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Wyrrabalong Shoreline walk

2 hrs 4.6 km One way

Experienced only

This walk runs along the shoreline from Bateau Bay to Forresters Beach, in the southern section of Wyrrabalong National Park. The walk is very exposed to the ocean and should not be done at high tide or during rough seas. Much of the shoreline is strewn with boulders, which makes the walking harder but makes the scenery more interesting. The shapes and textures of the boulders, combined with the steep hills and low cliffs of the coastline, plus the uninterrupted ocean views, combine to give quite dramatic scenery and atmosphere for the walk. Consider making a loop walk by returning on the Wyrrabalong Coast Walking Track.

Wyrrabalong 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. **Experainced walkers only:** This walk passes through very remote areas and sections have no visible track. At least one person in your group should have training and experience in off track walking and navigation. Even with these notes and a GPS these extra skills and equipment are required.

Getting there You can get to Top of northern Bateau Bay Beach access steps (gps: -33.3821, 151.484) by car or bus. Car: There is free parking available.

You can get back from Int of South Scenic Rd and Henrys Rd (gps: -33.411, 151.4655) by car or bus. Car: There is free parking available.

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

0 | Bateau Bay Beach picnic area and lookout

This unnamed picnic area and lookout is within Wyrrabalong National Park, at the intersection of Reserve Dr and Harbour St, Bateau Bay. The picnic area overlooks Bateau Bay and the beach. There are large grass areas, plenty of shade and facilities including picnic tables, garbage bins, and beach access steps. There are beautiful views along the coast and out to sea from the picnic area. There are free electric BBQs at Sutton Reserve, a block further south along Reserve Dr. Takeaway food is available at a small shopping centre near the intersection of Harbour St and Bateau Bay Rd, one block from the picnic area.

0 | Top of northern Bateau Bay Beach access steps

(110 m 2 mins) From the intersection, this walk goes down the timber steps, towards the beach. The walk follows the boardwalk and timber steps down the hill until reaching Bateau Bay Beach.

0.11 | Bottom of northern Bateau Bay Beach access track

(1.1 km 21 mins) Continue straight: From the bottom of the northern Bateau Bay Beach access stairs, this walk goes south along the beach, keeping the ocean to the left. Towards the southern end of the beach, the walk arrives at the base of some concrete steps, beside a concrete management trail.

Turn left: From the bottom of the southern Bateau Bay Beach access track (beside the concrete management trail), this walk goes south across the sand, keeping the ocean to the left. After a very short distance, the walk arrives at the southern edge of Bateau Bay Beach, with a much narrower strip of sand continuing south.

Continue straight: From the southern end of Bateau Bay Beach, this walk goes south, along the narrow strip of sand, keeping the ocean to the left. The walk passes a concrete stormwater outlet (to the right) and a short distance later reaches the end of the sandy strip, with some mangrove trees to the left.

Continue straight: From the end of the narrow beach strip, this walk passes some mangrove trees, to the left, and follows the sandy track south, keeping the ocean to the left. After a short distance, the walk reaches the end of the sandy track, at the rockshelf.

1.24 | Crackneck rockshelf

(470 m 9 mins) Continue straight: From the end of the sandy track, the walk goes across the rockshelf, following the coastline south, keeping the ocean to the left. There are some interesting textures in the rock, with some regular, angular cracks in places, making for some intriguing scenery. The walk then goes around the headland and continues a short distance to the unnamed beach beneath Crackneck Lookout, covered in rounded fist-sized rocks.

1.71 | Crackneck Beach

This unnamed beach is below Crackneck Lookout and can be reached with some difficulty by walking along the very rocky shoreline from Forresters Beach, to the south, or from Bateau Bay beach, to the north. The beach is covered in rounded rocks about the size of a fist.

1.71 | Crackneck beach

(2.8 km 1 Hr) Continue straight: From the unnamed beach beneath Crackneck Lookout, this walk follows the coastline south, keeping the ocean to the left. The walk goes over the rocky, boulder covered shoreline for quite a while, with a lot of rock hopping involved. There is only a narrow strip between the water and the steep hills, to the right, and great care should be exercised. The imposing hills, interesting textures and shapes in the rocks, and the crashing waves all combine to provide fantastic scenery and atmosphere. A fair number of old engine blocks and other car parts are lying in the rocks, rusting away slowly. The walk eventually reaches the sandy, northern end of Forresters Beach. Note: This section of the walk may be impassible at high tide or during high seas. Continue straight: From the northern end of Forresters Beach, this walk goes south along the beach, keeping the ocean to the left. After a while, the walk reaches the bottom of the Henrys Rd beach access trail, marked by a sign indicating dogs are allowed to the south but not to the north.

4.53 | Forresters Beach

Forresters Beach is the name of a township and beach on the Central Coast of NSW. There are public toilets and a beach access path near the intersection of Crystal St and Kalakau Ave, and a beach access path near the bottom of Henrys Rd.

4.53 | Bottom of Henrys Rd beach access

(80 m 2 mins) Turn right: From Forresters Beach, this walk passes the sign indicating dogs are allowed to the south but not to the north, and follows the management trail steeply up the hill. The walk goes up the boarded trail, passing a shower area to the left, and goes over the low gate to reach South Scenic Rd, near the intersection with Henrys Rd.

