



West Head Lookout Track

 50 min to 1 h

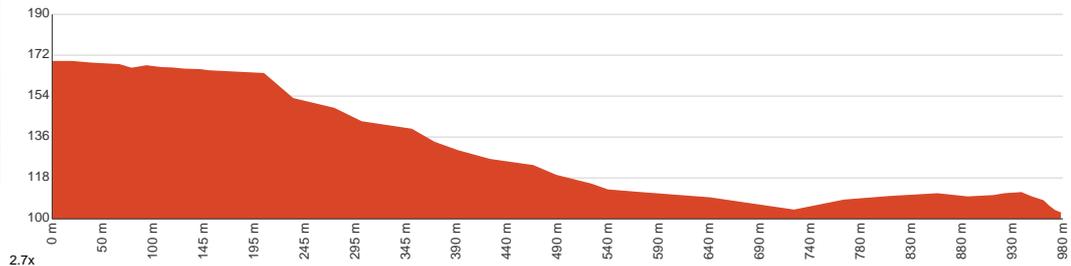

2 km
Return


↑ 89 m
↓ 89 m


Moderate track



From Resolute Picnic Area, this walk heads out to West Head Lookout, with magnificent views across the Hawkesbury River and Lion Island. The track is a direct route which passes through classic Ku-ring-gai Chase National Park bushland. This walk offers a great way to avoid competing for parking at West Head Lookout, while enjoying more of the park. 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	Formed track, with some branches and other obstacles (3/6)
Gradient	Short steep hills (3/6)
Signage	Clearly signposted (1/6)
Infrastructure	Limited facilities, not all cliffs are fenced (3/6)
Experience Required	No experience required (1/6)
Weather	Weather generally has little impact on safety (1/6)

Getting to the start: From Mona Vale Road, A3, Terrey Hills.

- Turn on to then drive for 30 m
- Turn slight left onto McCarrs Creek Road and drive for another 25 m
- At roundabout, take exit 2 onto McCarrs Creek Road and drive for another 5 km
- Turn left onto West Head Road and drive for another 350 m
- Turn slight left onto West Head Road and drive for another 12.3 km
- Turn right and drive for another 15 m
- Turn left and drive for another 1 m

Before you start any journey ensure you;

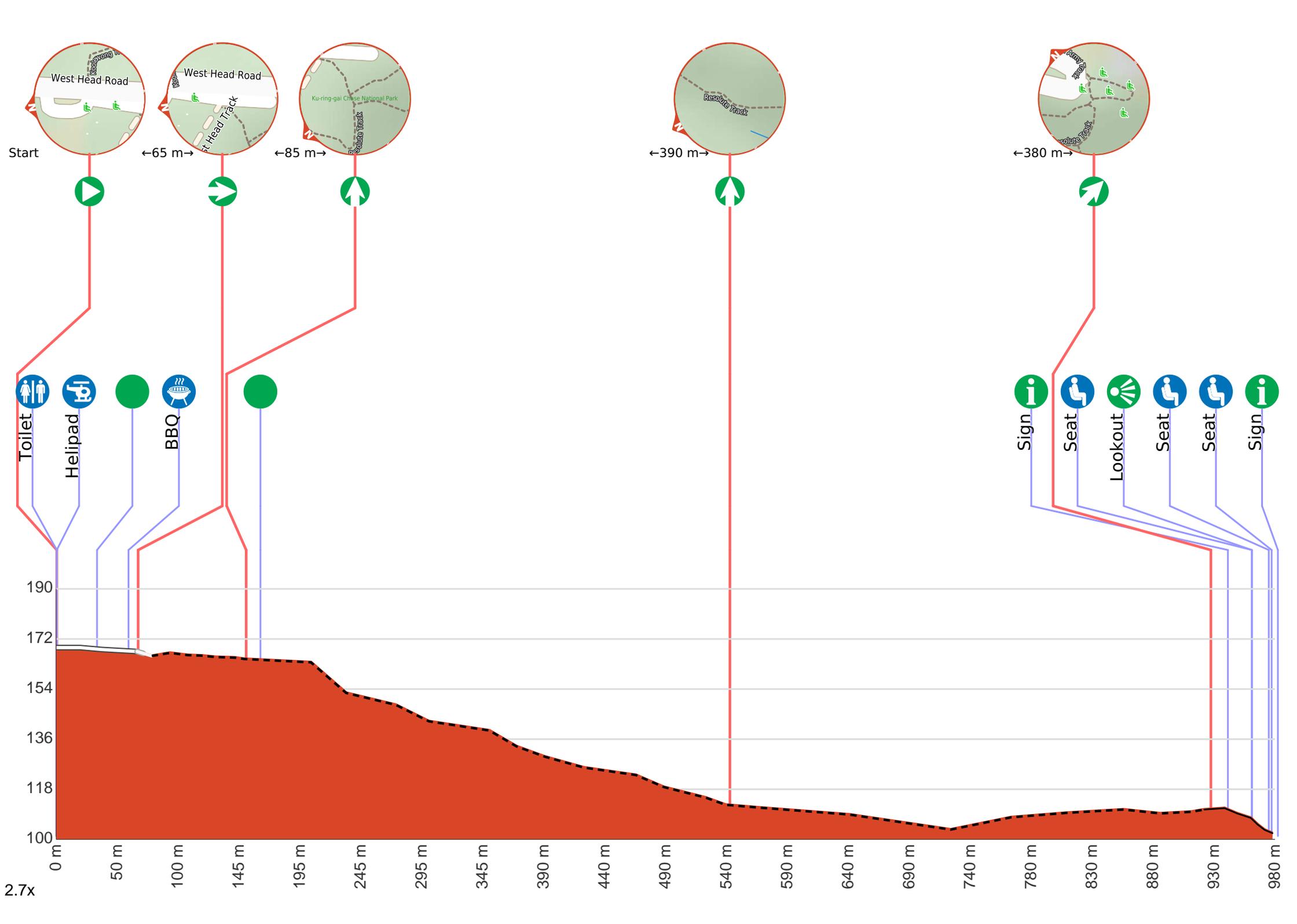
- Tell someone you trust where you are going and what to do if you are late returning
- Have adequate equipment, supplies, skills & knowledge to undertake this journey safely
- Consider weather forecasts, park/track closures & fire dangers
- Can respond to emergencies & call for help at any point
- Are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

