

Glenbrook

Glenbrook is situated on the Great Western Highway and is a tourist hub for the lower Blue Mountains, with the Blue Mountains Visitor Information Centre located here. Glenbrook has quite a bustling little town centre with a number of cafes, bakeries and shops to explore. Prior to 1879, Glenbrook had changed its name numerous times, known at various times as Watertank, Wascoe Siding and Brookdale before being given its current name by Sir John Jamieson. Glenbrook is a gateway into the Blue Mountains National Park and is also the end point of the Woodford-Glenbrook mountain bike trail, along the Oaks Fire Trail. More info.

Glenbrook Creek Sandbar

The sandbar is an unofficially-named beach on the banks of Glenbrook Creek. The beach has a fantastic white colour and some height above the water - a great spot for to camp or enjoy lunch.

Blue Pool

Blue Pool, Blue Mountains National Park, is named after the blue colour of the water. This appearance is caused by clay particles suspended in the water, which refract the light. This part of Glenbrook Creek is a popular swimming hole, but it is not patrolled.

Glenbrook causeway

Glenbrook causeway is the only way for vehicles to cross Glenbrook Creek. It is a concrete road, with a raised gutter for pedestrians to cross the creek. The causeway is subject to flooding. Glenbrook causeway is a crossing point for many of the popular walks throughout the Glenbrook Valley area.

Red Hands Cave

Red Hands Cave, in the Glenbrook area of the Blue Mountains National Park, is found near the end of Red Hands Cave fire trail. The cave has quite a few hand stencils and prints of various colours (including red). The cave is well protected, with a perspex and steel cage. There are some information signs and some artifacts to help visitors learn more about the people who made these prints over 1600 years ago. In 1913, when searching for a lost child, this cave was found by Europeans and is now protected.

Before You walk

Bushwalking is fun and a wonderful way to enjoy our natural places. Sometimes things go bad, with a bit of planning you can increase your chance of having an ejoyable and safer walk. Before setting off on your walk check

- 1) Weather Forecast (BOM Central Tablelands District)
- 2) Fire Dangers (<u>Greater Sydney Region</u>)
- 3) Park Alerts (Blue Mountains National Park)
- 4) Research the walk to check your party has the skills, fitness and equipment required
- 5) Agree to stay as a group and not leave anyone to walk solo

Think before you TREK

The 'Think before you TREK' program developed by NSW Police & NPWS promotes the benefits of planning ahead for your bushwalking trip by using an easy to remember acronym:

Take adequate supplies of food, water, navigation and first aid equipment.

Register your planned route and tell friends and family when you expect to return.

Emergency beacon (PLB's) should be carried on walks with significant gaps in mobile coverage (check terrain profile).

Keep to your planned route and follow the map and walking trails.

Topo Maps

The maps provided on wildwalks are helpful, but there are times where you may need maps covering a broader area. Maps that cover this walk include;

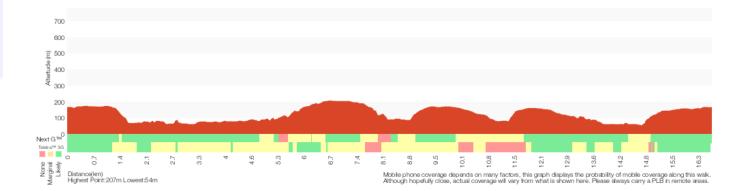
1:25 000 Map Series:90303N PENRITH **1:100 000 Map Series**:9030 PENRITH

Grade

This walk has been graded using the AS 2156.1-2001. The overall grade of the walk is dertermined by the highest classification along the whole track.

5	Grade 5/6 Experienced only				
Length	16.6 km Circuit				
Time	2 Days				
Quality of track	Rough track, where fallen trees and other obstacles are likely (4/6)				
Signs	No directional signs (5/6)				
Experience Required	Moderate level of bushwalking experience recommended (4/6)				
Weather	Storms may impact on navigation and safety (3/6)				
Infrastructure	No facilities provided (5/6)				

* This walk passes through very remote areas and sections have no visible track. At least one person in your group should have training and experience in off track walking and navigation. Even with these notes and a GPS these extra skills and equipment are required.



