


Cronulla to Botany Bay Discovery Centre



4 hrs 30 mins

Hard track

4

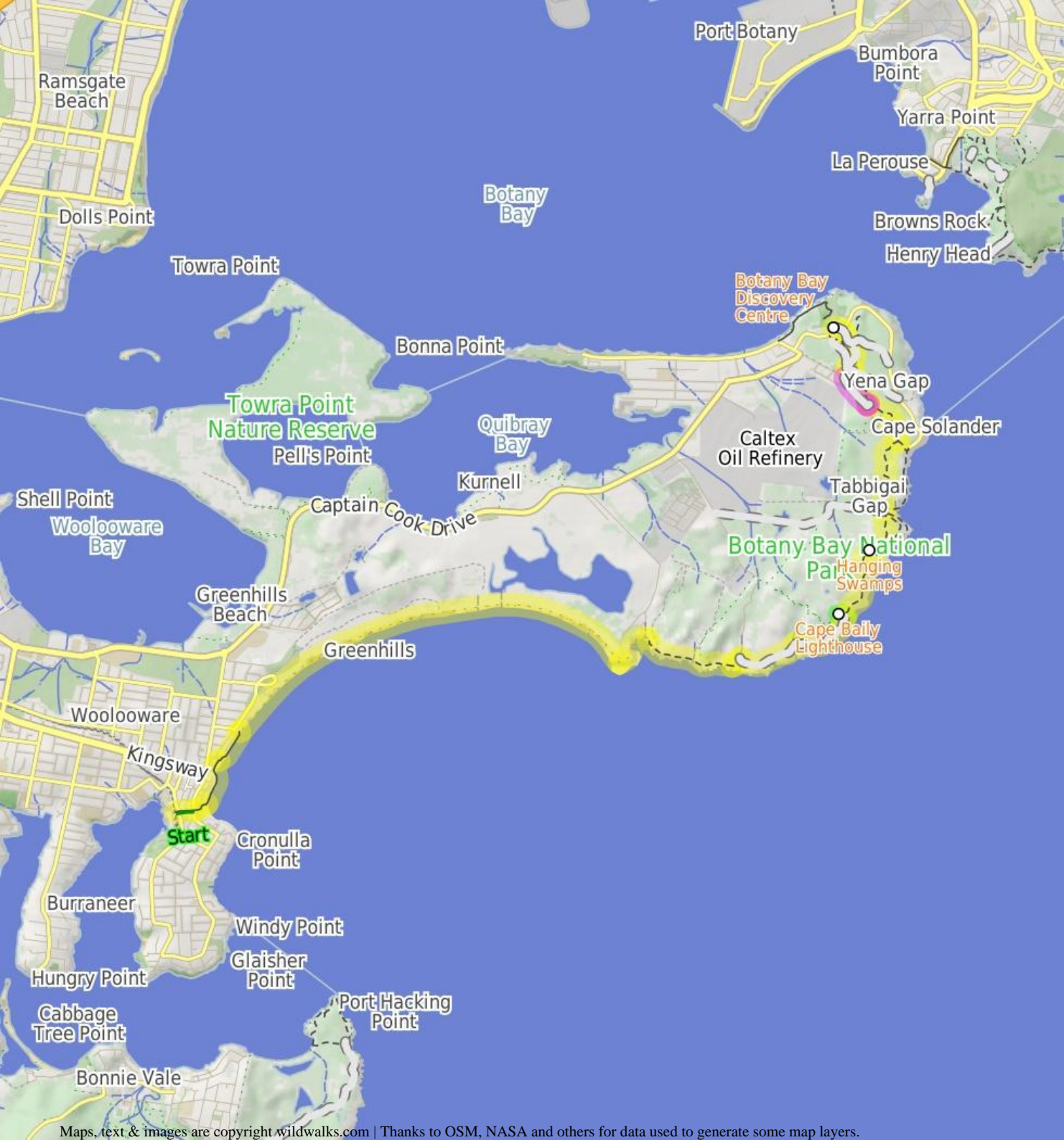
13.1 km One way  **185m**

This coastal walk starts from Cronulla station and follows the beaches around to the Boat Harbour Aquatic reserve, then continues along the Cape Bailey walk, winding through thick heath and between hanging swamps. The walk finishes at the Botany Bay Discovery Centre. There is an alternate exit to the end of Polo street for those wishing to exit outside the park. There is a good, optional side trip up to the Cape Bailey lighthouse.

