Mt Kuring-gai Track to Berowra station

4 hrs 15 mins  Hard track
9.7 km One way  553m

This walk explores three valleys, with great displays of wild flowers in spring, and some nice sandstone overhangs. The section between Mt Kuring-gai and the end of Calna Creek is particularly nice, and Naa Badu Lookout is well worth the small side trip. Take the time to enjoy the many creek side rest areas along the way.
Lyrebird waterfall

This informally named waterfall is found on Lyrebird Gully creek about 300m upstream of its confluence with Calna Creek. The top of the fall is partially fenced with a timber handrail where the water flows over the solid rock platform, with naturally carved holes, to fall about 8m to the shallow pool and boulders below. The track passes the top of the fall and does not provide a good view of the face of the fall, but it is still a very pleasant spot.

Lyrebird Caves

The Lyrebird caves are a series of notable sandstone overhangs on the eastern side of Lyrebird Gully. There are 3 main overhangs, with the larger (more northern) one providing significant shelter. The larger cave has a fairly flat base in the centre and provides a pleasant place to rest on a hot or rainy day.

Calna Creek Campsite (south)

This small signposted campsite sits on a flat grassy clearing in a small casuarina forest which provides plenty of shade. There is a small fireplace set up. This creek-side campsite is a good spot for those wanting to get the most out of a relaxing, overnight camp, just a short stroll to Berowra Creek and the main spine of the Great North Walk. Bring your own water, as the creek water is not suitable for drinking.

Calna Creek Campsite (north)

This is a quaint little campsite, located on the Mt Kuring-gai access track to the Great North Walk, on the banks of Calna Creek. This campsite provides plenty of room for a few tents, and also a fire scar with logs for seating. Carry in your own water as the salty creek water is not suitable for drinking.

Naa Badu Lookout

Naa Badu Lookout offers magnificent views south over Berowra Creek as well as over Sams and Calna Creeks. Naa Badu means ‘See water’ in the Aboriginal tribal language of the Dharug people. It is believed that Berowra Creek was the boundary between the Dharug and Guringai Aboriginal peoples. The lookout is fenced, has a bench seat, picnic table and a fair amount of natural shade.

Before You walk

Bushwalking is fun and a wonderful way to enjoy our natural places. Sometimes things go bad, with a bit of planning you can increase your chance of having an enjoyable and safer walk.

Before setting off on your walk check

1) Weather Forecast (BOM Metropolitan District)
2) Fire Dangers (Greater Sydney Region)
3) Park Alerts (Berowra Valley National Park)
4) Research the walk to check your party has the skills, fitness and equipment required
5) Agree to stay as a group and not leave anyone to walk solo

Think before you TREK

The ‘Think before you TREK’ program developed by NSW Police & NPWS promotes the benefits of planning ahead for your bushwalking trip by using an easy to remember acronym: T

Take adequate supplies of food, water, navigation and first aid equipment.
R

Register your planned route and tell friends and family when you expect to return.
E

Emergency beacon (PLB’s) should be carried on walks with significant gaps in mobile coverage (check terrain profile).
K

Keep to your planned route and follow the map and walking trails.

Topo Maps

The maps provided on wildwalks are helpful, but there are times where you may need maps covering a broader area. Maps that cover this walk include:
1:25 000 Map Series:91304S HORSBY, 91304N COWAN
1:40 000 Map Series:CMA Ku-ring-gai Chase National Park Tourist Map
1:100 000 Map Series:9130 SYDNEY

Grade

This walk has been graded using the AS 2156.1-2001. The overall grade of the walk is determined by the highest classification along the whole track.

Grade 4/6

Hard track

Length 9.7 km One way

Time 4 hrs 15 mins

Quality of track Rough track, where fallen trees and other obstacles are likely (4/6)

Signs Directional signs along the way (3/6)

Experience Required Moderate level of bushwalking experience recommended (4/6)

Weather Storms may impact on navigation and safety (3/6)

Infrastructure Limited facilities, not all cliffs are fenced (3/6)
4.18 | Calna Creek Campsite (south)
This small signposted campsite sits on a flat grassy clearing in a small casuarina forest which provides plenty of shade. There is a small fire place set out, and a campfire area with flat timber and plenty of room for a few tents, and also a fire scar with logs for seating. Carry your own water as the creek water is not suitable for drinking.

4.19 | Calna Creek Campsite (south)
Continuing straight from the campsite, this walk follows the clear track downstream, keeping Calna Creek to your left. After about 100m of walking through flat grassy area and casuarina forest, this walk leads over a timber bridge (with handrails) that crosses a small tidal creek. The now rocky track continues for another 180m, stepping over a fallen tree, up the short timber staircase. At the top of these stairs, the track leads over a rocky rise then back down where the track mostly flattens out for another 100m to come to large, unimproved campsites and campfire (on your right), just before the southern tip of the saltmarsh.

