




Light to Light Walk

(Yuin Country)

 12 h, 2 days to 3 days

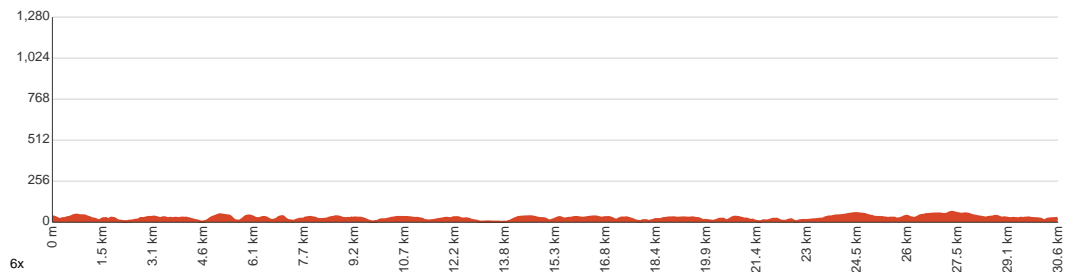

30.6 km
One way


↑ 706 m
↓ 714 m


Hard track



This classic walk explores the coast from Boyd Tower to the Green Cape Lighthouse in the south, with optional overnight stops at the well established Saltwater Creek and Bittangabee Bay campsites (bookings required). You may choose one campsite and make the walk in 2 days, stay at both and spread the journey to 3 days or even push it and try to fit it in one day. The walk explores many of the scenic and historic highlights of Ben Boyd National Park. It is worth taking the time to enjoy the many bays and vantage points along the way. A great walk. Let us begin by acknowledging the Yuin people, Traditional Custodians of the land on which we travel today, and pay our respects to their Elders past and present.



Class 4 of 6 Rough track, where fallen trees and other obstacles are likely	
Quality of track	Rough track, where fallen trees and other obstacles are likely (4/6)
Gradient	Very steep (4/6)
Signage	Minimal directional signs (4/6)
Infrastructure	Limited facilities (such as cliffs not fenced, significant creeks not bridged) (4/6)
Experience Required	No experience required (1/6)
Weather	Storms may impact on navigation and safety (3/6)

Getting to the start: From Princes Highway, A1

- Turn on to Princes Highway, A1 then drive for 1.3 km
- At roundabout, take exit 2 onto Princes Highway, A1 and drive for another 27.3 km
- Turn right onto Princes Highway, A1 and drive for another 6.7 km
- At roundabout, take exit 2 onto Quondolo Street, A1 and drive for another 245 m
- Turn slight right onto Bullara Street, A1 and drive for another 18.7 km
- At roundabout, take exit 3 onto Mitchell Street, A1 and drive for another 18.3 km
- Turn left onto Edrom Road and drive for another 17.1 km

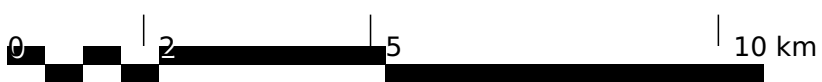
Before you start any journey ensure you;

- 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

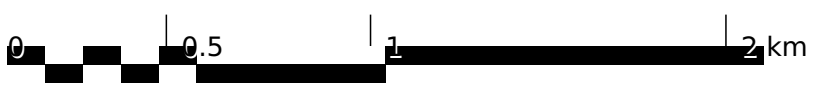
If not, change plans and stay safe. It is okay to delay and ask people for help.