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. Experainced walkers only: This walk passes through very remote areas and sections have no visible track. At least one person in your group should have training and experience in off track walking and navigation. Even with these notes and a GPS these extra skills and equipment are required.

Getting there You can get to Glenbrook Station (gps: -33.7689, 150.6213) by car, train or bus. Car: There is free parking available.

This is a circuit, so you will finish back at the start.

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

0 | Glenbrook

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0 | Glenbrook Station

(580 m 10 mins) From the top of Glenbrook Station, this walk turns left along Burfitt Pde (keeping the train line to the left of the footpath). The walk turns left over the bridge on Cowdery St and then the first right after the bridge, Station St. The walk continues to the bottom of Station St where there is a gate.

0.58 | End of Station St

(650 m 12 mins) Veer left: From the intersection, the walk follows the trail along the back of the houses, keeping them on the left. The walk follows the straightest management trail, passing numerous side trails (that head off the ridge). The trail then leads over a number of water bars as the relatively straight trail meets the bush, where a defined single track continues down the hill.

1.23 | Station St mngt trail

(430 m 17 mins) Turn left: From the intersection, the walk heads follows the bush track, downhill. The track steeply winds down over rock platforms and under overhangs, using a number of slots and cracks to descend the hill. The track continues winding steeply down the hill, coming to be near a sandy beach where the track climbs down a slot in the rock to reach the sand. The track then continues out across the sand to the turning point in the creek.

1.66 | Glenbrook Creek Sandbar

The sandbar is an unofficially-named beach on the banks of Glenbrook Creek. The beach has a fantastic white colour and some height above the water - a great spot for to camp or enjoy lunch.

1.66 | Glenbrook Creek Beach

(1 km 26 mins) Turn left: From the beach, the walk keeps the water on the right as it heads to the end of the beach. The walk then crosses the creek over

the rock platform and winds along the bank for quite some time. The track passes a rock overhang as it continues to undulate and wind above the creek (which is on the left). Tending right at a wider area of the creek (forming a pool), the track then turns left, crossing the again-narrow creek at a rocky section and leading up to an intersection, below a cliff line.

2.69 | Optional sidetrip to Blue Pool

(70 m 1 mins) Turn left: From the intersection, the walk keeps the water to the left as the track meanders below the cliffs for a very short time, to the bank of Blue Pool. At the end of this side trip, retrace your steps back to the main walk then Continue straight.

2.69 | Blue Pool

Blue Pool, Blue Mountains National Park, is named after the blue colour of the water. This appearance is caused by clay particles suspended in the water, which refract the light. This part of Glenbrook Creek is a popular swimming hole, but it is not patrolled.

2.69 | Int. Blue Pool and Glenbrook Gorge trks

(210 m 7 mins) Turn right: From the intersection, the walk heads alongside the creek (keeping the creek to the right). The track soon turns left up many steps, and comes to an un-signposted intersection below the road.

Turn right: From the intersection, the walk heads across the hillside tending left to a 'Blue Pool' sign at a corner in a road.

2.9 | Int. Bruce Rd and Bruce Rd access trk

(230 m 5 mins) Veer right: From the intersection, the walk heads down the road to the start of the causeway, with the fenced clearing to the left of the road.

3.13 | Glenbrook causeway

Glenbrook causeway is the only way for vehicles to cross Glenbrook Creek. It is a concrete road, with a raised gutter for pedestrians to cross the creek. The causeway is subject to flooding. Glenbrook causeway is a crossing point for many of the popular walks throughout the Glenbrook Valley area.

3.13 | Eastern side of Causeway

 $(10\ m)$ Veer right: From the paved area side of the causeway, the walk crosses the creek via the causeway, then heads to the area beneath the 'Camp Fire Creek Track' sign. The causeway may be impassable after rain.

3.15 | Campfire Creek sign side of Causeway

(3.1 km 1 hr 12 mins) Turn right: From the causeway, the walk follows the 'Camp Fire Creek Track' sign along the water's edge to the signposts for 'Red Hands Cave' and 'Car park'.

Continue straight: From the intersection, the walk follows the 'Red Hands Cave' sign, keeping the creek to the right. The track winds and undulates, soon coming to a rock platform which crosses a creek (with the gully on the left). Here, the walk continues along the lower track, not heading up the rock steps. The track continues along the hillside and comes to a sign titled 'Neighbours'.

