



Larapinta Trail, S12: Mount Sonder

(Arrernte Country)

5 h to 7 h

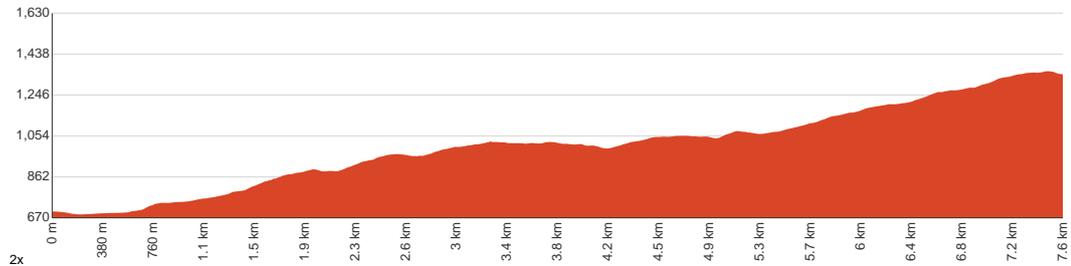
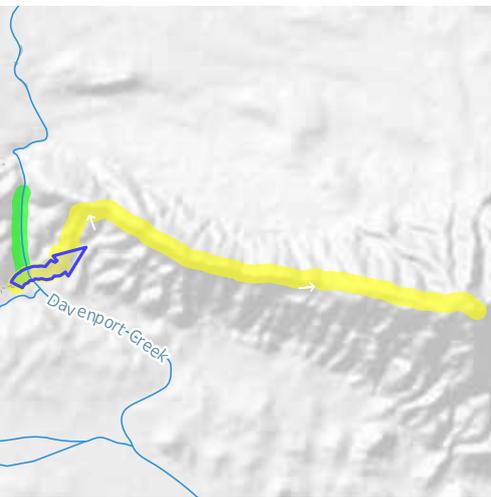
15.1 km
Return

↑ 909 m
↓ 909 m

4
Hard track

Starting from Redbank Gorge Carpark, Mount Zeil, this walk takes you to Mount Sonder and back via the Larapinta Trail (Section 12), optionally visiting Redbank Gorge along the way. This is the twelfth and final section of the 223km long Larapinta Trail. A worthy finish for an epic hike, Mount Sonder offers you some of the best views in the whole Macdonnell Range. And you don't even need to get to the top to get these looks as the track has 360-degree views throughout. The permanent waterhole in the gorge is worth a visit, especially on a warmer day as the waters of Davenport Creek stay cool no matter how hot it is outside. The campsite near the trailhead has toilets and water, requiring a fee of \$5 per person. The Redbank Gorge Carpark is accessible with a conventional vehicle, but a high clearance is recommended nonetheless. Wear a hat and sunscreen as there's almost no shade along the track. Let us begin by acknowledging the Arrernte people, Traditional Custodians of the land on which we travel today, and pay our respects to their Elders past and present.

Full journey: [Larapinta Trail](#)



Class 4 of 6 Rough track, where fallen trees and other obstacles are likely	
Quality of track	Formed track, with some branches and other obstacles (3/6)
Gradient	Very steep (4/6)
Signage	Directional signs along the way (3/6)
Infrastructure	Limited facilities, not all cliffs are fenced (3/6)
Experience Required	Moderate level of bushwalking experience recommended (4/6)
Weather	Weather generally has little impact on safety (2/6)

Getting to the start: From Telegraph Terrace, 87

- Turn on to 6 then drive for 25 m
- Continue onto Larapinta Drive, 6 and drive for another 850 m
- At roundabout, take exit 2 onto Larapinta Drive, 6 and drive for another 880 m
- At roundabout, take exit 1 onto Larapinta Drive, 6 and drive for another 44.3 km
- Turn right onto Namatjira Drive, 2 and drive for another 104.9 km
- Turn right and drive for another 3.6 km
- Turn left and drive for another 1.1 km

