend into the Glenpatrick Ck catchment. From here, the trail rises significantly once more to cross the highest point in the Pyrenees, Mt Avoca (747m) via a left turn on an un-named track. We then head north from the trig point along a forest road, descending gradually until a sign indicating the waterfalls track to the right. The trail from here on is well maintained, heading E downhill past the waterfalls (a highlight if recent rain has fallen) until the car park area is reached.



Walk 2. BEAUFORT TOWN WALK

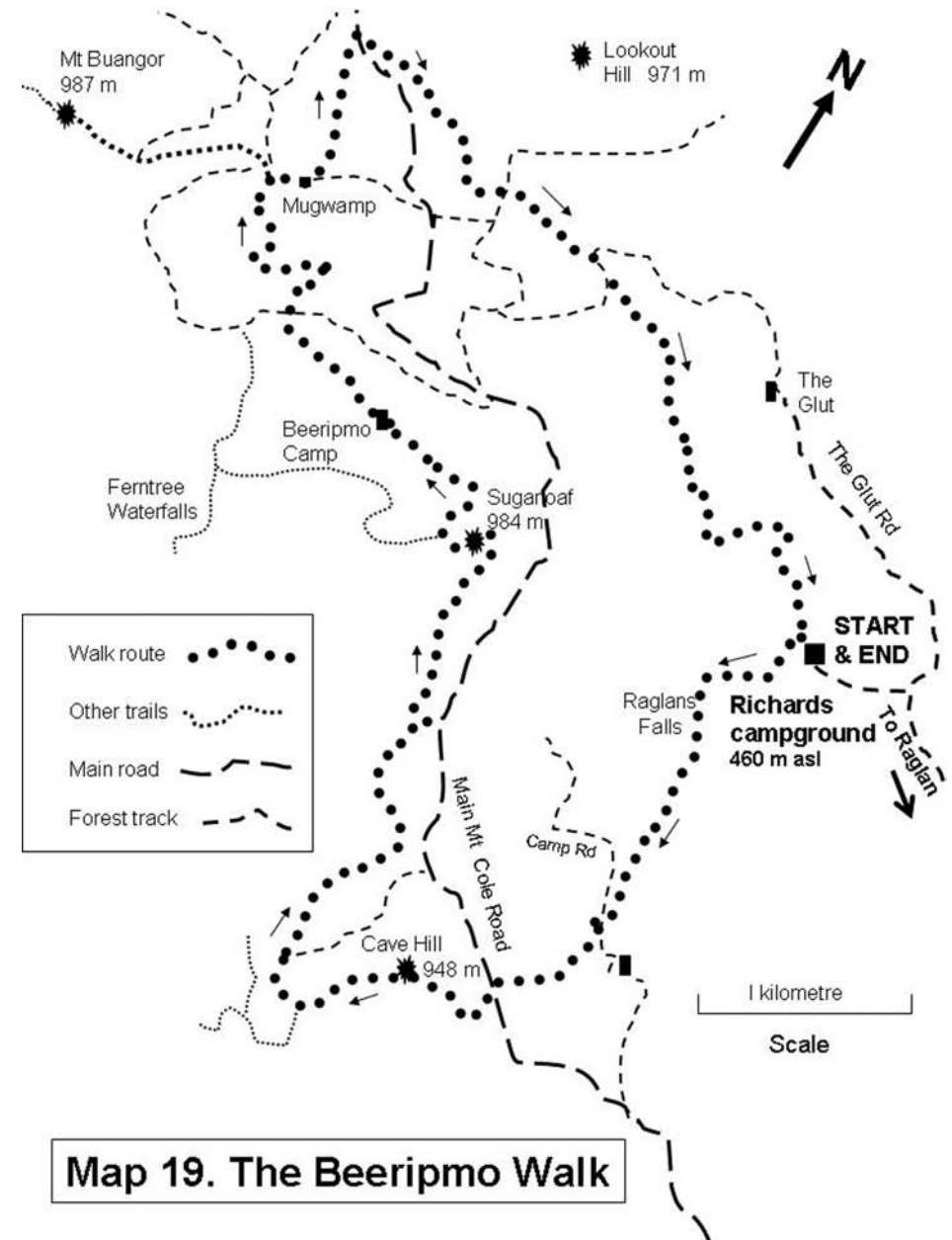
Type: Circular
Time: 5 Hours
Grading: Easy – suitable for baby strollers & dogs on leads
Start/ Finish: Recreation Centre – Caravan Park

Walk Description

We'll meet in front of the recreation centre in the caravan park and walk to the cemetery for a guided tour. Lunch will be in town with either BYO or lunch from any of the cafes/milk bars.

We'll commence a stroll of about 2hrs from the bandstand in the main street after lunch.

Walkers can then head back to the camp or enjoy refreshments in town taking the short walk back in their own time.



Walk 19. THE BEERIPMO WALK

Type: Circuit
Time: 7 hrs
Distance: 17 km
Grade: Hard
Start/Finish: Richards Campground

Description

This walk takes you through a mixture of woodland and lush ferns, waterfalls, moss-covered rocks, weather-beaten outcrops, and stunning views of the surrounding plains and hills.

Getting to start

From Beaufort travel to Raglan and onto the Elmshurst Road. Take the left fork in the road to the Glut Road and look for the sign to Richards campground on the left.

Directions:

Pick up the clearly marked track at the back of the campground. Turn left so as to follow the circuit track in a clockwise direction. Continue up steeply past the Raglan falls. About ½ hr later catch your breath at a lookout with good views. The climb from here is more gentle and follows a brilliant green fern lined gully.

On reaching Camp Road continue on the track straight ahead, and cross Main Mt Cole Rd. The climb is steady up Cave Hill where the forest changes to more sub-alpine vegetation and rocky outcrops. The track then swings northerly with extensive views of the plains to the south, Mt Langi Ghiran and the Grampians. In this area in Spring you may be lucky enough to see the Mt Cole Grevillea flowering. Approaching Mt Sugarloaf there is a track to a carpark on the right. Keep left and continue the steep climb. Look out for Wedge-tail Eagles and views back to Cave Hill. Over the top pass a turnoff on the left to Sugarloaf Walking Track and continue ahead. When you reach the Firebreak Track turn left and shortly reach the Beeripmo Campground (for walkers, with tables and toilets). It is approx 3 ½ hrs from the start of the walk.

From here continue down the track and cross Freemans Track. The climb uphill to Mugwamp campground is a moderate grade and you have more views to the East. You will pass the turnoff to Mt Buangor lookout, which is 2kms each way and offers good views of the State Park if you have the time. Continue right on the track for 200 m to Mugwamp. Continue along the Beeripmo Track for about a km to cross over Mt Cole road and start the homeward leg of the walk. This is a gradual downhill of approximately 2 hrs through regrowth forest then along Long Gully where the Eucalypts become taller. Follow the walk markers across a couple of roads and past the turnoff to The Glut. At this point it is 700 m back to the start (and finish) at Richards.



Walk 3. BEAUFORT LAKE AND FOREST WALK

Type: Circuit

Time:

Distance: 8 km

Grading: Easy

Description: A walk around Beaufort Lake and out into the adjoining State Forest through an old gold mining area.

Start/finish: Beaufort Caravan Park

Directions:

Commencing at the Caravan Park proceed to the barbecue shelter on the lakeside. Follow the path around the Lake in an anti-clockwise direction until you reach the Fun and fitness trail sign. Follow track 1. (.5 km.)

When you arrive at a T intersection you shall see a sign on the Lake shore saying "Diving prohibited"

Turn right at the T intersection, rapidly followed by a turn to the left and another turn to the right.

Turn left into Mopoke Gully Lane. Mopoke Gully Lane dog legs to the left before crossing over Yamholes Gully Track. At this point the name of the track becomes Mosquito Gully Track. (1.4 km.)

Follow Mosquito Gully Track until you reach the intersection with Shepherd Gully Track. (.3 km.)

Turn sharp left into Shepherd Gully Track.

Continue along the Shepherd Gully Track (disregarding the 2 tracks going to the right) until you see the Shepherd Gully Track sign on the right of the track (.8 km.)

Turn hard left at the sign.

Turn left into Bree Track. Remain on the main track. (.3 km.)

