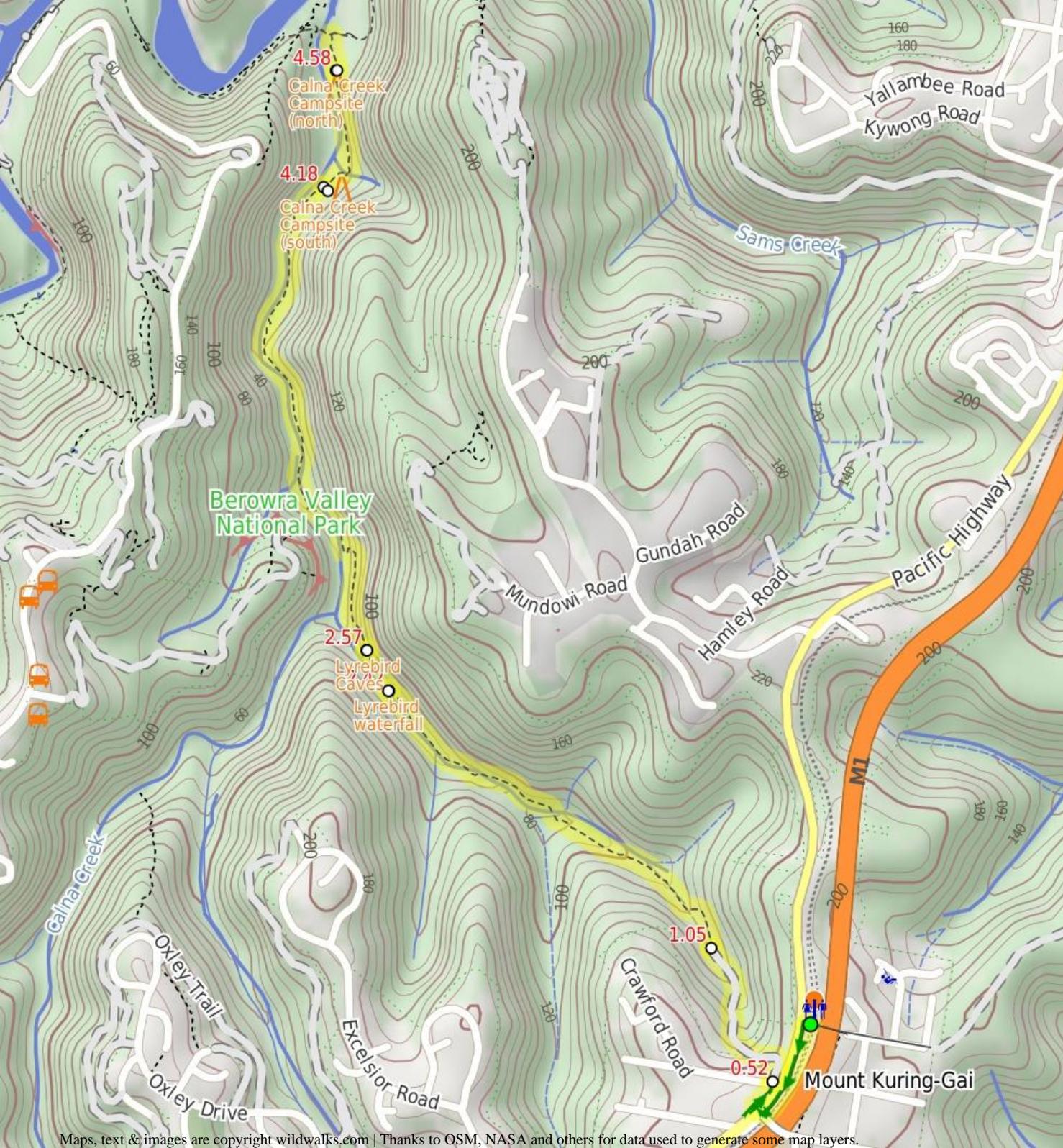


Mt Kuring-gai to Calna Creek



4 hrs

Hard track

9.4 km Return

425m



From the ridge above Berowra Creek, this walk goes steeply down into the valley following Calna Creek. The narrow bush track section is quite beautiful with plenty of small creek crossings and sandstone overhangs. The grasslands section, just before coming to the junction of Calna and Berowra Creeks, is also very pretty.