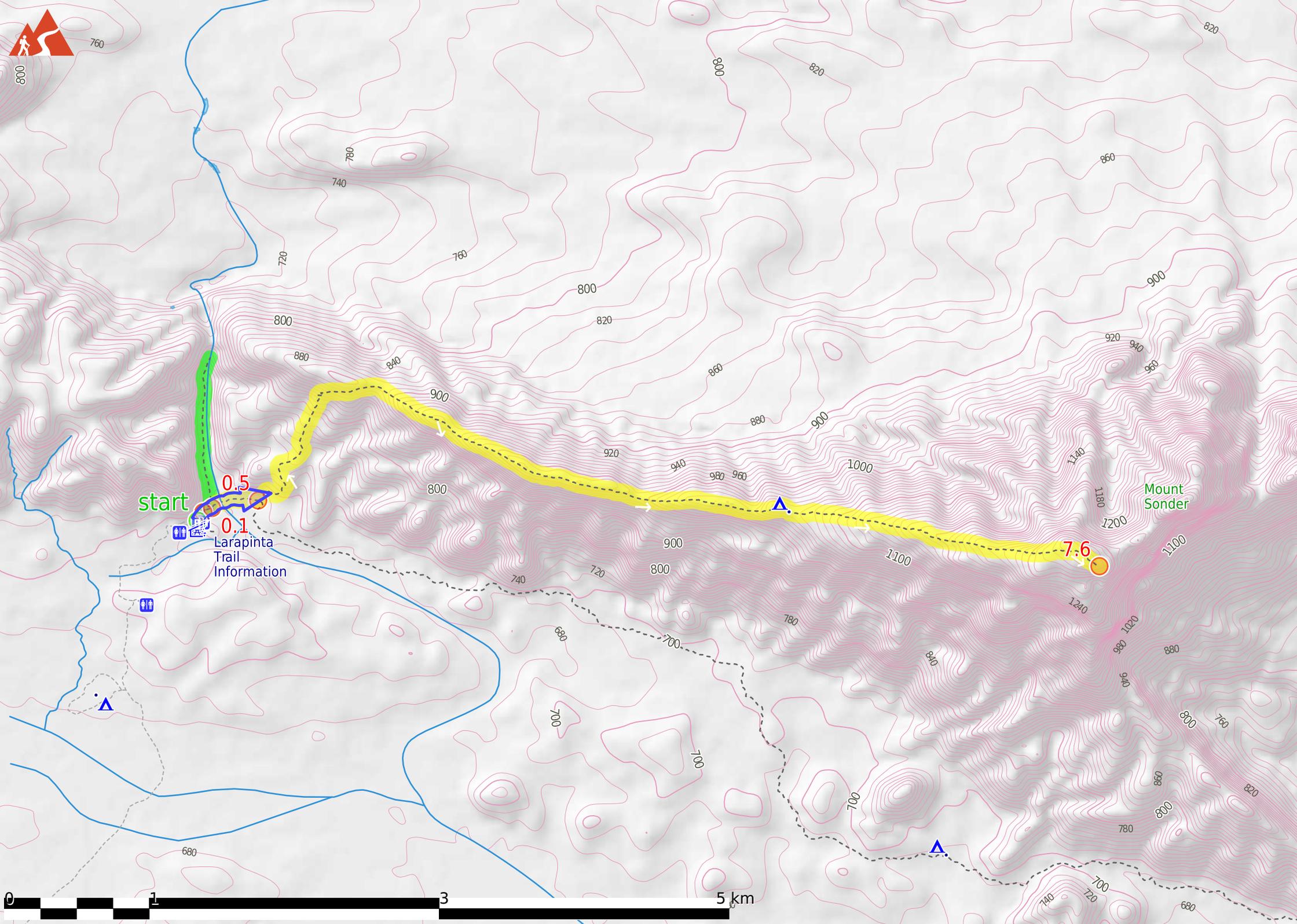
Before you start any journey ensure you;

- 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.