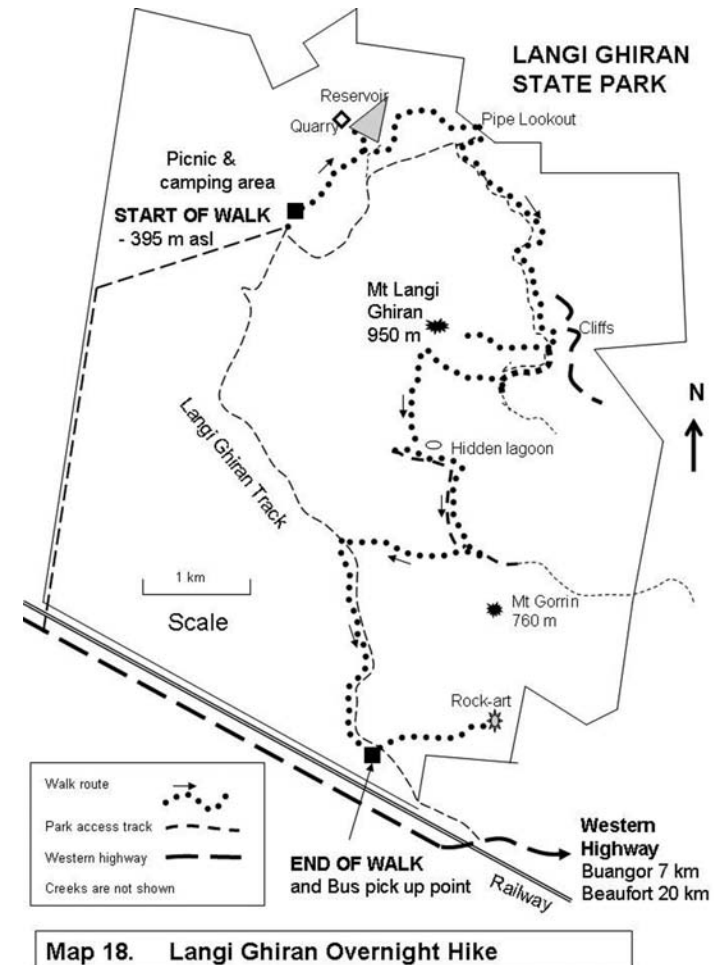
Turn left into the Yamhole Gully Track. (.4 km.)

Turn right into Mosquito Gully Track. (1.7 km.)

Walk to the T intersection where you will see the Mopoke Gully sign to the left of the track. (1.4 km.)

Turn right and retrace your steps to the lakeside.

Return anti-clock-wise round the Lake and back to the Caravan Park. (1 km.)



Walk No. 18. LANGI GHIRAN WALK AND OVERNIGHT HIKE

Type:	Linear over 2 days
Terrain:	Some steep gradients on forest tracks, and some off-track walking
Time:	6 hours each day
Distance:	8 km on Saturday, 9 km on Sunday
Grade:	Medium but carrying packs and camping
Start:	Langi Ghiran Picnic and Camping area
Finish:	Parking area for Lar-Ne-Jeering Aborigine art site

Walk Description

A 2 day walk, carrying packs and camping on Saturday night. This hike combines a walk in a wild and interesting area with an overnight bush camp in a mountainous park. Walkers new to bush camping may wish to take on this walk as a means of gaining experience for longer distance trips and carrying a pack with all your overnight requirements. Low-impact camping with no toilet, washing or cooking facilities.

Getting to the start

From Beaufort the bus takes the Western Highway and turn right into Langi Ghiran State Park about 12 km after Buangor. The Picnic and Camping ground is 5 km from the highway. For the return trip, the bus will wait at a small parking area on Langi Ghiran Track, about 800 m from the Highway, at start of the trail to the Aboriginal art site.

Directions

From the Camping Ground the route follows the Reservoir track along Easter Creek, past a small weir and up to Langi Ghiran Reservoir. We will visit an old quarry, used in the 1880s build the reservoir to supply water for Ararat. Our route then follows Easter creek and an old channel, to the end of a pipeline that still delivers water by gravity from Ararat Reservoir 9 km to the west. This is not potable water. After lunch at the Pipeline Lookout, proceed up Easter Ck Track to an area east of the main peak. Camp will be struck in woodland among granite boulders. Later we will walk to the top of Mt Langi Ghiran, taking in views east to the Grampians, exploring the unique flora and fauna.

On Day 2 travel further along the main access track, branching right (west) just after crossing a main creek line. The route is not marked here but follows the true right hand side of this creek for about 1 km to its source. Then head south, over a small saddle, and down in a southerly direction through tall woodland to Hidden Lagoon. From the lagoon our route follows Billy Ck Track for 1.5 km and then branches right (south) to take pass west of Mt Gorrin. Keen scramblers may want to climb Mt Gorrin from here, if time allows. From here the track descends steeply to Langi Ghiran Track (1.5 km). Turn left on this Track and walk 2 km to the parking area for the walk to the Lar-Ne-Jeering Aboriginal art site. The art site is about 1 km from here up a gentle gradient on the southern slopes of Mt Gorrin. The bus will meet us at the parking area at 3 pm, to return us to Beaufort.

What to bring

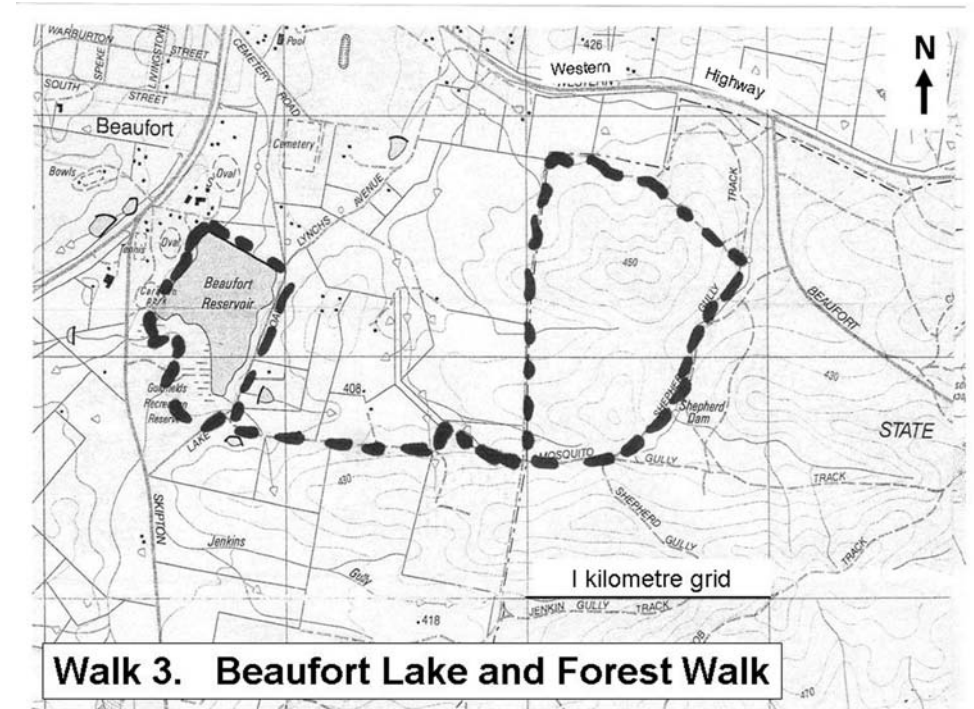
You will need a good pack to carry tent, sleeping bag, ground pad, stove, cooking gear and food, waterproof jacket and warm clothes. Bring (or share) a small toilet spade. Also essential are a torch and plastic bag to carry out all rubbish. Don't forget any personal medical items. Otherwise try to reduce your load by cutting out excess clothes and food. There is likely to be no water on the walk, so bring ample water for your walking and cooking needs for 2 days (minimum 5 litres each).

Fitness for load carrying

Although quite short, this walk requires good fitness, especially for carrying a pack. You will strong boots/ rubber-soled footwear (well worn-in), because of some steep, rocky and unmade parts to the trail.

Topo Map

1:50 000 on the new (2007) VICMAP topographic map number 7523-S.



Walk 3. Beaufort Lake and Forest Walk

Walk 4. MIDDLE CREEK TO FERNTREE FALLS AND RETURN

Type: linear with a small loop walk
Time: 3 hours
Distance: 7.2 kms
Grade: Easy +
Start/Finish: Middle Creek Campground
Description: A pleasant walk through open grassy woodland to a fern gully containing a series of waterfalls. The track links 3 picnic areas.

