



John Whiteway Dr to Tottenham Pl



1 hr 30 mins

Hard track



3 km One way

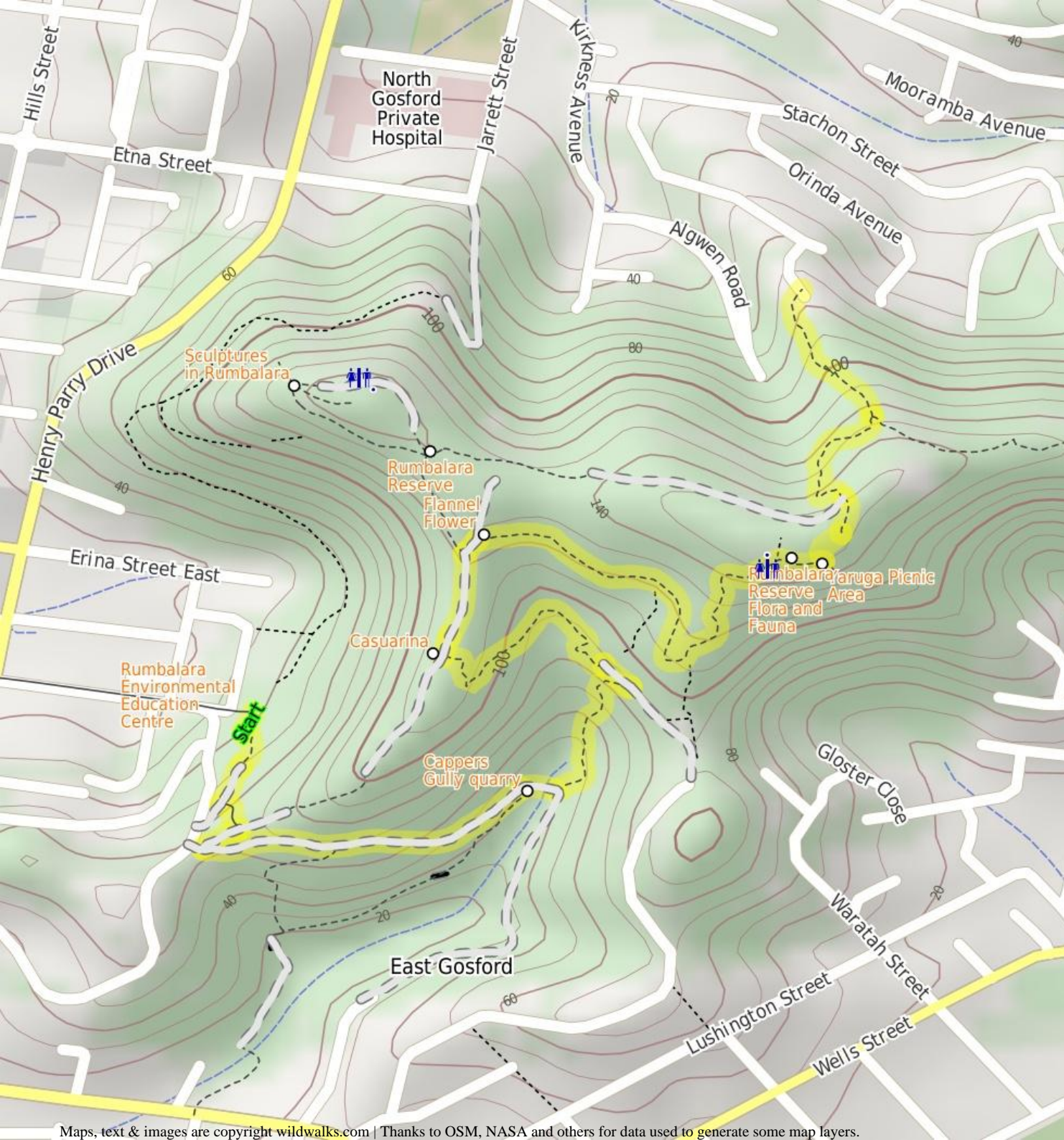
▲ 228m

An excellent walk, crossing the Rumbalara Reserve and covering plenty of the scenic highlights of the reserve. This walk goes through beautiful pockets of rainforest as well as the drier ridgetop forest, showcasing the great variety of scenery in Rumbalara. There is some steep walking along the way, though the well-formed tracks and steps along much of the walk makes the going easier. The descent to Tottenham Pl is on a less well-defined track.