4.58 | Calna Creek camping (north)
This is a quiet small signposted camping area situated on the Mt Kuring-gai section of the Great North Walk, on the banks of Calna Creek. This campsite provides plenty of room for a few tents, and also a fire scar with logs for seating. Carry your own water as the salty creek water is not suitable for drinking.

4.69 | Calna Creek Bridge intersection
(1.1 km 27 mins) Turn right: From the intersection, this walk follows the 'Berowra Waters' sign along the timber boardwalk. The boardwalk leads for about 80m across the large open flat saltmarsh into the casuarina forest on the other side. Here the track bends left and leads along the side of the saltmarsh for almost 200m, where the rocky track leads a little further before coming alongside Berowra Creek. The track continues to gently undulate along the side of Berowra Creek for about 650m among the casuarinas and grass tress, before heading up a fairly steep, climb step. At the top of this climb, the walk comes to a small, flat, pleasant clearing surrounded by large boulders.

5.84 | Sams Creek ridge clearing
(500 m 11 mins) Continue straight: From the clearing, this walk leads down to the eastern side of the hill, climbing up a short series of steps before coming alongside Sams Creek (subject to flooding). The track then leads alongside Sams Creek (on your left) for about 350m when, just after climbing over a rock, the track comes to a 'Crosslands' sign pointing back along the track, beside the creek.

6.34 | Sams Creek Crossing
(670 m 30 mins) Turn left: From the south side of the creek, this walk follows the 'Berowra Waters' sign across the rocky Sams Creek. This creek may become impassable after heavy or prolonged rain. On the other side, the track veers left, crossing a rocky gully and heads up the timber steps. The track now starts to climb steeply, zigzagging up the timber steps and a couple of staircases for just over 300m to find a bench seat in a small sandstone cave. After a rest, this walk continues up more steps (and staircases) for just over 150m, coming to a T-intersection with a wide service trail, where a 'Crosslands' sign points back down the track.

7.01 | Optional sidetrip to Int of Naa Badu Lookout
(255 m 7 mins) Turn left: From the intersection, this walk follows the 'Berowra Waters' sign gently down along the management trail, keeping the valley to your left. The trail gently undulates along the side of the hill, enjoying some glimpses up to the cliff faces (on the right). After about 180m, the trail crosses a concrete drain, then leads up the hill to find the signposted 'Naa Badu' lookout and its great view. At the end of this side trip, retrace your steps back to the main walk then Continue straight.
Naa Badu Lookout offers magnificent views south over Berowra Creek as well as over Sams and Calna Creeks. Naa Badu means 'See water' in the Aboriginal tribal language of the Dharug people. It is believed that Berowra Creek was the boundary between the Dharug and Guringai Aboriginal peoples. The lookout is fenced, has a bench seat, picnic table and a fair amount of natural shade.

7.01 | Int of GNW and Berowra Link tracks
(1.1 km 27 mins) Turn right: From the intersection, this walk follows the 'Berowra Station' sign uphill along the wide management trail. The trail then undulates around the side of valley, now generally heading downhill for about 600m before crossing a small creek (where the trail is gravel). The trail continues for another 300m to a wide three-way intersection, where a sign (on your right) points back to 'Crosslands'.
Veer right: From the intersection, this walk follows the 'Berowra Station' sign downhill along the management trail, which soon bends to the right. The trail then leads moderately steeply downhill, before continuing uphill for about 40m more to a Y-intersection with a narrow track (on your left), marked with a GNW arrow.

8.12 | Int of Berowra service trail and GNW
(900 m 21 mins) Veer left: From the intersection, this walk follows the GNW arrow post along the narrow track. The track leads over a small rise then down to cross a small creek. The track then heads uphill for about 40m to find a three-way intersection marked with a couple of arrow posts.
Veer left: From the intersection, this walk follows the arrow post gently uphill along the track, whilst keeping the gully on your left. Over the next 500m, the track crosses the gully twice then become steeper as it climbs up towards the rocks and drier forest. This walk then climbs the metal staircase, turns left and follows the unfenced rock platform. The track soon bends right and climbs up the fairly steep steps for about 120m, which come up behind some houses. From here, the track leads left up through an open grassy parkland (past the sign pointing back down to 'Crosslands') to find Crowley Rd.