Getting to Start

From Beaufort travel west on the highway for about 11 kms, turning right at the sign to Mt Buangor State Park. Travel on this road until you enter the park (about 6kms) Look for the sign to the left to the Middle Creek Campground.

Directions:

At the campground pick up the clearly marked Middle Creek track near the shelter. Continue on this until you reach Bailles picnic area.

Cross over the road and continue on the track as it follows the creek and then climbs a little as it goes up the gully.

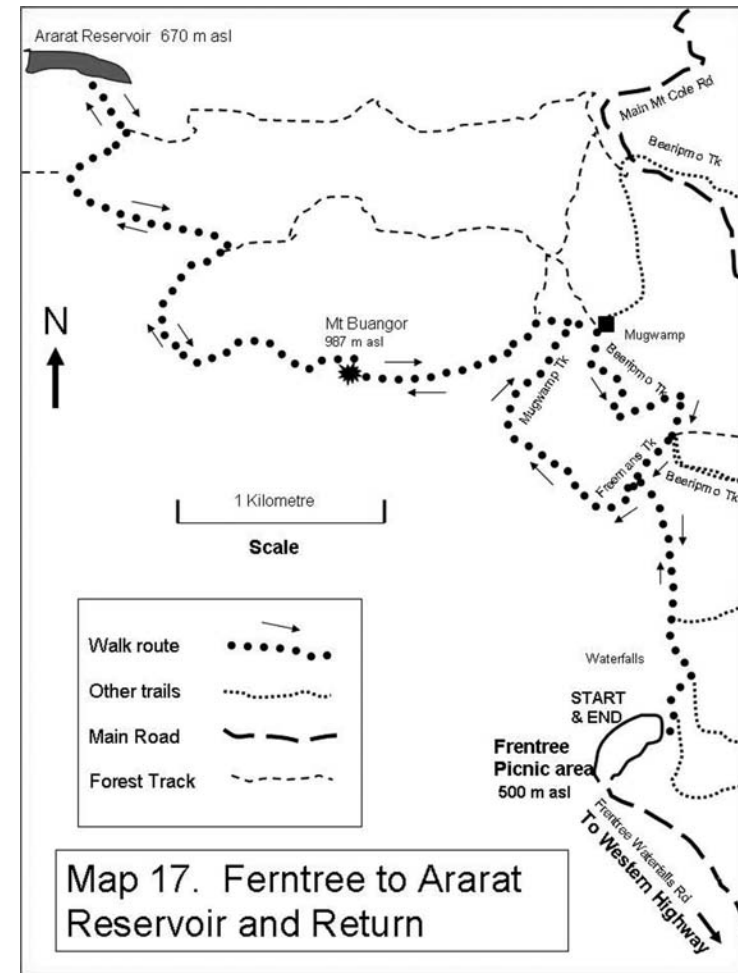
There are a number of steps in this part of the track, which lead to the lower parts of the falls.

The falls are reached through the Ferntree carpark, on the track marked Waterfalls Nature walk.

There are some steep sections here, but steps and hand rails are provided to take you in a circuit walk of the falls.

A small side track will take you to the Cascade falls.

Complete the loop and return to your car by retracing your steps along the Middle Creek walking track.



Walk 17. FERNTREE TO ARARAT RESERVOIR AND RETURN

Type: Circuit
Time: 7 hours
Distance: 15 km
Grading: Medium/Hard
Start/Finish: Ferntree car park

Cautions

Tracks are narrow and steep in places and can be slippery if wet. The return journey is steep downhill. There is a short section off-track.

Walk Description

A steep climb for approximately 1.5 hours past waterfalls and through eucalyptus forest to the sub alpine vegetation at the top of Mt Buangor. The walk is well signposted up to the summit. Beyond the summit the track is not signposted until the reservoir road.

Getting to the start

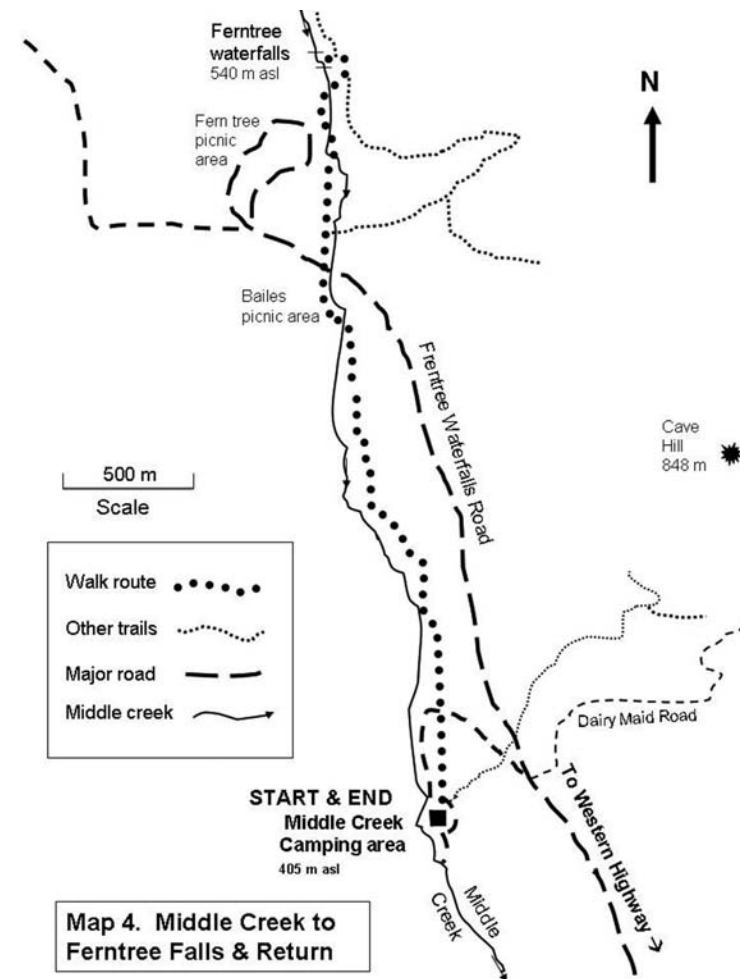
From Beaufort head west along the Western Hwy. Approximately 11 km out of town turn right onto Ferntree Gully Road at the 'Mt Buangor State Park' road sign. Continue for approximately 6 km to the park entrance. After ½ km turn right into Ferntree Waterfalls Rd. Continue past Middle Ck and Bailes car park on your left to reach Ferntree car park.

Directions

Take the Mt Buangor walking track and make a small diversion to the left to view the falls a few hundred metres from the start. Continue over the footbridge and follow the Mt Buangor track up the hill until it reaches Freemans Track. Turn left and follow the road (and then Mugwamp Tk) until it intersects with the section of Beeripmo Track leading to Mt Buangor. Turn left to Buangor lookout and then on to the cairn at the peak of Mt. Buangor.

Backtrack from the cairn to the walking track and turn left. Follow this around and down the hill until it meets a gravel road, ignoring a less distinct sidetrack to the left a few hundred metres from the road. Turn left and follow the road until a T-junction. Turn right (Reservoir Rd) and follow this until the second turn sharply left along another road - to Ararat Reservoir.

Return by the same route (past Mt Buangor) until the track meets Mugwam Tk and keep left to reach Mugwamp Campground. Now take the Beeripmo Track towards Beeripmo camp. Before reaching Beeripmo campground, turn right onto Freemans Track. Continue until Freemans Track meets the trail to Ferntree Falls. Turn left, thus retracing the route taken at the start of the day - to Ferntree Picnic area and carpark.



Walk No. 6. LANGI GHIRAN RESERVOIR WALK

Type: Linear (2 walks)
Time: 3 hours
Distance: 8 km (including La-Ne-Jeering walk)
Grade: Easy
Start/finish: Langi Ghiran picnic area

Walk Description

A pleasant walk from the picnic ground to the reservoir following a creek, a quarry and on to a lookout close to a pipe outlet (Ararat water supply). A visit to the La-ne-Jeering Aboriginal art site is also available on the drive out of the Park.

