

Wolgan Valley walk

A guided 3-day pack-free walk

Day 1: Katoomba to Wollemi National Park



PRE-TOUR STAY: A pre-tour night at the historic Carrington Hotel can be organised when you book your tour including dinner, bed and breakfast. This art deco manor is in the heart of Katoomba with shops, cafes and restaurants at your doorstep.

MEET TIME: Meet time at 8.30am Katoomba

TRAIL DETAILS: Walk trail details: Walk: Approximately 11.5kms. 5 hours walking with breaks. Medium grade

WALK ITINERARY: Day 1 of our adventures sees us meeting at Carrington Hotel, Katoomba at 8.30am, for our transfer to the start of the walk. We arrive at Wollemi National Park, driving through a series of rock tunnels which seemingly transport us into another world. Our guide explains the route ahead before we set out through a landscape of tall eucalypt forest with Blue Mountains Ash, spectacular pagoda rock formations, vibrant ferns, canyons and streams.

We arrive at the entrance to a cave-like tunnel, from here we walk under the mountain range, taking a fascinating short cut to the Wolgan Valley and the beautiful Gardens of Stone National Park. We descend into the darkness with our trusty torch in hand, stopping halfway to turn off our torches and be amazed by the thousands of Glow Worms which transform the tunnel into a starry night. Though natural looking from its exterior appearance, this tunnel is actually a disused railway line, which once descended into the Newnes valley, transporting oil shale.

We emerge on the far side of the tunnel greeted by a grove of tree ferns and sheer vertical cliffs towering over 600 feet high. We explore beautiful Bells Grotto surrounded by a stunning tree fern forest. Continuing on we admire the sandstone cliffs cut high on either side of the gully and we begin to see glimpses of the dramatic scenery of the Wolgan Valley and river below.

We follow the track along pretty Wolgan Valley creek admiring the rock pools along the way down into the historic Newnes region where we spend the night. Enjoy accommodation in the cabin set amongst bushland in the valley. Cabins have a lounge, dining rooms and large verandahs for taking in the beautiful mountain and bus views. Tonight sit back and relax and talk about the day's adventures as your guides prepare a delicious dinner featuring local produce.

Tour Inclusions



Cost:

\$1099 per person twin share

- Pack Free walk with your overnight luggage transported to the campsite
- Cabin Accommodation for 2 nights
- 2 x delicious dinner featuring local produce
- 2 x breakfast
- 3 lunches
- Fresh fruit and trail mix to enjoy during your walk
- Fine wine and non-alcoholic drinks served with dinner.
Please note: we advise drinking in moderation as walking can be strenuous. If you would like to enjoy alcohol after dinner you will need to provide your own.
- Professionally guided – Our guides are locals who are passionate, well trained and enthusiastic with the ability to bring to life a depth of information
- Return transfers from the start and end of the walk to Katoomba
- National Parks Fees

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Day 2: Donkey Mountain Canyon walk



TRAIL DETAILS: Walk: Approximately 10kms. 5 hours walking with breaks. Rates as hard. 300 metre ascent and 300 decent. One hour each way with 3 hours to traverse the Mountain in a complex canyon.

FLEXIBLE ITINERARY: For those not wishing to walk Donkey Mountain and alternative walk in Garden of Stones National park will be organised by our second guide.

MAIN WALK ITINERARY: Enjoy breakfast before we transfer to the start of our walk to Donkey Mountains canyon. This walk is for those with a high level of fitness and a sense of adventure only, guests have the option to opt out of today's walk and relax at the accommodation instead. This walk includes a hard walk to the top of the mountain exploring a fairyland of pagodas and

canyons. The Donkey Mountain walk involves walking through narrow slot canyons and rock scrambling and isn't suited to those that suffer from claustrophobia.

Day 3: Pipeline Pass Lookout walk and Newnes Ruins



TRAIL NOTES: Walk: Approximately 8kms. 4 hours walking with breaks. Walk: Medium grade

WALK ITINERARY: Today, after a hearty breakfast, we take the historic Pipeline Track to the top of Pipeline Pass, where a lookout on the towering cliffs provides a majestic view over the wild Wolgan Valley and a great place for a well-deserved morning tea break. The steep and rugged track follows the route of an old oil pipeline that once ran between the shale mining communities of Glen Davis in the Capertee Valley and Newnes in the Wolgan Valley. Remnants of the pipeline can still be seen along the way. The first few kilometres of the walk meander beside the beautiful Wolgan River past some of the other industrial ruins of Newnes, but the final kilometre to the lookout climbs more than 300 metres from the valley floor to the top of the sandstone escarpment. On the way up and down this very steep section of track, it is at times necessary to scramble with hands and feet. We return in time for lunch back in Newnes. Our vehicle then escorts us back to Katoomba.

ARRIVAL TIME: We arrive back into Katoomba at 4.30pm.