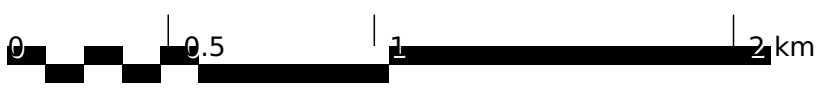
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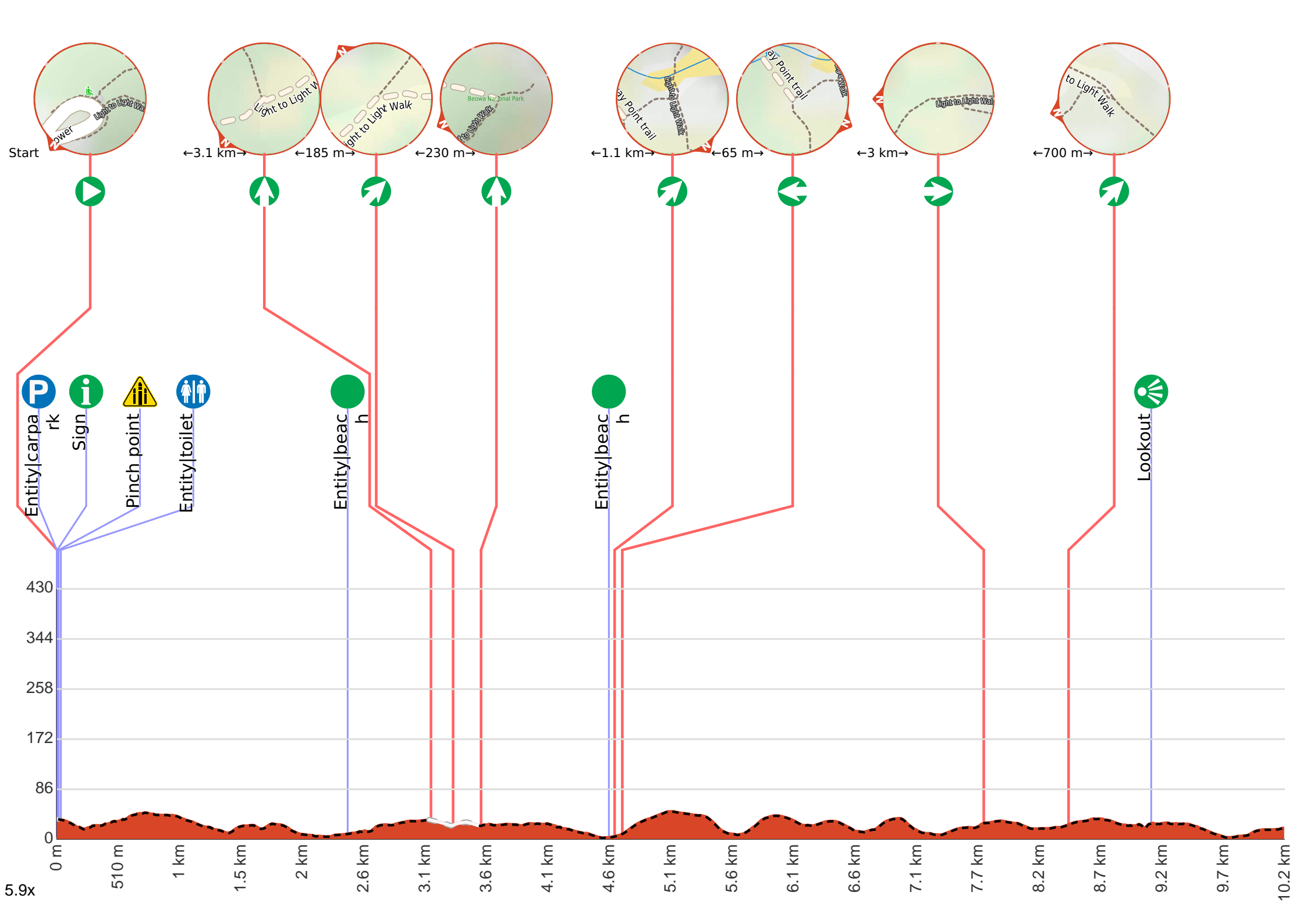


