

Bobbin Head Rainforest walk



40 mins

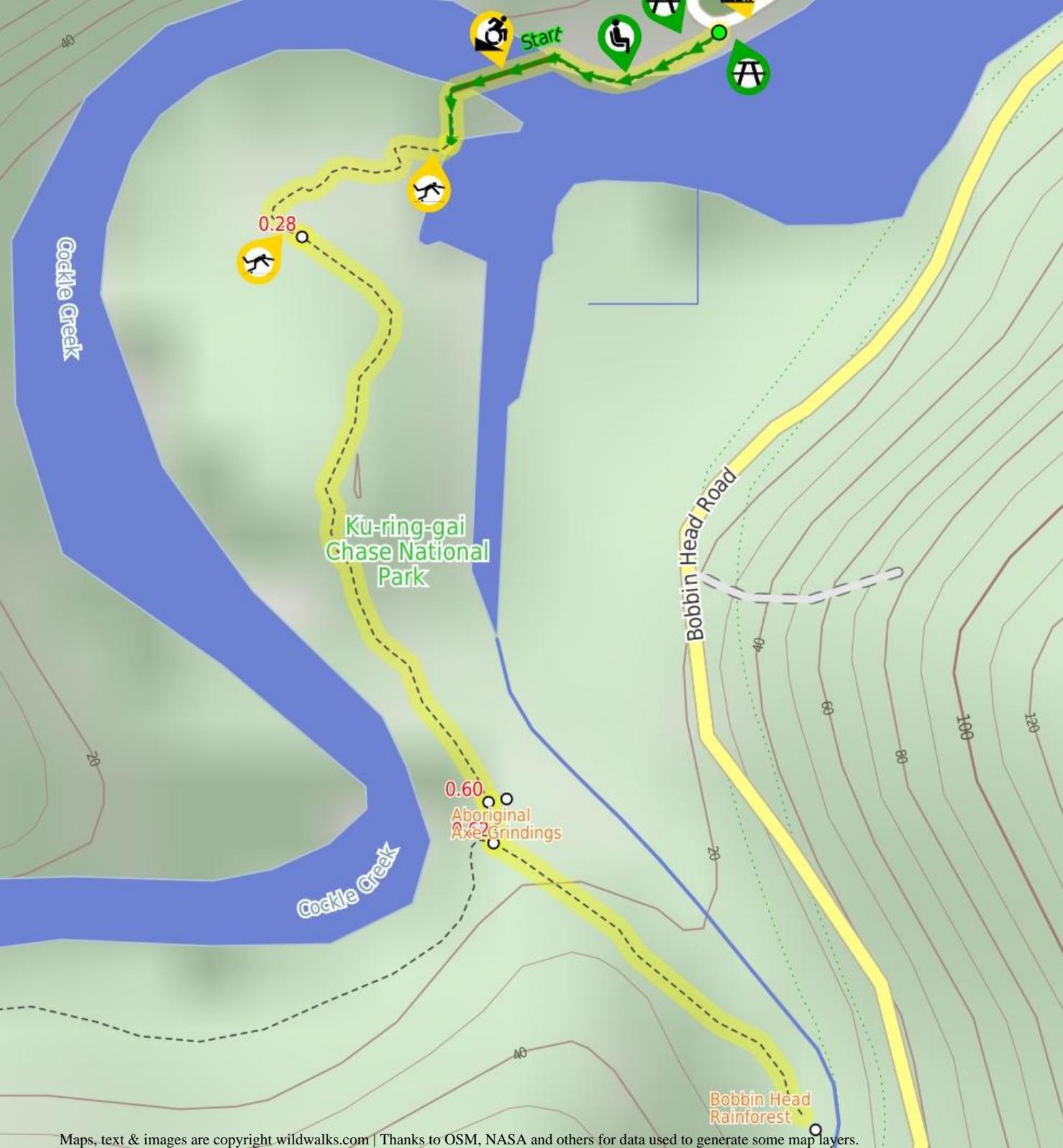
Moderate track

3

1.6 km Return

↑ 82m

This pleasant walk starts from the southern end of Bobbin Head, and enjoys blend of mangrove and rainforest environs. The well-signposted track gives you the opportunity to see the mangrove wildlife up close, and also a historic Aboriginal axe grinding stone and some temperate rainforest.



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 South End of Bobbin Head Park (gps: -33.6633, 151.1571). Car: A park entry fee is required for driving into the park.