Share
Bushwalk.com/ij/WTZHKS





start

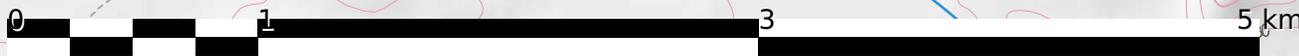
0.5

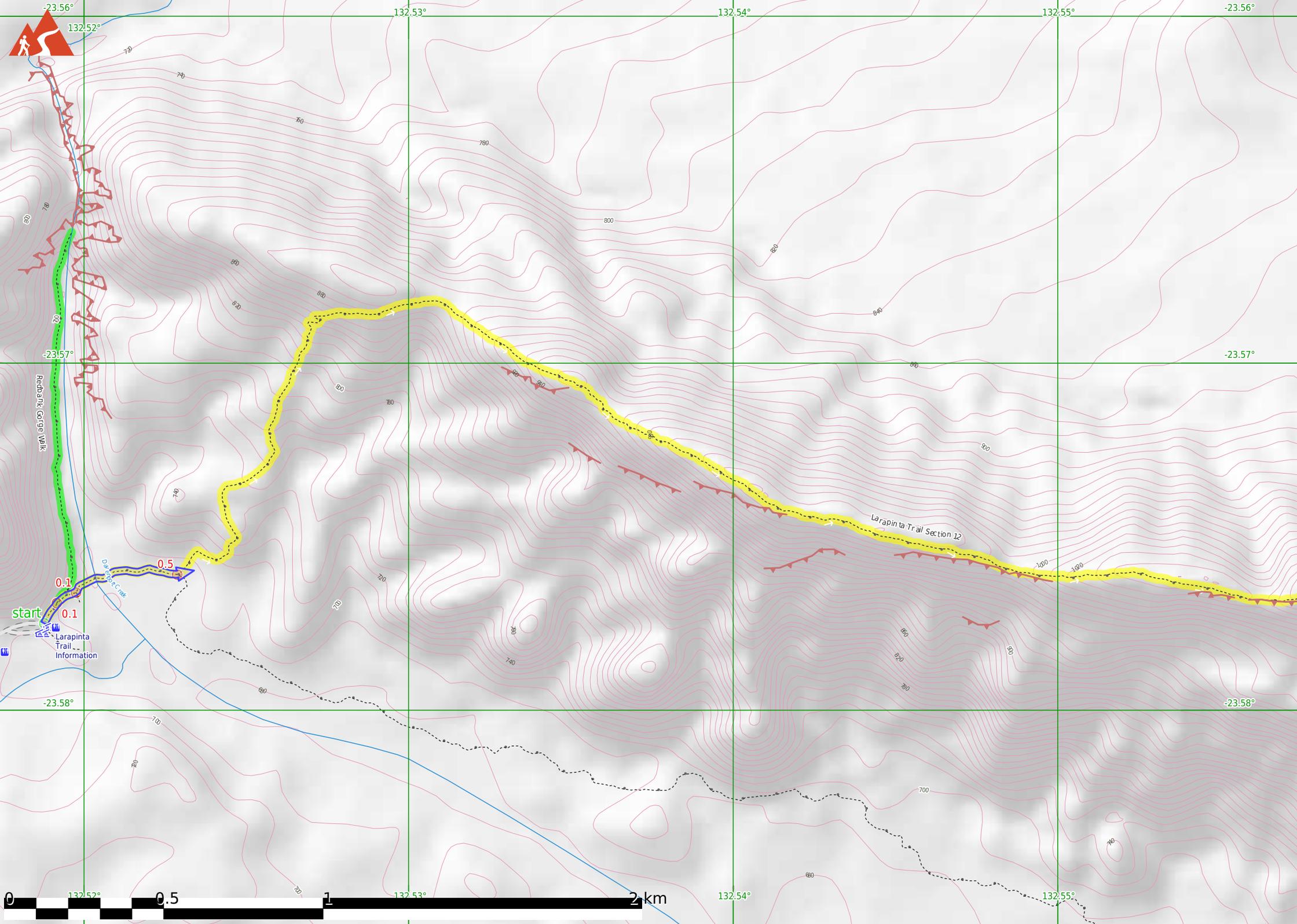
0.1

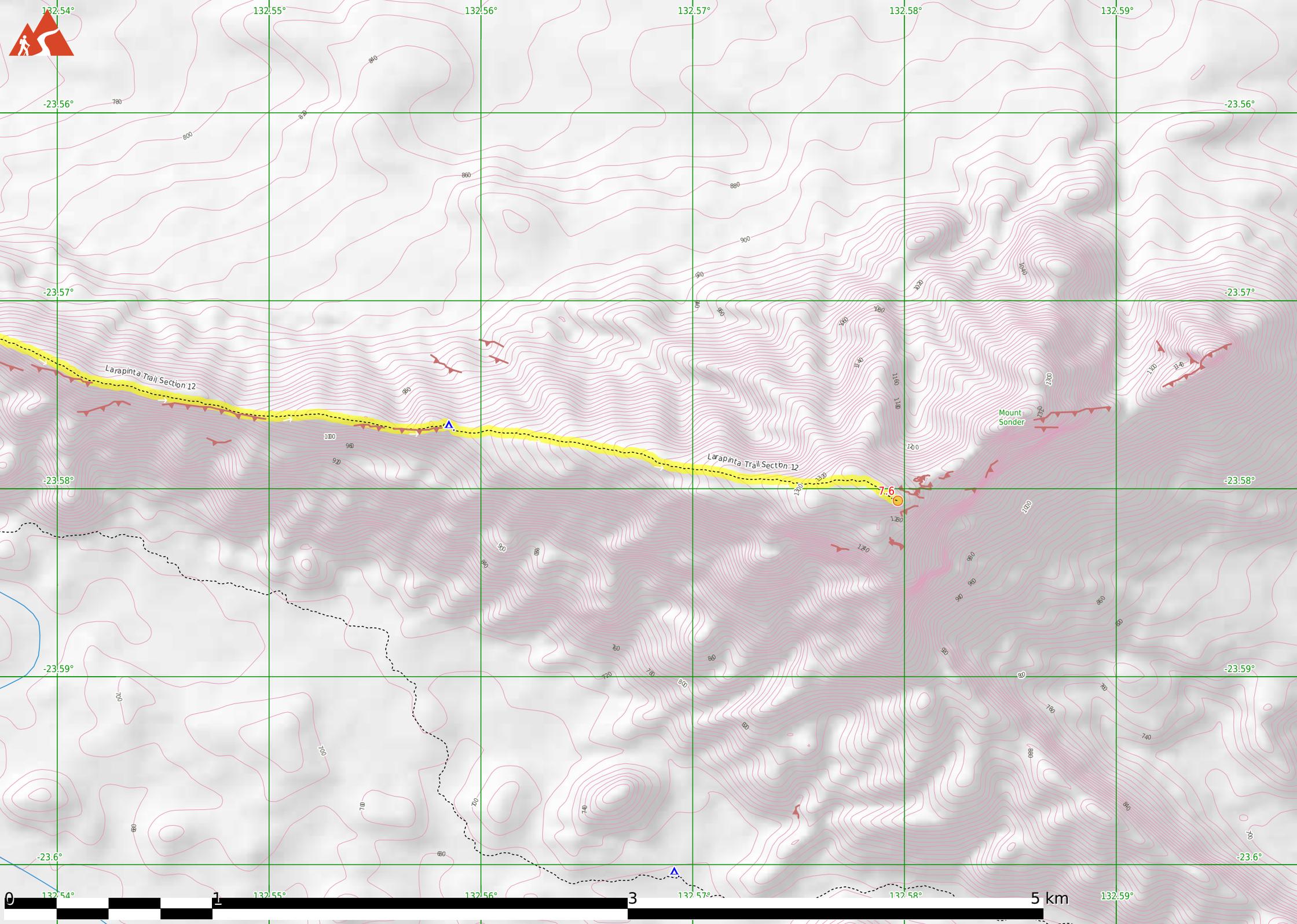
Larapinta
Trail
Information

Mount
Sonder

7.6







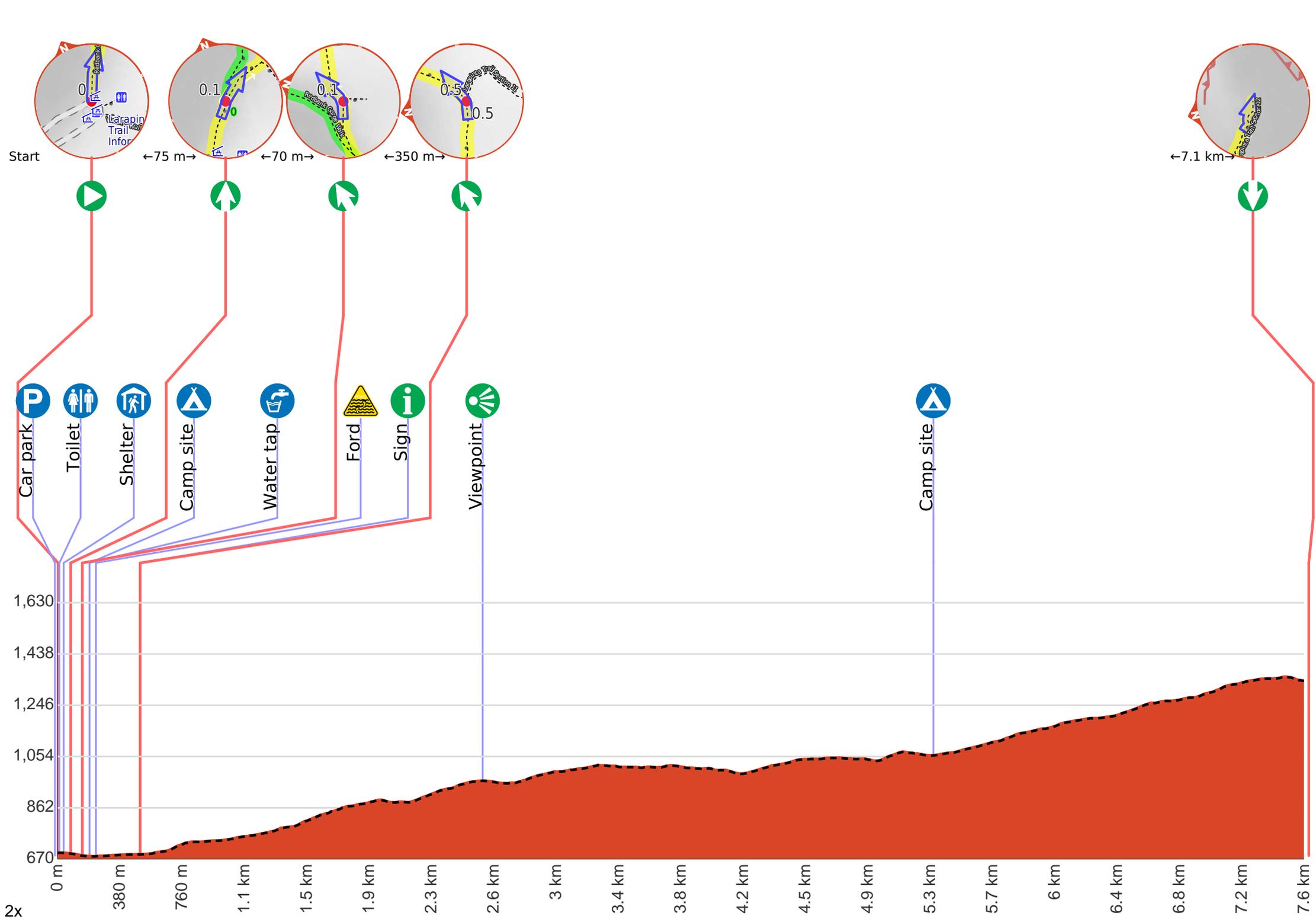
Larapinta Trail Section 12

Larapinta Trail Section 12

Mount Sander

7.6





Getting started: From Redbank Gorge Carpark, head towards the sheltered trailhead that is marked by a brown "Redbank Gorge | 2 km" sign along the dirt path. Pass through the said shelter and join the dirt walking track, moving directly away from the car park. Keep right when you come to the fork (following the signage for Larapinta Trail Section 11 and 12) to continue along Larapinta Trail, S12: Mount Sonder.



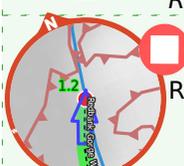
Start heading along *Larapinta Trail Section 11 to 12*.