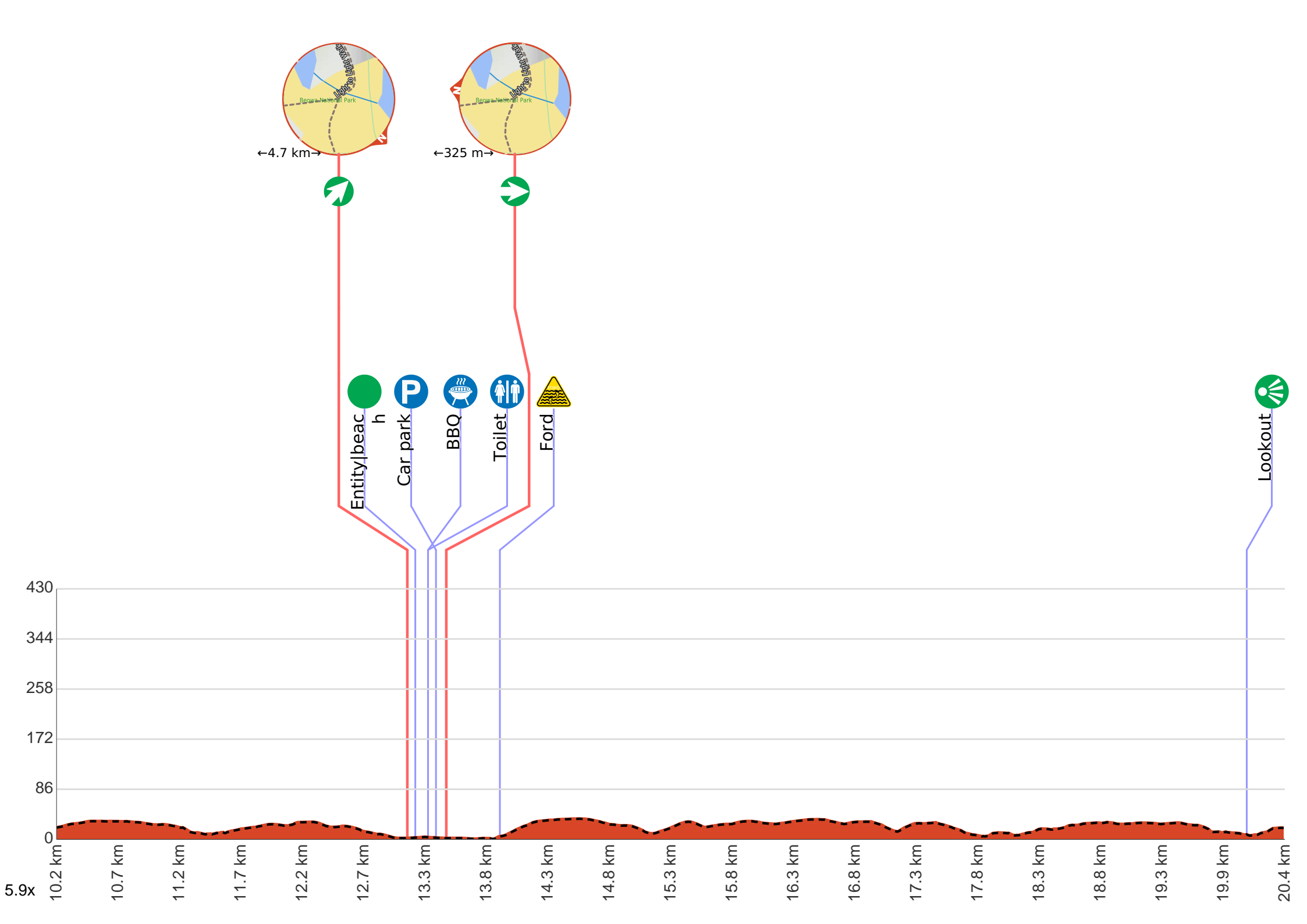


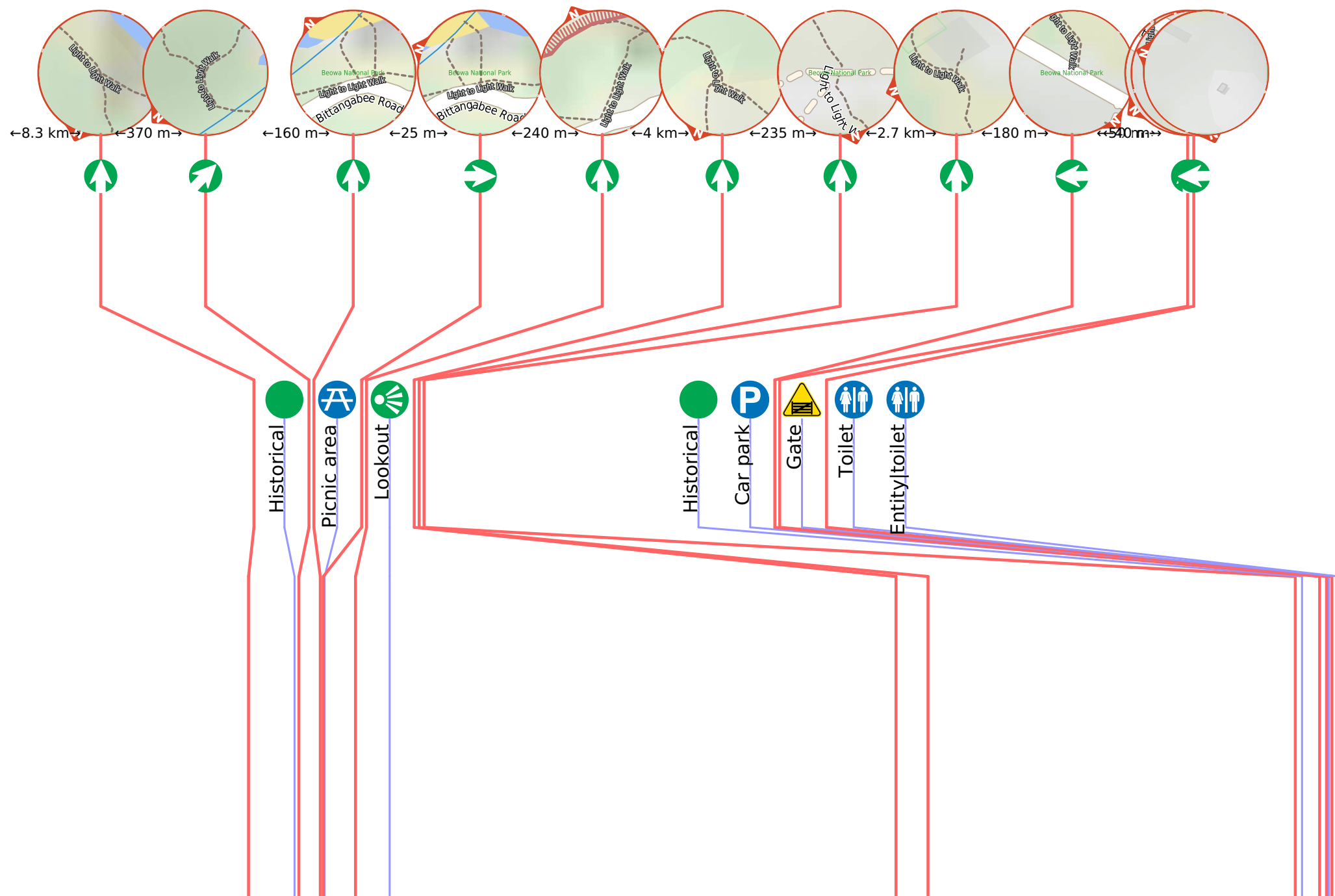












Getting started: From the information sign, the walk heads down the hill, following the low posts away from the information sign, to a signposted intersection on the left. From the intersection, the track follows the sign for 'Coastal Walk' down the hill away from the car park. The track soon passes an information sign on the right before tending right, down the hill to be above the coastline. The walk then continues with the coast on your left, down stairs into a gully and back out. The track winds and undulates for some time, leading away from the coast. The track then continues back towards the coast, to a view of the tower on your left and a rock island below in the sea.

From the intersection, this walk heads along the track, keeping the the coast to the left. The track soon leads out of the heath and winds along the hillside, tending away from the coast (which disappears below the trees on the left). The walk then winds down into a gully with access to the rocks (below on your left). Rising up and out of the gully, the track winds across the hillside and then down into a rocky bay with an arrow marker. The walk continues across the red flat rock at the back of the bay, coming to the arrow marker pointing inland, in the middle of the bay.

Start of an optional side trip: An optional side trip to Boyd Tower Intersection.



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



After 125 m find the "Trip Hazard" (on your left).



Culvert under path with exposed drainage ditch on the very edge of path. A drop of about 25cm. Marked with timber bollards, there are a series of 4 more similar drainage ditches about every 40m.



After another 150 m come to "Seat".



A timber bench seat, 55cm high, 22cm deep and 2.4m wide with no backrest. The seat is 1.7m off the side of the path.



Then find the "Seat" (on your right).