0m

43m

Botany Bay National Park



Cape Baily Lighthouse

Established in 1950, the lighthouse was required so north-bound shipping could hug the coast and avoid the strong southerly currents further out to sea. This lighthouse can be found a stone's-throw from the Cape Baily coastal walk, about 1.5 kilometres north from the Joseph Banks Drive car park. [More info.](#)

Hanging Swamps

There are a number of hanging swamps that can be found along the Cape Bailey walk. They are home to a number of different plants and animals like reeds and frogs. Hanging swamps are formed on high ground when rainfall seeps out of surrounding hills and accumulates in a slight depression, over time forming a swamp. Interestingly, they are sometimes difficult to see from far away as the thick build up of reeds and other plant life often cover the water.

Botany Bay Discovery Centre

This visitors' centre can be found on Cape Solander Drive. It provides great information about Botany Bay's history and environment, plus an excellent souvenir shop, where some food and drink is also available.

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 enjoyable and safer walk. Before setting off on your walk check

- 1) Weather Forecast ([BOM Metropolitan District](#))
- 2) Fire Dangers ([Greater Sydney Region, unknown](#))
- 3) Park Alerts ([Botany Bay 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:

- T** Take adequate supplies of food, water, navigation and first aid equipment.
- R** Register your planned route and tell friends and family when you expect to return.
- E** Emergency beacon (PLB's) should be carried on walks with significant gaps in mobile coverage (check terrain profile).
- K** 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:91294N PORT HACKING

1:100 000 Map Series:9129 PORT HACKING

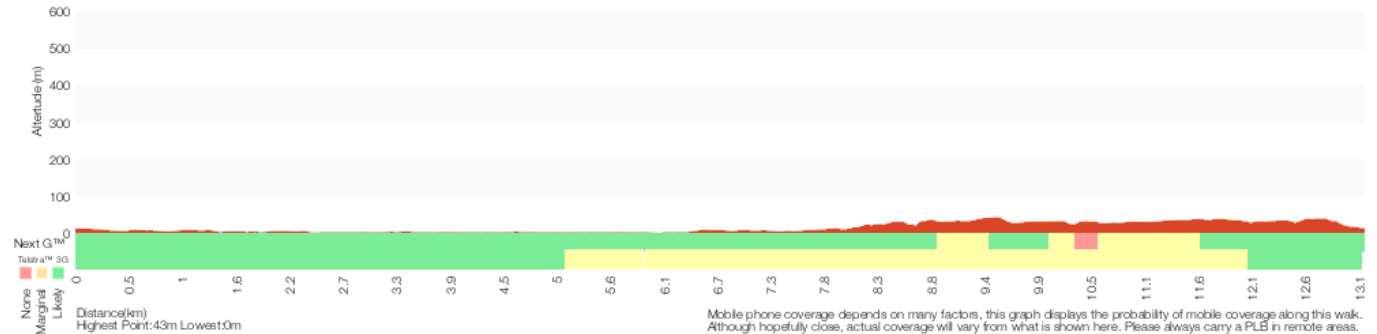
Grade

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



Grade 4/6
Hard track

Length	13.1 km One way
Time	4 hrs 30 mins
Quality of track	Rough track, where fallen trees and other obstacles are likely (4/6)
Signs	Directional signs along the way (3/6)
Experience Required	Moderate level of bushwalking experience recommended (4/6)
Weather	Weather generally has little impact on safety (1/6)
Infrastructure	Limited facilities, not all cliffs are fenced (3/6)



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 walk's 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 Cronulla Station (gps: -34.00559, 151.1514) by car, train or bus. Car: There is free parking available.

You can get back from Carpark (gps: -34.0053, 151.2217) by car or bus. Car: A park entry fee is required for driving into the park.

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

0 | Cronulla Station

(350 m 6 mins) From the train station, the walk crosses Cronulla street at the traffic lights and continues along the laneway running between the park and the row of shops. The walk then crosses Surf lane at the pedestrian crossing and continues along the wide laneway to the intersection with Gerrale street, at the pedestrian crossing.

