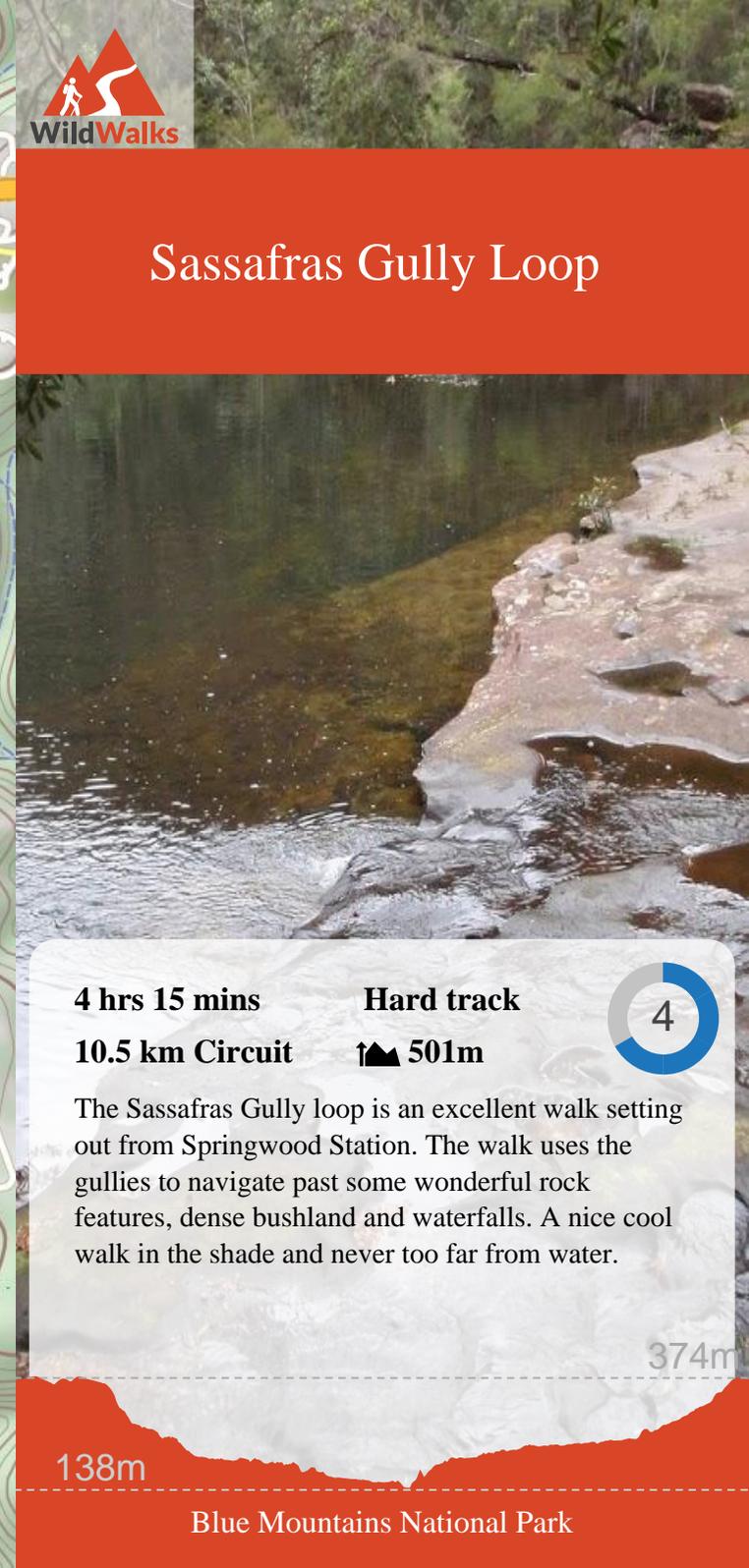




Sassafras Gully Loop



4 hrs 15 mins

Hard track



10.5 km Circuit

501m

The Sassafras Gully loop is an excellent walk setting out from Springwood Station. The walk uses the gullies to navigate past some wonderful rock features, dense bushland and waterfalls. A nice cool walk in the shade and never too far from water.