A timber bench seat, 58cm high, 22cm deep and 2.4m wide with no backrest.



After another 15 m come to the end.



About 20 m past the end is "Boyd's Tower".



Boyd's Tower was commissioned by Benjamin Boyd and originally designed to be a lighthouse. After the Government rejected the proposal of the private lighthouse, Boyd changed tact and built the Sydney sandstone tower for whale spotting. The tower gave his whaling ships a strong advantage over other whalers in the area. Built in 1847, Boyd's Tower is a large sandstone tower on the southern head of Twofold Bay in Ben Boyd National Park. The top of the tower bears the BOYD title, and boast several viewing points. The ground floor of the tower is open to the public and is well worth exploring. Boyd was declared bankrupt soon after completing the tower and left Australia for the Californian goldfields. Boyd died in the Solomon Islands in 1851 whilst hunting game. "Ben Boyd's Tower is watching - Watching o'er the sea Ben Boyd's Tower is waiting For her and me." Henry Lawson (1910) The bottom floor of the tower is open to the public via a 1.2m wide sandstone door frame.



Turn around and retrace your steps back the 275 m to the main route.



Back at the main route turn left and follow on from the 0 m waypoint.



Start.



After another 15 m **turn left.**



Boyd car park (about 15 m back from the start).



Boyd car park is found at the end 1.1km long unsealed Boyd Tower Rd, Edrom. The car park is spread around a turning circle at the end of the road. There is a concrete path leading to a toilet and water tank (empty) in the middle of the turning circle. Car parking bays are not marked, and there is space for about 20 cars plus a bus. There are no marked mobility parking areas. The surface is a fairly smooth gravel/clay. A manual pay station is available for park entry fees near the sheltered large information sign. The carpark is the start of the Light to Light walk and the path to Boyd Tower.