38m

158m

Rumbalara Reserve



Rumbalara Reserve

Rumbalara Reserve lies just to the east of the Gosford CBD and is part of Gosford's Coastal Open Space System (COSS). There is an extensive set of well marked walking tracks within the reserve. Yaruga Picnic Area has free electric BBQs while both Yaruga and Nurrunga picnic areas have toilets, picnic tables, nearby lookouts and proximity to walking tracks. The picnic areas are accessed via Dolly Ave, Springfield, with the gate being locked at 8pm each evening. The Rumbalara Environmental Education Centre, at the end of Donnison St, Gosford, is one of several good access points to the walking tracks in the lower section of the reserve. [More info.](#)

Rumbalara Environmental Education Centre

This centre is 'a New South Wales Department of Education and Training facility that provides environmental education and field work opportunities to students, teachers and the community of the Central Coast'. The centre is at the end of Donnison St, Gosford and is a good access point to some of the walking tracks in the adjoining Rumbalara Reserve. [More info.](#)

Rumbalara Reserve Flora and Fauna

The reserve is home to a wide range of flora and fauna. The vegetation types range from the relatively dry 'Coastal Narrabeen Ironbark Forest' to pockets of 'Coastal Warm Temperate Rainforest'. Commonly seen birds include Kookaburras, Eastern Rosellas and Magpies. Rarer birds such as the Glossy Black Cockatoo and Swift Parrot are sometimes sighted here as well. Sugar Gliders, Brush-tailed possums, Blue-tounged lizards and Tree snakes can be seen in the reserve if you are patient and lucky enough.

Cappers Gully quarry

This old quarry site is beside Cappers Gully in the Rumbalara Reserve, Gosford. The area is fenced off for safety reasons. The neat, square-cut walls of the quarry make an interesting sight on the walks in the area.

Casuarina

Commonly known as the she-oak, sheoak, ironwood, or beefwood, casuarinas have 'delicate, slender ultimate branches and leaves that are no more than scales, making the tree look more like a wispy conifer'. There are 17 species of Casuarina 'native to Australasia, southeastern Asia, and islands of the western Pacific Ocean'. [More info.](#)

Before You walk

Bushwalking is fun and a wonderful way to enjoy our natural places. Sometimes things go bad, with a bit of planning you can increase your chance of having an enjoyable and safer walk. Before setting off on your walk check

- 1) Weather Forecast ([BOM Hunter District](#))
- 2) Fire Dangers ([Greater Sydney Region](#))
- 3) Park Alerts ()
- 4) Research the walk to check your party has the skills, fitness and equipment required
- 5) Agree to stay as a group and not leave anyone to walk solo

Think before you TREK

The 'Think before you TREK' program developed by NSW Police & NPWS promotes the benefits of planning ahead for your bushwalking trip by using an easy to remember acronym:

- T** Take adequate supplies of food, water, navigation and first aid equipment.
- R** Register your planned route and tell friends and family when you expect to return.
- E** Emergency beacon (PLB's) should be carried on walks with significant gaps in mobile coverage (check terrain profile).
- K** Keep to your planned route and follow the map and walking trails.

Topo Maps

The maps provided on wildwalks are helpful, but there are times where you may need maps covering a broader area. Maps that cover this walk include;

1:25 000 Map Series:91312S GOSFORD

1:100 000 Map Series:9131 GOSFORD

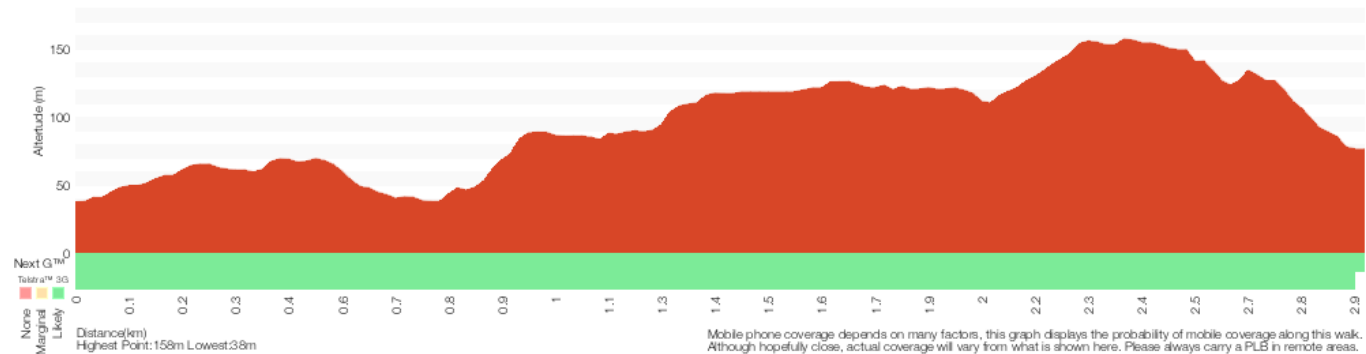
Grade

This walk has been graded using the AS 2156.1-2001. The overall grade of the walk is determined by the highest classification along the whole track.