Continue straight: From the intersection, the walk crosses the road at the pedestrian crossing and follows the footpath into the park for a short distance before turning left onto another footpath. The walk follows this footpath (passing two intersecting footpaths) to the intersection with another footpath at the edge of the beach.

0.35 | Cronulla Park

(960 m 16 mins) Veer left: From the intersection, the walk follows the footpath north keeping the ocean on the right. The footpath passes the rocks and two ocean pools, continuing around the back of a beach and past the North Cronulla Surf Life Saving Club, to the intersection of the footpath at the corner of the Prince street car park.

Veer right: From the intersection, the walk follows the footpath north, keeping the beach to the right). At the end of the first car park area the walk goes down the ramp and along the fenced path running along the back of the beach. The path passes a set of concrete stairs after about 200m and continues to the intersection with a short ramp heading down to Elouera Beach.

1.31 | Louera Beach footpath (east)

(4.5 km 1 hr 11 mins) Turn right: From the intersection, the walk heads down the short ramp to the beach and north-east along the beach, keeping the ocean to the right. The walk passes the Elouera Surf Life Saving Club and continues all the way along the beach, approximately 4.5 kilometres, until it reaches the eastern end of the Bate Bay at the Pimelwi Rocks point.

5.83 | Pimelwi Rocks

(460 m 8 mins) Turn left: From the point, this walk follows the beach east around the bay, keeping the ocean on the right. The walk passes a number of shacks before coming to the signposted intersection of the coastal walk footpath.

6.29 | Boat Harbour Beach (east)

(1.1 km 19 mins) Veer right: From the eastern side of the beach, this walk heads up the small concrete path that climbs up out of the bay to the top of the ridge. The walk then follows the track south-east across the grassy hill, keeping the ocean on the right as it runs alongside an old disused pipeline along the coast. The track cuts across the mouth of some sand dunes and continues along through a small clearing, winding down the hill to the back

of a small shelly beach. From the beach, the walk follows the coast west, keeping the ocean on the right, until it comes to the blue 'Boat Harbour Aquatic Reserve' sign.

Continue straight: From the 'Boat Harbour Aquatic Reserve' sign, this walk heads north-east up and away from the ocean (keeping the ocean to the right, winding along the track to the Sir Joseph Banks Drive car park.

7.4 | Sir Joseph Banks Drive Carpark

(700 m 12 mins) Turn around: From the car park, this walk follows the sandy management trail south-east (toward the ocean) down the gentle hill and bends to the left, keeping the coast on the right. The walk passes the mouth of some sand dunes, coming to the clearly visible management trail. This trail winds through the grass, then up a small hill and onto a rock platform that opens out onto the coast. (The track passes a number of small tracks leading back to the coast and heading further inland.)

8.09 | Rock platform

(690 m 16 mins) Continue straight: From the intersection, this walk heads east along the edge of the scrub and over the rocks, keeping the ocean on the right. The walk follows the edge of the heath, until winding inland of a small patch of scrub and up onto a rock platform. The walk continues along the management trail that winds towards the lighthouse through tall heath, and up and alongside the cliffs until coming to an intersection with the bush track, just near the lighthouse.

8.79 | Optional sidetrip to Cape Bailey Lighthouse

(80 m 2 mins) Turn left : From the intersection, this walk follows the sandy bush track, heading up and away from the ocean. The track is relatively defined for most of the way, however in the last 20m the track becomes quite overgrown and a little less defined (the lighthouse is always visible). Once at the lighthouse, there are good views inland, however the views to the east are largely blocked by the high scrub. At the end of this side trip, retrace your steps back to the main walk then Veer left.

8.79 | Cape Baily Lighthouse

Established in 1950, the lighthouse was required so north-bound shipping could hug the coast and avoid the strong southerly currents further out to sea. This lighthouse can be found a stone's-throw from the Cape Baily coastal walk, about 1.5 kilometres north from the Joseph Banks Drive car park. [More info.](#)

8.79 | Int of Cape Bailey lighthouse track

(950 m 18 mins) Continue straight: From the intersection, this walk follows the bush track, keeping the ocean and the cliff tops to the right. After a few hundred meters, the track heads a little more inland and over several small sand dunes, then climbs a short hill and turns right to head down the hill toward the swamp. About halfway along the edge of the swamp, the track turns right and climbs up a sand dune to the track intersection, in the middle of the depression in the dune.