There is a sign (about 10 m back from the start).



After 10 m find the "Pinch Point" (6 m on your right).



Timber bollard pinch points at the start of the track at the carpark. The gap between the bollards are 1.18m, they are 55cm high.



After another 20 m find the "Toilet" (30 m on your right).

Unisex non-flushing toilet. Entrance is 90cm wide, toilet seat 40cm high, handrails 80cm high. Bolt lock 1m high.



After another 2.4 km find the "Red sands bay" (10 m on your left).



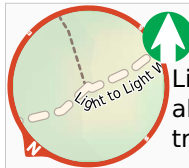
Red sands bay (not officially named) is a north-facing bay between Boyd Tower and Leather Jacket Bay in Ben Boyd National Park. The rocky bay is accessed via the Light to Light walk. The beach in this bay is made up of small boulders and a fine red gravel. Most of the red gravel is on the western side of the bay. The gravel is made from the sea smashing the red siltstone into small pieces. The red sands/gravel of this bay makes for a fantastic contrast on sunny days.



After another 1.1 km find the "Leather Jacket Bay" (10 m on your left).



Leather Jacket Bay is a north-east facing beach between Boyd Tower and Mowarry Point in the Ben Boyd National Park. The bay has a sandy beach with small rock boulders between the sand and the ocean. The wooded forest behind the bay provides some shade, making this a great place to rest on the Light-to-Light walk. The bay can be access by the Light-to-Light track or by Newtons Road service trail from Edrom Rd.



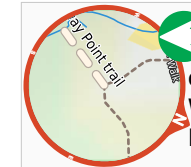
After another 690 m (from the Light to Light Walk) **continue straight**, to head along Light to Light Walk (a vehicle track).



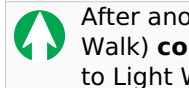
After another 50 m (from the Light to Light Walk) **veer right**, to head along Light to Light Walk.



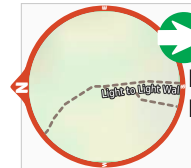
After another 185 m (from the Light to Light Walk) **veer right**, to head along Light to Light Walk.



After another 65 m (at the intersection of Midway Point trail & Light to Light Walk) **turn left**, to head along Light to Light Walk.



After another 115 m (from the Light to Light Walk) **continue straight**, to head along Light to Light Walk.



After another 3 km (from the Light to Light Walk) **turn right**, to head along Light to Light Walk.



After another 120 m (from the Light to Light Walk) **continue straight**, to head along Light to Light Walk (a walking track).



After another 700 m (from the Light to Light Walk) **veer right**, to head along Light to Light Walk.



After another 680 m find the "Mowarry Point lookout" (10 m on your left).



Mowarry Point lookout is an informal vantage on Mowarry Point in Ben Boyd National Park. There is no signage or other infrastructure. The lookout provides a unobstructed view to the north and north-east, along the coast of Ben Boyd National Park. The view extends up to Eden, into Twofold Bay and out over the South Pacific Ocean. There are some Melaleuca trees that offer limited shade.



After another 2.6 km find the "Red Cliffs" (7 m on your left).



Red Cliffs - These fantastic red coastal cliffs are found about 1km north of saltwater creek in Ben Boyd National Park. The cliffs are made of a red siltstone. As the name suggests, this rock is made from deposited silt, making it much finer grain than sandstone. The red silt came from nearby volcanic eruptions long ago, and is clearly different from the other brown siltstone and sandstone in the region. The cliff is unfenced and provides views out to sea and into a few surrounding bays.



After another 1.5 km cross the ford.



From the Light to Light Walk **veer right**, to head along Light to Light Walk.



After another 65 m find the "Saltwater Creek Beach" (on your right).



Saltwater Creek meets the South Pacific Ocean at a beautiful white sand beach in Ben Boyd National park. The beach looks north-east and has a rock shelf at either end. The wide Saltwater Creek forms a lagoon at the northern end, popular for swimming. Woodburn Creek also forms a lagoon on the southern end of the beach. Both creeks have a brown colouration from the tea tree, that forms a beautiful contrast with the white sand and blue ocean. The back of the beach is heavily wooded, providing some shade, and is home to the Saltwater Creek campsite. The beach can be accessed from the Saltwater Creek campsite at the end of the access road from Duck Hole Road.



After another 170 m pass the car park (20 m on your right).



Then pass the BBQ (65 m on your left).



Then pass the toilet (95 m on your right).



After another 150 m (from the Light to Light Walk) **turn right**, to head along Light to Light Walk.