Grade 4/6
Hard track

Length	3 km One way
Time	1 hr 30 mins
Quality of track	Formed track, with some branches and other obstacles (3/6)
Signs	Minimal directional signs (4/6)
Experience Required	Some bushwalking experience recommended (3/6)
Weather	Weather generally has little impact on safety (1/6)
Infrastructure	Limited facilities, not all cliffs are fenced (3/6)



Mobile phone coverage depends on many factors, this graph displays the probability of mobile coverage along this walk. Although hopefully close, actual coverage will vary from what is shown here. Please always carry a PLB in remote areas.

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 Rumbalara Environmental Education Centre car park (gps: -33.4277, 151.3477) by car or bus. Car: There is free parking available.

You can get back from End of Tottenham Pl (gps: -33.4214, 151.355) by car or bus. Car: There is free parking available.

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

0 | Rumbalara Reserve

Rumbalara Reserve lies just to the east of the Gosford CBD and is part of Gosford's Coastal Open Space System (COSS). There is an extensive set of well marked walking tracks within the reserve. Yaruga Picnic Area has free electric BBQs while both Yaruga and Nurrunga picnic areas have toilets, picnic tables, nearby lookouts and proximity to walking tracks. The picnic areas are accessed via Dolly Ave, Springfield, with the gate being locked at 8pm each evening. The Rumbalara Environmental Education Centre, at the end of Donnison St, Gosford, is one of several good access points to the walking tracks in the lower section of the reserve. [More info.](#)

0 | Rumbalara Environmental Education Centre car park

(40 m 1 mins) From the car park, this walk follows the 'Rumbalara Environmental Education Centre' arrow along the paved foopath to the trackhead at the back of the buildings, signposted 'Walking Trail'.

0.04 | Rumbalara Environmental Education Centre

This centre is 'a New South Wales Department of Education and Training facility that provides environmental education and field work opportunities to students, teachers and the community of the Central Coast'. The centre is at the end of Donnison St, Gosford and is a good access point to some of the walking tracks in the adjoining Rumbalara Reserve. [More info.](#)

0.04 | Rumbalara Environmental Education Centre trackhead

(140 m 4 mins) Turn left: From the trackhead at the back of the Rumbalara EEC, this walk follows the 'Walking Trail' arrow up the steps and along the track. The track crosses a small wooden bridge and bends to the right, then climbs a little to an intersection with a management trail.

Turn right: From the intersection, this walk follows the management trail gently up the hill, leaving the bush track steps behind to the right. The trail goes gently up the hill for a short distance to an intersection at the bottom of a metal staircase, signposted 'Casuarina Track'.

0.17 | Int of Casuarina track and JWD link trail

(110 m 3 mins) Turn left: From the intersection, this walk follows the 'Picnic Areas' arrow up the staircase. The walk then continues a short distance up the sandstone path and steps to an intersection with a management trail, marked by a track information board and a 'Casuarina Track' signpost pointing back to the 'Field Studies Centre'.

Turn right: From the intersection, this walk follows the management trail gently down the hill, towards the gate. After a short distance, the walk passes a 'Rumbalara Reserve' signpost, to the left, then passes around the gate, arriving in the middle of the parking area near John Whiteway Dr.

0.29 | Rumbalara Reserve Flora and Fauna

The reserve is home to a wide range of flora and fauna. The vegetation types range from the relatively dry 'Coastal Narrabeen Ironbark Forest' to pockets of 'Coastal Warm Temperate Rainforest'. Commonly seen birds include Kookaburras, Eastern Rosellas and Magpies. Rarer birds such as the Glossy Black Cockatoo and Swift Parrot are sometimes sighted here as well. Sugar Gliders, Brush-tailed possums, Blue-tongued lizards and Tree snakes can be seen in the reserve if you are patient and lucky enough.

