

McKeowns Valley Circuit



2 hrs

Hard track

4

3.5 km Circuit

347m

Looping around the northern bush tracks surrounding Jenolan Caves, this walk explores a variety of different environments, up on the ridges and down along the river. The campsite is a great spot to break and enjoy the quiet, at one of the less-frequented areas of the park. Be sure to allow time to enjoy the views from up on the ridge and especially of Carlotta's Arch. Watch out for stinging nettles down on the river.

788m

931m

Jenolan Karst Conservation Reserve

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 Caves House (gps: -33.8203, 150.0212). 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/mvc>

0 | Caves House

(410 m 12 mins) From the opposite side of the Jenolan Caves Road from Caves House, this walk follows the 'Six Foot Track' sign up the concrete steps. The walk then follows the stone footpath up the side of the valley for about 80m to pass the 'Southside Show Caves' information sign then just over 30m later to the 'Grand Arch' information sign (and view of the Arch). The walk continues fairly gently up the path for 100m (as it bends right) to find 'Caves House' information sign. The path soon starts leading much more steeply up as it begins to Zig Zag up past a seat and more views down to caves house for 150m beside the limestone cliffs. At the top of this climb the path leads over a small small rise then gently down to a fenced lookout beside 'Carlotta Arch'.

0.41 | Optional sidetrip to Bottom of Carlotta Arch Steps

(30 m 1 mins) Turn right: From the intersection, this walk goes down the stairs until coming to the entrance of the cave. On the way, this walk goes under the towering Carlotta's Arch. The lookout has great views of the valley and Blue Lake. At the end of this side trip, retrace your steps back to the main walk then Turn right.

0.41 | Carlotta Arch Lookout

(270 m 8 mins) Continue straight: From the 'Carlotta Arch' lookout, this walk follows the gravel path (past the top of the steps) gently uphill (initially keeping the arch to your right) a short distance to an intersection with the sign posted 'Six Foot Track' (on your right), where another sign points back to 'Caves House'.

Continue straight: From the intersection, this walk heads along the gravel footpath until coming to an intersection with a track signposted as the way to the 'Devil's Coachhouse'.

Turn right: From the intersection, this walk heads off the gravel footpath and goes down the stairs, zigzagging down the hill. The walk then crosses a bridge over the Jenolan River and comes to intersection with a bush track, marked by a 'Devil's Coachhouse' sign.

0.68 | Int of Mckeowns Valley Bushtrack and Devils Coachh

(840 m 19 mins) Turn left : From the intersection, this walk heads alongside the Jenolan River (left of the track). The track crosses the river at several points using metal bridges. (Watch out for stinging nettles along this part of the track.) Continuing north along the gravel footpath, the walk slowly winds to reach an electric fence, then heads through the grass clearings signposted as the 'Old Playing Field'. The walk comes to a group of buildings and an intersection with a management trail (which crosses the Jenolan River).

1.53 | McKeown's Valley Campsite

(810 m 28 mins) Turn left: From the campground, this walk crosses the Jenolan River and begins to zigzag up the hill to the south-west. This

continues to the top of the hill, where the trail passes a large gate and comes out next to a dirt road and several green buildings. At this point, the track heads south along the dirt road for about 20m, before coming to an intersection with a management trail, where there is a sign pointing towards 'Caves House'.

2.33 | McKeowns Valley Lookdown

(600 m 19 mins) Continue straight: From the intersection, this walk heads down the hill, following the 'Caves House' sign. The track winds past several private residences and soon heads uphill, coming near a dirt road (Burma Rd). The track turns left and begins to go down the hill, soon coming to a great informal viewing point which looks over the valley and the Six Foot Track. At this point, the track begins to zigzag down the hill and, at several points, goes past Jenolan Caves Rd. In time, the track comes to a small picnic area and intersection, with a large car park off to the right.

2.93 | Carlotta Carpark Intersection

(40 m 1 mins) Continue straight: From the intersection, this walk heads downhill along the gravel footpath. Shortly after passing the entrance to a cave (on the right), the track comes to an intersection with a set of stairs.

2.96 | Int of Carlotta and Mckeown's Valley Tracks

(490 m 13 mins) Veer right: From the intersection, this walk heads along the gravel footpath until coming to an intersection with a track signposted as the 'Six Foot Track'.

Continue straight: From the intersection, this walk follows the 'Caves House' sign gently downhill along the gravel path a short distance to an intersection and fenced lookout near 'Carlotta Arch' (on your left).

Continue straight: From the fenced lookout near 'Carlotta Arch', this walk follows the 'Caves House' sign gently uphill along the stone path with handrail. The path leads over a small rise to a view into another valley. Here the path begins to zig zag fairly steeply downhill for 150m beside the limestone cliffs passing views down to Caves House, past a bench seat to a 'Caves House' information sign. The path continues more gently downhill for another 100m past the 'Grand Arch' information sign (and view of the Arch) then just over 30m later to the 'Southside Show Caves' information sign. The path continues down the side of the valley for another 80m to head down some concrete steps to the side of Jenolan Caves Road, opposite Caves House, where a 'Six Foot Track' sign points up the steps. The official end of the Six Foot Track.

