

Blue Mountains – World Heritage Wilderness

Location

Activity

Anvil Rock and Wind Eroded Cave, Blackheath	Bushwalks, views
Bacchante Rhododendron Garden, Blackheath	Garden, picnic area
Bell's Line of Road	Scenic drive
Berghofer's Pass, Mount York	Historic bushwalk
Cathedral of Ferns Walk, Mount Wilson	Bushwalk
Cliff Drive - Scenic Lookouts, Katoomba	Views, picnic areas
Cliff Drive - Scenic Lookouts, Leura	Views, picnic areas
Coachwood Glen, Megalong Valley	Bushwalk
Charles Darwin Walk, Wentworth Falls	Historic walk
Echo Point Lookout and Three Sisters, Katoomba	Views
Evans Lookout, Blackheath	Views
Explorers Marked Tree, Katoomba	Historic site
Frank Walford Park and Aquatic Centre, Katoomba	Recreation, swimming pool
Giant Stairway and Federal Pass, Katoomba	Bushwalk
Gordon Falls Reserve, Leura	Picnic area, lookout
Govett's Leap Lookout, Blackheath	Views, picnic area
Hargraves Lookout, Shipley Plateau	Views
Horne's Point, Mt Piddington, Mount Victoria	View, bushwalk
Horse riding, Megalong Valley	Recreation
Katoomba Falls, Katoomba	Walks, picnic area
Kings Tableland, Wentworth Falls	Aboriginal site, views
Lawson's Long Alley Track, Mount York	Historic bushwalks
Leura Cascades, Leura	Walks, picnic area
Memorial Garden and Swimming Pool, Blackheath	Recreation
Mermaids Cave, Megalong Valley	Bushwalks
Mount Tomah Botanic Garden, Mount Tomah	Garden, views
Mt Blackheath, Shipley Plateau	Views, hang gliding
Mt York Historic Site, Mount York	Views, bushwalks
Mt Piddington & Fairy Bower Reserve	Views, bushwalk
Mount Victoria, Valley of the Waters	Abseiling, views, bushwalks
Old Ford Reserve, Megalong Valley	Picnic area, swimming
Pierces Pass, Mount Banks	Walk, views
Prince Henry Cliff Walk, Katoomba	Bushwalk, views
Princes Rock Lookout, Wentworth Falls	Views
Pulpit Rock, Blackheath	Views, walks
Six Foot Track, Megalong Valley	Historic walk, wildlife
Sublime Point Lookout, Leura	Views
The Three Brothers, Medlow Bath	Bushwalk, lookout
Valley of the Waters, Wentworth Falls	Bushwalking, picnic areas, canyoning
Walls Lookout, Mount Banks	Walk, views
Wentworth Falls	Bushwalking, picnic areas
Wentworth Falls Lake	Recreation, picnic area
Wollangambe Wilderness, Mount Wilson	Bushwalks, canyoning

A SELECTION OF EASY AND MODERATE WALKS IN THE UPPER BLUE MOUNTAINS

Before undertaking any bushwalks, it is recommended that you seek advice from local information services and obtain reliable walking maps. Plan your walk in advance and consider your level of fitness. Always carry water and warm clothing. Where possible, inform someone of your departure time and confirm your return.

Name of Walk & Location	Time	Grade	Distance	View	Waterfall	Rainforest	Birdlife
WENTWORTH FALLS							
Charles Darwin Walk	1.5 hours	Easy	2.5 km one way	I I	I I I	I	I I
Rocket Point	1.5 hours	Medium	2 km return	I I I	I I I	I	I I
Weeping Rock/Queens Cascade	1 hour	Medium	1 km return	I I	I I I	I	I
Princes Rock Lookout	0.5 hours	Medium	1 km return	I I I	I I I		I
Den Fenella	1.5 hours	Medium	2 km return	I I I	I I	I I I	I I I
Over-Undercliff/National Pass	4.5 hours	Hard	6 km circuit	I I I	I I I	I I I	I I I
Valley o' the Waters Nature Track	3 hours	Medium	4 km circuit	I I	I I	I I I	I I I
Lillians Glen/Inspiration Point	2.5 hours	Medium	5 km one way	I I I	I I	I I	I I I

LEURA

Sublime Point Lookout	0.5 hours	Easy	0.5 km return	I I I			I
Lyrebird Dell/Pool of Siloam	2 hours	Medium	2 km circuit	I	I I	I I	I I I
Gordon Falls to Leura Falls	1 hour	Easy	2 km one way	I I I	I I I	I I	I I
Leura Cascades Round Walk	1 hour	Medium	1.5 km circuit	I I	I I I	I I	I I
Cascades to Bridal Veil Falls	1 hour	Easy	1 km return	I I	I I I	I I I	I I
Cascades/Forest/Fernbower Circ.	3.5 hours	Hard	4 km return	I I I	I I	I I I	I I
Lockley Pylon	4 hours	Medium	9 km return	I I I			I I