0.29 | Car park at int of White St firetrail and John Whi

(440 m 10 mins) Turn left: From the middle of the parking area, this walk follows the management trail down the hill, away from John Whiteway Dr, keeping the chain-wire fence to the right. The walk almost immediately levels out and passes around a gate, then follows the 'White St' arrow along the management trail. The trail winds around the hill, descending gently through a beautiful piece of forest until reaching an intersection beside a fenced-off area, with an 'Interpretive Centre' arrow pointing back the way you came.

0.72 | Cappers Gully quarry

This old quarry site is beside Cappers Gully in the Rumbalara Reserve, Gosford. The area is fenced off for safety reasons. The neat, square-cut walls of the quarry make an interesting sight on the walks in the area.

0.72 | Southern int of White St firetrail and Rainforest

(300 m 10 mins) Continue straight: From the intersection, this walk follows the management trail in the opposite direction to the 'Interpretive Centre' arrow, keeping the fenced area to the right. After a very short distance, the walk arrives at an intersection, signposted 'Cappers Gully'.

Veer left: From the intersection, this walk follows the 'Ouraka Point' arrow up the steps and along the bush track. The walk crosses some short metal footbridges and then climbs more steeply, through beautiful forest scenery. The walk climbs a lot of sandstone steps and some sets of metal stairs, and after some time arrives at an intersection, with a 'Rainforest Track' signpost pointing back to 'Cappers Gully'.

1.02 | Southern Int of Rainforest walk and Bayview firetr

(440 m 11 mins) Turn left : From the intersection, this walk follows the management trail in the opposite direction to the 'Bay View Ave' arrow, leaving the steps of the 'Rainforest Track' behind to the left. After a short distance, the walk arrives at an intersection, with a bush track to the left, signposted 'Rainforest Track'.

Turn left: From the intersection, this walk follows the 'Ouraka Point' arrow down the steps and along the bush track. After descending for a short distance, the track bends to the right and levels out. The track meanders for some time through beautiful forest scenery, crossing two short metal footbridges, before climbing a long set of sandstone steps, then a metal staircase, arriving at an intersection with a management trail, with a 'Rainforest Track' signpost pointing back to 'Cappers Gully'.

1.46 | Casuarina

Commonly known as the she-oak, sheoak, ironwood, or beefwood, casuarinas have 'delicate, slender ultimate branches and leaves that are no more than scales, making the tree look more like a wispy conifer'. There are 17 species of Casuarina 'native to Australasia, southeastern Asia, and islands off the western Pacific Ocean'. [More info.](#)

1.46 | Int of Rainforest walk and Casuarina walk

(30 m 1 mins) Turn right: From the intersection, this walk follows the 'Picnic Areas' arrow along the management trail, keeping the views of Gosford to the left. After a short distance, the walk arrives at a sculpture of Charles Sturt, to

the right.

1.49 | Sculptures in Rumbalara

There are four bronze figurative sculptures in the Rumbalara Reserve that were 'commissioned in the series "Salute to Famous Australians", which includes Captain Charles Sturt, Edward Eyre, and Sir Charles Kingsford Smith.' Matthew Flinders is the fourth in the series. They were 'commissioned by Sara Lee Kitchens (Australia) Pty Ltd and Gosford City Council for the State Bicentennial Celebrations 1987.'. Smith and Flinders are the most easily reached, at the Nurrunga picnic area. [More info.](#)

1.49 | Sculpture of Charles Sturt

(170 m 3 mins) Continue straight: From the sculpture, this walk follows the management trail, keeping the views of Gosford to the left, and leaving Charles Sturt behind on the right. The walk continues along the trail to an intersection with a paved track, signposted 'Casuarina Track'.

Veer right: From the intersection, this walk follows the management trail up the hill leaving the paved 'Casuarina Track' behind on the left. After a very short distance, the walk arrives at an intersection with a bush track, signposted 'Flannel Flower Track'.

1.66 | Flannel Flower

Actinotus helianthi, popularly known as the Sydney flannel flower, is frequently spotted by spring-time bushwalkers in the Sydney region. Generally growing up to 50 cm, the stem, branches and leaves of the plant are a pale grey in colour, covered in downy hair (rather like flannel in texture). [More info.](#)

1.66 | Flannel Flower walk signpost

(720 m 17 mins) Veer right: From the intersection, this walk follows the 'Yaruga Picnic Area' arrow along the bush track, going gently down the hill. The walk meanders along the side of the hill for some time, passing occasional sandstone steps before continuing past an intersection with a bush track (on the left, uphill), and another soon after (on the right, downhill). The walk continues for some distance, climbing gently with numerous steps, before arriving beside the toilet block at Yaruga Picnic Area. The walk turns right and follows the paved path past the information board, then goes across the picnic area, following the 'Lookout' arrow to the electric BBQs.

