



## Birrawanna Track



**2 hrs**

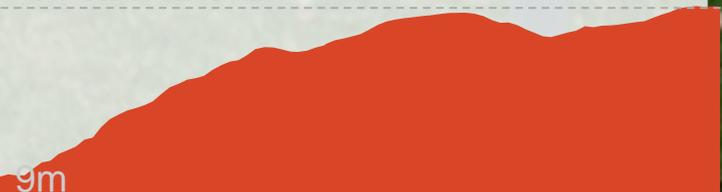
**Moderate track**

**4.4 km Return**

**262m**



This pleasant walk starts near the kiosk at Bobbin Head, climbing the sandstone stairs and then follows a defined track to the Kalkari Discovery Centre. Kalkari is well worth spending some time exploring, with opportunities to learn about and mix with the local flora and fauna.



**Ku-ring-gai Chase 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** You can get to Bobbin Head Kiosk (gps: -33.6597, 151.1591) by car or bus. 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/y>

### 0 | Bobbin Inn Cafe

At the centre of Bobbin Head picnic area, in the old 'Bobbin Inn' building, is a cafe offering inside and outdoor dining, and a range of foods and drinks. Food includes fish and chips, wraps, focaccia, sandwiches and snack foods. Tea, coffee and cold drinks are also on offer. Opening hours are 9 - 4pm Mon to Fri (closed Tuesdays) & 9 - 5pm weekends. For more information, phone the cafe on 9457 7170. The NPWS Bobbin Head Information Centre is open 7 days a week (closed Christmas Day) 10 - 4pm (closed 12 - 12:30pm lunch). Ramp access available via on the southwestern corner of the building. Ramp access to the information centre through the cafe.

### 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 | Bobbin Head Kiosk

(1.1 km 32 mins) From behind 'Bobbin Inn', this walk follows the brick paved footpath, away from the water and Ku-ring-gai Chase Rd to the stone steps marked with a 'Welcome to the Birrawanna Track' sign (about halfway between the 'Gibberagong Centre' and 'Bobbin Inn'). From here this walk head up the sandstone steps then along the rocky track as it starts to zig-zag uphill for about 60m to then follow a metal handrail up some steps. About 30m from the top of these steps, this

walk heads through a tunnel formed under a sandstone overhang then just another 30m later the track leads to a flat sandstone rock platform beside a large angophora with filtered views over Cowan Creek. Here the track bends left then continues to wind up a series of timber and stone steps for about 300m where the track mostly flattens out for about 100m before head fairly gently uphill again for another 80m to pass an intersection with an informal track in a casuarina forest (on your left). Soon after this intersection, this walk leads between to piles of disused stone blocks and continues following the clear track up through the tall wooded forest for 400m to a three-way intersection (where a sign points back down to 'Bobbin Head').

### 1.06 | Int of Birrawanna and Regional Office tracks

(230 m 6 mins) Continue straight: From the intersection, this walk follows the 'Kalkari' sign gently uphill along the sandy track. This track winds uphill, up a number of timber steps for just shy of 250m where the track flattens out and leads under a set of power lines. Just shy of 20m past these power lines this walk comes to a four-way intersection (where a 'Bobbin Head' arrow post points back along the track).

### 1.29 | Int of Birrawanna track and powerline service trail

(920 m 19 mins) Continue straight: From the intersection, this walk follows the 'Kalkari Visitor Centre' sign along the track, over the metal pipe and away from from power lines. The track gently undulates through the wooded forest following the occasional timber step for just over 350m to come to the NW corner of the Kalkari enclosure fence. Here the walk follows the fence for 150m to step step up onto a rock platform and continue along the fence for just shy of 400m to the SW corner enclosure. This walk now follows the short track to car park then walks through the car park, past the 'Kalkari Bush Discovery Track' map to the entrance of 'Kalkari'.

### 2.21 | Kalkari Discovery Centre

Kalkari Discovery Centre is in the Ku-ring-gai Chase National Park, on Ku-Ring-Gai Chase Road, Mt Colah. The discovery center is staffed by volunteers from Chase Alive. The center boasts some interesting flora and fauna displays inside, and out the back is a large enclosure with emu, kangaroos and other native animals roaming around. Take time to explore the wheelchair-accessible circuit within the fence. There are toilets at the centre. For information, phone 02 9472 9300. There are picnic tables, seats and drinking fountain at the front. There is a large car parking area at the front of the centre with two designated mobility parking bays.

