



# Founders Way (Darug Country)

 1 h 15 min to 1 h 30 min

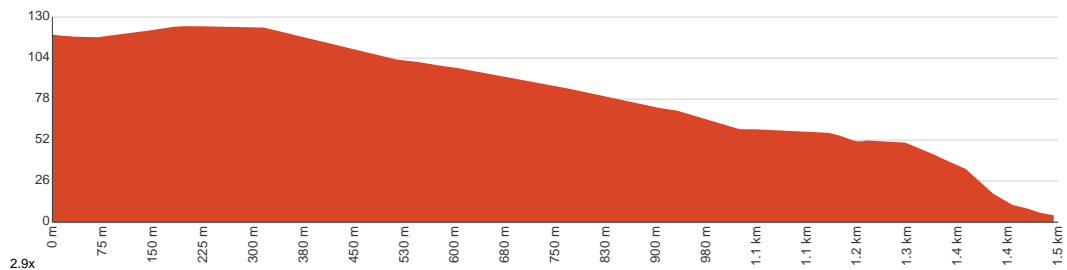
  
3 km  
Return

  
↑ 130 m  
↓ 130 m

  
Moderate track



This return walk starts at the Founders Way track head, in St Ives, and follows the pipeline through the National Park. The walk heads down into the valley where it comes to the Middle Harbour Creek pipe bridge. There is a short, optional side trip along the Bungaroo Track to the stepping stones crossing the creek. Let us begin by acknowledging the Darug people, Traditional Custodians of the land on which we travel today, and pay our respects to their Elders past and present.



Class 3 of 6 Formed track, with some branches and other obstacles	
<b>Quality of track</b>	Clear and well formed track or trail (2/6)
<b>Gradient</b>	Short steep hills (3/6)
<b>Signage</b>	Directional signs along the way (3/6)
<b>Infrastructure</b>	Generally useful facilities (such as fenced cliffs and seats) (1/6)
<b>Experience Required</b>	No experience required (1/6)
<b>Weather</b>	Weather generally has little impact on safety (1/6)

**Getting to the start:** From Eastern Arterial Road

- Turn on to Hunter Avenue then drive for 1.1 km

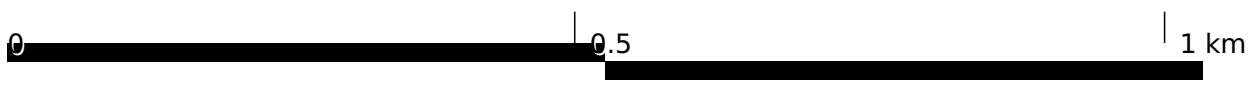
**Before you start any journey ensure you;**

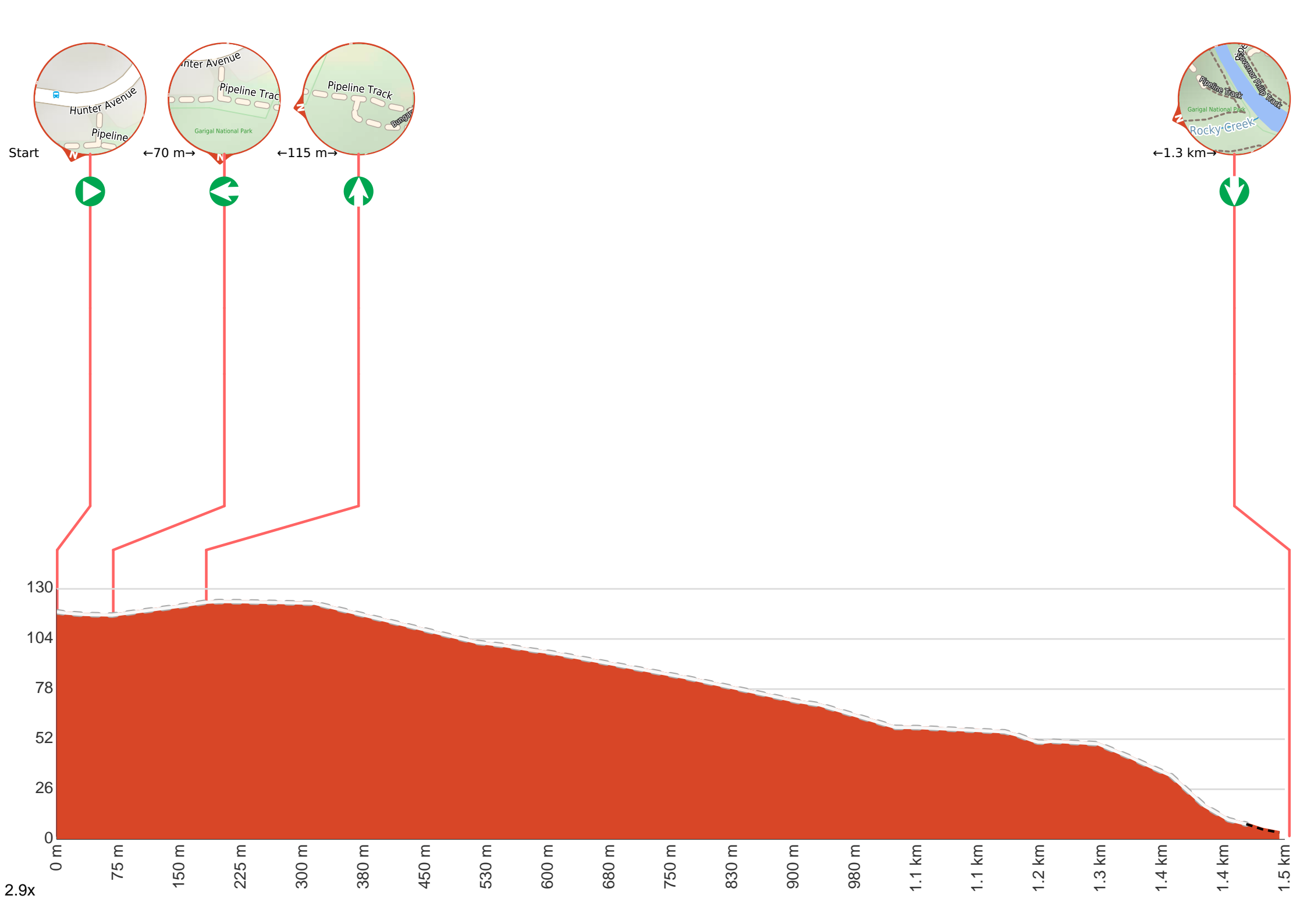
- Tell someone you trust where you are going and what to do if you are late returning
- Have adequate equipment, supplies, skills & knowledge to undertake this journey safely
- Consider weather forecasts, park/track closures & fire dangers
- Can respond to emergencies & call for help at any point
- Are healthy and fit enough for this journey

