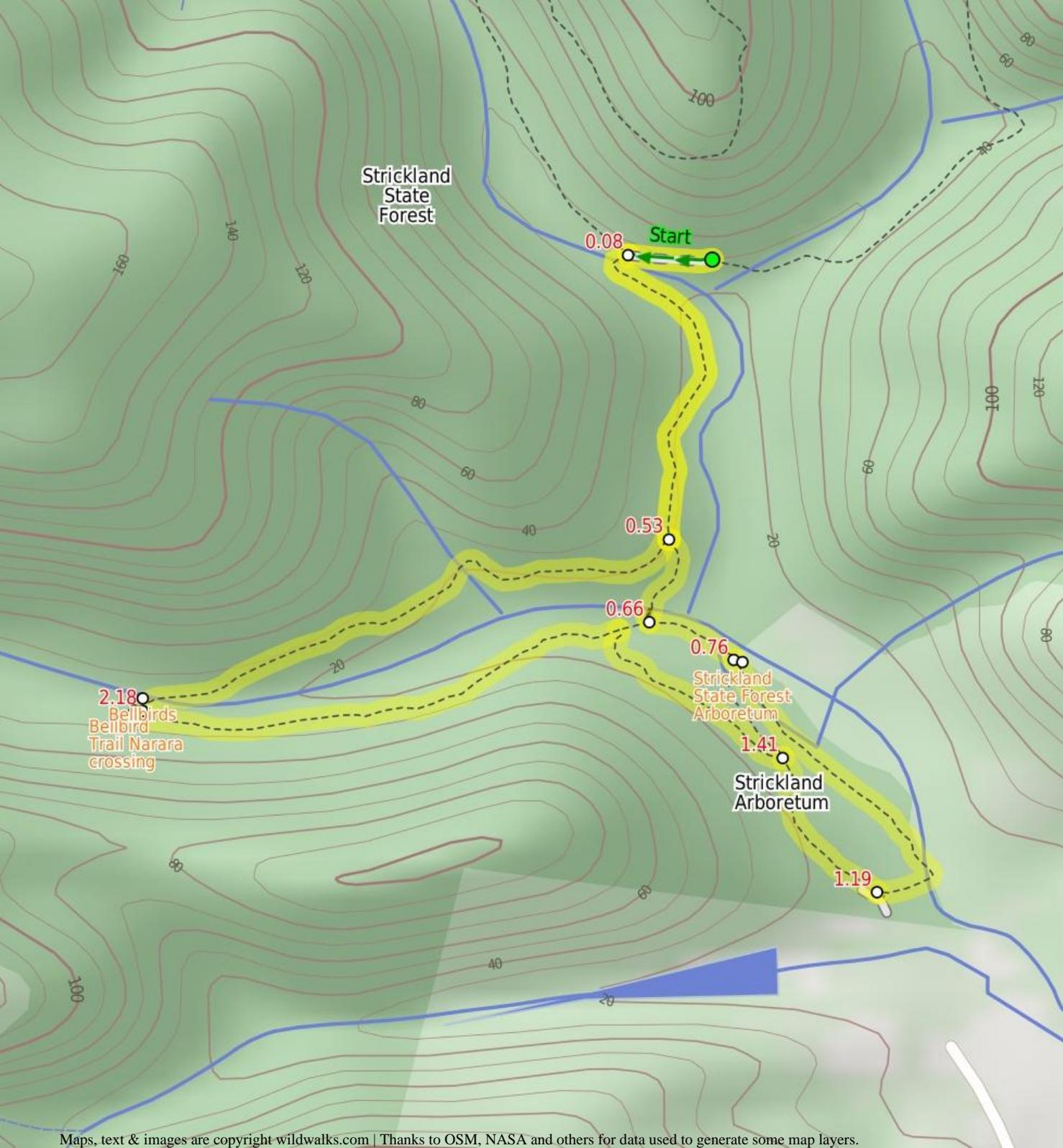


## Bellbird Trail



1 hr 15 mins

Moderate track

3

3.3 km Circuit

↑ 89m

A great walk, passing through plenty of the Strickland rainforest, and among the tall tress of the arboretum. You are likely to have the sound of Bellbirds adding to the atmosphere along parts of this walk. There are a number of picturesque creek crossings along the way, one with a small suspension bridge. The Banksia picnic area is a very short deviation off the road if you want to make use of the facilities.

30m

Strickland State Forest

### 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 walks 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 Strickland Lower car park (gps: -33.3799, 151.3251). Car: There is free parking available.

This is a circuit, 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/28>

### 0 | Strickland State Forest

The Strickland State Forest, managed by State Forests of NSW, is located on the NSW Central Coast, close to the F3. The Strickland State Forest has a wide range of vegetation, including patches of rainforest along the sheltered creeks. The walking tracks take in some beautiful scenery, including a mixture of native forest and the remnants of an old arboretum. 'Strickland is no longer actively harvested and is managed for education and recreation purposes'. The 'Friends of Strickland' undertake projects including the construction of walking tracks. Note: Access into Strickland is during the daytime only with the entrance gate being unlocked between 7am and 5pm (Apr - Oct) and between 7am and 7pm (Nov - Mar) [More info](#).