138m

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's 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 Springwood Station (gps: -33.6991, 150.5638) by car, train or bus. 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/sgl>

0 | Springwood Station

(1.2 km 23 mins) From Springwood Station, the walk crosses the pedestrian crossing and turns right, passing the shop fronts. The walk continues along Macquarie Rd and turns left onto Homedale St. At the bottom of Homedale St, the walk turns right onto Valley Rd, and then left onto Sassafras Gully Rd. The walk continues to the bottom of Sassafras Gully Rd, in front of house number 18.

1.19 | No. 18 Sassafras Gully Rd

(4.5 km 1 hr 38 mins) Veer left: From the end of Sassafras Gully Rd, the walk heads down the hill along the fenceline of house No. 18. The walk passes two signs for 'Sassafras Gully' as it winds to the right at a rock outcrop and down to an unsignposted intersection.

Turn left: From the intersection, the walk heads down the hill, keeping the rock outcrop on the left. The walk passes a track on the left (which heads over the rock outcrop) and turns down the hill. As the walk winds down the hill, a few smaller tracks are passed before nearing a creek. The walk crosses the creek a few times as it heads down the gully to a larger creek junction. The walk crosses the junction, then follows the larger gully, soon coming to a 'Sassafras Gully Rd' sign (pointing back the way you came).

Continue straight: From the intersection, the walk heads down across the creek in the direction of the 'To Wiggins Track' sign. The walk winds along the hillside, keeping the creek on the right, passing a blue track marker which directs the walk to the other side of the creek. The walk now keeps the creek on the left as it winds up to a 'Perch Ponds, Springwood Stn' sign.

Veer right: From the intersection, the walk follows the direction of the 'Perch Ponds' sign across the hillside. The walk soon nears the creek on the left, then undulates above it for a short while. The track crosses a steeply banked creek junction, then continues following the main creek (which is on the left). The walk stays near this creek, coming into a campground clearing with large boulders.

Continue straight: From the campground clearing, the walk exits the clearing, keeping the main creek to the right, and immediately crosses a side creek. The walk keeps the main creek on the right as it slowly climbs the hillside. The track then heads downhill, passing under a few rock overhangs and soon entering the campground clearing of 'Perch Ponds'.

5.69 | Perch Ponds Campsite

Perch Ponds is a lovely waterhole, with a clearing suitable to pitch a tent, located at the junction of Magdala Creek and Glenbrook Creeks. The meeting of the two creeks provides a relaxing sound of rushing water and a cool spot to rest on warmer days. The campsite is a flat area above the pool marked with a fire scar. A great shady and quiet area for a camp. There are no facilities and water from the creek needs to be treated.

5.69 | Perch Ponds camping area

(380 m 10 mins) Turn left : From Perch Ponds, the walk follows the 'Magdala Gully-Fairy Dell' sign, up the hill. The track winds up the hillside for a short time, keeping the creek on the right, then comes to a 'Martins Falls' sign.

6.08 | Optional sidetrip to Behind Martins Falls

(30 m 1 mins) Turn right: From the intersection, the walk heads to the left of the 'Martins Falls' sign (towards the falls). The walk skirts around the edge of the valley, coming under the rock overhang of the falls, and then arriving behind the falls. At the end of this side trip, retrace your steps back to the main walk then Turn right.

6.08 | Martins Falls

Martins Falls are at a rock overhang on Magdala Creek, near Springwood, almost 400m upstream from the Glenbrook Creek junction. The water falls off a rock platform, over the overhang into a large pond. There is a faint track leading behind the falls, giving a different perspective of the pond and falls - extra care is required. This is a lovely area to enjoy the cool temperatures on warmer days, and is more spectacular after recent rain.