After another 440 m cross the ford.



After another 6.2 km find the "Black cliffs" (20 m on your left).



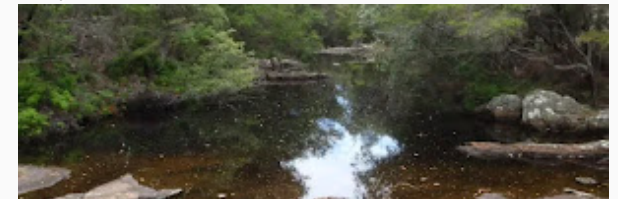
The black cliffs of Ben Boyd National Park provide a great vantage point. The headland on the north side of Bittangabee has a fairly large clearing on a rock platform, high above the ocean. There are great views out to sea and into the mouth of Bittangabee Bay. There are no fences or facilities at this informal lookout. Being dark in colour, this rock platform can get very uncomfortable on hot days - trees on the south side provide some respite with shade. The rock slopes into the sea on the south side, but would be too dangerous for swimming.



After another 1.4 km cross the ford.



Then find the "Bittangabee Creek" (8 m on your left).



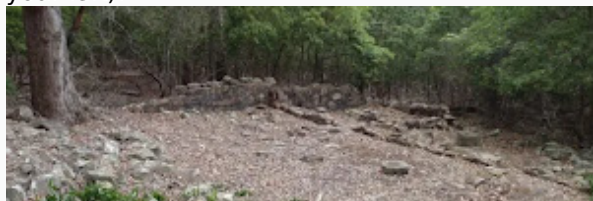
Bittangabee Creek is a small creek feeding Bittangabee Bay in Ben Boyd National Park. The creek enters the bay and is crossed by the Light to Light track about 800m north-west of Bittangabee Campsite. The creek provides a quiet place for people to paddle and relax.



After another 325 m (from the Light to Light Walk) **continue straight**.



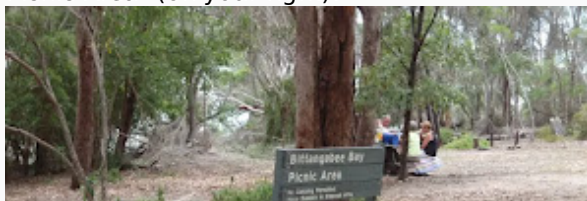
After another 340 m find the "Imlay House" (on your left).



Imlay House ruins still show the foundations of a house built by the Imlay brothers in 1844. The ruins are found in Bittangabee Bay in Ben Boyd National Park, along the Light to Light track. The house was to be a station for the Imlay family to further their grazing and whaling in the area. It appears the stone house was never completed, with the brothers dying in 1846 (George) and 1847 (Alexander). Soon after the Imlay brothers died, Benjamin Boyd began using the bay for his own whaling company in 1848.



After another 30 m find the "Bittangabee Bay Picnic Area" (on your right).



Bittangabee Bay Picnic Area is near Bittangabee Bay and camp area in Ben Boyd National Park. The picnic area is a day-use only area with a few picnic tables, an electric BBQ and a pit toilet. There is a reasonable amount of natural shade, and is close to a car park. There is short walk to the beach and ruins at Bittangabee Bay. The picnic area is well signposted on the loop road near the Bittangabee camping area.



About 15 m past the end is "Bittangabee Bay Beach".



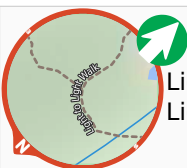
Bittangabee Bay Beach, Ben Boyd National Park, is a small beach at the south-western corner of the bay. The beach can be accessed by a short walk from Bittangabee picnic area in Ben Boyd National Park. The yellow sand beach has a small creek and lagoon behind. The beach also has rock platforms at each end and is fairly well-protected from swells, being tucked away in the bay. The historic storehouse is visible on the shore to the right.



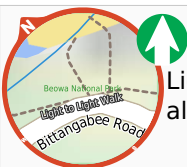
Turn around and retrace your steps back the 70 m to the main route.



Back at the main route veer left and follow on from the 22.3 km waypoint.



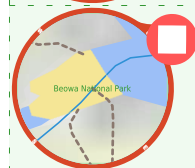
After another 30 m (from the Light to Light Walk) **veer right**, to head along Light to Light Walk.



After another 160 m (from the Light to Light Walk) **continue straight**, to head along Light to Light Walk.



To start this optional side trip turn left here. from the Light to Light Walk **Start** (a footpath).

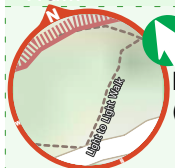


After another 70 m come to the end.