### 0 | Banksia Picnic Area

This picnic area is in the Strickland State Forest, on the NSW Central Coast. The facilities include picnic tables, pit toilets, BBQ fire places, garbage bins and tank water. A few bush walking tracks start from the picnic area.

### 0 | Strickland Lower car park

(80 m 2 mins) From the car park, the walk follows the 'Walking Trails' arrow along the management trail. The walk passes an information board, with a map of the walking trails, and continues a short distance to an intersection just before the creek crossing.

### 0.08 | Int of Stoney Creek and Bellbird trails

(450 m 8 mins) Veer left: From the intersection, the walk crosses the creek and follows the 'Arboretum Loop Trail' arrow along the old management trail. The trail meanders through shaded forest, filled with cabbage palms, for some time before reaching a signposted intersection with a bush track.

### 0.53 | Arboretum junction

(130 m 2 mins) Continue straight: From the intersection, the walk follows the 'Arboretum Trail' arrow down the timber steps and along the overgrown management trail. After a short distance, the walk crosses a suspension bridge over Narara Creek, bends to the left and

almost immediately reaches an unmarked intersection with a narrow bush track, to the right.

### 0.66 | Suspension bridge intersection

(100 m 2 mins) Continue straight: From the intersection, the walk follows the old management trail away from the suspension bridge. The walk soon arrives at the intersection signposted 'Arboretum Loop Trail'.

### 0.76 | Strickland State Forest Arboretum

This arboretum is apparently one of the oldest in Australia, with plantings dating from 1887-1924. Numerous signs have been placed along the walking tracks to identify some of the species of trees. There are very tall, and impressive, examples of Hoop Pine, Bunya Pine, Tallow Wood and Red Cedar. [More info](#).

### 0.76 | North int of Arboretum Loop and Bellbird trail

(430 m 7 mins) Veer left: From the intersection, this walk follows the 'Arboretum Loop Trail' arrow along the bush track, away from the old management trail. The walk passes through moist forest, filled with cabbage palms, with the creek visible to the left. The walk crosses over a number of fallen tree trunks with steps cut into them. There are small signs in places identifying some of the trees. After a while the walk passes a track marker arrow, where a large fallen tree trunk spans the creek, to the left. The walk then passes a 'Forest Arboretum' information board and continues, passing a metal box on a post (marked 'Water Research'), and following several track arrows to reach an intersection with a management trail (with a gate visible to the left). There is a grove of tall 'Bunya Pine' trees beside this intersection.

### 1.19 | Bunya pine grove

(220 m 5 mins) Veer right: From the intersection, the walk follows the old management trail away from the nearby gate, going gently up the hill. After a short distance the walk arrives at an intersection with a bush track, signposted 'Bellbird Trail'.

### 1.41 | South int of Arboretum Loop and Bellbird trail

(780 m 16 mins) Turn left: From the intersection, the walk follows the 'Bellbird Trail' arrow along the bush track, going up the hill. There are some track markers on short brown posts in this area, although they are often obscured in the undergrowth. The narrow, and sometimes faint, bush track goes through vine filled forest for a short distance to a 'T' intersection marked with a number of arrows. Turn left: From the intersection, the walk follows the bush track, in the opposite direction to the arrow on the tree, following the short brown arrow post. The walk follows the narrow bush track for some time through beautiful forest, filled with cabbage palms, ferns and vines. Narara Creek is often visible just to the right. After a while, the walk arrives at some concreted steps just before crossing Narara Creek.

### 2.18 | Bellbirds

The Bellbird (more properly known as the Bell Miner) is a member of the Honeyeater family. These birds live and breed in large

colonies, aggressively defending their territory. More often heard than seen, their call is described as a "Sweet, musical, bell-like 'tink'". They are 'mostly olive-green, with a short, down-curved, bright yellow bill, a red-orange bare eye patch and orange-yellow feet and legs'. [More info](#).

### 2.18 | Bellbird Trail Narara crossing

This picturesque crossing of Narara Creek is on the 'Bellbird Trail' in the Strickland State Forest. It is a great spot to break for a rest, or lunch, on your walk. There are no facilities, however, there are some steps and rocks to sit on while you soak up the scenery.

### 2.18 | Bellbird Narara crossing

(1.2 km 23 mins) Continue straight: From the concreted steps, the walk crosses Narara Creek and follows the bush track, which immediately bends to the right, following the creek downstream. The walk passes signs naming some of the trees and meanders through the beautiful forest for some time before reaching an intersection signposted 'Return To Carpark'.

Turn left: From the intersection, the walk follows the 'Return To Carpark' arrow along the old management trail, going up the hill. The trail meanders through shaded forest, filled with cabbage palms, for some time before crossing Stoney Creek to an intersection signposted 'Stoney Creek Walk Trail'.

Veer right: From the intersection, the walk follows the management trail up the hill, away from the creek crossing. The walk passes an information board, with a map of the walking trails, and soon reaches the car park.