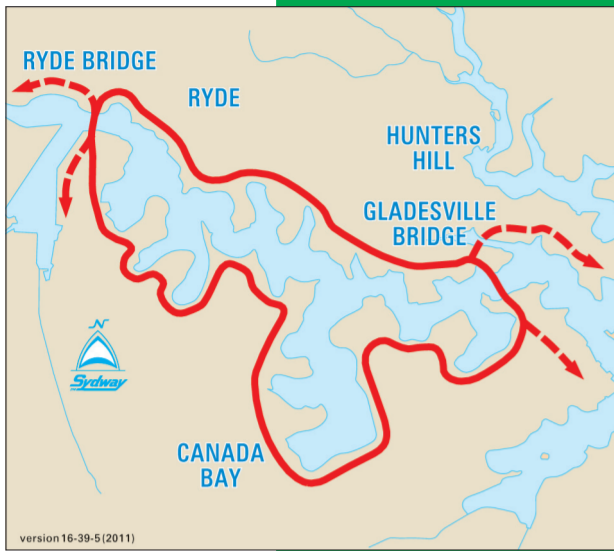


Sharing SYDNEY HARBOUR



Parramatta River Walk GLADESVILLE BRIDGE TO RYDE BRIDGE



Parramatta River from Putney (Airview)

it's exhilarating & healthy

Public Transport

The Parramatta River Walk is well serviced by ferries. There are also train stations and bus stops at useful places. All are marked on the maps.

Ferry: Sydney Ferries run from Circular Quay and Darling Harbour along the Parramatta River stopping at Cockatoo Island, Drummoyne, Huntleys Point, Chiswick, Abbotsford, Cabarita, Kissing Point, Meadowbank, Sydney Olympic Park and Rydalmere. It is only the express service that goes directly to Parramatta (55 min), stopping only at Circular Quay, Rydalmere and Parramatta. If catching a ferry along the way, change at Rydalmere for Parramatta.

Ferries are a very useful way of accessing walks along the river. Carefully check the timetable before setting off, see www.sydneyferries.info > Timetables > Parramatta River. Also check out the Balmain/Woolwich timetable for Circular Quay, Balmain, Birchgrove, Greenwich, Woolwich and Cockatoo Island when walking in that area.

Train: There are train stations near the route at Meadowbank, Rhodes and Concord West (Northern Line), Rosehill and Rydalmere (Carlingford Line), and Parramatta, Westmead, and Olympic Park via Lidcombe (Western line). The trip from Central Station to Parramatta Station takes approximately 30 minutes. See www.cityrail.info > Timetables.

Bus: On the north side of the Parramatta River, Metrobus M52 operates regularly from Circular Quay along Victoria Road to the Parramatta Transport Interchange next to Parramatta Railway Station. Bus routes 507 and 524, and the free Top Ryder (TR) bus service, pass close to the river at a number of places.

On the southern side of the river, bus routes operate from Mortlake (439), Abbotsford (438) and Chiswick (504) to Circular Quay. Route 466 from Cabarita stops at Strathfield Station, and route 525 connects Sydney Olympic Park with Parramatta. The free Shuttle Bus (900) is useful in the Parramatta City centre precinct. All relevant bus stops near the route are marked on the maps.

Metrobus services (M52, 54, 60, 91 & 92) and Transitway services (T61-66 & 80) access Parramatta Transport Interchange, and Metrobus M41 crosses the Parramatta River at the Ryde Road Bridge.