6.08 | Int. Martins Falls and Magdala Ck trks

(3.5 km 1 hr 14 mins) Continue straight: From the intersection, the walk heads up the gully, keeping the creek to the right. The track winds for a short time, passing a few rocky overhangs as it climbs to a 'Magdala Falls' sign. Continue straight: From the intersection, the walk keeps the valley on the right as it heads up the hill. The walk winds up the hill, crossing the creek after some time. The walk continues up the hill, now with the creek on the left, to an intersection, with arrows engraved in the rock.

Turn left : From the intersection engraved with arrows, the walk heads down across the creek. The track then keeps the Magdala Creek on the left before crossing for the first of many times. The walk continues up along Magdala Creek and crosses a rock shelf below some small falls, coming to a 'Lawson's Lookout' sign.

9.61 | Optional sidetrip to Lawsons Lookout

(410 m 11 mins) Turn right: From the intersection, the walk follows the direction of the 'Lawsons Lookout' signs, up the hill. The track heads up to a rocky outcrop, where the track turns back on itself and steps through some bushes to the rocky surface of the lookout. At the end of this side trip, retrace your steps back to the main walk then Turn right.

9.61 | Lawsons Lookout

Lawsons Lookout, in Springwood, Blue Mountains, is an unfenced rockshelf overlooking the wonderful Magdala Creek valley. The lookout is most easily accessed from Raymond Rd.

9.61 | Int. Lawsons Lookout Trk and Fairy Dell Trk

(140 m 3 mins) Continue straight: From the intersection, the walk follows the direction of the 'Springwood Station' sign up the hill, keeping the creek on the left of the track. The track stays close to the creek as it climbs the hill, soon coming to a signposted intersection next to the bridge.

9.75 | Optional sidetrip to Picnic Point

(160 m 6 mins) Turn left: From the intersection, the walk crosses the bridge, following the 'Picnic Point' signs. The walk immediately climbs many stairs which wind up to a picnic shelter and grass area of Picnic Point. At the end of this side trip, retrace your steps back to the main walk then Turn left .

9.75 | Picnic Point

Picnic Point, in Springwood, Blue Mountains, is a quiet, grassy clearing tucked behind the houses above Magdala Creek. The area has a gazebo, picnic table and water tank (water needs to be treated). The clearing has a

track leading down to many popular walks, with Lawson's Lookout and Fairy Dell Reserves nearby.

9.75 | Int. Fairy Dell and Picnic Point Tracks

(390 m 9 mins) Continue straight: From the intersection, the walk follows the 'Fairy Dell' signs, keeping the creek on the left. The walk winds up the hill, passing a vandalised building (which has since been reported as demolished by another walker), and continuing up more stairs into a grassy area with picnic tables.

10.14 | Fairy Dell Reserve picnic area

Fairy Dell Reserve picnic area is a quiet and shady terraced garden at the head of the Magdala Gully. Fairy Dell is situated just south of Springwood in the Lower Blue Mountains. The picnic area has numerous tables, parking and a grassy area for the kids to play. The Fairy Dell Reserve Picnic area is also the starting point for a number of walks down to Magdala Creek, Picnic Point and nearby Lawson Lookout.

10.14 | Fairy Dell Reserve picnic area

(150 m 3 mins) Veer right: From Fern Dell Reserve picnic area, the track heads up the hill in the opposite direction to the 'Sassafras Gully' arrow on the blue sign. The track reaches the end of a small road, and heads up this road to the intersection with Springwood Ave, next to house number 51.

10.28 | Int. Springwood Ave and Fairy Dell Reserve

(270 m 5 mins) Continue straight: From the intersection, the walk heads across the road and up through the car park. The walk continues up to the main road, Macquarie Rd, and turns left. The walk follows the shop fronts for about 150 metres, then crosses the road at the pedestrian crossing opposite Springwood Station.