9.74 | Hanging Swamps

There are a number of hanging swamps that can be found along the Cape Bailey walk. They are home to a number of different plants and animals like reeds and frogs. Hanging swamps are formed on high ground when rainfall seeps out of surrounding hills and accumulates in a slight depression, over time forming a swamp. Interestingly, they are sometimes difficult to see from far away as the thick build up of reeds and other plant life often cover the water.

9.74 | Sand dune int

(550 m 9 mins) Turn left : From the intersection, this walk heads north,

keeping the ocean on the right (about 150m away) and the hanging swamp on the left. The walk follows the overgrown track through thick scrub until it comes to a sand dune clearing. From the clearing, the track continues north, up and out of the other end of the clearing. From here, it goes down the other side, along another overgrown track winding north through thick scrub, into another long sand dune clearing. From the second clearing, the walk continues north through to another overgrown track, which it follows for a short distance to a wider sandy track, then a little further north to the apex of Tabbigai Gap.

10.29 | Tabbigai Gap Track Int

(1 km 17 mins) Veer right: From the intersection, this walk heads north (keeping ocean on the right) along the sandy trail, passing a small bush track on the right. The walk soon heads over rock and sandy sections, and there are several areas where wind and water erosion has developed small holes along the rock shelf that give it a very interesting look. After a little while, the walk reaches an intersection with several other bush tracks on a large rock-shelf.

11.3 | Int of Cape Bailey and car park tracks

(670 m 11 mins) Turn left: From the intersection, the walk heads north-west along the rock-shelf. This soon changes to a sandy bush track. After a short distance along the sandy track, the walk arrives at an intersection with a wide management trail.

Veer right: From the intersection, the walk heads north along the wide sandy bush track, keeping the water tank and radar installation on your left as the track winds through the heath forest. The walk winds around to a small bush track which appears on the right (this is just before more-obvious intersection a little further up).

11.96 | Alternate Route Int of Cape Bailey and link track

(420 m 8 mins) Continue straight: From the intersection, this walk follows the service trail west (keeping the water tank on the left) for a very short distance until it comes to the 'T' intersection of the Cape Bailey walking track service trail.

Turn right: From the intersection, this walk follows the service trail north-west, away from the water tank (with the power lines on the left-hand side), through the bush and down a gentle hill, continuing along until it heads around a National Parks gate at the end of Polo Street.

11.96 | Int of Cape Bailey and link track

(480 m 8 mins) Turn right: From the intersection, this walk heads north along a sandy bush track, away from the water tank and radar installation. This is a very sandy trail with several small ups and downs. The track continues until reaching an intersection with a service trail.

12.44 | Int of Yena Servicetrail and link track

(700 m 15 mins) Turn left: From the intersection, the walk heads north-west through the ferny forest until it meets up with a wide, sandy, bush track (which heads up and to the right).

Turn right: From the intersection with the bush track, this walk heads north-east along a narrow sandy bush track that has several small ups and downs. Soon, the walk comes to an intersection with a small bush track at the top of the knoll - this is Kurnell Lookout, views obstructed by trees.

Continue straight: From the intersection at Kurnell Lookout, this walk heads north-east along the track for a short while until coming to an intersection with a management trail.

Turn left: From the intersection, this walk heads north-west, down along the wide gravelly management trail, with dense ferns on either side, until coming to Cape Solander Drive.

Continue straight: From the road, this walk heads north-west along the old road, now a service trail. This continues for a short period before passing over a small bridge. Just beyond this, the track opens out onto the Botany

Bay Discovery Centre car park. The discovery centre is to the right.

13.13 | Botany Bay Discovery Centre

This visitors' centre can be found on Cape Solander Drive. It provides great information about Botany Bay's history and environment, plus an excellent souvenir shop, where some food and drink is also available.