Continue straight: From the intersection, the walk heads across the small bridge and up the track. The walk soon passes over another small wooden bridge and then continues through the bush, with the creek on the right. Winding for a short time, the track comes to an un-signposted intersection. Turn left: From the intersection, the walk heads up the hill, winding above

Turn left: From the intersection, the walk heads up the hill, winding above the creek (on the right). The track follows the hillside for quite some time, passing near the creek in places, before coming to a 'Glenbrook Causeway' sign

Continue straight: From the intersection, the walk follows the 'Red Hands Cave' sign down across the creek. The track leads over a small rise across

another smaller creek, then follows the hillside for a short while, passing a bench seat and then a small log bridge. The track then starts tending left, heading up to a rocky outcrop where the walk arrives at the metal verandah of Red Hands Cave.

6.21 | Red Hands Cave

Red Hands Cave, in the Glenbrook area of the Blue Mountains National Park, is found near the end of Red Hands Cave fire trail. The cave has quite a few hand stencils and prints of various colours (including red). The cave is well protected, with a perspex and steel cage. There are some information signs and some artifacts to help visitors learn more about the people who made these prints over 1600 years ago. In 1913, when searching for a lost child, this cave was found by Europeans and is now protected.

6.21 | Red Hands Cave

(500 m 12 mins) Continue straight: From Red Hands Cave, the walk heads up the stairs, winding to be above Red Hands Cave. The track then continues across the rocky surface, slowly climbing through the bush and leading away from the rock outcrop. The track winds through a few rocky outcrops, tending right, before coming to a car park and 'Red Hands Cave' sign (pointing back to the cave).

6.71 | Red Hands Cave Picnic Area

Red Hands Cave Picnic Area is found at the end of the Red Hands Cave Fire Trail in the Glenbrook area of the Blue Mountains National Park. The small picnic area is next to the car park and has a couple of platforms (to act as both a table and seat) as well as a fire place and toilet. The toilet itself is wheelchair accessible, but access to the toilet is over moderately rough terrain. A good spot to rest when exploring Red Hands Cave.

6.71 | Red Hands Cave car park

(2.1 km 44 mins) Turn left: From Red Hands Cave car park, the walk follows the sign for the 'Link Track' past the bench and fireplace and into the bush. The track winds down the hill via many steps, winding for quite some time, then comes near a creek, which it loosely follows. The walk then crosses this creek to the signposts on the other side.

Turn left: From the creek intersection, the walk follows the 'Glenbrook Causeway' sign, keeping the water on the left. The track continues up to a rock overhang from where it heads down the hill, coming near the creek again. The track follows the creek to a junction with another creek. To the left is a large sandstone area and approximately 10m along the track is a sign explaining the grooves in the sandstone.

8.8 | Axe Grinding Grooves

These well-defined axe grinding groves are found on the sandstone bed of Camp Fire Creek. The grooves were formed by Aboriginal people when sharpening axes (or forming axe blanks). Rubbing the axe blanks would sharpen the stone into a more useful tool, and the process would also wear the sandstone, leaving these markings. These sites are typically found near water, as the water was added to make the stone more abrasive. Sites like this will fade in time due to erosion of the sandstone - please help them last as long as possible by not walking on, or close to the grooves. More info.

8.8 | Axe Grinding Grooves

(970 m 19 mins) Turn sharp right: From where the main track crosses the small side creek (just above the axe grinding site), this walk follows the rocky side creek south-east, upstream. After about 20m, the gully splits in two. This walk follows a narrow track on the spur between these two creeks. The track heads up the spur line and crosses a number of rocky outcrops. Near the top of the hill, the bush becomes quiet dense. The track then opens out on the wide Oaks cycleway.

Turn right: From the intersection, the walk follows the wide track south, gently down the hill as it bends to the left. The track then heads down the hill a bit more steeply, and crosses a gully before gently climbing the other side. Not far after the gully, the track comes to an un-signposted intersection with the Ironbark access track, on the left.

Turn left: From the intersection, the walk follows the narrower track east towards the road. The track opens up at the car park, and the walk crosses the road to the Ironbark picnic area.