215m

1m

Berowra Valley 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 Mt Kuring-gai Railway Station (gps: -33.6538, 151.1367) by car, train or bus. Car: There is free parking available.

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/mkcc>

0 | Mt Kuring-gai Railway Station

(520 m 9 mins) 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. Here the walk turns left and follows the footpath between the highway and train line for about 200m to pass the traffic lights at Glenview Rd. The walk then continues straight up the ramp for another 100m and turns right onto the pedestrian bridge. Here the walk crosses the Pacific Hwy on the footbridge, then follows the concrete ramp as it zigzags back down to the ground. This ramp ends just near the Aldi shopping complex. From the bottom of the footbridge near the Aldi shopping complex, this walk follows the footpath alongside the Pacific Hwy, under the footbridge and away from the shops. Keeping the highway to your right for 100m, this walk then crosses 'Glenview Rd' (at the intersection with the Pacific Hwy) to find the top of 'Lyrebird Gully track', marked with a locked green metal gate.

0.52 | Int of Glenview Rd and the Pacific Hwy

(530 m 12 mins) 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. The trail leads past a large 'To the Great North Walk' sign where the trail then bends left behind the houses and heads steeply downhill for about 500m, coming to the end of the sealed trail and a large flat clearing.

1.05 | Lyrebird Clearing

(1.4 km 27 mins) 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. After about 120m, this walk comes to another small clearing, where this walk turns left following the 'The Great North Walk' sign. The track then bends right and leads down to cross over a short flat timber bridge across a concrete channel. From here, the rocky track leads down along the side of the hill for about 150m before heading down some stone steps (with a handrail, under a set of power lines) to come to the 'Great North Walk register' box on a pole. After filling in your intentions (and reading others entries), this walk continues down along the track beside a rock wall, past a short section of handrail then down a series of timber and rock steps for about 300m to then cross Lyrebird Gully creek on the sandstone platform. This creek crossing and other crossing further down the valley can become

impassable after heavy or prolonged rain. The walk then leads over the short section of green timber boardwalk, following the GNW arrow post uphill. The walk then follows the rocky track along the side of hill for about 250m to pass beside a rock wall (on your right) and a section of handrail and steep valley (on your left). Here the walk steps down a rock (with metal peg) to follow the rocky track downhill and come close to a creek. Here the walk follows the edge of creek (keeping the creek to your left) for just shy of 100m to then cross the creek using boulders with carved steps. Once on the other side of the creek, this walk crosses back again, almost immediately, following the handrail and flat timber bridge (note: this boardwalk/bridge was washed away during a flood in 2012, the hand rail is still in place) at the top of Lyrebird Gully falls to then find a 'The Great North walk' sign back on the other side.

2.42 | 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.

2.42 | Lyrebird Waterfall

(140 m 4 mins) 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. The track soon bends left to follow the side of the hill for about 50m and head through a sandstone overhang, then through a second smaller cave. Continuing along the side of the hill for another 70m, this walk comes to another larger sandstone overhang.

2.57 | 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.

2.57 | Lyrebird Caves

(1.6 km 33 mins) 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. After about 40m, the track leads steeply down a short rocky slope where the track then continues along the side of the hill for another 200m before bending sharp left and zigzagging steeply down the stone steps to come to the edge of Calna Creek. The track continues along the side of the creek (on your left) through the shaded forest and past some large boulders for about 70m, to then follow a GNW arrow post across the creek using the boulders with carved steps. The track continues downstream (with the creek on your right) among ferns, for almost 300m, where another GNW arrow post leads back across Calna Creek using boulders with carved steps. The track continues among more ferns and mossy boulders, now with creek on your left, for 400m to where the track comes to the wide, clearly tidal section of Calna Creek, where there is a small sandy beach and open views down the valley. The mostly flat track continues down beside the wide creek for another 400m to cross over a flat timber bridge, then just 25m later, this walk comes to the signposted campsite, in casuarina forest.

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 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.

4.18 | Calna Creek campsite (south)

(400 m 9 mins) Continue 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, to then climb up a 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 a large, unsignposted clearing and campsite (on your right), just before the southern tip of the saltmarsh.

4.58 | 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.

4.58 | Calna Creek campsite (north)

(110 m 2 mins) Continue straight: From the campsite, this walk follows the clear track south, keeping Calna Creek (though the trees) to your left. After about 100m, the track comes to a well signposted intersection just beside Calna Creek bridge.