2.38 | Yaruga Picnic Area

This picnic area is right beside Dolly Ave, within the Rumbalara Reserve, Gosford. The facilities include free electric BBQs, picnic tables, toilets and garbage bins. There are information boards with details of the walking tracks and other features of the reserve. There are a couple of lookout points at the edge of the picnic area with great views out across Gosford and the surrounding areas.

2.38 | Yaruga Picnic Area BBQs

(340 m 9 mins) Turn left: From the BBQs, this walk goes across the picnic area towards the road and down the steps. The walk veers to the right, following the road gently down the hill for a short distance to an intersection with a bush track, beside a low boulder, on the left (some distance before the nearby water reservoir).

Continue straight: From the intersection, this walk follows the bush track around the low boulder, to the right, keeping the nearby water reservoir to the right. The walk goes gently downhill for a short distance to an intersection with a management trail.

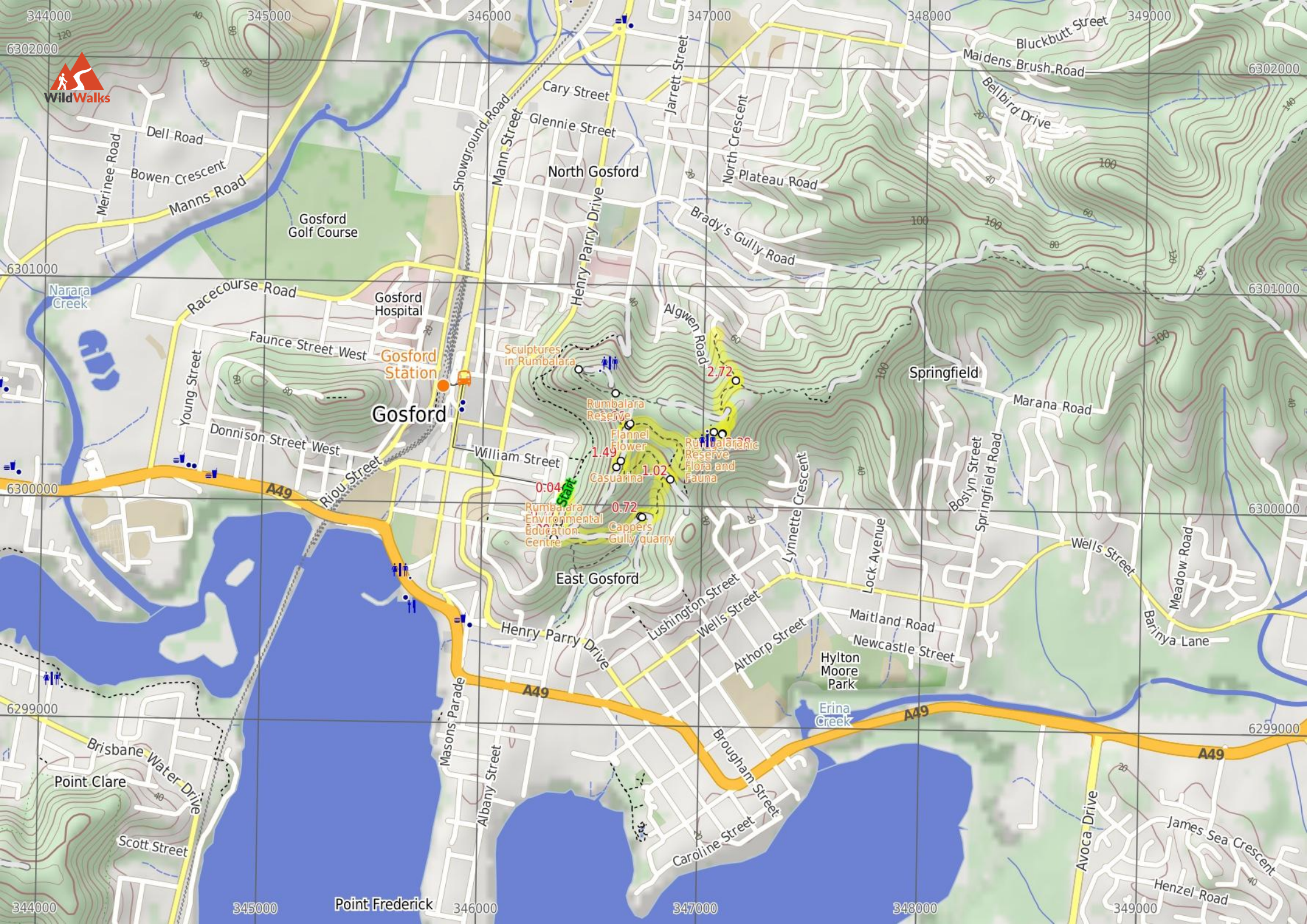
Continue straight: From the intersection, this walk follows the track down the steps, leaving the nearby water reservoir to the right. The track soon bends to the left at a rock outcrop, and winds down the hill for a while with plenty of steps. The walk levels out and meanders for a while, with occasional steps, to

