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## Pearl Beach to Warrah Lookout

### 2 hrs 5.1 km Return

# Moderate track

This walk follows a wide trail then a track to the fantastic views from Warrah Lookout. From Pearl Beach, this walk follows the roads to the lower end of Pearl Beach / Patonga fire trail. Continuing up this trail, the walk passes some sandstone caves and further on, enjoys the fenced Warrah Lookout. There are some great views before returning the same way back to Pearl Beach.

125m

3

Brisbane Water 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 Pearl Beach (Amethyst Ave access) (gps: -33.5444, 151.3071) by car 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 inlcuding; travel directions, weather, park closures and walker feedback at <a href="http://wild.tl/pbtwl">http://wild.tl/pbtwl</a>

#### 0 | Pearl Beach

Pearl Beach is a 1.2km long crescent-shaped, yellow sand beach. The beach has rocky points at either end - the southern end is home to an ocean pool and the northern end has the old Pearl Beach Road carved through the rock (no longer in use for cars). The beach has many access points and is popular for sunbathers, picnickers, and swimmers, although there is no surf life saver presence. The south-east facing beach is lined with houses in the northern section, and shade-providing trees in the south.

#### 0 | Pearl Beach (Amethyst Ave access)

(120 m 2 mins) From the toilet block and entrance to Pearl Beach, this walk follows Pearl Pde past the end of Amethyst Ave, keeping the ocean to the left. At the play equipment, the walk crosses the road and heads past the bus stop, coming to the Pearl Beach Cafe.

#### 0.12 | Pearl Beach General Store and Cafe

The Pearl Beach General Store and Cafe (ph 02 4343 1222) is found at 1 Pearl Pde, Pearl Beach, and is open 7 days. The cafe provides breakfast, lunch and dinners for about \$20 a meal. The general store provides cheaper take-away meals and general supplies (including icecreams). Across the road is Pearl Beach and some children's play equipment. Alternatively for a more refined dining experience, 'Pearls on the Beach' is found on the other side of the road, open Thursday to Sundays for lunch and dinner (ph 02 4342 4400). More info.

#### 0.12 | Pearl Beach Cafe

(730 m 12 mins) Continue straight: From the cafe, this walk heads away from the beach and along Tourmaline Ave. The walk then turns left onto Diamond Rd and follows it across the bridge (with a detailed risk warning sign), then heads up the hill and turns right onto Crystal Ave. The walk follows Crystal Ave until about 40m past the end of the sealed section of road, and comes to an intersection, locked gate and a NPWS 'Pearl Beach / Patonga fire trail' sign on the left.

#### 0.85 | Lower end of Pearl Beach / Patonga fire trail

 $(460 \ m \ 10 \ mins)$  Turn left: From the intersection at the signposted lower end of 'Pearl Beach / Patonga fire trail' (on Crystal St, about 60m up from the end of the sealed section of road). This walk heads

around the gate and follows the management trail up the hill. The trail winds up the hill and the vegetation changes quite dramatically with the rise. As the gully becomes steeper on the right, the track bends right. There is a long cliff here, above on the left, and just before the next right-hand bend, there are a couple of sandstone caves up the hill to the left.

#### 1.3 | Pearl Caves

Pearl Caves is an informal name for a couple of caves found on the Pearl Beach / Patonga fire trail. The two large overhangs are found near the base of a cliff. The caves look north and have outward-sloping floors. One cave has a few small columns and stalagmite/stalactite decorations growing at the back. To protect the caves (and yourself), the caves are best viewed from a distance.

#### 1.3 | Pearl Caves

(1.2 km 23 mins) Continue straight: From the caves, this walk follows the management trail up the hill around the right-hand bend, keeping the steep gully to the right. The trail soon leads between two large rocks and then around a left bend (with filtered views over Pearl Beach to the right). The trail continues to gently wind up the hill until coming to a well signposted intersection, with a sign pointing back to 'Pearl Beach'.

#### 2.46 | Warrah Lookout intersection

(70 m 2 mins) Turn left : From the intersection, this walk heads between the timber posts and follows the 'Warrah Lookout' sign along the sandstone footpath. The path leads through the bush for a short distance, coming to the fenced Warrah Lookout. (Beware of informal side tracks that lead to unfenced sections of cliff.)

#### 2.53 | Warrah Lookout

Warrah Lookout is a mostly fenced lookout on a large sandstone platform. The lookout provides fantastic views across the Hawkesbury River. From left to right, you can see along the escarpment which forms the southern boundary of Brisbane Water National Park, out to the Pacific Ocean, Barrenjoey Headland, West Head, along Cowan Creek, Juno Point and along the escarpment to Patonga. This is a great place to spend some time soaking up the views.