

## Red Hands Cave Circuit from Campfire Creek



**3 hrs 45 mins**

**Hard track**



**8.3 km Circuit**

**▲ 397m**

This walk takes the lovely track up through Red Hands Gully to the amazing hand painting of Red Hands Caves. This historic and cultural feature is complemented by the Grinding Grooves along Campfire Creek. An excellent walk through some beautiful bush. There is a picnic area halfway - a great spot to stop for lunch.

63m

207m

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 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 Campfire Creek car park (gps: -33.7802, 150.6173). Car: A park entry fee is required for driving into the park.

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/rhccfcc>

### 0 | Campfire Creek car park

(190 m 7 mins) From the car park, the track follows the 'Campfire Creek' sign down the hill. The track steeply descends the hill, winding to a 'Car Park' sign (pointing back the way you came).

### 0.19 | Alternate Route Campfire Creek sign side of Causeway

(40 m 1 mins) Continue straight: From the causeway, the walk follows the 'Camp Fire Creek Track' sign along the water's edge to the signposts for 'Red Hands Cave' and 'Car park'. Now Continue straight to join the main walk.

### 0.19 | Int. Red Hands Cave and Carpark Trk

(3 km 1 hr 11 mins) Turn left: From the intersection, the walk follows the 'Red Hands Cave' sign, keeping the creek to the right. The track winds and undulates, soon coming to a rock platform which crosses a creek (with the gully on the left). Here, the walk continues along the lower track, not heading up the rock steps. The track continues along the hillside and comes to a sign titled 'Neighbours'.

Continue straight: From the intersection, the walk heads across the small bridge and up the track. The walk soon passes over another small wooden bridge and then continues through the bush, with the creek on the right. Winding for a short time, the track comes to an un-signposted intersection.

Turn left: From the intersection, the walk heads up the hill, winding above the creek (on the right). The track follows the hillside for quite some time, passing near the creek in places, before coming to a 'Glenbrook Causeway' sign.

Continue straight: From the intersection, the walk follows the 'Red Hands Cave' sign down across the creek. The track leads over a small rise across another smaller creek, then follows the hillside for a short while, passing a bench seat and then a small

log bridge. The track then starts tending left, heading up to a rocky outcrop where the walk arrives at the metal verandah of Red Hands Cave.

### 3.21 | Red Hands Cave

Red Hands Cave, in the Glenbrook area of the Blue Mountains National Park, is found near the end of Red Hands Cave fire trail. The cave has quite a few hand stencils and prints of various colours (including red). The cave is well protected, with a perspex and steel cage. There are some information signs and some artifacts to help visitors learn more about the people who made these prints over 1600 years ago. In 1913, when searching for a lost child, this cave was found by Europeans and is now protected.

### 3.21 | Red Hands Cave

(500 m 12 mins) Continue straight: From Red Hands Cave, the walk heads up the stairs, winding to be above Red Hands Cave. The track then continues across the rocky surface, slowly climbing through the bush and leading away from the rock outcrop. The track winds through a few rocky outcrops, tending right, before coming to a car park and 'Red Hands Cave' sign (pointing back to the cave).

### 3.71 | Red Hands Cave Picnic Area

Red Hands Cave Picnic Area is found at the end of the Red Hands Cave Fire Trail in the Glenbrook area of the Blue Mountains National Park. The small picnic area is next to the car park and has a couple of platforms (to act as both a table and seat) as well as a fire place and toilet. The toilet itself is wheelchair accessible, but access to the toilet is over moderately rough terrain. A good spot to rest when exploring Red Hands Cave.

### 3.71 | Red Hands Cave car park

(2.1 km 44 mins) Turn left : From Red Hands Cave car park, the walk follows the sign for the 'Link Track' past the bench and fireplace and into the bush. The track winds down the hill via many steps, winding for quite some time, then comes near a creek, which it loosely follows. The walk then crosses this creek to the signposts on the other side.

Turn left: From the creek intersection, the walk follows the 'Glenbrook Causeway' sign, keeping the water on the left. The track continues up to a rock overhang from where it heads down the hill, coming near the creek again. The track follows the creek to a junction with another creek. To the left is a large sandstone area and approximately 10m along the track is a sign explaining the grooves in the sandstone.

### 5.8 | Axe Grinding Grooves

These well-defined axe grinding grooves are found on the sandstone bed of Camp Fire Creek. The grooves were formed by

Aboriginal people when sharpening axes (or forming axe blanks). Rubbing the axe blanks would sharpen the stone into a more useful tool, and the process would also wear the sandstone, leaving these markings. These sites are typically found near water, as the water was added to make the stone more abrasive. Sites like this will fade in time due to erosion of the sandstone - please help them last as long as possible by not walking on, or close to the grooves. [More info.](#)

### 5.8 | Axe Grinding Grooves

(2.5 km 55 mins) Continue straight: From the grinding grooves at the creek junction, the walk heads across the side creek, keeping the larger creek on the left. The track immediately passes a sign with information about the grinding grooves, then continues above the creek. The track undulates above the creek and over a log bridge to tend right, down to a signposted intersection above a creek.

Turn right: From the intersection, the walk follows the 'Glenbrook Causeway' sign, across the hillside. The track keeps the creek on the left, and soon leads downhill. The track tends right as it winds down to an intersection with a track, which leads to a rock platform.

Turn right: From the intersection, the walk heads down the hill and away from the rocky outcrop. The track follows the creek (on the left) and soon crosses two small wooden bridges before coming to an intersection marked by a 'Neighbours' sign.

Continue straight: From the 'Neighbours' sign, the walk heads down the hill, keeping the sign and the creek on the left. The track meanders along the hillside for a short time before coming to a rock crossing at the creek. The track soon comes to a signposted intersection for the 'Car park' or 'Red Hands Cave'.

Turn right: From the intersection, the walk follows the 'Car park' sign up the stairs. The track winds up the many stairs, then passes a sign and opens out at a hairpin turn in the road (The small flat area extended from the road is the car park).