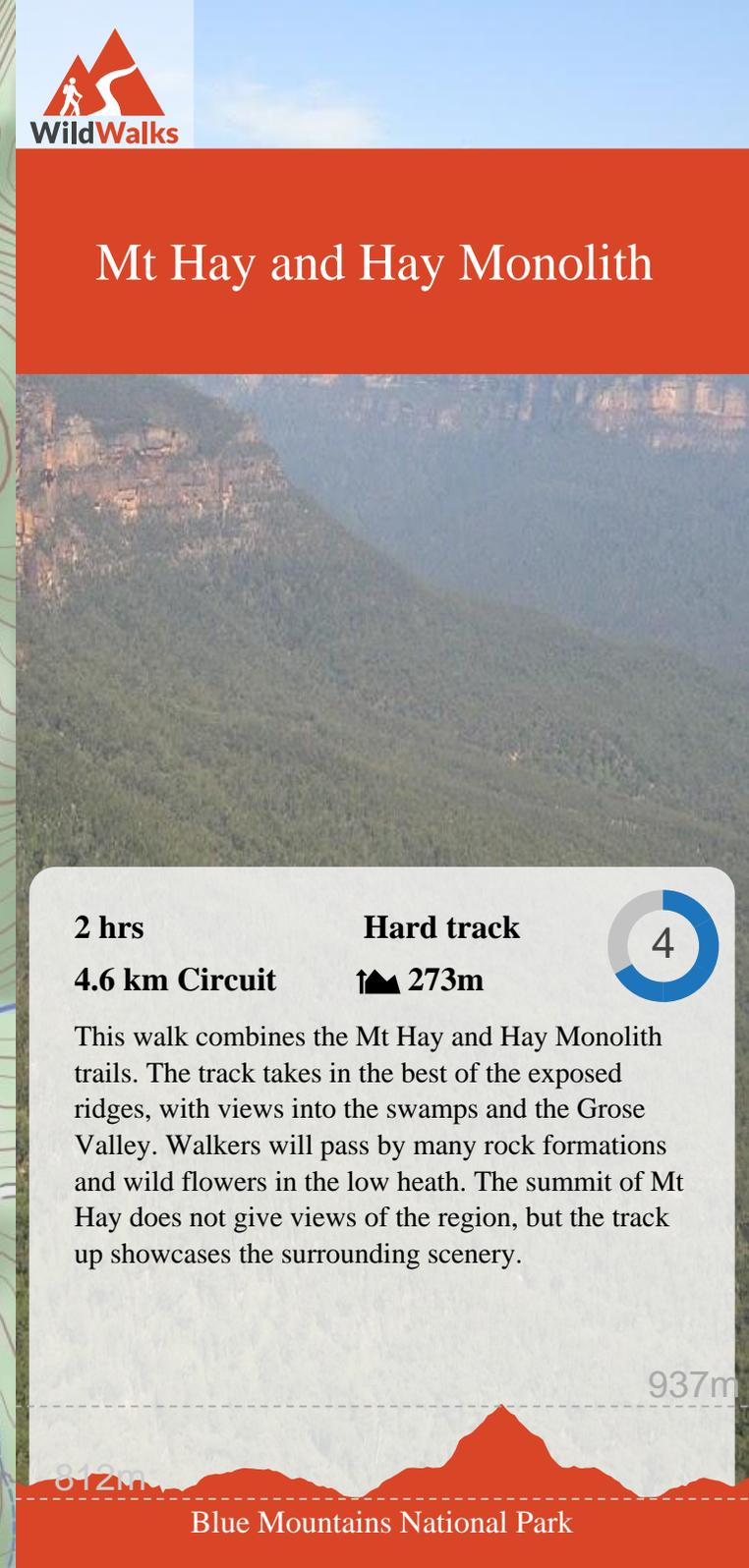


Mt Hay and Hay Monolith



2 hrs

Hard track



4.6 km Circuit

↑ 273m

This walk combines the Mt Hay and Hay Monolith trails. The track takes in the best of the exposed ridges, with views into the swamps and the Grose Valley. Walkers will pass by many rock formations and wild flowers in the low heath. The summit of Mt Hay does not give views of the region, but the track up showcases the surrounding scenery.

812m

937m

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 walk 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 Mt Hay car park (gps: -33.6299, 150.402). 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/mbahm>

0 | Mt Hay car park

(590 m 13 mins) From the car park, this walk heads past the gap in the train track-style fencing, passing a sign for 'Butterbox Canyon'. The track traverses the saddle to rise up onto a flat area, continuing for approximately 20m to an intersection with a track to the left.

Veer left: From the intersection, this walk heads towards the rocky outcrop, keeping the ridgeline above and right of the track. After approximately 300m, the track leads away from the hill on the left, heading onto a low heath area (with the hill behind). The walk continues for approximately 50m towards the Grose Valley, coming to an intersection.

0.59 | Int. Valley Trk and Hay Wall Trk

(240 m 5 mins) **Veer left:** From the intersection, this walk heads down hill towards a small castle of rock, Mt Hay Monolith. The walk keeps the main valley to the right of the track. The track soon heads down some rocky surfaces to continue into a saddle. The walk heads across the saddle to a small, spherical cave (to the left of the track).

Veer right: From the spherical cave, this walk keeps the rock to the left of the track, heading towards the valley. The track leads around the base of the cliffs for approximately 80m before coming to a grassy pass into the cliff (on the left).