Getting to the start:

From Beaufort travel west towards Ararat on the Western Highway. About 11 km after Buangor, take the second turn off right into Langi Ghiran State Park. [Do not take the first entry to the Park (7.5 km after Buangor) as that is not allowed.] On the second turn off (Kartuk Road) note the Railway Crossing and travel 5 km to the picnic/camping area, where the walk starts.

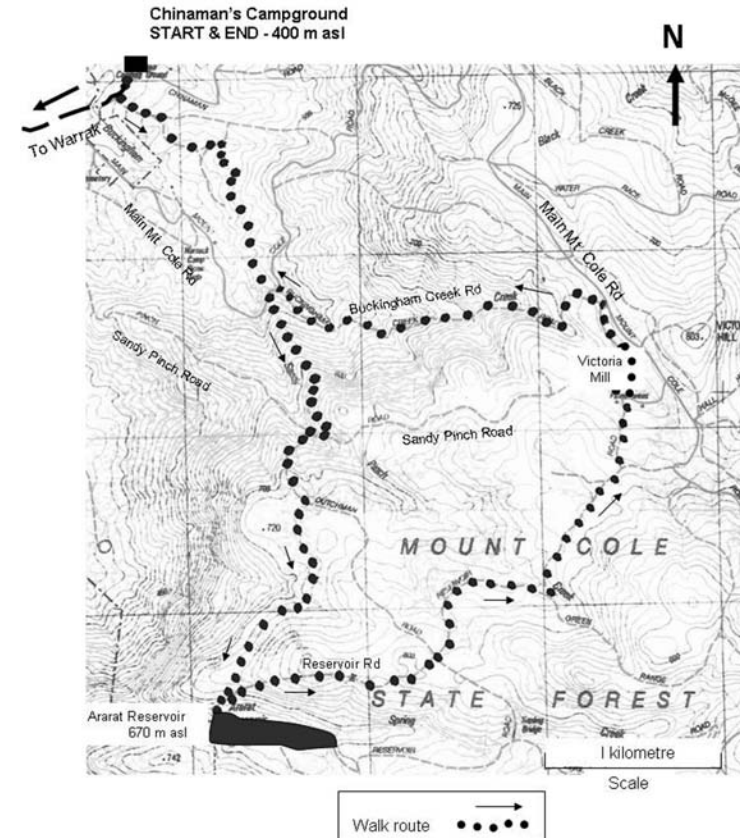
Directions:

Pick up the well signposted track from the camping area. As you get to some large boulders the track splits – take the track to the left. This track follows a creek, past a small dam and through granite boulders and up to the wall of main reservoir. Walk left across and below the spillway to the western side, and pick up a small track to an old quarry (which was used in building the reservoir in 1880). This track is through a breach in the fence and requires minor rock scrambling.

Walk back to the eastern side of the dam and continue left on the well signposted track, which in many places follows the open channel that linked the pipe from the Ararat reservoir - to the Langi Ghiran reservoir. The water now travels underground from the where it emerges from a pipe near the lookout. Water (not potable) flows under gravity from the Ararat Reservoir 8 km west of this point. The lookout gives good views to Ben Nevis and the Mt Buangor range.

To complete the walk, either retrace your steps, or return to the picnic area on the forest service track. To pick up this road from the lookout, take the track to the right of the large boulders and follow it down to join Easter Ck Track and the Reservoir Road, to the picnic area.

When driving out, turn hard left onto the Langi Ghiran Track about 100 m from the campground. Travel approx. 5.5 km until you see a small parking area on the right and a walking track going off to the left. Take this 1.8 km return track to visit the Lar-Ne-Jeering Aboriginal rock art site (well worth the effort). Return to your car and continue east to join the highway in less than 1 km.



Map 16. Chinaman's Campground to Ararat Reservoir and Return

Walk 16. CHINAMANS TO ARARAT RESERVOIR AND RETURN

Type: A circuit
Time: 8 hours. (Depart Beaufort 0800hrs)
Distance: 16 km
Grading: Hard (Fit walkers only)
Map: Vicmap Buangor North. 7523-3-N
Start/Finish: Chinaman campground, below Mt Cole

Cautions

Parts of the route are steep and loose and some short sections are overgrown. Wear stout boots and gaiters. Water is not available along the walk, other than from the reservoir.

Walk Description

A variety of interesting bushland and rocky outcrops, passing the Ararat reservoir and Victoria Mill site.

Getting to start

From Beaufort, travel west on the highway through Buangor, turning right at the Warrak turn off. Travel 12 km to Warrak. Turn right, after 4 km take the left fork to Chinamans

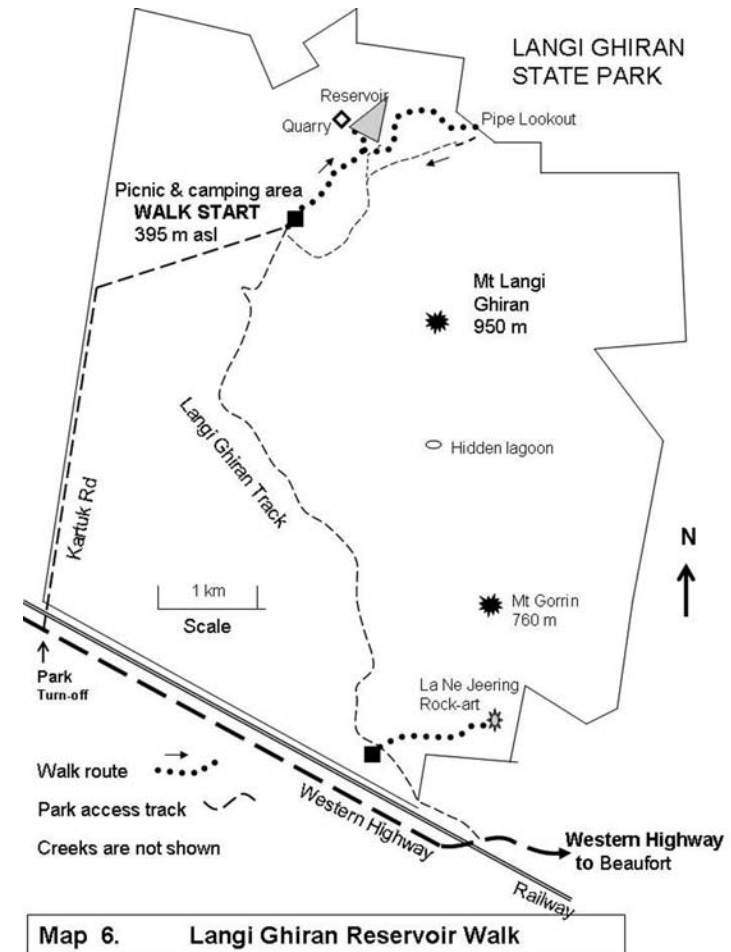
Directions

From the campground, head SW along the road for 200m. Turn left onto a 4wd track marked by an arrow and follow this track for approx 750m. On a steep uphill section of the track, at a post with arrow, turn right and follow a faint foot track. Upon leaving the 4wd road, the track follows a faint pad up the spur until it reaches the main Mt Cole road. Crossing the road, the track steepens and climbs almost to the top of the knoll before descending to Pinch road.

Walk 100m east along Pinch road to Dutchman road and follow it up a steep climb for 250m. Turn right at a post with arrow and follow the faint track, which becomes more overgrown and difficult to follow. The track eventually opens out to a series of rock shelves, which allow excellent views over the plains to the west. Shortly after this the track turns south and descends to the reservoir.

From the dam, follow Reservoir Road uphill and continue until it arrives at Victoria Mill reserve. From here, continue on to the intersection with Buckingham Ck Rd. Turn left and follow Buckingham Ck Rd. downhill to its end at the main Mt Cole road.

Turn left up the main road for about 100m. The track used earlier crosses at this point. Turn right and follow the track downhill to Chinaman and the finish.



Walk 7. THE JENNY CLAYTON WALK

Type: A loop walk
Time: 3hrs including lunch
Distance: 8.5km
Grading: Easy
Start/Finish: Middle Creek camp ground

Walk Description

A pleasant walk on the edge of the forest, with a good variety of vegetation, animal and bird life.

Getting to the start

From Beaufort travel on the Western highway towards Ararat for 11 Kms , turning right at the Mt Buangor State Park turnoff. Follow this road into the park(about 6kms) and take the first turn left to the Middle Creek camping area.