- Redbank Gorge (about 20 m back from the start).
- Find the toilet at the start.
- Find the shelter at the start.

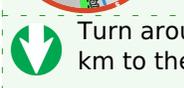
Start of an optional side trip: This side trip takes you to the permanent waterhole in Redbank Gorge, where you can swim in the cool waters of Davenport Creek and spot some wildlife as well. Expect 35-40 minutes of moving time (out&back) added to your hike.



To start this optional side trip continue straight here. at the intersection of Redbank Gorge Walk & Larapinta Trail Section 11-12 **Start** heading along *Redbank Gorge Walk* (a walking track).

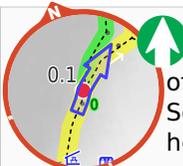


Continue another 1.2 km to find Redbank Gorge at the end.



Turn around and retrace your steps back the 1.2 km to the main route.

Back at the main route turn sharp left and follow on from the 75 m waypoint.



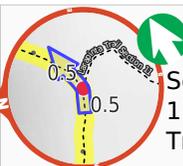
After another 40 m (at the intersection of Redbank Gorge Walk & Larapinta Trail Section 11-12) **continue straight**, to head along Larapinta Trail Section 11-12.

- After another 115 m come to the "Larapinta Trail Camping" (35 m on your right).
- Then pass the "Larapinta Trail Water" (35 m on your right).



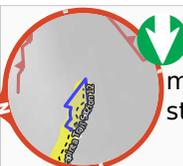
Veer left, to head along Larapinta Trail Section 11-12.

- After another 80 m cross the ford.
- After another 270 m pass the sign.



At the intersection of Larapinta Trail Section 11 & Larapinta Trail Section 11-12 **veer left**, to head along Larapinta Trail Section 12.

- After another 2.1 km come to the "Mount Sonder Lookout" (on your right).
- After another 2.7 km come to the camp site (on your right).
- After another 2.3 km come to a sign.



Turn around here and retrace the main route for 7.6 km to get back to the start.