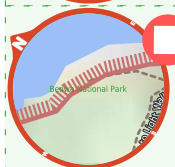


From the Light to Light Walk **turn right**, to head along Light to Light Walk.

Start of an optional side trip: An optional side trip to Int. Light to Light Trk and Bittangabee Storehouse Trail.

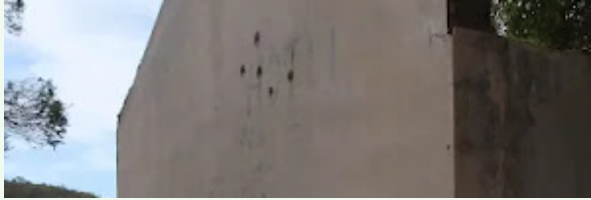


To start this optional side trip veer left here. from the Light to Light Walk **Start** (a walking track).



After another 70 m come to the end.

"Bittangabee Storehouse ruins".



Bittangabee Storehouse ruins is located on the shore of Bittangabee Bay, near the campground, in Ben Boyd National Park. The concrete structure was built by Albert Aspinall (1839 - 1903) in 1881. The building was used to store material unloaded from ships onto a wooden jetty built at the same time. Aspinall then built a wooden tramway to move material and supplies to Green Cape to help in the construction of the lighthouse. The building is now a basic shell, missing roof, windows and a door. The concrete foundations of the timber wharf are still visible. Unfortunately, the building has been marred by graffiti, but is still worth the visit.



Turn around and retrace your steps back the 70 m to the main route.



Back at the main route turn sharp left and follow on from the 22.6 km waypoint.



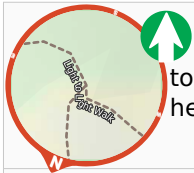
After another 240 m (from the Light to Light Walk) **continue straight**, to head along Light to Light Walk.



After another 255 m find the "Southern Bittangabee Point lookout" (20 m on your left).



Southern Bittangabee Point lookout is an unofficial lookout on the southern headland forming the entrance to Bittangabee Bay in Ben Boyd National Park. The lookout is not fenced or signposted and does not have any facilities. The lookout provides a view across the mouth of Bittangabee Bay and a short way down the coast to the south. There is also a view of the red rock platform below, forming a picturesque contrast with the ocean on sunny days.

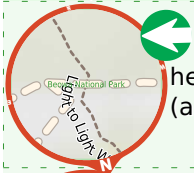


After another 3.8 km (from the Light to Light Walk) **continue straight**, to head along Light to Light Walk.



After another 95 m (from the Light to Light Walk) **continue straight**, to head along Light to Light Walk.

Start of an optional side trip: An optional side trip to Pulpit Rock.



To start this optional side trip turn left here. from the Light to Light Walk **Start** (a vehicle track).



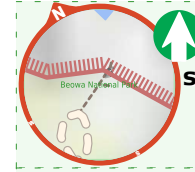
After another 550 m **continue straight**.



After another 85 m pass the toilet (10 m on your left).



Turn right.



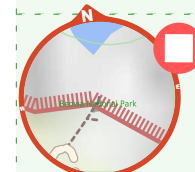
After another 35 m **continue straight**.



After another 10 m head down the 33 wooden steps (about 10 m long)



Then come to the viewpoint (10 m on your right).



After another 10 m come to the end.



About 45 m past the end is "Pulpit Rock".



Pulpit Rock is a large rock platform on the south-east coast of NSW, between Green Cape and Bittangabee in Ben Boyd National Park. The rock platform is a popular spot for rock fishing. Pulpit Rock is accessed via a staircase near the end of a service trail off Green Cape Rd. Near the car park is a pit toilet and garbage facilities. From the rock platform, there are great views north up the coast, with the red rock cliffs providing a spectacular highlight.



Turn around and retrace your steps back the 660 m to the main route.



Back at the main route turn left and follow on from the 26.8 km waypoint.



After another 145 m (from the Light to Light Walk) **continue straight**, to head along Light to Light Walk (a footpath).



After another 1.4 km (from the Light to Light Walk) **continue straight**, to head along Light to Light Walk.



After another 1.3 km (from the Light to Light Walk) **continue straight**, to head along Light to Light Walk.



After another 50 m find the "Ly-ee-moon Graveyard" (10 m on your left).