KATOOMBA

Echo Pt/Cliff Walk/Gordon Falls	2.5 hours	Medium	5 km one way	I I I	I I	I I	I I
Three Sisters Walk	0.5 hours	Easy	1 km return	I I I			I
Echo/Cliff Walk/Katoomba Falls	1.5 hours	Easy	4 km return	I I I	I I I	I	I I
Kat. Fall/Furber Step/Scenic Rail	1.5 hours	Medium	2 km circuit	I I I	I I I	I I I	I I
Katoomba Falls Round Walk	1 hour	Medium	1 km circuit	I I I	I I	I I I	I I I
Kat. Falls/ Cliff View Lookout	0.5 hours	Easy	0.5 km return	I I I	I I		I I
Cahill Lookout/Boars Head Rock	0.5 hours	Easy	0.5 km return	I I I			
Minnihaha Falls	1.5 hours	Medium	2 km return	I I	I I	I	I I

BLACKHEATH

Fairfax Heritage Track	1 hour	Easy	2 km one way	I I I	I I	I	I I
Govetts Leap/ Evans Lookout	1.5 hours	Medium	3 km one way	I I I	I I I	I	I I
Govetts Leap/ Pulpit Rock	3 hours	Medium	5 km return	I I I	I I I	I	I I
Govetts Leap/ Braeside Walk	1.5 hours	Medium	3 km return	I I I	I I I	I	I I
Neates Glen/ Grand Canyon	4 hours	Medium	5 km circuit	I I	I I	I I I	I I I
Centennial Glen/ Porters Pass	3 hours	Medium	4 km circuit	I I I	I I	I I	I I
Popes Glen/ Govetts Leap	3 hours	Medium	6 km return	I I I	I I	I	I I I

A SELECTION OF MORE CHALLENGING WALKS.

Valley of the Waters/ Wentworth Pass/ National Pass	5 hours	Hard	6 km circuit	I I I	I I I	I I I	I I I
Giant Stairway/ Federal Pass/ Scenic Railway/ Prince Henry Cliff Walk	2.5 hours	Hard	7 km circuit	I I I	I I	I I I	I I
Giant Stairway/Dardanelles Pass /Leura Forest/ Federal Pass/ Giant Stairway	4.5 hours	Hard	6 km circuit	I I I	I I	I I I	I I I
Furber Steps/ Ruined Castle/ Golden Stairs	8 hours	Hard	14 km circuit	I I I	I I I	I I I	I I I
Scenic Railway/ Ruined Castle	7 hours	Hard	12 km return	I I I		I I I	I I I
Golden Stairs/ Ruined Castle	5 hours	Hard	8 km return	I I I		I I I	I I I
Explorers Tree/ Old Ford Reserve via Six Foot Track	4.5 hours	Hard	7.5 km one way	I		I I	I
Evans Lookout/ Beauchamp Falls /Junction Rock/ Govetts Leap	6-8 hours	Hard	6 km circuit	I I I	I I I	I I I	I I I
Perrys Lookdown/ Blue Gum Forest	5-6 hours	Hard	5 km return	I I I		I	I I I
Govetts Leap/ Blue Gum Forest/ Perrys Lookdown/ Pulpit Rock	10 hours	Hard	15 km circuit	I I I	I I I	I I I	I I I
Victoria Falls Lookout/ Burra Korain Flat	5 hours	Hard	6 km return	I I	I I	I I	I I
Pierces Pass/ Grose Valley	6 hours	Hard	6 km return	I I I	I I	I I I	I I I
Six Foot Track/ Katoomba to Jenolan Caves	3 days	Hard	42 km one way	I	I	I	I I

The Blue Mountains

The World Heritage listed Blue Mountains provide a unique environment just a short 90 minutes' drive from Sydney. Idyllic and serene, breathtaking and spectacular, the Blue Mountains inspire superlatives. Encompassing the raw beauty of the sandstone cliffs and forested gorges that make up the State's most popular national park as well as the cultured elegance of the historic towns and villages that dot its ridges, the Blue Mountains is one of Sydney's favourite recreation areas. Despite their proximity to the city, they remain very much a wilderness area, little changed since the days of the first European arrivals. The Blue Mountains encompass three rugged national parks – the Blue Mountains, Wollemi and Kanangra Boyd. These areas provide endless outdoor and adventure activity opportunities.

Information and Booking Centres:

These centres provide information on points of interest, activities, maps, brochures etc.

Glenbrook 1300 653 408

Blue Mountains Tourism Authority

www.bluemountainstourism.org.au

Katoomba - Echo Point 1300 653 408

National Parks and Wildlife Service

www.npws.nsw.gov.au

Blue Mountains Website

www.bluemts.com.au

Transport to and around the Blue Mountains:

- Train services from Central Station, less than a 2 hour journey to Wentworth Falls. (Train services run approximately every 10 minutes between Central Station and Kingsford Smith airport).
- By road (one and a half hours), via the Motorway (M4) and the Great Western Hwy.
- Direct Airport Bus service.
- Local Bus Services and Tours.
- Car Hire available Leura and Katoomba.
- Taxi service

Special Features and Scenic Icons:

There are spectacular views; waterfalls and cascades with numerous lookouts and vantage points. Famous features include:

- The Three Sisters (Echo Point) and Giant staircase – Katoomba.
- Skyway, Scenic Railway and Scenicender – Katoomba.
- Wentworth Falls
- Valley of the Waters – Wentworth Falls.
- Sublime Point - Leura.
- Gordon Falls, Olympian Rock – Leura.
- Leura Cascades – Leura.
- Govett's Leap (Bridal Veil Falls) – Blackheath.
- Evans' Lookout – Blackheath.
- Pulpit Rock, Hanging Rock – Blackheath.
- Hargraves Lookout – Shipley Plateau.
- Megalong Valley.
- Jenolan Caves.
- Zigzag railway – Clarence.
- Kanangra Walls.