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Inscription Point

Botany Bay Discovery Centre

Cape Solander Drive

Yena Gap

Cape Solander

Tabbigai Gap

Long Nose Point

Cape Bailey

Potter Point

Torres Street

Bridges Street

Captain Cook Drive

Polo Street

Reserve Road

Quibray Bay

Caltex Oil Refinery

Botany Bay National Park

Desalination Plant

Sir Joseph Banks Drive

Hangiag Swamps

Cape Baily Lighthouse

6.29

7.40

8.09

8.59

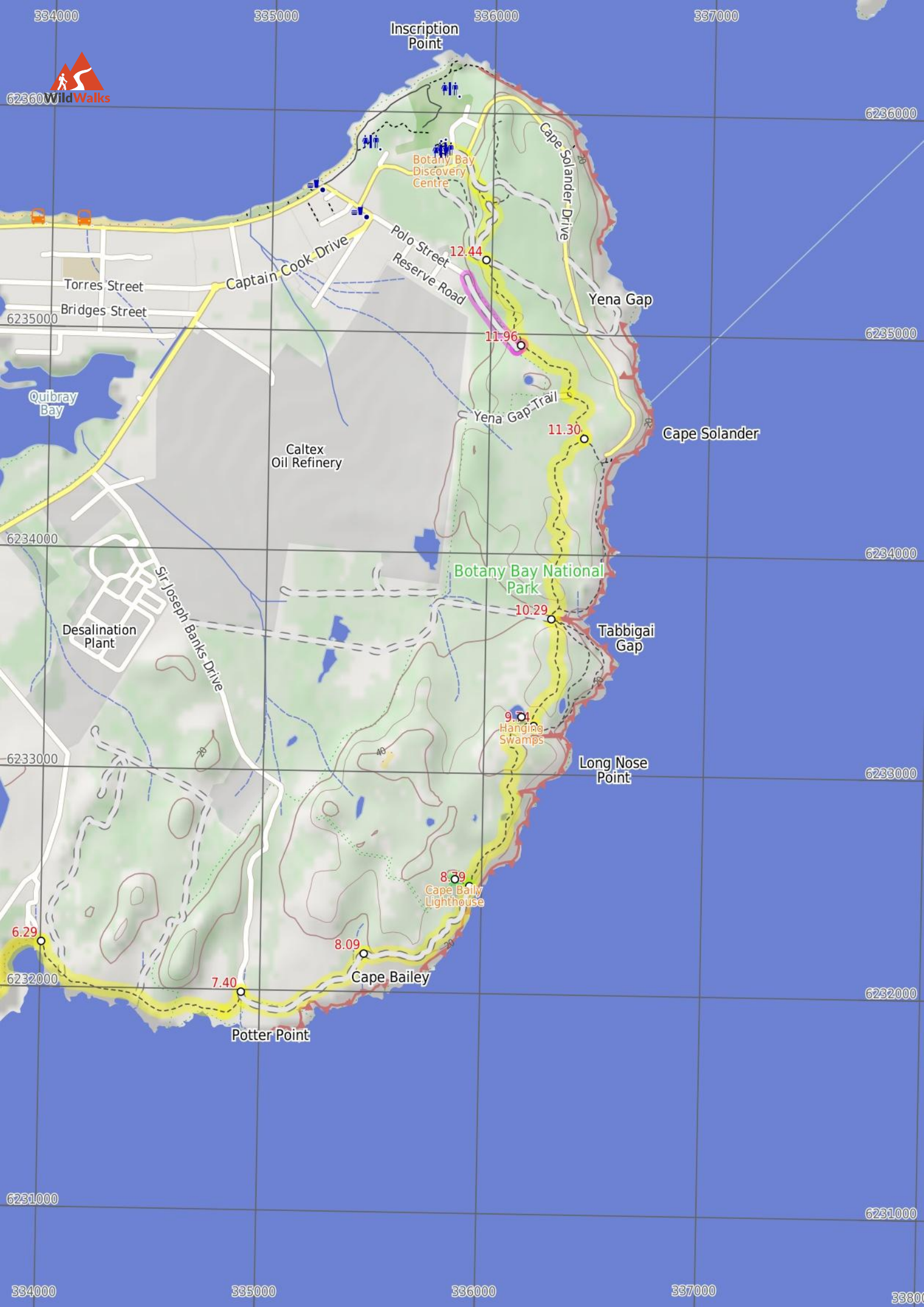
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Quibray Bay