Directions

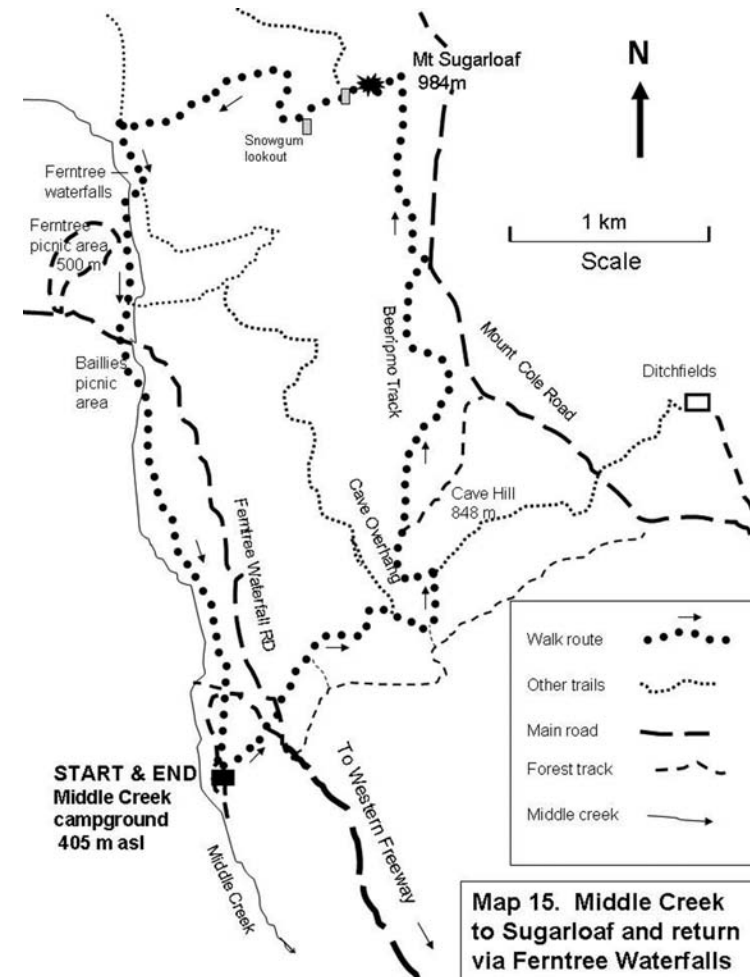
From the carpark , walk back on the track you have just driven in on to the end of the campground and turn left and walk to the end of that track.

Turn left again on to the Jimmy Smith track, a rough 4wheel drive track, and follow this into the bush, passing a farm paddock on your right.

Ignore the track that follows the fenceline on the right, and continue up the hill, taking the right fork as you go.

The track rises gently, coming to another right fork. Take this and continue on it until coming to another boundary fence.

Turn right and follow this track as it continues mostly along the fence line back to the first junction. Turn left back to Jimmy Smiths road and back to the cars.



Walk 15. MIDDLE CREEK TO SUGARLOAF, FERNTREE AND RETURN

Type: Bus tour
Type: Circuit
Distance: 11km
Time: 5.5 hours (despite signs)
Grading: Medium - exposed in bad weather - climb 600 metres
Start/Finish: Middle Creek camping ground

Walk Description

A circuit walk via Cave Hill, Mt Sugarloaf and Ferntree waterfalls with some steep sections. Great views to the south and west.

Cautions

The track is narrow in parts and the exposed rocks can be very slippery.

Getting to the start

From Beaufort travel towards Ararat for 11kms and turn right at the Buangor State Park sign. Follow this road, ignoring any side roads until you enter the Mt Buangor state park. The first turn on the left after entering the state park will take you to the Middle Creek camping ground.

Directions

The walk begins opposite the shelter and proceeds in an easterly direction and soon crosses Middle Creek road and Ferntree Waterfall road.

Follow the foot track as it begins to climb in an easterly direction. You will soon meet a fire track.

Turn left onto this track which very soon becomes a foot track and continues to climb cave Hill.

As you climb you will come to a side track (left) to the overhang from which gives Cave Hill its name. A short scramble to look at this overhang makes an interesting diversion.

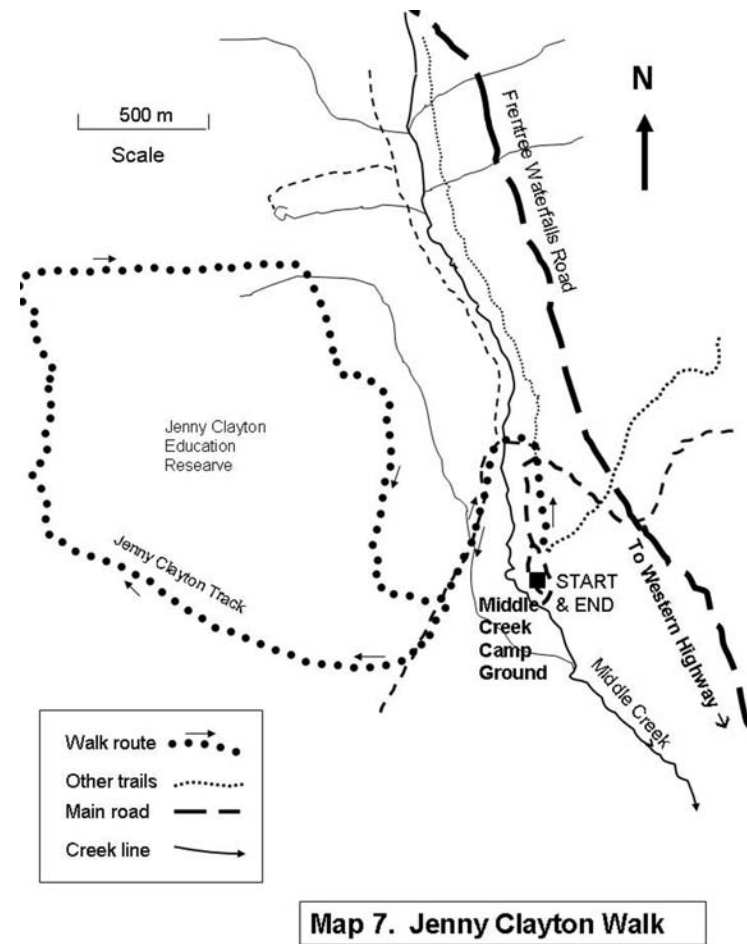
Continue on up Cave Hill until you come to a small carpark near the top of the hill. This is where you meet the Beeripmo track. Turn left onto the Berripmo track.

After about 20 minutes on the Beeripmo Track, the trail starts to climb Mt Sugarloaf.

About 300 metres past the summit of Sugarloaf you will come to a lookout, leave the Beeripmo Track on a track to the left which will take you to Snowgum lookout and then on down to Ferntree water falls.

Enjoy the falls before arriving at the Ferntree carpark. There is a small shelter here.

The track back to Middle creek starts from the carpark, passes Baillies picnic area and is a gentle 3 kms.



Walk 8. MT BUANGOR WALK

Type: Circuit
Time: 5 hours
Distance: 10km
Grading: Medium
Cautions: The track is steep in places and can be slippery. Good soled boots, strong knees, and/or walking poles, will help. There is a short section off track through grass
Recommended Map:
 Mt Buangor State Park Visitor Guide

Start/Finish: Ferntree Visitor Area

Walk Description

A steep uphill climb past waterfalls, through eucalyptus forest to the sub alpine vegetation at the top of Mt Buangor. There is good chance of seeing eagles, fern filled gullies and extensive views of the western plains past Langi Ghiran. The endemic Mt Cole Grevillea may be flowering.