9.02 | Crowley Road track head
(710 m 14 mins) Turn left: From the small park, this walk follows the 'Berowra Station' sign alongside Crowley Rd 40m to the roundabout. The walk crosses Berowra Waters Rd in front of the 'Old Berowra District Hall'. Here the walk heads right and follows the footpath past the park, across 'The Gully Rd', past the Caltex and post office and up to the Pacific Hwy. The walk turns left, following the footpath for just over 150m past a series of local shops and cafes, then turns right and crosses the highway at the traffic lights past the GNW signpost to Berowra Station.
## Summary navigation sheet for the Mt Kuring-gai Track to Berowra station

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>km</th>
<th>From</th>
<th>Up/Dwn</th>
<th>Length</th>
<th>Initial directions (Use full tracknotes and maps for more detail)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Start</td>
<td>Mt Kuring-gai Railway Station -33.6538,151.1367 (GR Hornsby, 272747)</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>520 m</td>
<td>From the middle of the tunnel at the bottom of the stairs at Mt Kuring-gai railway station, this walk follows the 'To the Great North Walk' sign through the tunnel to the Pacific Hwy.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>0.52</td>
<td>Int of Glenview Rd and the Pacific Hwy -33.6553,151.1354 (GR Hornsby, 271745)</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>530 m</td>
<td>Continue straight: From the intersection (of Glenview Rd and the Pacific Hwy), this walk follows the GNW arrow post around the locked 'Lyrebird Gully Track' gate, to head down the sealed management trail.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.05</td>
<td>Lyrebird Clearing -33.6518,151.1333 (GR Hornsby, 269749)</td>
<td>21</td>
<td>1.4 km</td>
<td>Continue straight: From the bottom of the sealed management trail, this walk follows the GNW arrow post across the clearing following the old dirt trail.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.42</td>
<td>Lyrebird Waterfall -33.645,151.1221 (GR Hornsby, 259756)</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>140 m</td>
<td>Continue straight: From near the top of Lyrebird Waterfall, this walk follows the GNW arrow post, away from the face of the 'The Great North Walk' sign up the timber steps.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.57</td>
<td>Lyrebird Caves -33.644,151.1214 (GR Hornsby, 258757)</td>
<td>39</td>
<td>1.6 km</td>
<td>Continue straight: From the large sandstone overhang, this walk follows the rocky track along the side of the hill, keeping the valley to your left.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4.18</td>
<td>Calna Creek campsite (south) -33.6317,151.1199 (GR Hornsby, 256771)</td>
<td>23</td>
<td>400 m</td>
<td>Continue straight: From the campsite, this walk follows the clear track downstream, keeping Calna Creek to your left.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4.58</td>
<td>Calna Creek campsite (north) -33.6287,151.1203 (GR Hornsby, 257774)</td>
<td>23</td>
<td>110 m</td>
<td>Continue straight: From the campsite, this walk follows the clear track south, keeping Calna Creek (though the trees) to your left.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4.69</td>
<td>Calna Creek Bridge intersection -33.6277,151.1202 (GR Hornsby, 256775)</td>
<td>67</td>
<td>1.1 km</td>
<td>Turn right: From the intersection, this walk follows the 'Berowra Waters' sign along the timber boardwalk.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5.84</td>
<td>Sams Creek ridge clearing -33.6199,151.1257 (GR Cowan, 261784)</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>500 m</td>
<td>Continue straight: From the clearing, this walk leads down the north eastern side of this ridge, keeping the main valley to your left.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6.34</td>
<td>Sams Creek Crossing -33.6219,151.1295 (GR Cowan, 265782)</td>
<td>181</td>
<td>670 m</td>
<td>Turn left: From the south side of the creek, this walk follows the 'Berowra Waters' sign across the rocky Sams Creek.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7.01</td>
<td>Int of Great North Walk and Berowra Link tracks -33.6192,151.1302 (GR Cowan, 265785)</td>
<td>19</td>
<td>260 m</td>
<td>Optional sidetrip to Int of Naa Badu Lookout. Turn left: From the intersection, this walk follows the 'Berowra Waters' sign gently down along the management trail, keeping the valley to your left.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7.01</td>
<td>Int of Great North Walk and Berowra Link tracks -33.6192,151.1302 (GR Cowan, 265785)</td>
<td>57</td>
<td>1.1 km</td>
<td>Optional sidetrip to Int of Naa Badu Lookout. Turn left: From the intersection, this walk follows the 'Berowra Station' sign uphill along the wide management trail.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8.12</td>
<td>Int of Berowra service trail and Great North Walk -33.6199,151.1408 (GR Cowan, 275784)</td>
<td>106</td>
<td>900 m</td>
<td>Veer left: From the intersection, this walk follows the GNW arrow post along the narrow track.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9.02</td>
<td>Crowley Road track head -33.6232,151.1467 (GR Cowan, 281781)</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>710 m</td>
<td>Turn left: From the small park, this walk follows the 'Berowra Station' sign alongside Crowley Rd 40m to the roundabout.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>