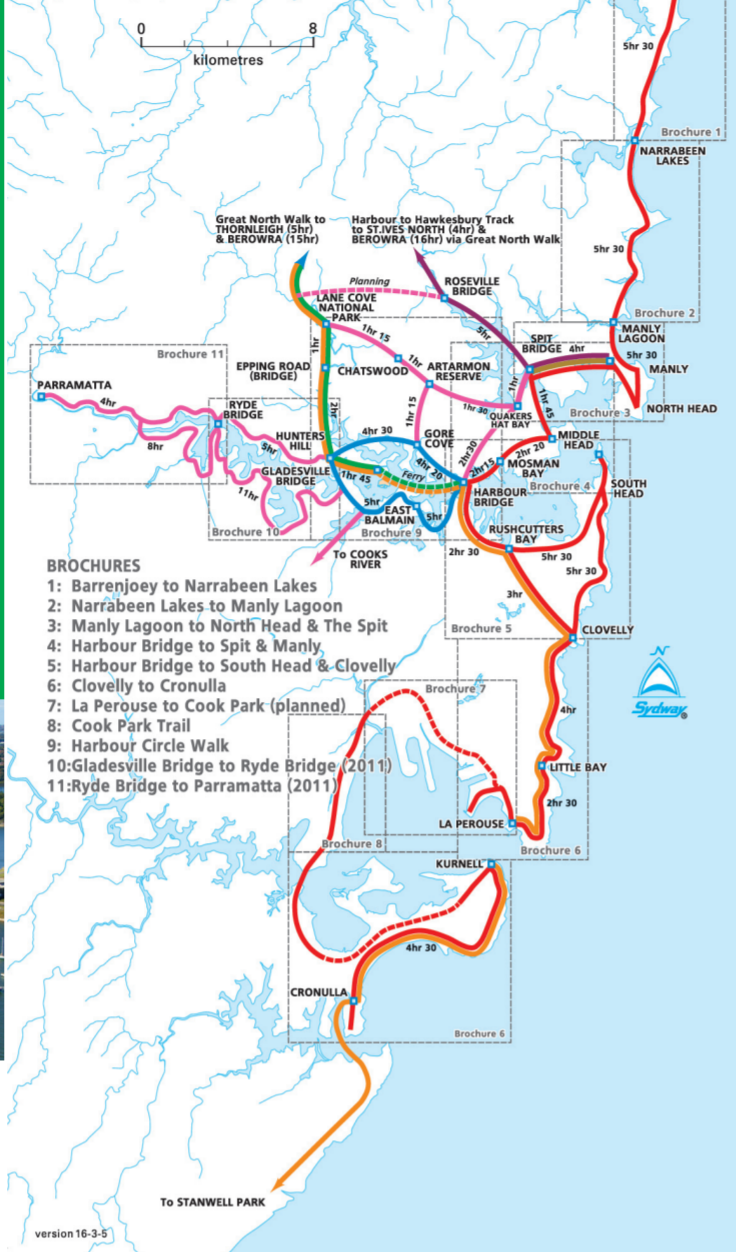
See www.sydneybuses.info > Timetables & route maps and > Metrobus, and the Western and Southern Region Guides, www.cdcbus.com.au for Hillsbus and Westbus, and Veolia Transport www.veoliatransportnsw.com.au for services in western and south western suburbs.

For further assistance and new stops or routes, contact Transport Infoline Tel: 131 500 or www.131500.com.au

The Trunk Walking Routes of Sydney Harbour and Coast

- Coastal Walk
- Harbour Circle Walk
- Great North Walk
- Federation Track
- Spit to Manly Walk
- Harbour to Hawkesbury Track
- Other tracks

Approximate Walking Times in Hours and Minutes
e.g. 1 hour 45 minutes = 1hr 45



- BROCHURES**
- 1: Barrenjoey to Narrabeen Lakes
 - 2: Narrabeen Lakes to Manly Lagoon
 - 3: Manly Lagoon to North Head & The Spit
 - 4: Harbour Bridge to Spit & Manly
 - 5: Harbour Bridge to South Head & Clovelly
 - 6: Clovelly to Cronulla
 - 7: La Perouse to Cook Park (planned)
 - 8: Cook Park Trail
 - 9: Harbour Circle Walk
 - 10: Gladesville Bridge to Ryde Bridge (2011)
 - 11: Ryde Bridge to Parramatta (2011)

Parramatta River Walk

The Parramatta River Walk commences on the northern side of the river at Woolwich Wharf and ends in Parramatta at the junction of Toongabbie Creek and Darling Mills Creek. The total walking route is covered by three brochures, including this one, as detailed under the heading 'Brochures and Maps'.

The land adjacent to the Parramatta River was occupied for many thousands of years by the Wangal, Wallumattagal and Burramattagal Aboriginal clans. They used the river as an important source of food and a place for trade.

This remarkable walk explores the sweep of the river with its recreation reserves, extensive bays including Homebush Bay, and significant natural areas of mangroves, wetlands and remnant bushland. Aboriginal cultural heritage sites remain in many places, including Kellys Bush, Glades Bay, Parramatta Park and Lake Parramatta Reserve.

