



# Black Mountain from National Botanic Gardens

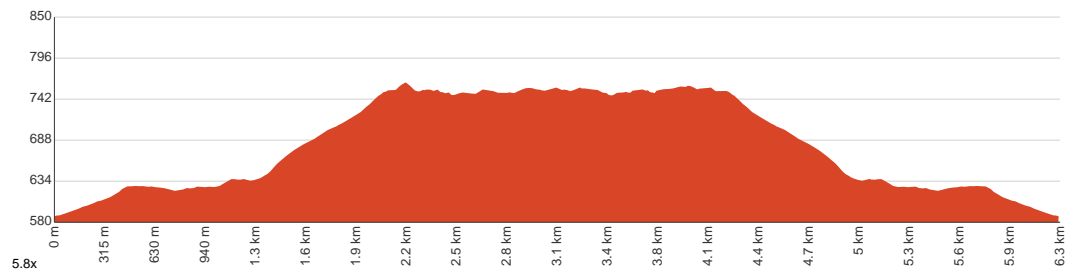
 2 h to 3 h 15 min

  
6.2 km  
Circuit

  
↑ 253 m  
↓ 253 m

  
Moderate track

Starting from the car park near Pollen Cafe in Australian National Botanic Gardens, ACT, this circuit walk leads up to Black Mt., exploring the photogenic botanical gardens first. On your way to the top you'll enter the scenic forest track, pivoting around the summit and providing you with great views over Canberra. After making it up to the summit, the walk loops back to the start. Going through the botanic gardens, you'll feel like you're in an amazon rainforest with all the exotic plants and trees. Pivoting around Black Mt., you'll be able to see almost all of Canberra as the forest track has panoramic views at every angle. You won't miss the iconic Telstra Tower on top, as it rises 195 meters above the summit. Keep in mind that the botanic gardens close at 5PM, so make sure you get your vehicle out before that. Let us begin by acknowledging the 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	
Quality of track	Clear and well formed track or trail (2/6)
Gradient	Short steep hills (3/6)
Signage	Clearly signposted (1/6)
Infrastructure	Generally useful facilities (such as fenced cliffs and seats) (2/6)
Experience Required	No experience required (2/6)
Weather	Weather generally has little impact on safety (1/6)

**Getting to the start:** From Parkes Way

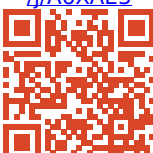
- Turn on to Clunies Ross Street Offramp then drive for 260 m
- Turn slight right onto Clunies Ross Street Offramp and drive for another 10 m
- Turn right onto Clunies Ross Street and drive for another 510 m
- Turn left and drive for another 115 m
- Turn slight right and drive for another 90 m
- Turn left and drive for another 85 m
- Keep left and drive for another 5 m

## Before you start any journey ensure you;

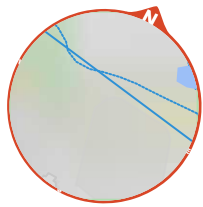
- Tell someone you trust where you are going and what to do if you are late returning
- Have adequate equipment, supplies, skills & knowledge to undertake this journey safely
- Consider weather forecasts, park/track closures & fire dangers
- Can respond to emergencies & call for help at any point
- Are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