Recreational and Sporting Activities:

- Bushwalking for all ages and grades, ranging from some with wheelchair access to rugged trails for experienced walkers only. NPWS guided walks are also available. Some Eco Tourism groups also lead guided walks and camping trips.
- Four Wheel Drive tours (Day and half day trips, plus extended tours).
- Horse riding (Megalong Valley).
- Fishing (Cox's River and Lake Lyell).
- Bird watching (native birds, flora and fauna).
- Kangaroos can usually be seen at dusk at Euroka Clearing – Glenbrook, Megalong Valley, Hartley Vale and Kanangra Walls.
- Stargazing – Wentworth Falls Observatory.
- Bicycle riding (hiring available).
- Golf – a number of spectacular courses welcome visitors (Wentworth Falls, Leura, Katoomba, Blackheath and Lawson).
- Swimming holes and mountain creeks, indoor heated and outdoor pools.
- Tennis
- Gyms. Indoor climbing wall – Leura.
- Lawn bowls
- The Edge Cinema (Giant Screen movie theatre) and Mount Vic Flicks.

Adventure Activities:

These may be undertaken individually or with fully trained professional guides who will supply all necessary equipment.

- Abseiling.
- Canyoning.
- Rock Climbing.
- Mountain Bike riding.

Tours:

- Harley Davidson tricycle tours.
- 4WD tours.
- Limousine tours.
- Coach tours of local area. Eg. Jenolan Caves, Heritage Tours, Mt Wilson.
- Trolley Bus Tours (All day ticket).
- Explorer Bus Tours (All day ticket).
- Taxi tours.

Arts, Crafts and Cultural Events:

- Numerous Galleries throughout the mountain villages.
- A plethora of antique shops, especially Bygone Beautys (Leura) with the largest collection of teapots in the southern hemisphere and The Victory Theatre Antiques Centre – Blackheath, which also features a wonderful community painted wall.
- Many bookshops.
- Cultural events, literary groups, dramatic and musical performances throughout the year.
- Artists' studios, workshops and galleries.
- Aboriginal Cultural centre.
- Numerous specialty and collectibles shops.
- Varuna writers' Centre – Katoomba.

Seasonal Festivals:

- Yuletide festivities from June to August (Christmas in July).
- Garden festivals – Leura, Mt. Wilson, Wentworth Falls and Blackheath (spring and autumn).
- Winter Magic Festival – Katoomba (June).
- Rhododendron Festival – Blackheath (November).
- Wine with Altitude Fair. Blackheath (November).
- Folk Festival – Katoomba (February)
- Wine Festival – Leura. (August)
- Monthly markets in most towns.
- Leura Fair – October.
- Lithgow Show – March.
- Hillcrest Coachman Jazz festival – Leura. (October)

Historical Sites:

- The Carrington Hotel.
- The Paragon Café.
- The Hydro Majestic Hotel.
- Leuralla – Toy and Rail Museum.
- Mount Victoria village.
- The ancient Wollemi Pines have recently been discovered in the area. (specimens can be seen at Mt Tomah Botanical Garden).
- Explorers' Tree.
- The Six Foot Track – Katoomba to Jenolan Caves.
- Everglades Gardens
- Hartley Village and valley. Comet and Collets Inns.
- Glow Worm Tunnel and Newnes Ghost Town – Via Zigzag Railway and Lithgow.
- Numerous aboriginal sites.
- Tarella Historic Cottage – Wentworth Falls.

Gardens:

- The Everglades – Leura.
- Blackheath Memorial Gardens. Rhododendron festival (spring).
- Mt Wilson gardens (autumn and spring).
- Mount Tomah Botanical gardens.
- Leura Garden Festival (spring).
- Wentworth Falls Garden Festival (autumn).

Restaurants, Cafes and Boutique Shops:

The Blue Mountains villages are dotted with a range of dining options from fine dining, theatre restaurants, live entertainment to casual café and deli fare. The Conservation Hut Café, which has spectacular wilderness views, is uniquely situated within the National Park at Valley of the Waters, Wentworth Falls. There are superb bakers and patisseries (Schwarz Patisserie, Wentworth Falls). Leura Mall is renowned for its eclectic mix of boutique shops, restaurants, cafes and arts and craft dealers. Barman's claims to have the biggest underground cellar in Australia.

Essential services:

Supermarkets, banks, ATMs, post offices, internet cafes, service stations and pharmacies are situated in many Blue Mountains villages. There are hospitals at Katoomba and Lithgow. Laundromats are in Katoomba (2), Blackheath and Springwood.