an intersection with a faint track, going down the hill to the left (just before the main track bends to the right and goes uphill a little).

2.72 | Int of Flannel Flower track and Tottenham track.

(250 m 6 mins) Veer left: From the intersection, this walk follows the faint bush track down the hill, towards the valley. The faint track goes steeply down the hill, becoming better defined towards the bottom. After a while the track veers to the left to pass a house, to the right. The walk follows a concrete path beside the house, emerging beside 15 Tottenham Pl, North Gosford.





Summary navigation sheet for the John Whiteway Dr to Tottenham Pl



km	From	Up/Dwn	Length	Initial directions (Use full tracknotes and maps for more detail)
0.00	Rumbalara Environmental Education Centre car park -33.4277,151.3477 (GR Gosford, 464001)	3 0	40 m 1 mins	From the car park, this walk follows the 'Rumbalara Environmental Education Centre' arrow along the paved footpath to the trackhead at the back of the buildings, signposted 'Walking Trail'.
0.04	Rumbalara Environmental Education Centre trackhead -33.4281,151.3475 (GR Gosford, 464000)	18 -1	140 m 4 mins	Turn left: From the trackhead at the back of the Rumbalara EEC, this walk follows the 'Walking Trail' arrow up the steps and along the track.
0.17	Int of Casuarina track and JWD link trail -33.4291,151.3472 (GR Gosford, 464999)	8 -4	110 m 3 mins	Turn left: From the intersection, this walk follows the 'Picnic Areas' arrow up the staircase.
0.29	Car park at int of White St firetrail and John Whiteway Dr -33.4298,151.347 (GR Gosford, 463998)	15 -34	440 m 10 mins	Turn left: From the middle of the parking area, this walk follows the management trail down the hill, away from John Whiteway Dr, keeping the chain-wire fence to the right.
0.72	Southern int of White St firetrail and Rainforest walk -33.4289,151.3512 (GR Gosford, 467000)	54 -7	300 m 10 mins	Continue straight: From the intersection, this walk follows the management trail in the opposite direction to the 'Interpretive Centre' arrow, keeping the fenced area to the right.
1.02	Southern Int of Rainforest walk and Bayview firetrail -33.4274,151.3527 (GR Gosford, 469001)	41 -13	440 m 11 mins	Turn left : From the intersection, this walk follows the management trail in the opposite direction to the 'Bay View Ave' arrow, leaving the steps of the 'Rainforest Track' behind to the left.
1.46	Int of Rainforest walk and Casuarina walk -33.4269,151.3502 (GR Gosford, 466002)	2 0	30 m 1 mins	Turn right: From the intersection, this walk follows the 'Picnic Areas' arrow along the management trail, keeping the views of Gosford to the left.
1.49	Sculpture of Charles Sturt -33.4266,151.3503 (GR Gosford, 466002)	7 0	170 m 3 mins	Continue straight: From the sculpture, this walk follows the management trail, keeping the views of Gosford to the left, and leaving Charles Sturt behind on the right.
1.66	Flannel Flower walk signpost -33.4252,151.3507 (GR Gosford, 467004)	57 -30	720 m 17 mins	Veer right: From the intersection, this walk follows the 'Yaruga Picnic Area' arrow along the bush track, going gently down the hill.
2.38	Yaruga Picnic Area BBQs -33.4255,151.3553 (GR Gosford, 471003)	22 -48	340 m 9 mins	Turn left: From the BBQs, this walk goes across the picnic area towards the road and down the steps.
2.72	Int of Flannel Flower track and Tottenham track. -33.4233,151.3559 (GR Gosford, 471006)	1 -51	250 m 6 mins	Veer left: From the intersection, this walk follows the faint bush track down the hill, towards the valley.