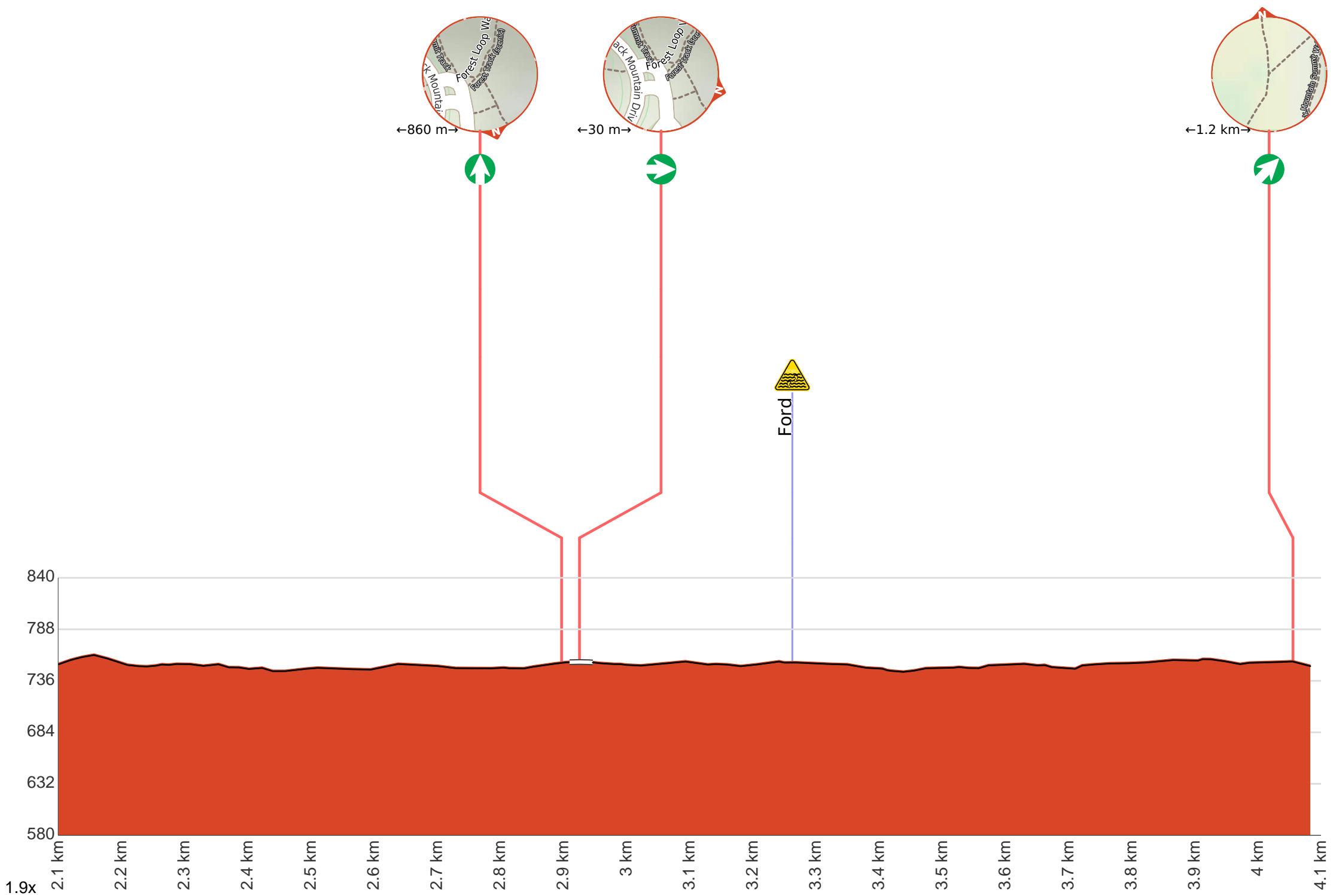
If not, change plans and stay safe. It is okay to delay and ask people for help.

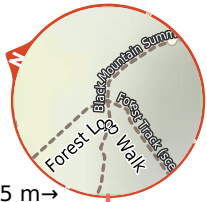
Share  
[Bushwalk.com](https://bushwalk.com/j/A6XAE3)  
[/j/A6XAE3](https://bushwalk.com/j/A6XAE3)











←85 m→



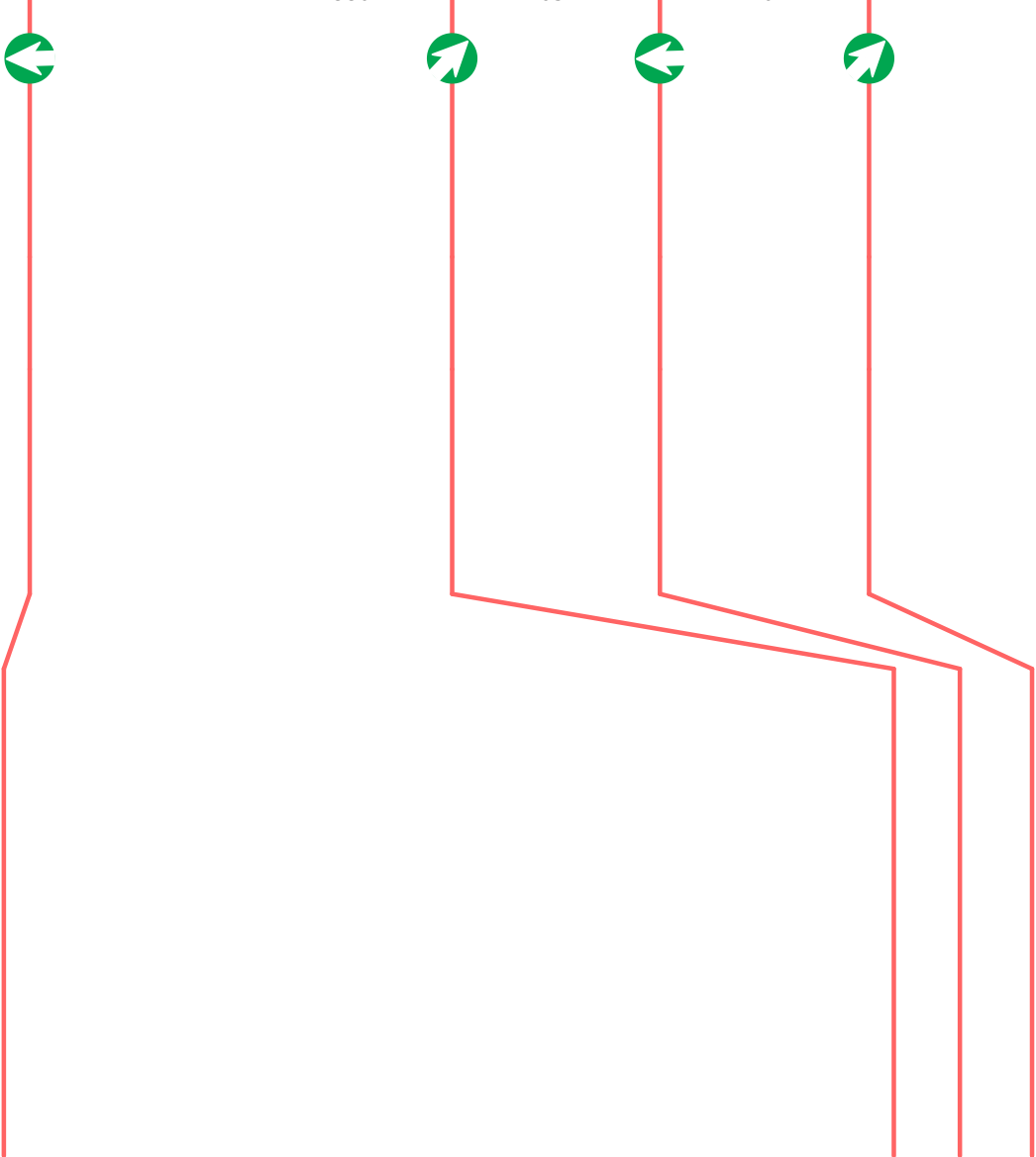
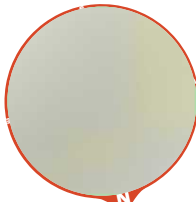
←880 m→



