

Along Narrow Neck to Taro's Ladder



7 hrs

Moderate track

20 km Return

↑ 671m

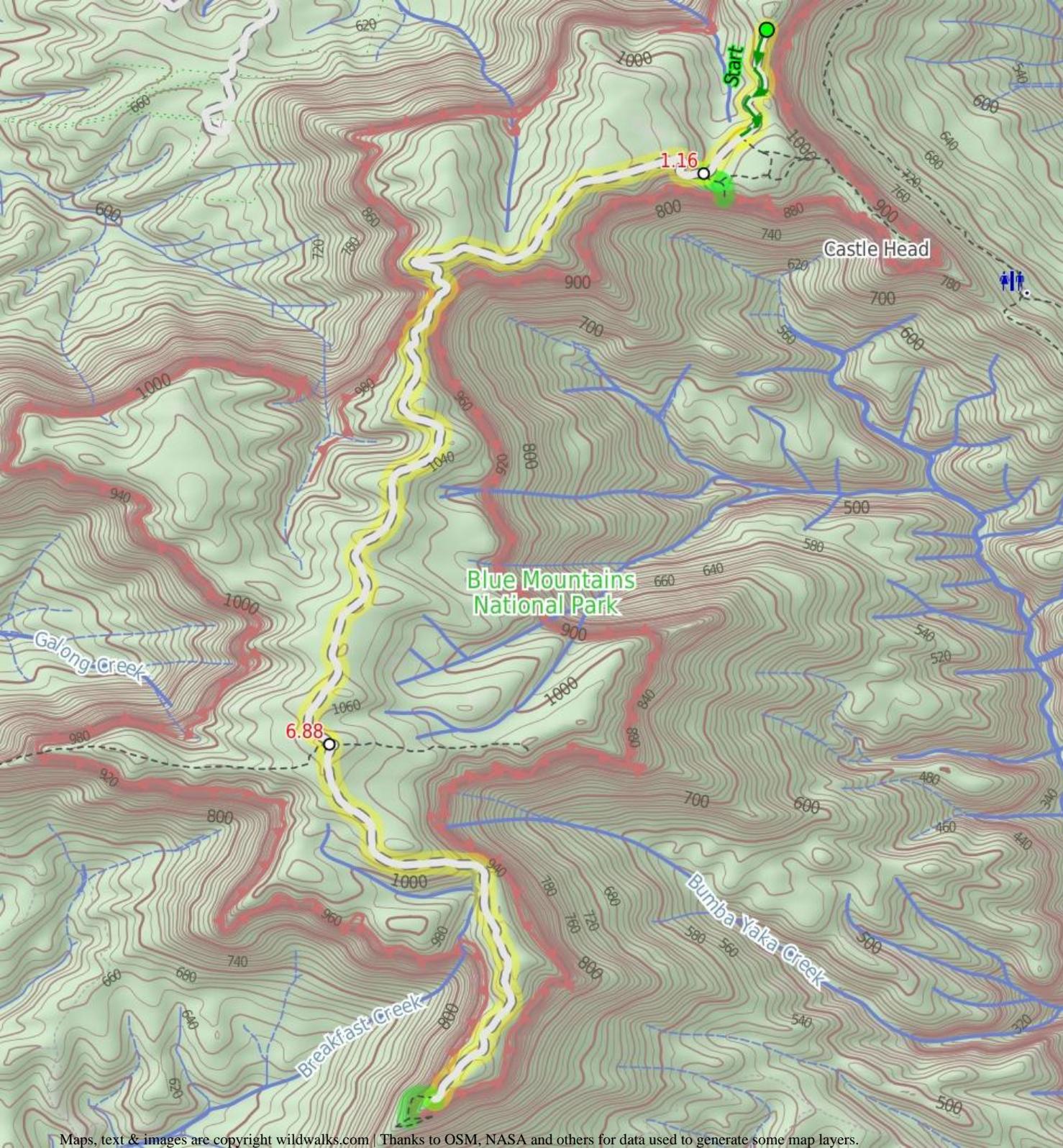
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This walk follows the Glenraphael Drive management trail along Narrow Neck, enjoying plenty of great views of the Jamison Valley and across to Mount Solitary. The climb down Taro's ladder requires skill, and much care and caution should be used. There are plenty of pleasant spots to rest along the way. As this walk follows the management trail, there are likely to be people on mountain bikes sharing the area.

952m

1070m

Blue Mountains National Park



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 car is the only practical way to get to Locked gate (gps: -33.7409, 150.2801). Car: There is free parking available.

This is a return, so you will finish back at the start.

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

0 | Locked gate

(1.2 km 22 mins) From the emergency access gate, this walk heads south along the management trail. After a while, it comes to the northern Castle Head track (on the left side of the trail), marked with two treated pine posts either side of the bush track. (For emergency access, keys to the National Park gate are available from the local council, police and National Parks services.)

Continue straight: From the intersection, this walk heads south along the management trail and down a steep hill, until it reaches the intersection of Glenraphael Drive and the southern Castle Head track.

1.16 | Optional sidetrip to Lookout

(220 m 5 mins) Turn left : From the start of the bush track on Glenraphael Dr (marked with treated pine posts and railway tracks sticking out of the ground), the walk heads south-east up a steep hill until it flattens out and comes to the intersection with the lookout track a short distance later.

Veer right: From the intersection, this walk heads south-west over a small hill and steeply down the other side to a clearing at the cliffs, where there is a viewing point. At the end of this side trip, retrace your steps back to the main walk then Veer left.

1.16 | Int of southern Castle Head track and Glenraphael

(5.7 km 1 hr 55 mins) Continue straight: From the intersection, this walk heads south-west, climbing a long and steep hill. The trail zigzags to the top and continues along the dirt road in a southerly direction. The walk passes through the

thick scrub to the thick gum forest, and up to the Narrow Neck Fire Tower at the top of Bushwalkers Hill.

6.88 | Fire Tower

(3.1 km 1 hr 2 mins) Continue straight: From the Fire Tower at Bushwalkers Hill, this walk heads south, winding along the management trail through Glenraphael Swamp, then to the end of the ridge where the road stops.

10.02 | Optional sidetrip to Top of Taro's Ladder

(250 m 10 mins) Turn right: From the end of Glenraphael Drive south of Clear Hill, this walk heads west down past the special area signpost and down a metal ladder-like staircase to the lower section of the ridge. From there, the track continues south as it zigzags steeply, sometimes climbing down towards the tip of Narrow Neck, passing a Taro memorial plaque, dropping steeply down again and continuing along until it reaches the top of Taro's Ladder. At the end of this side trip, retrace your steps back to the main walk then Turn sharp left.

