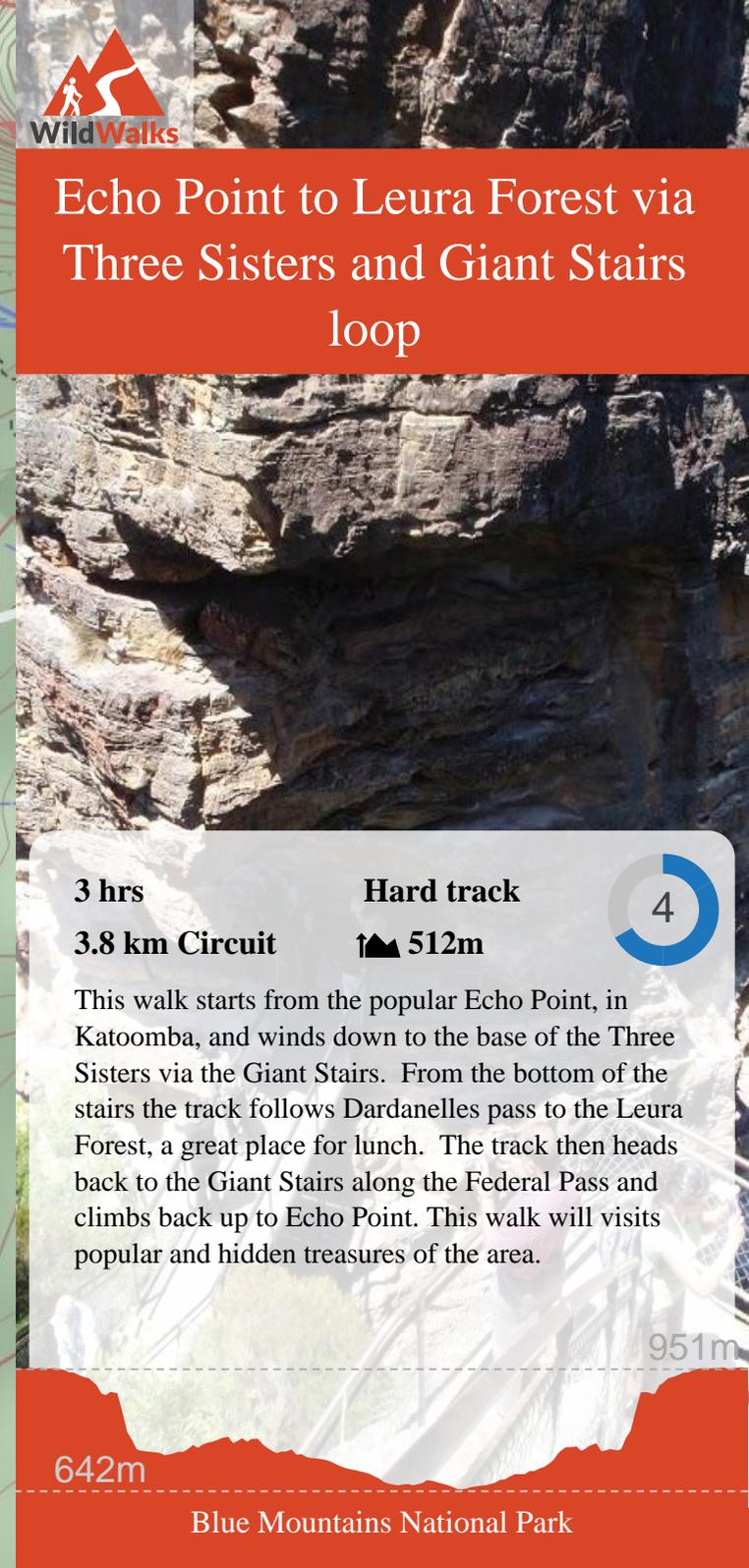
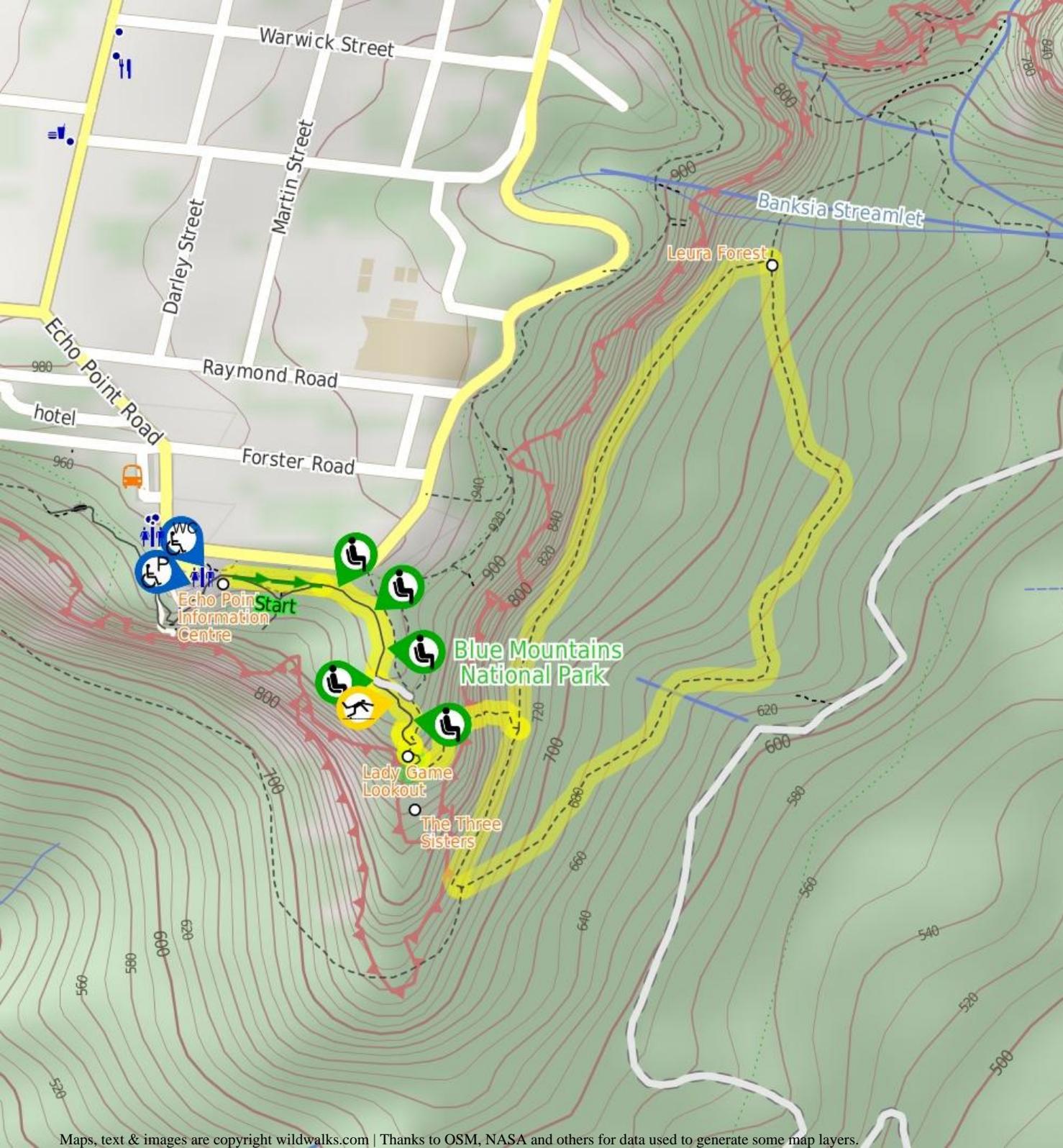