9.76 | Ironbark Picnic Area

Ironbark Picnic Area is a basic picnic area on the Oaks Fire Trail, about 450m south of Euroka Rd. The picnic area has a low bench that acts as both a table and seat, and there is also a wood-fired barbecue provided. The picnic area is at the top of a gated management trail, which leads down to campsites at Euroka. There are plenty of car parking spaces provided and it is a fairly popular starting point for people cycling the Oaks Cycleway.

9.76 | The Ironbark Picnic Area

(1.3 km 25 mins) Continue straight: From the Ironbark Picnic Area, this walk follows the management trail south east by first stepping over the locked gate (pole). The wide trail then gently leads downhill. As the hill steepens a bit, the track becomes narrower. As the track approaches Euroka, there are a few sharp bends and the walk leads to the top of Nioka. The campsite comes into view, and the walk continues down the clear track, now with the camp ground on the right. The track then passes a toilet and continues down around the locked gate to the dirt road intersection just below Nioka campsite.

11.07 | Euroka Campground - Red Gum

The Red Gum campground offers 20 sites to choose from. There is tap water at the park entrance.

11.07 | Euroka Campground - Nioka

The Nioka campground offers 20 sites to choose from. There is tap water at the park entrance.

11.07 | Nioka Campsite

(240 m 5 mins) Veer left: From the dirt road just below the signposted 'Nioka' campsite, this walk follows the main road, initially keeping the campsite to the left. The walk heads across a small, bridged creek crossing and up to the intersection. At the intersection, there are some information signs about the area (on the right).

Continue straight: From the signposts, the walk follows the 'Daruk' arrow along the flat dirt road, keeping the hill up to the left. After passing the garbage bins, the trail crosses a small creek and comes to an intersection with a bush track on the left, just before the signposted 'Darug' campsite.

11.31 | Euroka Campground - Darug

The Darug (sometimes labeled Daruk) campsite is found the Euroka Clearing, in the Glenbrook region of the Blue Mountains National Park. There are about 20 camping spaces to choose from in this area. Tap water is available at the park entrance. The campsite has a wheelchair-accessible toilet (access over grassy terrain) and a few metal fireplaces. The campsite is surrounded by large gum trees and is right at the base of a steep hill to the north.

11.31 | End of day 1

This is the planned overnight stay for the end of day 1, happy camping.

11.31 | Top of Darug campsite car park

(2.3 km 51 mins) Turn left: From between the small creek crossing and the 'Darug' campsite, the walk follows the bush track up the hill, initially keeping Darug to the right. There are two tracks at time of writing, nearly parallel and heading to the same place. The track becomes steep and works its way up the steep rocky hill. At the top of this climb, the walk follows the track to the right and then the clear track meanders through the scrub. The track soon comes to an intersection with the signposted 'Portal waterhole' track (which heads off to the right).

Continue straight: From the intersection, the walk heads north, following neither of the arrows on the sign. The track soon comes to Mount Portal Trail, just next to the intersection with Euroka Road.

Veer right: From the intersection, the walk follows the 'The Causeway' sign, along the bush track. The track tends right into the low grassy bush. As the track continues down the hill, the grass gives way to wattle bush covering the gully. The track leads down many stairs then crosses a creek or two before winding along the hillside. The track then continues down into the gully to pass a fading track, on the left, then winds through to a hairpin corner on the road, marked by a 'Euroka Track' sign (pointing back the way you came).

13.62 | Int. Euroka Trk and The Oaks Fire Trail

(230 m 5 mins) Veer right: From the intersection, the walk heads down the steep road to the causeway.

Veer right: From the southern side of the causeway, the walk heads across the causeway to the road, next to the fenced, paved area. The causeway may be impassable after rain.

13.85 | Eastern side of Causeway

(320 m 6 mins) Turn right: From the causeway, the walk heads through the blocked-off paved area, keeping the water on the right. The walk heads alongside the creek (the track is not very clear at this point) but winds around and over the large rocks beside the main creek (This creek does become impassable after heavy or prolonged rain). The soon the creek widens and turns into a large pool, where the track leads around the rocky outcrop to a metal staircase, above Jellybean Pool.