Captain Cook Drive

Desalination Plant

6233000 Woolooware Bay

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Towra Point Nature Reserve

Bate Bay Road

Woolooware Wader Lagoon

Greenhills Beach

Greenhills

Cronulla High School

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6232000 Captain Cook Drive

Don Lucas Reserve

Cronulla Golf Course

Kirkwood Road

Sturt Road

Cronulla Golf Course

Kirkwood Road

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Burke Road

Kurnell Road

Seaview Street

Wyanbah Road

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Cronulla Point

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Start

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Tonkin Park

Summary navigation sheet for the Cronulla to Botany Bay Discovery Centre



km	From	Up/Dwn	Length	Initial directions (Use full tracknotes and maps for more detail)
Start	Cronulla Station -34.0559,151.1514 (GR Port Hacking, 294301)	1 -5	350 m 6 mins	From the train station, the walk crosses Cronulla street at the traffic lights and continues along the laneway running between the park and the row of shops.
0.35	Cronulla Park -34.055,151.1547 (GR Port Hacking, 297302)	13 -11	960 m 16 mins	Veer left: From the intersection, the walk follows the footpath north keeping the ocean on the right.
1.31	Louera Beach footpath (east) -34.0475,151.1582 (GR Port Hacking, 300311)	18 -23	4.5 km 1 hr 11 mins	Turn right: From the intersection, the walk heads down the short ramp to the beach and north-east along the beach, keeping the ocean to the right.
5.83	Pimelwi Rocks -34.0403,151.1988 (GR Port Hacking, 337319)	5 -4	460 m 8 mins	Turn left: From the point, this walk follows the beach east around the bay, keeping the ocean on the right.
6.29	Boat Harbour Beach (east) -34.0377,151.2018 (GR Port Hacking, 340322)	18 -15	1.1 km 19 mins	Veer right: From the eastern side of the beach, this walk heads up the small concrete path that climbs up out of the bay to the top of the ridge.
7.40	Sir Joseph Banks Drive Carpark -34.0398,151.2116 (GR Port Hacking, 349320)	14 -5	700 m 12 mins	Turn around: From the car park, this walk follows the sandy management trail south-east (toward the ocean) down the gentle hill and bends to the left, keeping the coast on the right.
8.09	Rock platform -34.0382,151.2177 (GR Port Hacking, 355322)	42 -25	690 m 16 mins	Continue straight: From the intersection, this walk heads east along the edge of the scrub and over the rocks, keeping the ocean on the right.
8.79	Int of Cape Bailey Lighthouse track -34.0355,151.2229 (GR Port Hacking, 359325)	8 0	80 m 2 mins	Optional sidetrip to Cape Bailey Lighthouse. Turn left : From the intersection, this walk follows the sandy bush track, heading up and away from the ocean.
8.79	Int of Cape Bailey lighthouse track -34.0355,151.2229 (GR Port Hacking, 359325)	22 -28	950 m 18 mins	Continue straight: From the intersection, this walk follows the bush track, keeping the ocean and the cliff tops to the right.
9.74	Sand dune int -34.0289,151.226 (GR Port Hacking, 362332)	6 -8	550 m 9 mins	Turn left : From the intersection, this walk heads north, keeping the ocean on the right (about 150m away) and the hanging swamp on the left.
10.29	Tabbigai Gap Track Int -34.0245,151.2269 (GR Port Hacking, 363337)	19 -10	1 km 17 mins	Veer right: From the intersection, this walk heads north (keeping ocean on the right) along the sandy trail, passing a small bush track on the right.
11.30	Int of Cape Bailey and car park tracks -34.0171,151.2285 (GR Port Hacking, 364345)	7 -6	670 m 11 mins	Turn left: From the intersection, the walk heads north-west along the rock-shelf.
11.96	Int of Cape Bailey and link track -34.0133,151.2254 (GR Port Hacking, 361349)	2 -19	420 m 8 mins	Alternate Route Int of Cape Bailey and link track. Continue straight: From the intersection, this walk follows the service trail west (keeping the water tank on the left) for a very short distance until it comes to the 'T' intersection of the Cape Bailey walking tra...
11.96	Int of Cape Bailey and link track -34.0133,151.2254 (GR Port Hacking, 361349)	7 -8	480 m 8 mins	Turn right: From the intersection, this walk heads north along a sandy bush track, away from the water tank and radar installation.
12.44	Int of Yena Servicetrail and link track -34.0098,151.2237 (GR Port Hacking, 360353)	13 -33	700 m 15 mins	Turn left: From the intersection, the walk heads north-west through the ferny forest until it meets up with a wide, sandy, bush track (which heads up and to the right).