

Eastern Girrakool Loop



20 mins

Moderate track

803 m Circuit

↑ 39m

3

This walk explores the eastern branch of the Girrakool Loop track. Starting from the car park, this walk first visits the Aboriginal Engraving site. Before reaching Broula Lookout, there is an optional side trip to a lovely section of Piles Creek. There is a second optional side trip, to Illoura Lookout, offering limited views down to Piles Creek waterfall. The walk concludes along the footpath, which returns to the Girrakool picnic area. The lookouts do not provide the most expansive views, but it is still a lovely walk.



94m

125m

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 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 Traveling by car is the only practical way to get to Girrakool Picnic Area (gps: -33.4317, 151.2766). Car: A park entry fee is required for driving into the park.

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

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

0 | Girrakool Picnic Area

Girrakool picnic area is a wonderful family destination, just 5 minutes' drive from Kariong. The picnic area provides all the necessary facilities for a full day's activities, including barbecues, tables, shelters, water and toilets. National Park fees apply. The main picnic area is on the eastern side of the car park, and smaller, older picnic area is at the north-eastern corner of the car park. The southern Girrakool picnic area is located near the toilets. The picnic area is dedicated to John 'Jack' Higgs, the first superintendent of Brisbane Water National Park, and Mrs Vera Murdoch, who provided the funds. 'Girrakool' is an Aboriginal word meaning 'place of still waters'. [More info.](#)

0 | Girrakool Picnic Area

(190 m 4 mins) From the Girrakool picnic area car park and information sign, this walk heads across the car park to the 'Girrakool Loop 2km' signpost on the other side. The walk then follows this sign and track into the bush, leaving the freeway noise behind. The track crosses a rock platform then heads down a series of steps, to come to a large rock platform with a pine log and 'Aboriginal Site' sign. The cliff edge around the rock is un-fenced.

0.19 | Girrakool Aboriginal Engravings site

This rock platform has a log and 'Aboriginal Site' sign. Make an effort to not walk on the the engravings as this will only fade the engraving further. The engraving on this rock have faded but with a bit of effort you can make out a man and kangaroo. [More info.](#)

0.19 | Aboriginal Engravings site

(310 m 6 mins) Continue straight: From the Aboriginal Engraving Site, this walk heads down the stairs that lead through the crack a the lower end of the rock platform. The track then winds through the bush for a little while. Soon after passing a glimpse of Piles Creek, the track comes to a 'T' intersection, marked with a small arrow sign post.

0.49 | Optional sidetrip to Piles Creek Cascades

(50 m 1 mins) Turn left: From the intersection, this walk follows the track in the opposite direction to the arrow, down the hill. The track passes over the rocks, through a small crack and around the red gum tree, to come to the rocky creek bed of Piles Creek. At the end of this side trip, retrace your steps back to the main walk then Continue straight.

0.49 | Piles Creek Cascades

Piles Creek Cascades are an informally named set of cascades on a wide rock platform and Piles Creek, in Brisbane Water National Park. The creek, at this point, flows across a rock platform with many interesting sink holes, small water holes and cascades. this is a nice spot to explore. Care is needed as the

rocks are slippery, with unfenced drops, and the area may not be passable after rain.

0.49 | Int of Girrakool Loop and Piles Creek Access track

(50 m 1 mins) Turn right: From the intersection, this walk follows the arrow along the wide track (keeping the valley to the left). The track tends left to soon lead to Broula Lookout.

0.55 | Broula Lookout

Broula Lookout is fenced and a fairly short walk down from the Girrakool picnic area. Over time, the trees in the area have grown, filtering what would otherwise be a great vantage point for the Piles Creek waterfall. Broula is an Aboriginal word referring to a place of trickling water.

0.55 | Broula Lookout

(30 m 1 mins) Turn right: From Broula Lookout, this walk follows the clearer track heading directly away from the cliff to soon come to the a 'T' intersection with the 'Girrakool Loop' footpath.

0.58 | Optional sidetrip to Illoura Lookout

(40 m 1 mins) Turn left: From the intersection, this walk follows the 'Girrakool Loop' sign down along the stone path. The path soon heads down some steps and comes to a fenced and signposted 'Illoura Lookout'. At the end of this side trip, retrace your steps back to the main walk then Continue straight.

0.58 | Illoura Lookout

Illoura Lookout, Brisbane Water National Park, can be found a short walk south-west of the Girrakool picnic area, following the Great North Walk sign. This lookout provides a filtered view up and down the Leask and Piles Creek junction. There is a view of a waterfall from Piles Creek. Illoura is an Aboriginal word referring to a pleasant or peaceful place.

0.58 | Int of Picnic Area and Girrakool Loop tracks

(230 m 5 mins) Turn right: From the intersection, this walk follows the 'car park' arrow up the few steps and along the stone footpath. The path heads through the bush, up some more steps to come to the lower Girrakool picnic area. The walk then heads through the picnic tables and past the BBQ up the straight path to the large car park passing the toilet block (on the right).