0.83 | Optional sidetrip to Hay Monolith summit

(80 m 3 mins) **Turn left :** From the intersection, this walk heads up through the grassy pass in the rock, away from the valley. The track leads across the plateau through the low heath, passing a track (on the right) after approximately 50m. The walk soon comes to a flat rock with two bolts in it, where there are stunning views over the Grose Valley. At the end of this side trip, retrace your steps back to the main walk then **Turn left.**

0.83 | Int. Hay Wall Trk and Hay Monolith summit Trk

(150 m 5 mins) **Continue straight:** From the intersection, this walk heads around the cliffs (keeping them on the left of the track, and the Grose Valley to the right). After approximately 50m, the walk passes another track (on the left, heading up the monolith). This walk continues around the base of the cliffs and above the valley for approximately 100m, to the intersection in front of a fin-shaped rock.

0.98 | Optional sidetrip to Hay Wall Lookout

(250 m 8 mins) **Veer right:** From the intersection, this walk heads down the hill, leaving the Hay Monolith behind and nearing the rim of the valley (on the right). The track passes a large, grey, rounded rock formation on the right, heading in the direction of the cliff edge, to a rocky point on the right of two banksia bushes, with stunning views of the valley. At the end of this side trip, retrace your steps back to the main walk then **Turn right.**

0.98 | Hay Monolith West

(410 m 9 mins) **Continue straight:** From the intersection, this walk heads down over some rocky surfaces (with the cliffs to the left and valley behind). The track continues below the cliffs, passing a few small caves on the left. After a short time, this walk rounds the hillside to a spherical cave on the left of the intersection, and a saddle to the right.

Turn right: From the spherical cave, this walk traverses a grassy saddle, keeping the valley to the left of the track. The track climbs up some rocky surfaces, then heads east up the spur line, coming to the intersection in the low heath.

Veer left: From the intersection, this walk heads across the hillside, keeping the main valley below to the left, and the hill to the right of the track. The walk reaches a rock surface and tends right towards the intersection.

1.39 | Rock Flat

(470 m 9 mins) **Turn right:** From the intersection, this walk heads up onto the ridgeline, with Mt Hay to the left of the track. The track then follows the ridgeline, undulating slightly for approximately 200m before dropping down the intersection.

Turn left: From the intersection, this walk follows the overgrown management trail up the hill, keeping the rocky outcrops on the hill to the left and the large hill, Mt Hay, directly ahead of the track. The track heads down to an unsigned intersection.

1.86 | Int. Swamp View Trk and Mt Hay Trk

(1.2 km 33 mins) **Continue straight:** From the intersection, this walk heads down the management trail towards Mt Hay, with the Grose valley some distance off to the left. The trail tends right for approximately 50m to a rocky surface, where the track rounds a rock outcrop on the right-hand side. The trail slowly winds down the hill and across a saddle protected by trees. The walk then turns into a single track up the hill leading to Mt Hay. The track heads up to a small knoll and continues to an informal lookout marked by a prominent rock feature on the left.

Continue straight: From the ribbed rock feature lookout, this walk heads around a rocky outcrop to lead up the hill, keeping the Grose valley some distance off to the left. The walk leads up the hill through the trees to climb two small rock surfaces - These are marked by small cairns. The track continues up the hill, passing a rock landing on the left covered by moss. The walk heads up through a grassy area where the track becomes undefined. The walk continues for approximately 100m up the hill to an area of soccer ball-sized rocks and grass. The track leads up past a knoll made by these rocks (the knoll is to the right of the track), coming to the large cairn on the summit.

3.07 | Mt Hay

Mt Hay, Blue Mountains National Park, is a large basalt-capped mountain, which creates a more fertile environment for different plant species. The mountain is accessed by Mt Hay Rd, with a defined bush track which leads to the top. At the top of Mt Hay, there is a large cairn,

made from basalt bricks from the surrounding prominent knoll, which is the highest point. Excellent views are gained into the Grose Valley, from the track up Mt Hay, however the summit itself does not have views, blocked by the tree canopy.

3.07 | Mt Hay summit

(1.5 km 40 mins) **Turn around:** From the cairn on the summit of Mt Hay, this walk heads south down the hill. The track continues approximately 100m down the hill through an area of soccer ball-sized rocks and grass. The walk heads down the hill to lead out of the grass, passing a rock landing (on the right) which is covered in moss. The track leads down the hill to descend two small rock surfaces which are marked by cairns. The track then tends right to a ribbed rock feature on the right.

Continue straight: From the rock feature (on the right), this walk heads down the hill with the Grose valley some distance off to the right of the track. The walk continues down a single track away from Mt Hay, leading across a saddle protected by trees, then follows an overgrown management trail which tends left around a rocky outcrop (on the right). The walk then tends right for approximately 50m to continue on to the intersection.

Continue straight: From the intersection, this walk follows the overgrown management trail up the hill, keeping the rocky outcrops of the hill to the right of the track. The track climbs over a small rise to descend to the unsigned intersection with a defined track on the right.

Veer left: From the intersection, this walk heads down the hill, keeping the rocky features on the right for approximately 20m to the intersection.

Veer left: From the intersection, this walk heads away from the rocky outcrops on the hill to traverse the saddle and rise up to the car park.