## Forest Road to Yarramalong

### 3 hrs 30 mins 8.1 km One way

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# Hard track

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This section of the Great North Walk explores the rural area of Kulnura as you walk along the roads before heading along the historic Bumble Hill Dray track. This track leads you along the edge of ridge mostly through an open dry eucalypt forests and occasionally through moist ferny gullies as well as leading you alongside the base of a tall rock wall. Bumble Hill Dray track was cut during the mid 1800's to allow teams of bullocks to haul felled cedar to Mangrove Creek, where a barge would take it to Sydney. The oxen are now long gone, but this is a great way to lead into the small Yarramlong township. 341m<sup>-</sup>

35m

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#### Are you ready to have fun?

Please ensure you and your group are well prepared and equipped for all possible hazards and delays. Check park closures, weather information and Fire Danger Rating before setting out. Optional side trips and alternate routes noted are not included in this walks overall grade, length or time estimate. Please allow extra time for resting and exploring areas of interest. The authors, staff and owners of wildwalks take care in preparing this information but will not accept responsibility for any inconvenience, loss or injury you may experience. Please take care, have fun - Happy Walking. Getting there You can get to Int of Forest and Tooheys Rds (gps: -33.2509, 151.2696) by car or bus. Car: There is free parking available. Bus: A bus School service runs along Yarramalong Rd from Wyong, Since this is a school bus service it only heads into Yarramalong twice a day. Phone Busway on (02) 4392 6666 to organise a pick up (they are happy to take passengers. Traveling by car is the only practical way to get back from Yarramalong Track Head (gps: -33.2241, 151.2785). Car: There is free parking available.

Find up to date and more information inlcuding; travel directions, weather, park closures and walker feedback at <u>http://wild.tl/frty</u>

#### 0 | Int of Forest and Tooheys Rds

(2.5 km 47 mins) From the intersection, this walk follows the GNW arrow post, gently downhill along the sealed Forest Rd. The road gently meanders past a number of rural properties for about 800m to pass under a set of high tension power lines. After passing under the power lines, the road leads gently down for about 500m to pass a well armed letter box (on your left), then about 250m later, the walk comes to a T-intersection with 'Greta Rd' (and 'Bumble Hill Rd'). Here the walk turns left, following the sealed 'Greta Rd' uphill passing among the rural properties for about 400m to pass a small memorial plaque 'In Memory of Darren Smith Olympic Cyclist' (on your left). Just shy of 500m later, the road leads over a small rise to pass under some more high tension power lines and come to an intersection with a dirt trail (on your right), marked with a 'Great North Walk' sign.

#### 2.53 | Int of Greta Road and power line service trail

(670 m 15 mins) Turn right: From the intersection, this walk follows the 'Great North Walk' sign over the fence using the stile. Here the walk follows a wide trail around the large tower, then follows the narrower track straight down the hill. The track crosses a small gully then leads up to follow a trail around the next tall tower. Here a GNW arrow post leads left, away from the trail and steeply downhill across another valley. The track then leads up to to ther other side of a third tower, to find an intersection marked with another GNW track on the other side of the tower.

#### 3.2 | Bumble Hill Dray track tower

(4.6 km 2 hrs) Veer right: From the intersection at the base of the tower, this walk follows the GNW arrow post steeply downhill for a short distance, then turns right and follow another GNW arrow post into the bush. About 50m after leaving the clearing, this walk crosses a small timber bridge and continues generally downhill for about 200m before the track bends right (away from the view of the power lines). About 300m further down this track, this walk crosses a small intermittent creek. Then over the next 500m, the track descends into the moist forest to the base of a large cliff face (up to your right), then crosses a section of timber boardwalk. Over the next 100m, the track crosses another handful of sections of boardwalk before the track leads along the side of the hill for a

further 500m, out of the moist forest, passing some large boulders and leading down to an intersection with a wider trail. Here the walk veers right, following the GNW arrow post along the trail and through the casuarina forest for about 500m, then crosses a gully with a small intermittent creek. The old trail leads generally down through the tall forest for another 1.3km then passes under a set of power lines. Here the walk continues along the side of the valley, following an old trail through the tall eucalypt forest for about 500m to pass through a usually closed gate (staying left at the Yintersection, just before the gate). The trail now narrows to a track that leads along side the road (which is up to your right), following a fence for about 180m before turning right and heading steeply up to the safety barrier beside the road. Turning left, this walk now steps over a small stile and follows behind the barrier (with the road on your right) for a short distance before veering left and down the steep rocky track towards the house. The track follows the fence (near the house) below the embankment for about 180m before leading back up to the road. Here the walk follows the road a short distance to come to the end of the safety barrier, beside Bumble Hill Road.

#### 7.84 | Int of GNW and Bumble Hill Road

(310 m 6 mins) Veer left: From the intersection, this walk follows GNW arrow post gently downhill along the sealed Bumble Hill Rd. The road soon leads past the '60' speed limit sign, then the road bends left and leads down for another 120m to a T-intersection with Yarramalong Rd, marked with a large 'Yarramalong Trackhead' sign (with Yarramalong Store just to your right).

#### 8.15 | Yarramalong Store

Yarramalong Store is good place to have lunch or pick up the basic food supplies. The store serves hot food including burgers, chips, pies etc as well as cold drinks. The store is open 7am to 7pm, 7 days a week. There is a pay phone outside and a tap to refill water, and the store has its own fuel pump. Phone on (02)4356 1222. The address is 1625 Yarramalong Rd, Yarramalong NSW 2259. I always encourage people to use local stores like this on track, but since it is a small store it is worth phoning ahead to see what they have what you want in stock. It is a small store so choice is limited.

#### 8.15 | Yarramalong Manor

Yarramalong Manor offers accommodation and a restaurant in the picturesque Yarramalong Valley. The restaurant is open to the public for breakfast & lunch (10am weekdays and 9am weekends) daily, and dinner Friday and Saturday. Yarramalong Manor has 6 guest rooms, each with ensuite, TV, fridge and tea & coffee making facilities. Tariffs for bed and breakfast start at \$95 - single, \$75/person - twin share. ph:(02) 4356 1066. More info.