If not, change plans and stay safe. It is okay to delay and ask people for help.

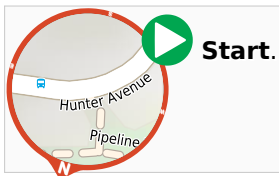
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[/ij/42QJMP](https://bushwalk.com/ij/42QJMP)







**Getting started:** From the intersection, this walk follows the Founders Way service trail, heading away from the road and past a picnic seat, continuing along to the 'T' intersection with the pipeline track.



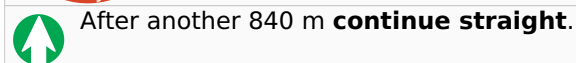
**Start.**



After another 70 m **turn left.**

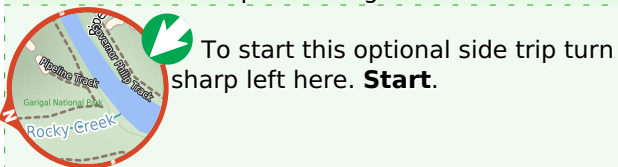


After another 115 m **continue straight.**



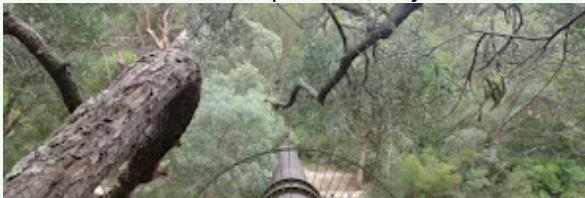
After another 840 m **continue straight.**

**Start of an optional side trip:** An optional side trip to Int of Gov. Phillip and Bungaroo tracks.

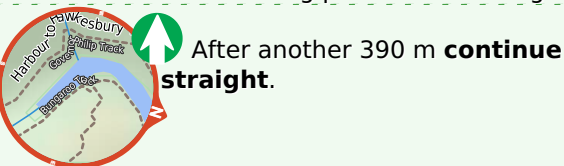


To start this optional side trip turn sharp left here. **Start.**

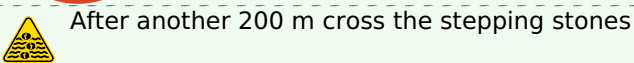
After 50 m find the "Pipeline" (on your left).



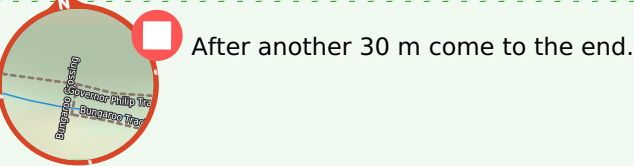
This pipeline is unearthened at Hunter Street, St Ives, and travels through Garigal National Park, across Middle Harbour Creek to John Oxley Drive, Sorlie. The pipe carries water under pressure From Ryde to Pymble to the reservoir at Beacon Hill. The old smaller-capacity pipe can still be seen running parallel to the larger pipe.



After another 390 m **continue straight.**



After another 200 m cross the stepping stones



After another 30 m come to the end.

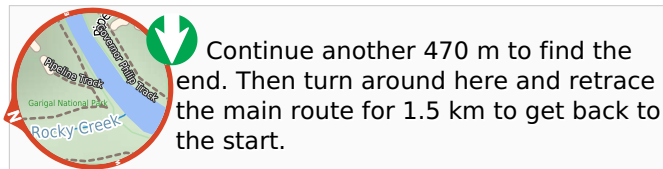
About 20 m past the end is "Bungaroo".



Governor Arthur Phillip (first governor of NSW) described this section of the river as where "the flowing of the tide ceased". Phillip and his party of nine camped here in 1788 whilst looking for land suitable for farming. John White (Surgeon General) described the the area as "the most desert, wild and solitary seclusion that the imagination can form any idea of". Over the past 200 years the river has changed, but somewhere not far upstream of the stepping stone is Bungaroo.

Turn around and retrace your steps back the 670 m to the main route.

Back at the main route turn sharp right and follow on from the 1.5 km waypoint.



Continue another 470 m to find the end. Then turn around here and retrace the main route for 1.5 km to get back to the start.