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/bhrw>

0 | Bobbin Head

Bobbin Head is a historic recreation area which is still popular today, suiting the needs of many people. At the center of the Bobbin Head area is the old "Bobbin Inn", built in the 1930s - it is now the park information center and cafe. The area is popular with picnickers, boaters, walkers, canoeists, family groups and people who like to fish. Bobbin Head is roughly divided into three sections (north, south and east). Southern Bobbin Head is a popular picnic area for families and large groups. The area is surrounded by a car park and dotted with picnic tables, electric BBQs, shelters and a large playground. There are toilets nearby, and 'The Station' is a sheltered accessible area with BBQ and tables that can be booked NPWS. The northern Bobbin Head (Orchard Park) area is a more formal picnic area. There is a large picnic shelter, surrounded by 14 smaller octagonal shelters, each of these divided into 4 walled-off compartments, ideal for small groups. The eastern side of Bobbin head is dominated by the Empire Marina and public wharf. The marina is home to a nice restaurant and public toilets.

0 | South End of Bobbin Head Park

(280 m 5 mins) From the far southern end of the Bobbin Head car park, this walk follows the footpath behind the 'Gibberagong Track. Mangrove Boardwalk.' sign (away from the car park and picnic tables) for about 20m to the sheltered 'Welcome to the Mangrove Boardwalk & Gibberagong Track' information sign. Here the walk continues along the patterned concrete path beside the water for just under 20m to pass a bench seat where the path bends right. After just shy of 20m the path leads past another bench seat to find a sandstone cave (with a 1.9m clearance) with a 'Rock Solid?' information sign. Here the path bends left and crosses Cockle Creek on a cable-stayed foot bridge. Enjoy the great water and cliff views from the bridge. The walk now follows the fenced timber boardwalk for about 25m to come to a viewing area marked with a 'Teeming with life' information sign.

Continue straight: From the viewing area, this walk follows the timber boardwalk, away from the fenced area initially keeping the main view of water to your left. This section of boardwalks does not have handrails or side capping. Over the next 100m the boardwalk winds among the mangroves and saltmarsh and past the 'Natural Recycler'

and 'Land Developers?' information signs to come to the end of the boardwalk, marked with a 'More? you want more?' information sign. There is a turning area for wheelchairs at the end of the boardwalk.

0.28 | End of the Mangroves Boardwalk

(330 m 8 mins) Continue straight: From the end of the boardwalk, this walk heads past the 'More?' sign and up the timber ramp. The rocky track then leads past a small sand stone overhang then up some steps that lead through a cleft in the rock. Here the walk leads across the top of the rock platform then follows the track uphill for just shy of 300m to the top of a rise where there is a unfenced view over the water (just of the track to your right) Then over the next 80m the sandy track heads gently downhill along the ridge, before leading up a series of stone steps where the track mostly flattens out to come to a the signposted Aboriginal 'Axe Grinding Grooves' site (on a short detour track, on your left).

0.6 | Aboriginal Axe Grindings

This protected site clearly shows 23 oval-shaped grooves that were worn by Indigenous Australian people, making axe heads from hard rock. Using a blank axe head, the Aboriginal people would use this rock platform, with water from the nearby creek, to sharpen the stone into a useful tool. The rubbing ground the axe head to a sharp edge and left behind these tell-tale signs. [More info.](#)

0.6 | Aboriginal Axe Grindings

(20 m) Continue straight: From the Aboriginal 'Axe Grinding Grooves' site this walk follows the track gently uphill along the ridge, for just shy of 20m to come to a T-intersection where a 'Bobbin Head 500m' sign points back downhill.

0.62 | Int of Bobbin Head and Rainforest tracks

(190 m 5 mins) Turn left: From the intersection, this walk follows the 'Rainforest 500m' sign gently uphill along the clear track heading south east. After about 60m the track starts to lead gently down the side of the hill among the grass tree and eucalypt forest for about 100m before leading down a series of timber steps into the more densely forest gully. Here the walk comes to a sandstone rock bed and creek in a pleasant rainforest setting.

0.82 | Bobbin Head Rainforest

A well-protected piece of rainforest is found just a short walk from the popular Bobbin Head picnic area in Ku-Ring-Gai Chase National Park. The rainforest is distinct when compared to much of the dry eucalypt forests that dominate the area. The rainforest is beside a small creek, just below Bobbin Head Road, and is a safe haven for many birds that frequent the area.