After the river was explored by Governor Arthur Phillip in 1788, it became a significant transport and communication channel for European settlement. There are now many important sites and monuments along the way, including Searles Monument located in the river off Henley, Parramatta River Regional Park and the former Gladesville Psychiatric Hospital, Quarantine Reserve at Abbotsford, the Canadian Exiles Monument in Bayview Park, the Federation Pavilion and William Beach Memorial in Cabarita Park, the Kokoda Track Memorial at Rhodes Park, Newington Armory in Sydney Olympic Park, and the former Female Orphan School at Rydalmere, now within the grounds of the University of Western Sydney.

The route passes over grand and historic bridges and traverses former industrial sites, like the Wangal Bushland Reserve at Mortlake, before arriving at its destination, Parramatta, the Aboriginal name adopted by Governor Phillip, is a place with a fascinating history. There is much to see and experience, including the Aboriginal interpretive pathway on the river bank, Parramatta Park, Lake Parramatta Reserve and significant colonial house museums - Old Government House, Elizabeth Farm, Experiment Farm and Hambleton Cottage.

It is your choice as to what walk or part of a walk you take; for how long, over what distance and in what direction. For example, you could walk for an hour or over a weekend staying in accommodation along the way.

Photograph: Airview www.airviewonline.com.au
Logo Photograph: Brian Yap

Brochures and Maps

Three brochures, containing four maps, cover the total length of the Parramatta River Walk.

(1) The brochure, 'A Harbour Circle Walk', includes the section from Woolwich and Birchgrove Wharves to Gladesville Bridge and Huntleys Point.

Woolwich Wharf to Huntleys Point Wharf takes 2hrs 30 walking time. It winds through the heritage suburb of Hunters Hill and over Tarban Creek Bridge and includes Clarkes Point and Kellys Bush.

Birchgrove Wharf to Drummoyne Wharf near Gladesville Bridge takes 3hrs walking time and passes through historic Birchgrove, Balmain and Drummoyne and traverses the Iron Cove Bridge. (Add 1hr 20 if including the green loop around Iron Cove).

(2) This brochure is called 'Parramatta River Walk - Gladesville Bridge to Ryde Bridge'.

(3) The companion brochure, 'Parramatta River Walk - Ryde Bridge to Parramatta', contains two maps, 'A' the route to Parramatta and 'B' the City centre.

The Parramatta River Walk, and other maps and brochures covering Sydney Harbour and Coast, can be found at www.planning.nsw.gov.au/harbour the Department of Planning's website, and at the Sydney Coastal Councils Group's website www.walkingcoastalsydney.com.au

Loop and Link Walks

The Parramatta River Walk brochures show the main red route following for the most part both sides of the river; including around the many bays. There are a number of bridges crossing the river at strategic places.

The green routes show links and loops connected to the main route. Some of the walks in the brochures involve the use of part of the red route and part of a green link or loop. In many cases, you can use public transport, especially ferries, to return to the start of a walk.

Walking Times

The Walking Times diagram sets out approximate walking times, with a walking speed between 2km and 3km per hour depending on the terrain and weather conditions. Don't forget to add extra time for breaks, lunch or just looking. And remember, you choose how far you walk and for how long.

Food and Accommodation

Food and drink is available at cafés, hotels, shopping centres and where the sign appears, as shown on the maps. Toilets are marked . Accommodation is available, including some hotels and motels near the routes. For a detailed list of places: See www.walkingcoastalsydney.com.au

General Information

For maps, brochures, and relevant information about the Parramatta River, and places of interest along the way, see the following websites and listed books below.

Books on History and Places of Interest

The River - Sydney Cove to Parramatta by Gregory Blaxell (Halstead Press 2010), *Pictorial History Balmain to Glebe* by Joan Lawrence & Catherine Warne (Kingsclear Books 2009), *Pictorial History Hunters Hill* by Linda Emery (Kingsclear Books 2011), *A Pictorial History Ryde* by Megan Martin (Kingsclear Books 2004), *Pictorial History City of Canada Bay* by Gregory Blaxell (Kingsclear Books 2010), *Pictorial History Parramatta District* by John McClymont (Kingsclear Books 2005), *Parramatta - A Past Revealed* by Terry Cass, Carol Liston & John McClymont (Parramatta City Council 1996), and *Sydney's Aboriginal Past* by Val Attenbrow (UNSW Press 2010). Books can be obtained from local libraries, selected bookshops and from the publishers.