Getting to the start

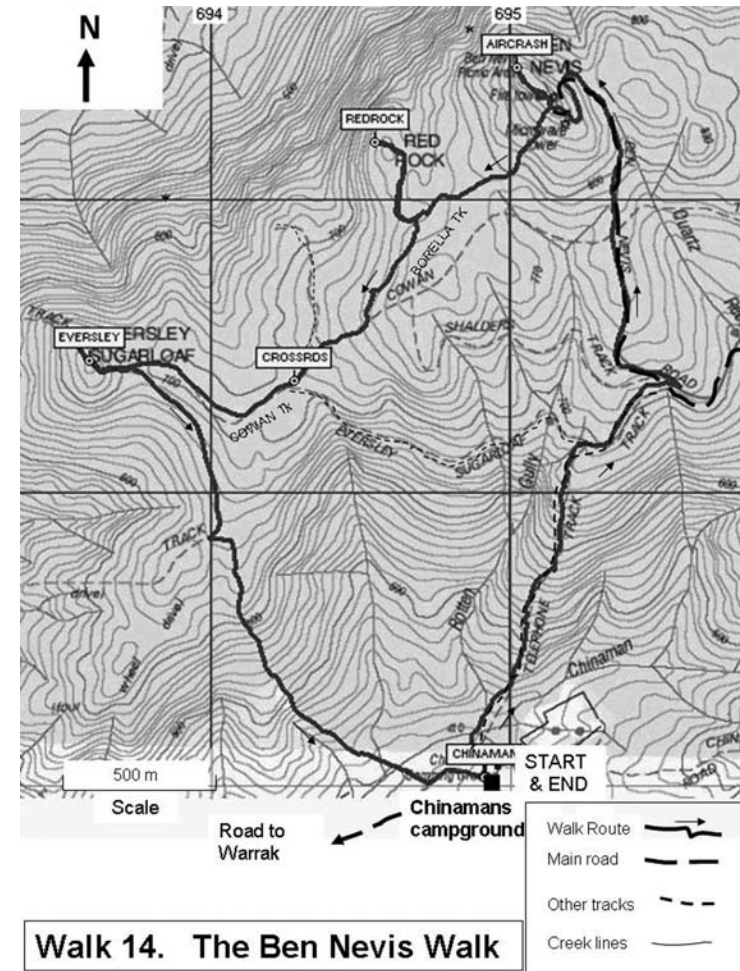
From Beaufort head west along the Western Hwy. Approximately 12 km out of town turn right onto Ferntree Gully Road at the 'Mt Buangor State Park' sign. Continue for approximately 6 km to the park entrance. ½ km further on turn right into Ferntree Waterfalls Rd. Continue past Bailes Visitor Centre on your left until to reach the Ferntree Visitor Area.

Directions

From the Ferntree Visitor Area follow the track that starts from behind the State Park Information Board (ignore the small track that veers left). Turn left at the first 'Mt Buangor' sign, right at the second and left at the third. Turn left at the T-intersection with Freemans Track (approximately one hour's walk).

Continue for approximately ½ hour until a sign on left directs you to Mt Buangor and there is a 'Beeripmo' sign on the right. Turn right. Follow the track to a signpost to Mugwamp campground. Turn left. When the track meets the road turn left. Go through gate and campground is on your left. This is a good spot for a break and there are toilets. Return to Freemans Track the way you came. Cross road through log barrier (signpost 'Mt Buangor Lookout'). After second log barrier follow orange triangle past small cairn to a road. Bear left. Continue past signpost 'Mt Buangor State Park' to a turning circle (approximately ½ hour from Freeman's Track). On left follow a short track to a viewing site. Return to the turning circle and turn left. Follow track past sign 'Management Vehicles & Walkers only'. At the arrow near a large log lying parallel to the track on your left, turn left. An indistinct track leads up to the top of the mount (elevation 987m) maked by a large cairn erected by Major Mitchell in the 1830's.

Retrace your steps for the return journey, except, at the second sign to 'Ferntree Visitor Area' turn right instead of left, past a waterfall. This track returns you to the car park.



Walk 14. The Ben Nevis Walk

Walk 14. THE BEN NEVIS WALK

Type: Bus tour
Type: A loop walk
Terrain: Foot tracks, 4wheel drive tracks.
Distance: 9.6km
Time: 5hrs
Grading: Medium/hard
Start/ Finish: Chinamans camping ground.

Walk Description

A steep walk at the Northern end of the mountain range, with great views which often include wedgetail eagles and hang gliders.

Getting to the start:

From Beaufort travel west on the highway to Buangor and look for the Warrak turn off on the right side. Take this road and travel to Warrak (12km) from the highway. Turn right for 4kms; take the left fork up the gravel road to Chinamans.

Directions:

Park here and walk north to the gully at the back of the campground.

Walk up the very steep 4-wheel drive Telephone track for 1.25km.

Turn right and take the Eversley Sugarloaf road, for about 400 m to the Ben Nevis road. Turn left up Ben Nevis road and walk to the end where there is a radio and fire tower and a hut and picnic area; a good spot for a break.

Take a walk down the little track to the north of the picnic area where there are good views and a plaque marking the site of a plane crash. Retrace your steps to the toilet and turn right along a narrow foot track which will take you down to the Red Rock track.

Turn right along a small track into Red Rock, the launching place for the hang gliders, a rock climbing venue, and also a great viewing point.

Return along the Red Rock track to an intersection with Borella track, turn right and follow track markers to Cowan track.

Turn right; continue on Cowan track straight across an intersection until reaching a hair pin bend.

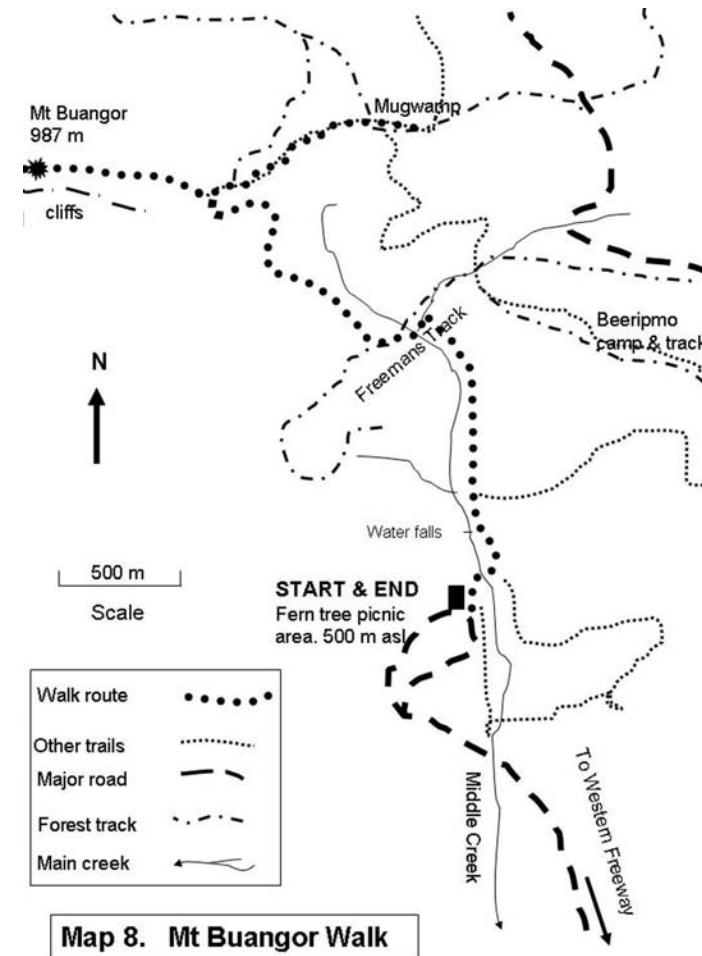
Leave the road here and take the track uphill straight ahead.

Walk steeply up to the top of Eversley Sugarloaf and down across the grassy patch to get a good view across to Red Rock and a good spot for watching hang gliders.

Return to the Cowan track and turn right and continue east along this track, down in to a saddle and pick up the foot track on the left side of the road.

This foot track is a long, steep, slippery, toe-jamming descent that will take you all the way back to Chinamans road just west of the carpark.

Cautions: Some very steep hills, slippery patches.



Walk 9. WATERLOO STATE FOREST

Type: Circuit
Time: 4 ½ hrs
Distance: 14 kms
Grading: Medium
Start/ Finish: Waterloo Cemetery

Walk Description

This walk is in the state forest at Waterloo, and begins and finishes at the Waterloo cemetery. The walk goes through the heritage listed alluvial gold site of Baxter Gully.

Getting to the start

At Beaufort take the Lexton road at Lawrence street (off the Western highway) and travel through Waterloo. Continue on till the cemetery turn off on the right. Follow this road to the cemetery Park your car here.