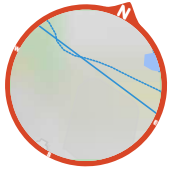
←65 m→



←70 m→



**Getting started:** From the end of the signposted car park in Australian National Botanical Gardens, follow the concrete footpath towards the metal bridge with railings. As you come to the end of the bridge, veer left and join the footpath, moving directly away from the car park. Follow the concrete/metal footpath as you keep the Pollen Cafe on your right to continue along Black Mountain from Botanical Gardens Track.





After another 285 m (from the Forest Track (scenic)) **continue straight**, to head along Forest Track (scenic).



After another 570 m (from the Forest Track (scenic)) **continue straight**, to head along Forest Track (scenic).

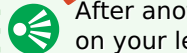
**Start of an optional side trip:** An optional little side trip taking you to a dated scenic view area with multiple viewpoints.



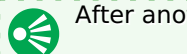
To start this optional side trip turn left here. from the Forest Track (scenic) **Start** (a service road).



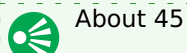
After another 25 m **continue straight**.



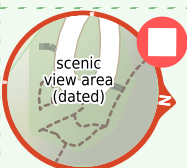
After another 15 m come to the viewpoint (50 m on your left).



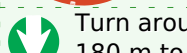
After another 140 m come to a viewpoint.



About 45 m past the end is a viewpoint.



The end.



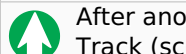
Turn around and retrace your steps back the 180 m to the main route.



Back at the main route continue straight and follow on from the 2.9 km waypoint.



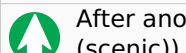
After another 30 m (from the Forest Track (scenic)) **turn right** (a service road).



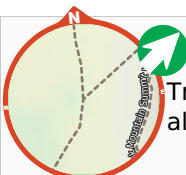
After another 35 m (at the intersection of Forest Track (scenic) & Black Mountain Drive) **continue straight**, to head along Forest Track (scenic) (a footpath).



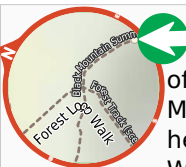
After another 315 m cross the ford.



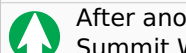
After another 155 m (from the Forest Track (scenic)) **continue straight**, to head along Forest Track (scenic).



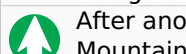
After another 670 m (from the Forest Track (scenic)) **veer right**, to head along Forest Track (scenic).



After another 85 m (at the intersection of Forest Track (scenic) & Black Mountain Summit Walk) **turn left**, to head along Black Mountain Summit Walk.



After another 70 m (from the Black Mountain Summit Walk) **continue straight**, to head along Black Mountain Summit Walk.



After another 680 m (at the intersection of Black Mountain Summit Walk & up and over) **continue straight**, to head along Black Mountain Summit Walk (a walking track).



After another 130 m (at the intersection of Frith Road & Black Mountain Summit Walk) **veer right**, to head along Black Mountain Summit Walk (a walking track).



After another 65 m (from the Black Mountain Summit Walk) **turn left**, to head along Black Mountain Summit Walk.



After another 70 m (from the Black Mountain Summit Walk) **veer right**, to head along Black Mountain Summit Walk.





After another 75 m **turn right**.



After another 145 m **continue straight**.