Echo Point to Leura Forest via Three Sisters and Giant Stairs loop



3 hrs

Hard track

3.8 km Circuit

512m



This walk starts from the popular Echo Point, in Katoomba, and winds down to the base of the Three Sisters via the Giant Stairs. From the bottom of the stairs the track follows Dardanelles pass to the Leura Forest, a great place for lunch. The track then heads back to the Giant Stairs along the Federal Pass and climbs back up to Echo Point. This walk will visits popular and hidden treasures of the area.

642m

951m

Blue Mountains National Park

Echo Point Information Centre

This modern building at Echo Point is a great source of information. It is open daily from 9am-5pm (except Christmas Day). There is a large range of books, maps and information about the area (and ice creams). There are toilets opposite the entrance, and mobility parking opposite. For more information, phone 1300 653 408. [More info.](#)

Lady Game Lookout

Lady Game Lookout is a narrow, fenced lookout above the Three Sisters. The track to this lookout starts just near the archway which marks the start of the Giant Staircase. Lady Game Lookout provides a bird's-eye view over the Three Sisters and is a popular stop whilst exploring the area.

The Three Sisters

This well-known rock formation can be found just south of Katoomba, and can be viewed from many of the cliffside lookouts, from Narrow Neck all the way around to Sublime Point. Historically, this formation appears in Aboriginal 'Dream Time' stories, where three sisters were transformed into stone. This iconic rock formation is popular amongst tourists and bushwalkers alike. [More info.](#)

Leura Forest

Leura Forest is a great picnic area in the Jamison Valley at the junction of the Federal Pass and Dardenelles Tracks. This place was home to a popular tea house (also known as 'Lady Carrington Dining Hall') from the late 1800's. Today walkers can still enjoy the historic rotunda and the foundations of the original tea house. The picnic area provides a great rest spot under the shade of the lilli pilli and coachwood forest.