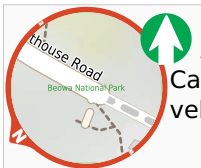
The Ly-ee-moon Graveyard is a stark reminder of the horrific accident on the night of May 31st, 1886, when 71 men, women and children lost their lives. The white stone and single cross marks the positions of the unnamed graves. The nearby plaque names the people who lost their lives - sadly some names were not known and these people are remembered only by comments such as 'one who had a German accent'. During the dark night, the lighthouse keeper and assistant heroically rescued 16 people from the sea, and were left to listen to cries for help though the night of other people who could not be saved. The mother of Blessed Mary MacKillop, the first Australian to be beatified by the Catholic church, was one of those lost during the night. The fast and normally reliable ship, operated by the Australian Steam Navigation Company, was a single screw ship converted from a paddle steamer when it was brought to Australia in 1876. The graveyard is about 300m north-west of the Green Cape lighthouse, which was operational at the time the SS Ly-ee-moon struck the reef and sunk.



After another 195 m to find the car park.



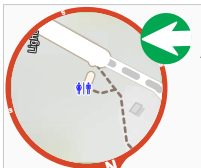
From the Green Cape Road **turn left**, to head along Green Cape Road (a vehicle track).



After another 50 m (from the Green Cape Road) **continue straight** (a vehicle track).



After another 20 m head through/around the gate.



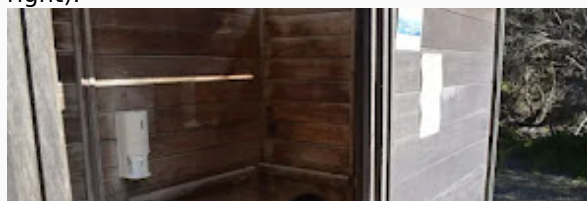
After another 20 m **turn left**.



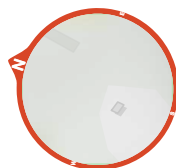
After another 50 m pass the toilet (15 m on your right).



After another 6 m find the "Toilet" (on your right).



Unisex non-flushing toilet. Entrance is 85cm wide, toilet seat 39cm high, handrails 77cm high. Floor space is 1.5x2.4m. Tank water tap 1m high.





After another 150 m find the "Green Cape Lighthouse" (10 m on your left).



Green Cape Lighthouse is a majestic, 29 meter tall, white octagon-shaped, concrete and blue stone monolith, at the southern tip of Ben Boyd National Park. The lighthouse construction was tendered in 1880 and Albert Aspinall started construction in 1881. He built a timber tram line from Bittangabee Bay to transport materials. After having to dig footing much deeper than expected, in addition to dealing with workers' disputes, Aspinall went broke and his creditors completed the project. The original lantern was oil-fired and was visible 19NM out to sea. Today, the lighthouse still operates with a solar-powered electric light. The lighthouse buildings and grounds can be visited on a tour, otherwise enjoyed from outside the fence. The lighthouse was functionally replaced with a more modern metal tower 60m down the hill in 1992.



Then find the "Seat" (5 m on your left).



A white painted timber bench seat, 27cm high, 20cm deep and 89cm wide with no arm or backrest.



After another 20 m find the "Picnic Table" (25 m on your left).



A timber slat picnic table and bench seats. The table is 71cm high, 91cm deep and 2.5m wide. The seats are 49cm high, 35cm deep and 2.5m wide (no backrest). The ground on one side of the table is eroded.



Then find the "Trip Hazard" (5 m on your right).



The boardwalk is slightly elevated and has an ungraded side with a 25cm drop to the side.



After another 105 m find the "Green Cape Lookout" (8 m on your right).



The lookout at the point of Green Cape, at the southern end of Ben Boyd National Park, provides great views out to sea and along the coast. On the right, the view extends across Disaster Bay to Nadgee Nature Reserve and down into Victoria. To the left, there are views north along rugged sea cliffs and views of Green Cape Lighthouse and accommodation. An information sign at the lookout tells some of the story of the Ly-ee-moon tragedy. The lookout platform is fenced (1.07m high). There are no seats at the lookout.



"Green Cape".



Green Cape is a headland at the southern end of Ben Boyd National Park, forming the northern head of Disaster Bay. The cape's traditional owners are the people of the Yuin nation, from whom there remains evidence of a number of camps in the area. The cape was named 'Green Point' by Matthew Flinders in 1798. The area began its notorious fame in 1802 when eight of Flinders' crew disappeared when fetching water, in what he then appropriately named 'Disaster Bay'. The Imlay brothers and Boyd both established whaling business in the area in the early to mid 1800's, leaving several buildings in the park. There were many shipwrecks in the surrounding waters, the most famous being the SS Ly-ee-moon, whose victims are buried on the cape. The most visible feature on the cape is the 29-metre high lighthouse that is still operational today. NPWS run 1-hour tours of the site based on bookings. There is a composting toilet at the car park at the end of Green Cape Road. Accommodation is also available in the renovated lighthouse keeper cottages.