Directions

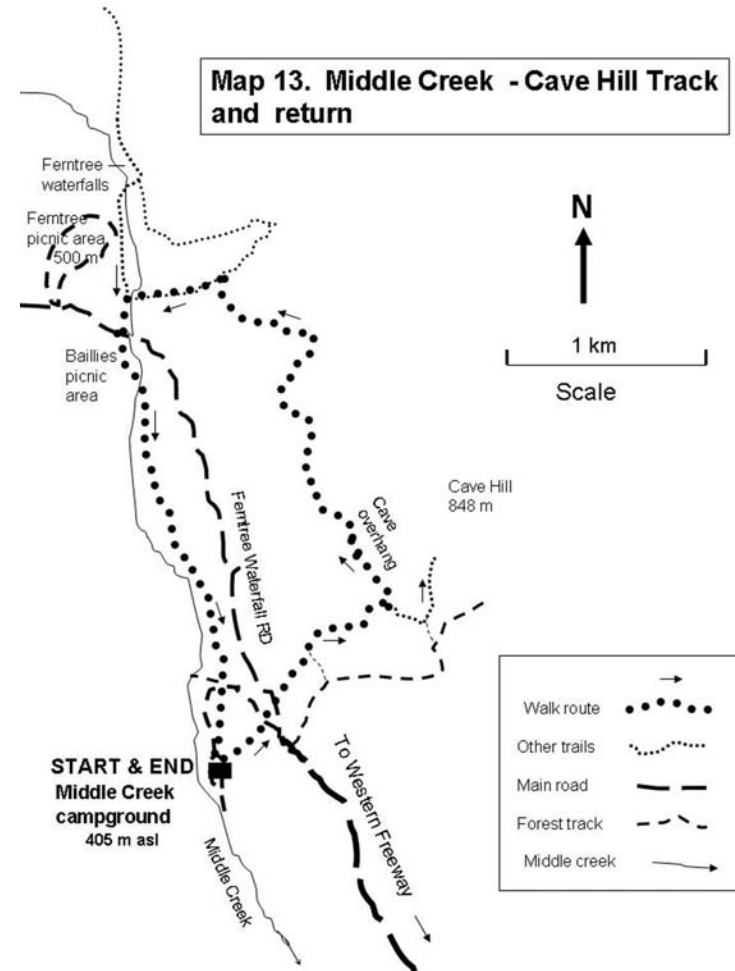
Walk to the end of cemetery road.

Turn left on to Blazed track and stay on this track until reaching Baxter track.

Turn right up this track and walk generally easterly until you come to the North South track which runs along the ridge of the eastern edge of the State forest.

Turn left on this track and continue on it until you come to Stewart track.

Turn right and follow this track back to the cemetery.



Walk 13. MIDDLE CREEK CAVE HILL TRACK AND RETURN

Type: Circuit
Distance: 6.5 km
Time: 4 hours
Grading: Medium
Cautions: Some rock scrambling, some slippery steep paths, a patch of stinging nettles
Start/ Finish: Middle Creek camp ground

Walk Description

An interesting walk through a variety of vegetation, Cave hill overhang, and rock crossing .

Getting to start

Travel west through Beaufort on the Western highway for 11 kms and turn right onto the Ferntree Waterfalls road.

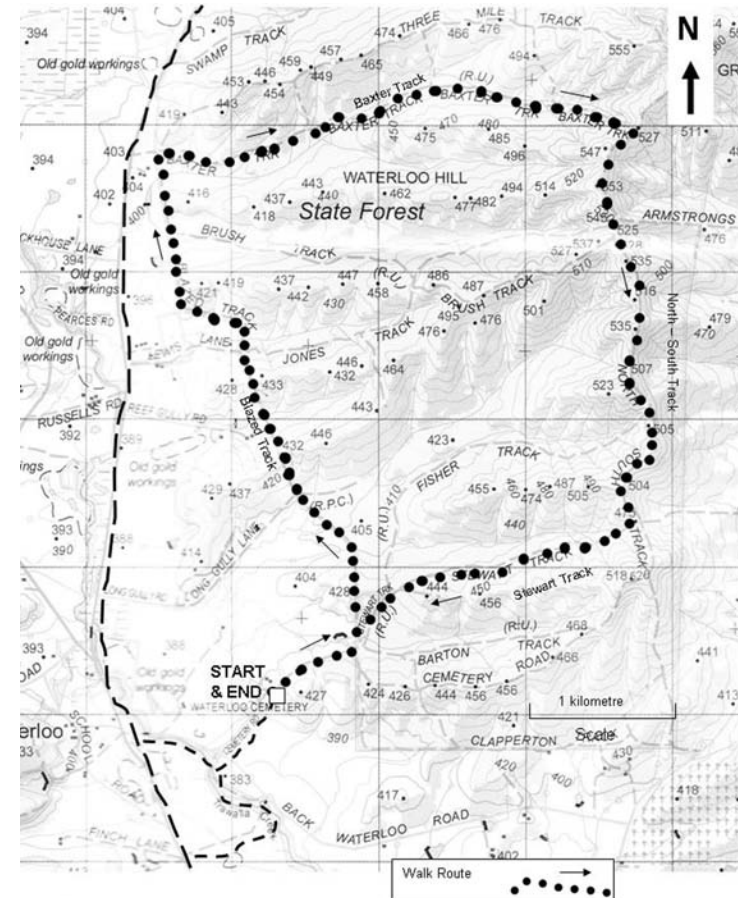
Follow this, ignoring any side roads, until you enter the Mt Buangor State Park.

The first turn left will take you to Middle Creek camping ground.

Directions

The walk begins opposite the shelter and soon crosses Middle Creek road and Ferntree Waterfalls road. Keep on the track as it climbs, and turn left at a junction on the side of the hill .

You will soon be at the Cave overhang- a good spot for a rest before scrambling over the rocks and continuing on the track west until you reach a large rock face which has a chain to help you cross. Continue on the foot track to a T intersection. Turn left and then left again after crossing Middle Creek, passing through some stinging nettles. Then cross Fern tree Waterfalls road and take a rest at Baillies picnic area on your right. The rest of the track is very easy all the way back down to Middle Creek.



Map 9. Waterloo State Forest

Walk 10. RICHARDS, RAGLAN FALLS, HUTCHING'S TRACK LOOP

Type : Circuit
Time: 3 hours
Distance: 8.25 km
Grading: Medium
Start/Finish: Richards Campground

Walk Description

A steep walk uphill via the Raglan Falls with a steep mainly downhill return.
 Good views over the Raglan area.

Getting to start

At Beaufort take the turn opposite the bandstand and travel north to Raglan following the Elmhurst road and taking the Glut road fork to the left. Turn left again at the sign to Richards Campground. The car park is a short distance up this road.

Directions

Cross the creek from the car park into the fine open picnic ground and from the Beeripmo walking track sign follow the trail which begins just left of the enclosed picnic shelter. A short westerly uphill section heads through a gate to a small clearing and onto the Beeripmo track via its distinctive posted logo. Beginning gently, the track enters woodland then ferns, as a creek is crossed. The track then quickly ascends in a general SSW direction. A water pipeline intake station is passed on the left and the track steepens up along the creek towards and through Raglan falls. Keep left at an apparent track fork at the base of a section of boulders.