Department of Planning

23 Bridge Street, Sydney 2000 (Tel: 9228 6333). For maps, brochures and information relevant to walking around Sydney Harbour, including the Parramatta River Walk, see www.planning.nsw.gov.au/harbour

Sydney Coastal Councils Group

Level 14, Town Hall House, 456 Kent Street, Sydney 2000 (Tel: 9246 7702). See www.walkingcoastalsydney.com.au for Parramatta River Walk maps and brochures, and coastal and harbour walking maps and brochures.

Visitor Centres

Parramatta Heritage and Visitor Information Centre (Tel: 8839 3311) www.discoverparramatta.com Sydney Visitor Centre (Tel: 1800 067 676) www.sydneyvisitorcentre.com

Aboriginal Land Councils and Corporations

Local Aboriginal Land Councils see www.metrolalc.org.au for Metropolitan, www.deerubbin.org.au for Deerubbin and www.galac.org.au for Gandangara. Also Darug Tribal Aboriginal Corporation www.darug.org.au and Darug Custodian Aboriginal Corporation (Tel: 4577 5181).

Councils

Auburn	www.auburn.nsw.gov.au (9735 1222)
Canada Bay	www.canadabay.nsw.gov.au (9911 6555)
Hunters Hill	www.huntershill.nsw.gov.au (9879 9400)
Leichhardt	www.leichhardt.nsw.gov.au (9367 9222)
Parramatta	www.parracity.nsw.gov.au (9806 5050)
Ryde	www.ryde.nsw.gov.au (9952 8222)
The Hills	www.thehills.nsw.gov.au (9843 0555)

Government Bodies

Catchment Authority	www.sydneycms.nsw.gov.au
Catchment Group	www.parramattariver.org.au
National Parks	www.environment.nsw.gov.au
Sydney Olympic Park	www.sydneyolympicpark.com.au

Trusts and Associations

Bidjgal Reserve Trust	www.bidjgal.org.au
Discover Hunters Hill	www.huntershill.com.au
Harbour Trust	www.harbourtrust.gov.au (8969 2100)
Historic Houses Trust	www.hht.net.au (8239 2288)
National Trust	www.nationaltrust.com.au (9258 0123)
Parramatta Historical	www.hotkey.net.au/~parramattahistory
Parramatta Park Trust	www.ppt.nsw.gov.au (8833 5000)
Thegreeningof	www.thegreeningof.org.au

Route Marking

A variety of local signage exists. The following internationally recognised marking system may be introduced over time along the red route.



Acknowledgments and Suggestions

The Sydney Harbour and Coastal Walk brochures and maps have been developed by the Walking Volunteers whose members include: Dominic Adshead, Jim and Therese Archibald, Bill Avery, Neil and Pamela Hardie, Phil Jenkyn, Geoff Lambert, Caroline Minogue, Ian Napier, Bill (Coordinator) and Nedra Orme, Charles Pitsillidi, Don and Laura Riddell, Bruce Robertson, Leigh Shearer-Heriot, Cameron Sparks, Graham Spindler and Paul Webb.

The Walking Volunteers are a group of individuals who are helping to develop a series of walking routes around Sydney Harbour, along the coastal areas of Sydney and regional links across Sydney. They believe that walking is pleasurable and healthy and a great way to explore and enjoy the magnificent natural and cultural highlights of this City. Walking and the use of public transport are to be encouraged.

The two Parramatta River Walk brochures, containing three maps, were produced by the Walking Volunteers, with the assistance of staff from Department of Planning and NSW Health; Auburn, Canada Bay, Ryde and Parramatta City Councils; Hunters Hill and Leichhardt Councils and The Hills Shire Council; Parramatta Park Trust; National Trust of Australia (NSW); Historic Houses Trust NSW; Sydney Metropolitan Catchment Management Authority; Parramatta River Catchment Group; Sydney Olympic Park Authority; Parramatta & District Historical Society; Association for Thegreeningof, Sydway Street Directories Mapping Division and editorial assistance from Gregory Blaxell and Chris Schofield.

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Please email the Sharing Sydney Harbour Access Program Coordinator at harbour@planning.nsw.gov.au about any errors, omissions, or suggestions to improve future editions or similar publications.

First printed September 2011

Walking Volunteers: Leigh Shearer-Heriot and Phil Jenkyn 2011

Anyone is free to use this brochure, in whole or part, in any free publication, with an acknowledgment to the Walking Volunteers.