14.17 | Jellybean Pool

Jellybean Pool is a large pool in Glenbrook Creek, just south of the weir. The pool has a few sandy beaches, rock platforms and is surrounded by cliffs. Jumping and diving is not a good idea, and is not permitted. This is a popular spot for locals to swim. Swimming can be dangerous - the creek is especially dangerous after rain. Check with rangers before heading in.

14.17 | Jelly Bean Pool

(600 m 14 mins) Continue straight: From the metal staircase at Jelly Bean Pools, the walk keeps the water on the right as it winds along the shore, downstream. The track meanders and undulates above the creek as it heads downstream to come to an intersection just before a small foot bridge.

14.77 | Glenbrook Gorge

Glenbrook Gorge is a deep cut in the sandstone formed by Glenbrook Creek, just before it flows into the Nepean River. The spectacular gorge, the tall cliffs and the creek make for a great place to cool down in summer. The gorge can be very dangerous after rain, check with the rangers before entering.

14.77 | Int. Gorge Walking and Jelly Bean Pool Trk

(560 m 18 mins) Veer left: From the intersection, the walk heads up the hill keeping the gorge on the left. The track has many stairs which lead it to the road (just after passing the 'Glenbrook Gorge walking track' sign). The walk

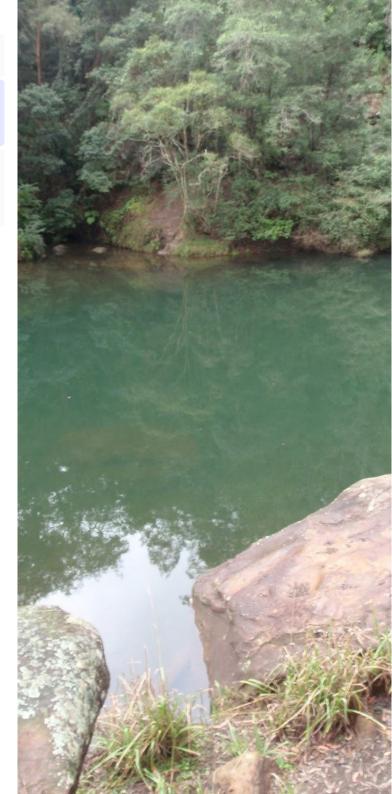
continues up the road, passing a small track (on the left) before coming to the Glenbrook Information Centre car park (just inside the National Park on Bruce Road).

15.33 | NPWS Glenbrook Information Centre

The NPWS information centre and car park are found just before the 'toll both' on Bruce Road. You will find tap water, toilets, garbage bins and information signs about the region. A great spot to chat to staff and get updates on the conditions in the park.

15.33 | Glenbrook Information Centre car park

(1.3 km 23 mins) Continue straight: From the car park, the walk joins the road and heads up the hill. The walk continues along the road, Bruce Rd, over a bridge and winds for some time. The walk follows the footpath on the left of the road, continuing as Bruce Rd becomes Burfitt Pde. The walk passes Euroka Rd on the right and soon comes to Glenbrook Station on the left.





