



Gap Creek Falls Walk

(Awabakal Country)

 50 min to 1 h



1.4 km
Return



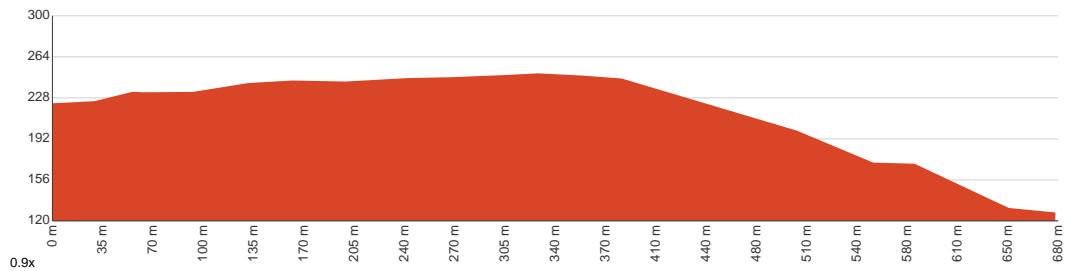
↑ 151 m
↓ 151 m



Moderate track



This walk leads to one of the best waterfalls in the Hunter area and is highly recommended. The walk travels through dense rainforest, before descending to an inspiring amphitheatre of rock with the dramatic Gap Creek Falls. Spend some time looking around the base of the falls, particularly behind the falls on the narrow unfenced ledge. This walk is particularly good on a hot day, where the cooling spray off the waterfall is appreciated. Let us begin by acknowledging the Awabakal 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	
Quality of track	Formed track, with some branches and other obstacles (3/6)
Gradient	Short steep hills (3/6)
Signage	Directional signs along the way (3/6)
Infrastructure	Limited facilities, not all cliffs are fenced (3/6)
Experience Required	Some bushwalking experience recommended (3/6)
Weather	Weather generally has little impact on safety (1/6)

Getting to the start: From Pacific Motorway, M1

- Turn on to Freemans Drive Exit then drive for 510 m
- Keep right and drive for another 45 m
- Turn right onto Freemans Drive and drive for another 4.6 km
- Turn right onto Mount Faulk Road and drive for another 4.9 km
- Keep left onto Bangalow Road and drive for another 2.8 km
- Turn slight right onto Bangalow Road and drive for another 1.8 km

Before you start any journey ensure you;