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 Central Tablelands District](#))
- 2) Fire Dangers ([Greater Sydney Region](#))
- 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:

- 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;

1:50 000 Map Series:Six Foot Track

1:25 000 Map Series:89301S KATOOMBA

1:100 000 Map Series:8930 KATOOMBA

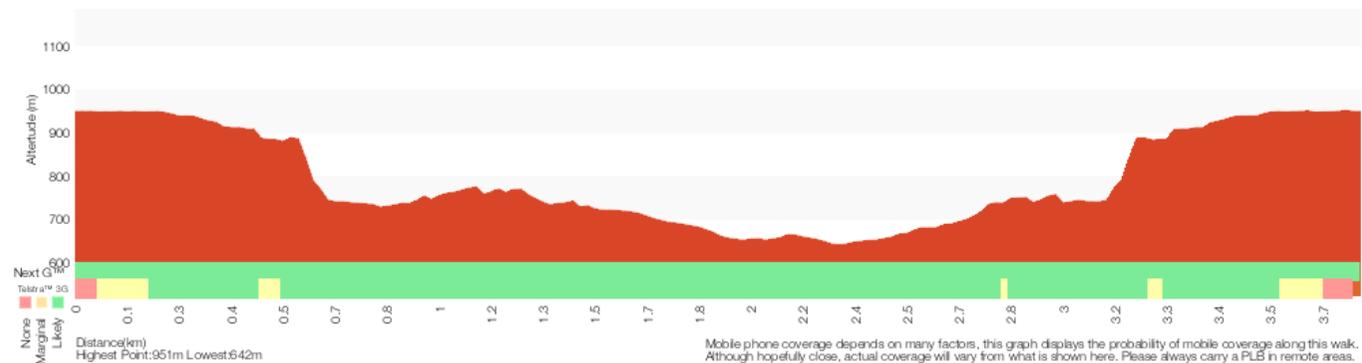
Grade

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	3.8 km Circuit
Time	3 hrs
Quality of track	Rough track, where fallen trees and other obstacles are likely (4/6)
Signs	Clearly signposted (1/6)
Experience Required	No experience required (1/6)
Weather	Storms may impact on navigation and safety (3/6)
Infrastructure	Generally useful facilities (such as fenced cliffs and seats) (1/6)



Mobile phone coverage depends on many factors, this graph displays the probability of mobile coverage along this walk. Although hopefully close, actual coverage will vary from what is shown here. Please always carry a PLB in remote areas.

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.

Getting there You can get to Echo Point Archway Intersection (gps: -33.732, 150.3127) by car 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 including; travel directions, weather, park closures and walker feedback at <http://wild.tl/ep1fvtsagsl>

0 | Echo Point Information Centre

This modern building at Echo Point is a great source of information. It is open daily from 9am-5pm (except Christmas Day). There is a large range of books, maps and information about the area (and ice creams). There are toilets opposite the entrance, and mobility parking opposite. For more information, phone 1300 653 408. [More info.](#)

0 | Echo Point Archway Intersection

(100 m 2 mins) From the intersection, this walk heads along the 'Three Sisters walkway' footpath, initially keeping the metal fence to the right. The smooth concrete path leads up and over a rise then leads gently downhill for about 80m to a signposted three-way intersection.

0.1 | Int of the Three Sisters Pathway and Spooners Look

(300 m 8 mins) Continue straight: From the intersection, this walk follows the 'Three Sisters 400m' arrow downhill along the concrete path, keeping the valley to the right. After about 15m the walk leads past a stone seat (on the left), with a blue tongue lizard sculpture. The walk continues gently downhill for another 60m to pass another sandstone seat (on the left). From here the path winds gently downhill for another 70m to find yet another sandstone seat (on the left). The path continues downhill for another 45m to find a clear intersection marked with a large 'Three Sisters Walk' sign. On the right is a small flat loose gravel area with two seats.

Continue straight: From the intersection, this walk follows the 'Three Sisters, Giant Stairway' sign moderately steeply downhill along the smooth concrete path. After about 90m this path leads past stone seat (on the left) in a small sandstone overhang. Check the miniature cicada sculptures above the overhang. From here the this walk continues a downhill along the path for about 30m to find the fenced Oreades Lookout (on the right).

0.41 | Oreades Lookout

(20 m 1 mins) Continue straight: From Oreades Lookout platform, this walk follows the main path down the steps, keeping the valley views to the right. At the bottom of the first set of steps the walking comes to an intersection with a track (on the left).