Parramatta River Walk Gladesville Bridge to Ryde Bridge

Huntleys Point to Meadowbank Walk starts at Huntleys Point Wharf near Gladesville Bridge, and proceeds on the northern side of the river through Gladesville Reserve in Wallumatta Bay, named after the local Aboriginal clan. The route winds through the historic former Gladesville Hospital grounds, passes Banjo Paterson Restaurant at Bedlam Point before entering the bush of Glades Bay, with its Aboriginal rock carvings and interpretive signage. The walk continues around Putney Park and Shepherds Bay to Meadowbank Wharf, beyond the Ryde Road Bridge.
4hr 45 walking 10km

Huntleys Point to Abbotsford Walk climbs over the impressive Gladesville Bridge from Huntleys Point Wharf to proceed on the southern side of the river to the old bridge abutment at Five Dock Point. The route winds around Five Dock and Abbotsford Bays, with a view of Searles Monument in the river off Henley, to finish at Abbotsford Wharf in Werrell Reserve. Note the shops near Chiswick Wharf. (If commencing at Drummoyne Wharf, delete 15 minutes walking time).
3hr walking 7.5km

Abbotsford to Cabarita Walk starts at Abbotsford Wharf on the southern side of the Parramatta River and circles Hen and Chicken Bay - which includes Kings Bay, Canada Bay, Exile Bay and France Bay. The naming of these last three bays reflects the fascinating history of a group of French-Canadians who were exiled and incarcerated in Concord in the 1840s. There is a monument to the Exiles in Bayview Park. The route passes through the Quarantine Reserve, once the home of the Animal Quarantine Station, and finishes in Cabarita Park, which contains the William Beach Memorial, the Federation Pavilion and Cabarita Wharf.
4hr walking 10km

Cabarita to Meadowbank Walk commences in Cabarita Park at the Ferry Wharf and passes through the former AGL Gasworks site now Breakfast Point and the Wangal Bushland Reserve, named after the local Aboriginal clan. The walk continues on Hospital land around the foreshores of the former Dame Eadith Walker Hospital and Thomas Walker Convalescent Hospital to the Kokoda Track Memorial and Café. (You must keep to the foreshore trail and proceed only during daylight hours when on Hospital land.) The route then passes Rhodes Station and crosses the river via the original 1886 rail bridge to Meadowbank Wharf. (If catching the train at Rhodes Station, delete 30 minutes from the walking time. Add extra time for exploring the Kokoda Track Memorial Walkway.)
4hr 45 walking 10km

An alternative to this walk is to start at Kissing Point Wharf, crossing south over the Ryde Road Bridge and following the route from the Kokoda Memorial to the punt crossing from Mortlake to Putney (marked on map with times), and then back to Kissing Point Wharf. This is a slightly longer walk. (Add extra time for the punt crossing).
5hr 15 walking 11km

Tarban Creek to River Walk This loop walk proceeds from Huntleys Point Wharf west along the Parramatta River to Glades Bay, then follows the green route climbing to the ridge line at Victoria Road (bus stops and Sawdust Hotel). The walk drops down through streets to the Tarban Creek valley, and follows the green corridor to Riverglade Reserve, and back under Tarban Creek and Gladesville Bridges to the Wharf. (This walk can be accessed at nearby bus stops on Victoria Road.)
4hr 30 walking 10km

Buffalo Creek to River Walk This interesting link walk commences at Ryde Park at Top Ryde (bus stops opposite in Blaxland Road). The green route known as the Canon Bicentennial Track follows Buffalo Creek entering Field of Mars Reserve along the Kunzea Track. Crossing over Pittwater Road, it enters Buffalo Creek Reserve and follows the Great North Walk along the Lane Cove River to Boronia Park Oval.

The walk then traverses historic Mary Street before entering Riverglade Reserve and proceeding under Tarban Creek and Gladesville Bridges to the Parramatta River and Huntleys Point Wharf. Food and drink should be carried on this walk. (Bus stops nearby on Victoria Road - note M52 connection at stop near Crown Street for Top Ryde.)
4hr 30 walking 10km

Personal Care

Be aware that you are responsible for your own safety and that of any child with you. Take care and enjoy your walk. The walks require average fitness, except for full-day walks (5hrs walking time) that require above-average fitness and stamina. There is a wide variety of pathway conditions and terrains, including footpaths, steps, uneven ground, bush tracks and some hills. Be very aware of cyclists and their activities on pathways shared with bicycles. Observe official safety, track and road signs at all times. Wear a hat and good walking shoes, use sunscreen and take a daypack, water and some food. Carry a mobile phone. In case of emergency, dial 000 or 112.