Summary navigation sheet for the Glenbrook and Euroka Circuit

	Summary navigation sneet for the Glenbrook and Euroka Circuit									
	From	Up/Dwi		Initial directions (Use full tracknotes and maps for more detail) WildWalks						
Start	Glenbrook Station -33.7689,150.6213 (GR Penrith, 797609)	16 -9	580 m 10 mins	From the top of Glenbrook Station, this walk turns left along Burfitt Pde (keeping the train line to the left of the footpath).						
0.58	End of Station St -33.7692,150.6161 (GR Penrith, 792609)	6 -16	650 m 12 mins	Veer left: From the intersection, the walk follows the trail along the back of the houses, keeping them on the left.						
1.23	Station St mngt trail -33.7731,150.6112 (GR Penrith, 788604)	7 -102	430 m 17 mins	Turn left: From the intersection, the walk heads follows the bush track, downhill.						
1.66	Glenbrook Creek Beach -33.7757,150.6094 (GR Penrith, 786601)	68 -72	1 km 26 mins	Turn left: From the beach, the walk keeps the water on the right as it heads to the end of the beach.						
2.69	Int. Blue Pool and Glenbrook Gorge trks -33.776,150.6182 (GR Penrith, 794601)	2 -2	70 m 1 mins	Optional sidetrip to Blue Pool. Turn left: From the intersection, the walk keeps the water to the left as the track meanders below the cliffs for a very short time, to the bank of Blue Pool.						
2.69	Int. Blue Pool and Glenbrook Gorge trks -33.776,150.6182 (GR Penrith, 794601)	24 -18	210 m 7 mins	Turn right: From the intersection, the walk heads alongside the creek (keeping the creek to the right).						
2.90	Int. Bruce Rd and Bruce Rd access trk -33.7771,150.6179 (GR Penrith, 794600)	5 -13	230 m 5 mins	Veer right: From the intersection, the walk heads down the road to the start of the causeway, with the fenced clearing to the left of the road.						
3.13	Eastern side of Causeway -33.779,150.6185 (GR Penrith, 795598)	1 0	10 m	Veer right: From the paved area side of the causeway, the walk crosses the creek via the causeway, then heads to the area beneath the 'Camp Fire Creek Track' sign.						
3.15	Campfire Creek sign side of Causeway -33.7791,150.6184 (GR Penrith, 795598)	208 -92	3.1 km 1 hr 12 mins	Turn right: From the causeway, the walk follows the 'Camp Fire Creek Track' sign along the water's edge to the signposts for 'Red Hands Cave' and 'Car park'.						
6.21	Red Hands Cave -33.7823,150.591 (GR Penrith, 769594)	41 -10	500 m 12 mins	Continue straight: From Red Hands Cave, the walk heads up the stairs, winding to be above Red Hands Cave.						
6.71	Red Hands Cave car park -33.7834,150.5903 (GR Penrith, 769593)	42 -161	2.1 km 44 mins	Turn left: From Red Hands Cave car park, the walk follows the sign for the 'Link Track' past the bench and fireplace and into the bush.						
8.80	Axe Grinding Grooves -33.7889,150.6028 (GR Penrith, 781587)	90 -6	970 m 19 mins	Turn sharp right: From where the main track crosses the small side creek (just above the axe grinding site), this walk follows the rocky side creek south-east, upstream.						
9.76	The Ironbark Picnic Area -33.7946,150.6089 (GR Penrith, 786580)	4 -94	1.3 km 25 mins	Continue straight: From the Ironbark Picnic Area, this walk follows the management trail south east by first stepping over the locked gate (pole).						
11.07	Nioka Campsite -33.7996,150.6163 (GR Penrith, 793575)	4 -4	240 m 5 mins	Veer left: From the dirt road just below the signposted 'Nioka' campsite, this walk follows the main road, initially keeping the campsite to the left.						
11.31	End of day 1 -33.7979,150.6178 (GR Penrith, 795577)	0	0 m	This is the planned overnight stay for the end of day 1, happy camping.						
11.31	Top of Darug campsite car park -33.7979,150.6178 (GR Penrith, 795577)	111 -103	2.3 km 51 mins	Turn left: From between the small creek crossing and the 'Darug' campsite, the walk follows the bush track up the hill, initially keeping Darug to the right.						
13.62	Int. Euroka Trk and The Oaks Fire Trail -33.781,150.6181 (GR Penrith, 795596)	0 -28	230 m 5 mins	Veer right: From the intersection, the walk heads down the steep road to the causeway.						
13.85	Eastern side of Causeway -33.779,150.6185 (GR Penrith, 795598)	5 -6	320 m 6 mins	Turn right: From the causeway, the walk heads through the blocked-off paved area, keeping the water on the right.						
14.17	Jelly Bean Pool -33.7816,150.6193 (GR Penrith, 796595)	32 -38	600 m 14 mins	Continue straight: From the metal staircase at Jelly Bean Pools, the walk keeps the water on the right as it winds along the shore, downstream.						

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km	From	Up/Dwn	Length	Initial directions (Use full tracknotes and maps for more detail)	WildWalks
14.77	Int. Gorge Walking and Jelly Bean Pool Trk -33.7805,150.6244 (GR Penrith, 800596)	91 -2	560 m 18 mins	Veer left: From the intersection, the walk heads up the hill keeping the gorge on the left.	
15.33	Glenbrook Information Centre car park -33.7782,150.6207 (GR Penrith, 797599)	35 -13	1.3 km 23 mins	Continue straight: From the car park, the walk joins the road and heads up the hill.	