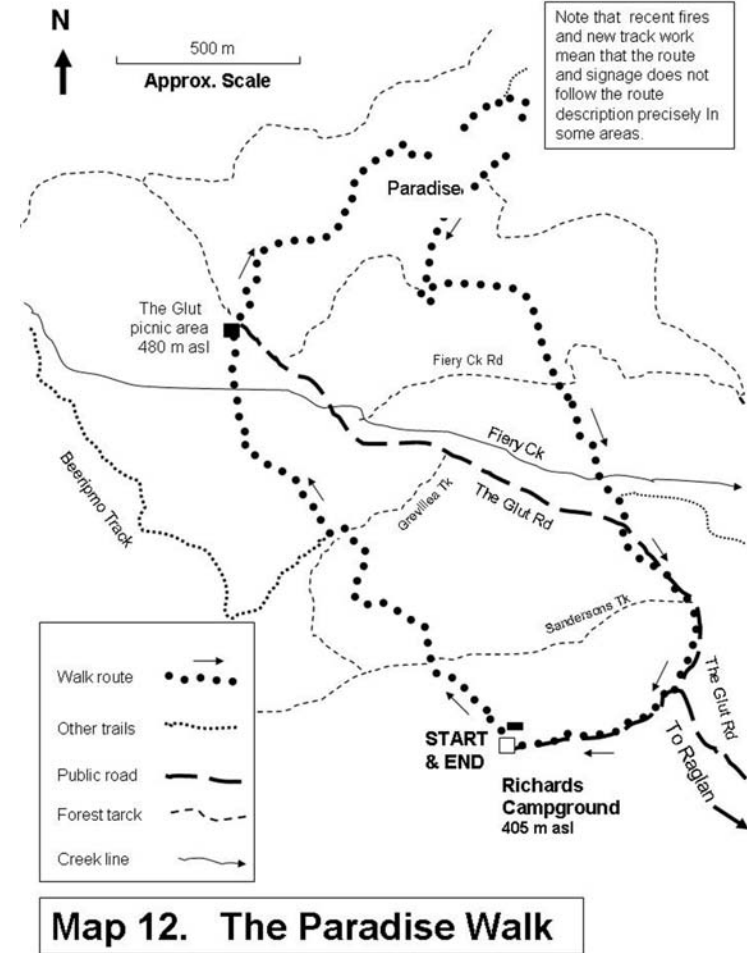
At the metal balustrade at the flat top of the cliffs above look NE back down the valley with its huge granite rocks, fallen trees and ferny glades.

The track now flattens out along the plateau, crosses a short section of boardwalk and reaches Camp Road. Leave the Beeripmo trail here and turn left down Camp Road to reach Ditchfield Camp (200m) (hut, picnic tables and toilets).

Head east from the hut for 100m and veer right onto a foot track which leads to a five way intersection. After crossing the road, take the signposted Archie's Track which then undulates through open forest in a SE direction for about 1.25 km. Ignore side tracks. Take a left turn through a gate onto Manly Point track and descend steeply with views of the valley through the trees.

After .75 km turn left at the T-intersection onto Hutchings track. Now the route travels mainly NNW for about 3 km along a 4WD track beside old fence lines, through sections of tall forest with more open farmland appearing on the right toward the base of the escarpment. Keep to the main track which finally turns right and heads .5km downhill.

Take a hard left onto the signposted Richards Picnic ground track for a final push to the car park.



Walk 12. THE PARADISE WALK

Type: Circuit
Time: 3-4 Hours
Distance: 9 km
Grade: Medium
Start/Finish: Richards Campground (20km from Beaufort.)

Getting to start

Turn **RIGHT** just past the Rotunda in the main street of Beaufort. (Mobil Service Station on the opposite corner.) Follow the signs to Mt Cole and Beeripmo. Continue over the railway line. The road is sealed for approx 16km with a short maintained dirt road at the end. There is a fork in the road, take the **LEFT** fork to Richards Campground.

Directions

Head **LEFT** up the track and around the gate, cross the road and up the steps following the sign to the Grevillea Track. Cross the road, continue. You will come to a fork in the track. Take the **RIGHT** turn to the Glut Picnic Area. (30 - 40 min. Toilets available here.)

Leave the Glut, cross the road and turn **LEFT** onto the wider track **NOT** straight ahead down the narrower one. (This will lead you on to a road.)

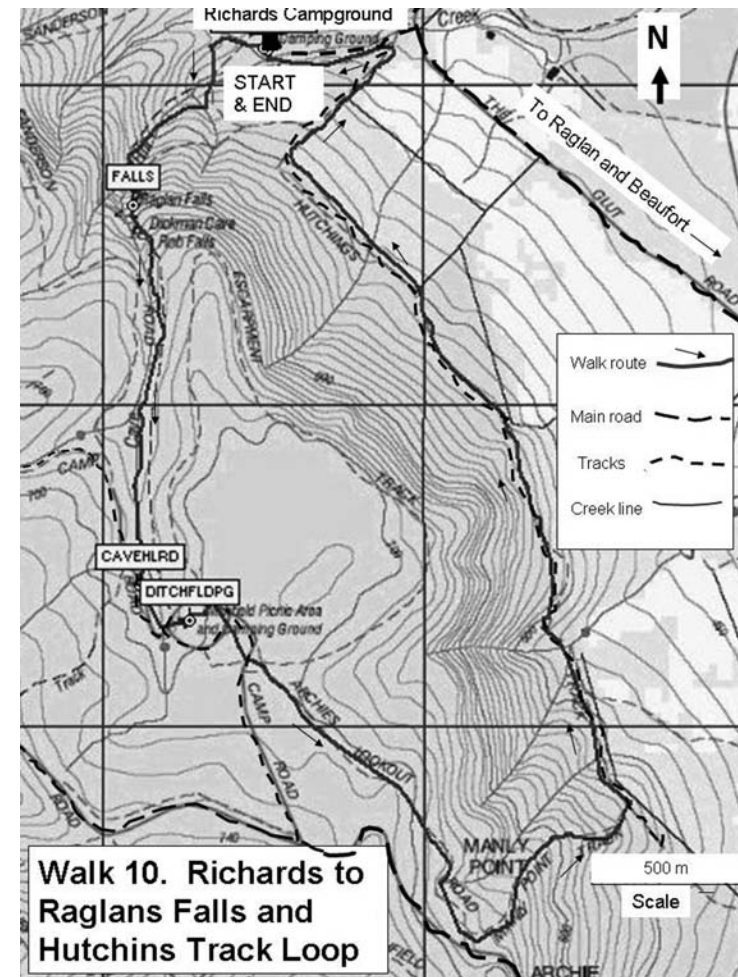
Cross over the weir on the footbridge and up some steps, there is a "Paradise Walk" sign near a large fallen log. Continue until you reach a T intersection where there is a sign for the "Paradise Walk" pointing to where you have just come from. Turn **LEFT** up the track, you will see a "Paradise Walk" sign pointing to the **RIGHT** along with a yellow marker. This takes you down into a lush valley of tree ferns. The 3 footbridges at the bottom of the hill can be slippery when wet.

Just over the road you come to there is a yellow marker on a tree pointing right, follow this. Continue on road. Pick up the track again at the crossroads. There is a yellow marker on a tree to the left. Continue along track

Cross over a smaller track, go straight ahead down to a ferny glade. (you have the option here of turning right on this small track or going down into the ferny glade.) As you come up from the ferns you will meet this smaller track again. Cross the road to a flatter area. Follow orange marker on post. Cross the road, you will see a "no motorbike" sign

Continue along over the bridge down the steps and along a long boardwalk among tall tree ferns, until you reach the end of the boardwalk.

Veer **RIGHT** along a cleared track to a road. Turn **LEFT** at this road walking past Sanderson Rd. Keep going until you reach a crossroads where you will see a sign to "Richards 500m", go straight across.



Walk 11. MIDDLE CREEK TO DITCHFIELDS AND RETURN

Type: A linear walk - returning by the same route
Time: 5 hours - including food stops and side trip
Distance: Approximately 8km
Grading: Medium/Hard
Start/Finish: Middle Creek camping ground

Walk Description

A walk between two camping grounds, with one long steep section.

Getting to the start

From Beaufort travel West on the highway for 11km then turn right at the Waterfalls picnic area road. Follow this gravel road, ignoring side roads, until you enter the Mt Buangor State Park. The first turn left will take you to Middle Creek camping ground.

Directions

The walk begins opposite the shelter and soon crosses over the Middle Creek road and the Ferntree Waterfalls road.

Keep on the track as it climbs gently and crosses over 2 gravel tracks. Turn left onto a fire track, continue to the junction on the side of the hill (there is a marker post with an orange arrow) and follow the Cavehill Walking Track. The track now begins a much steeper climb of around 400 metres in altitude. Turn right at a T-intersection and follow the track up towards the north-west (the track to the left leads to the Cave overhang). The route continues to a clearing where it intersects with the Beeripmo Track. Turn right onto this track towards Cave Hill. There is a good morning tea spot with great views, a short distance along this track.

The track levels out as it crests Cave Hill and descends gently towards Ditchfields. Cross straight over the Mt Cole Road and a small fire track and then walk down to the Camp Road. Turn right and follow this road to Ditchfields Hut (a good lunch spot).

Retrace your steps towards Middle Creek but at the T-intersection, continue on to the Cave overhang (200-300 metres). Return to the T-intersection, turn right and retrace the route down to Middle Creek Campground.

