

## Davidson Exploration



2 hrs 30 mins

Hard track



5.8 km One way

243m

This walk partially circumnavigates the suburb of Davidson. Starting on Stone Pde, the walk follows the cascades track down to Middle Harbour Creek and follows the creek downstream to the pipeline. The walk finishes with an uphill slog, following the pipeline, to John Oxley Drive.

113m

1m

Garigal 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 Stone Pde (gps: -33.7373, 151.1962) by car or bus. Car: There is free parking available.

You can get back from John Oxley Drive (Sth of Prahran Ave) (gps: -33.747, 151.1999) by car or bus. Car: There is free parking available.

Find up to date and more information including; travel directions, weather, park closures and walker feedback at <http://wild.tl/de>

### 0 | Stone Pde

*(950 m 22 mins)* From the intersection, the walk passes through the metal gate marked with the Cascades Track sign, and follows the (initially) asphalted service trail. The service trail winds down into the valley, steeply at times, until it comes to the signposted intersection with the French's Creek Track.

### 0.95 | Optional sidetrip to Tributary Cascades

*(30 m 1 mins)* Turn right: From the intersection, this walk follows the 'French's Creek Track' sign down the gentle rocky hill, crossing the creek just upstream of some cascades. At the end of this side trip, retrace your steps back to the main walk then Turn right.

### 0.95 | Int of Cascades and Frenchs Creek service trails

*(570 m 11 mins)* Continue straight: From the intersection, this walk follows the service trail, leaving the French's Creek track to the right. The walk descends before following a creek for a short distance to the cascades.

### 1.51 | The Cascades

The Cascades are a series of small cascades (little waterfalls) in Garigal National Park. The cascades centre around a large rock platform on Middle Harbour Creek and are found in the northern section of the park, at the intersection of the Middle Harbour and Cascade Tracks. The cascades make a great spot to sit and rest when exploring the area.

### 1.51 | The Cascades

*(2.6 km 51 mins)* Continue straight: From the intersection, this walk heads up and across the rock platform, keeping the creek to the right. The walk passes a rock overhang and bends around to the left, climbing up onto a track which stays low alongside the creek. The track crosses over rock platforms and under overhangs as it continues south along the creek. After quite some time, the vegetation starts to get thicker and greener, and the walk comes to a signposted intersection with the 'Bungaroo Track'.

### 4.11 | Bungaroo

Governor Arthur Phillip (first governor of NSW) described this section of the river as where "the flowing of the tide ceased". Phillip and his party of nine camped here in 1788 whilst looking for land suitable for farming. John White (Surgeon General) described the the area as "the most desert, wild and solitary seclusion that the imagination can form any idea of". Over the past 200 years the river has changed, but somewhere not far upstream of the stepping stone is Bungaroo. [More info.](#)

### 4.11 | Int of Gov. Phillip and Bungaroo tracks

*(700 m 16 mins)* Continue straight: From the intersection, the track follows the 'Governor Phillip Walk' sign, keeping Middle Harbour Creek to the right of the track. The track mostly follows the bank of the creek, bending to avoid a few obstacles along the way. Before long, the track comes to an intersection at the bottom of the concrete Davidson Track management trail. This intersection is well-signposted and is a few meters before the large pipe bridge.

### 4.8 | Pipeline

This pipeline is unearthed at Hunter Street, St Ives, and travels through Garigal National Park, across Middle Harbour Creek to John Oxley Drive, Sorlie. The pipe carries water under pressure From Ryde to Pymble to the reservoir at Beacon Hill. The old smaller-capacity pipe can still be seen running parallel to the larger pipe.

### 4.8 | Int of Davidson and Governor Phillip tracks

*(1 km 27 mins)* Turn sharp left: From the intersection, this walk follows the concrete management trail up the hill as it bends to the right. The track soon passes a sign 'Davidson Track' pointing up the hill, as the track winds its way up. Then, about halfway up this hill, the track flattens out to cross a creek and to leave the National Park. The track continues steeply up the hill, with the pipe on the right of the track. There is a lookout point partway up, and, at the top of the hill, there is a brick pump house. From here, the trail become dirt and follows the pipe to John Oxley Drive (just a little way south of Prahran Ave).