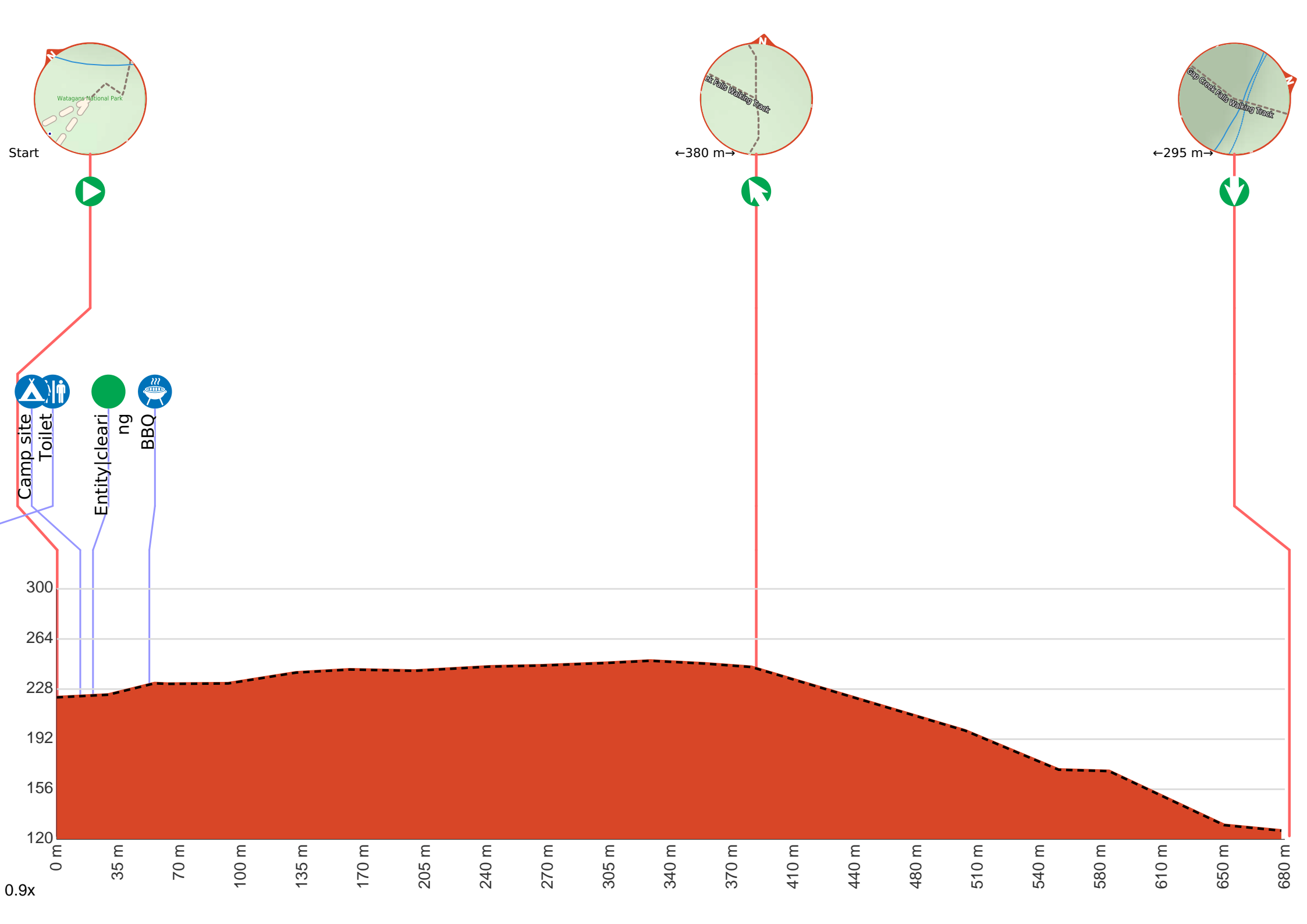
- Tell someone you trust where you are going and what to do if you are late returning
- Have adequate equipment, supplies, skills & knowledge to undertake this journey safely
- Consider weather forecasts, park/track closures & fire dangers
- Can respond to emergencies & call for help at any point
- Are 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 Gap Creek picnic area, this walk follows the track gently uphill (up steps initially), passing the 'Gap Creek Forest Walk' sign (on your left). The track is followed through moist rainforest for about 400m, until coming to a three-way intersection, with a large dead tree and a 'Gap Creek Fall/Gap Creek Forest Walk' sign.



At the intersection of Bangalow Road & Gap Creek Falls Walking Track **Start** heading along *Gap Creek Falls Walking Track* (a walking track).



There is a toilet (about 105 m back from the start).



Gap Creek Campground (about 15 m back from the start).

W: www.nationalparks.nsw.gov.au

This is a free campsite.



Gap Creek picnic area (about 9 m back from the start).



The Gap Creek picnic area is located at the end of Bangalow Road within the Watagans National Park. The picnic area has a barbeque and sheltered picnic tables.



After another 30 m pass the BBQ (5 m on your right).

Start of an optional side trip: An optional side trip to End of Forest Walk.



To start this optional side trip continue straight here. from the Gap Creek Falls Walking Track **Start** (a walking track).



After another 500 m come to the end.



About 50 m past the end is "Gap Creek Rainforest rest area".



The Gap Creek rainforest rest area is within the Watagans National Park and is a secret hideaway surrounded by dense rainforest. This rest area beside Gap Creek has large boulders, pools and cascades to explore, along with protected yabbies to find in the creek. There is also one back-supported timber chair to sit in and listen to the birds. This section of rainforest is a great spot to keep cool in on a hot summer day.

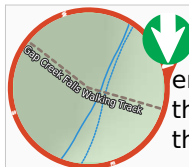


Turn around and retrace your steps back the 500 m to the main route.

Back at the main route ERROR >360 and follow on from the 380 m waypoint.



After another 335 m (from the Gap Creek Falls Walking Track) **veer left**, to head along Gap Creek Falls Walking Track.



Continue another 295 m to find the end. Then turn around here and retrace the main route for 680 m to get back to the start.



About 35 m past the end is "Gap Creek waterfall".



The Gap Creek waterfall, within the Watagans National Park, is arguably the best waterfall in the Hunter region. The Gap Creek waterfall used to be known as Brownie Falls, named after a pioneer saw-milling family in the Martinsville valley. The falls consists of a large amphitheatre of rock surrounded by rainforest. It is possible to walk across the drainage from the falls and then along an unfenced ledge to get behind the falling water of the waterfall. The waterfall is most spectacular after heavy rains, however it is wise to let the roads dry out before using them. A great spot to sit and relax at any time of the year.