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

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Getting started: From Resolute Picnic Area car park, the walk heads through the picnic area, away from the road, to follow the 'Red Hands Track 50m' sign. The walk then descends a flight of stairs to the intersection at the bottom.



Start.



Find the toilet at the start.



Find the helipad at the start.

After 30 m find the "Resolute Picnic Area" (5 m on your left).



Resolute picnic area, Ku-ring-gai Chase National Park, is a large grassed area with benches, shelter, interpretive signs, electric BBQ's and an environmentally-friendly toilet block. The picnic area does not have drinking water, but does have a pay phone and wheelchair-accessible bathroom with baby-changing area. Resolute picnic area is a great place for lunch, with Red Hands Cave, West Head and Resolute Beach and West Head Lookout tracks starting from the picnic area. The picnic area has adequate parking and a bus turn-around area.



After another 25 m pass the BBQ (15 m on your right).



After another 8 m (from the West Head Track) **turn right**, to head along West Head Track (a vehicle track).



After another 10 m (from the West Head Track) **turn left** (a walking track).

Start of an optional side trip: An optional side trip to Red Hands Cave.



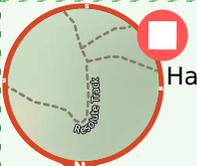
To start this optional side trip turn right here. from the Resolute Track **Start** heading along *Resolute Track* (a walking track).



After another 35 m come to "Red Hands Cave".



Red Hands Cave, Ku-ring-gai Chase National Park, is a small rock overhang just near Resolute Picnic Area. The red hands are made by ochre, clay, being blown over an outspread hand. This Aboriginal rock art has been given an estimation of approximately 2000 years in age.



Continue another 0 m to find Red Hands Cave at the end.



Turn around and retrace your steps back the 35 m to the main route.



Back at the main route turn sharp right and follow on from the 150 m waypoint.



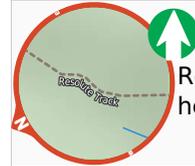
After another 75 m (from the Resolute Track) **continue straight**, to head along Resolute Track.



After another 10 m find the "Red Hands Cave" (30 m on your right).



Red Hands Cave, Ku-ring-gai Chase National Park, is a small rock overhang just near Resolute Picnic Area. The red hands are made by ochre, clay, being blown over an outspread hand. This Aboriginal rock art has been given an estimation of approximately 2000 years in age.



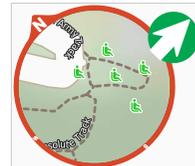
After another 380 m (from the Resolute Track) **continue straight**, to head along Resolute Track.



After another 400 m pass the sign (on your right).



From the Resolute Track **continue straight**. Keep left.



After another 10 m **veer right**.



After another 35 m find the "Seat" (15 m on your left).



A series of 4 timber slat bench seats, 48cm high, 43cm deep and 2.1m wide with no backrest or armrest.



Then find the "Lion Island View" (20 m on your left).



The upper viewing platform at West Head Lookout provides great views framed by trees to Lion Island and surrounding waterways. There are a few bench seats and some information signs about the 'West Head Battery'. A lovely spot among the eucalypt and angophora forest.



After another 15 m find the "Seat" (7 m on your right).



A series of 3 timber slat bench seats, 48cm high, 43cm deep and 2.1m wide with no backrest or armrest.



Then find the "Seat" (7 m on your right).



A series of 3 timber slat bench seats, 48cm high, 28cm deep, 2.1m wide, a 38cm back rest and no armrest.



After another 5 m pass the sign (on your right).



Then come to "West Head Lookout".



West Head Lookout, Ku-ring-gai Chase National Park is a large paved sandstone viewing area with fantastic views and some interesting interpretive signs. The view spans across the Hawkesbury River to Lion Island to Patonga (Central Coast) also across the Pittwater to Barrenjoey Headland and out to sea. The lookout has a series of bench seats and a low (50cm) stone wall. A lovely place to just sit and soak up the views, and history of the area.



Turn around here and retrace the main route for 980 m to get back to the start.