0.43 | Int of Lady Game Lookout Track and the Three Sisters

(20 m 1 mins) Continue straight: From the intersection, the walk follows the footpath down the gentle hill towards the Three Sisters, passing under a rock archway and coming to the top of the Giant Staircase.

0.44 | Optional sidetrip to Lady Game Lookout

(10 m 1 mins) Continue straight: From the intersection, the walk follows the footpath down the hill towards the Three Sisters for about 10m before coming to the Lady Game Lookout. At the end of this side trip, retrace your steps back to the main walk then Turn right.

0.44 | Lady Game Lookout

Lady Game Lookout is a narrow, fenced lookout above the Three Sisters. The track to this lookout starts just near the archway which marks the start of the Giant Staircase. Lady Game Lookout provides a bird's-eye view over the Three Sisters and is a popular stop whilst exploring the area.

0.44 | Top of the Giant Staircase

(40 m 4 mins) Turn left: From the intersection, the walk follows the steep stairs, winding down the side of the cliffs, to the intersection next to the bridge (which goes across to the overhang under the First Sister).

0.48 | Optional sidetrip to The Three Sisters

(10 m) Turn right: From the intersection, the walk crosses the bridge over to the Three Sisters. At the end of this side trip, retrace your steps back to the main walk then Veer right.

0.48 | The Three Sisters

This well-known rock formation can be found just south of Katoomba, and can be viewed from many of the cliffside lookouts, from Narrow Neck all the way around to Sublime Point. Historically, this formation appears in Aboriginal 'Dream Time' stories, where three sisters were transformed into stone. This iconic rock formation is popular amongst tourists and bushwalkers alike. [More info.](#)

0.48 | The Three Sisters Bridge intersection

(1.1 km 46 mins) Veer left: From the bridge, the walk goes steeply down the cliff using the metal Giant staircase with handrails. Along the way there are magnificent views of the valley, with chairs to help enjoy various outlooks. The walk continues to descend steeply until coming to an intersection with a flat bush track, signposted as the 'Dardenelles Walking Track'.

Turn left: From the bottom of the Giant Staircase, this walk follows the Dardenelles Pass sign towards 'Laura Forest', keeping the main cliff face on the left. There are occasional good views out over the valley to the east. Gradually, the track begins to descend and becomes more shady. In this section of track, there are often fallen logs across the track, which will need to be climbed over. Gradually, the track descends down behind the pergola at Laura Forest.

1.56 | Laura Forest

Laura Forest is a great picnic area in the Jamison Valley at the junction of the Federal Pass and Dardenelles Tracks. This place was home to a popular tea house (also known as 'Lady Carrington Dining Hall') from the late 1800's. Today walkers can still enjoy the historic rotunda and the foundations of the original tea house. The picnic area provides a great rest spot under the shade of the lilli pilli and coachwood forest.

1.56 | Laura Forest (Int of Federal Pass and Dardenelles

(1.3 km 36 mins) Turn right: From Laura Forest, the walk follows the 'Federal Pass' sign towards 'Scenic Railway'. Shortly after crossing a small creek using a little bridge, the track begins to steadily go downhill then flatten out. The environment surrounding the bush track at this point is quite dense and, while very pretty, it is difficult to see views of the surrounding area, although there are occasional glimpses of Sublime Point Service Trail on the left. After a while, the track begins to steadily climb to a signposted intersection with 'Dardenelles Pass'. There are several signposts and a bench seat.

2.85 | Int of Federal Pass, Scenic Railway and Dardenelle

(290 m 10 mins) Turn right: From the intersection, the walk follows the sign pointing along the 'Dardenelles Track' towards the 'Giant Steps' - this is the upper track, keeping the main cliffs on the left. After the first short rise, the track flattens out and continues with some great views over the valley. At

several points, small seats have been installed to enjoy these views. The track soon comes to an intersection signposted as the 'Giant Staircase'.

3.14 | Bottom of Giant Staircase

(280 m 25 mins) Turn left: From the intersection, the walk follows the sign up the 'Giant Staircase'. This climbs steeply (with handrails) until coming to an intersection with a bridge that goes across to the First of the three Sisters. Along the way, there are chairs in which to rest from the climb and enjoy the magnificent views of the valley.

Veer right: From the bridge, the walk heads up the staircase steeply to the top. The stairs have handrails and climb up the side of the cliffs to the intersection with the Lady Game Lookout track.

Turn right: From the intersection, the walk follows the footpath up and away from the lookout, passing under a rock archway and continuing up the gentle hill to the intersection with the Cliff Drive access track.

Continue straight: From the intersection, this walk heads up the stone/concrete steps on the main path to almost immediately find an unnamed, fenced lookout platform (on the left).

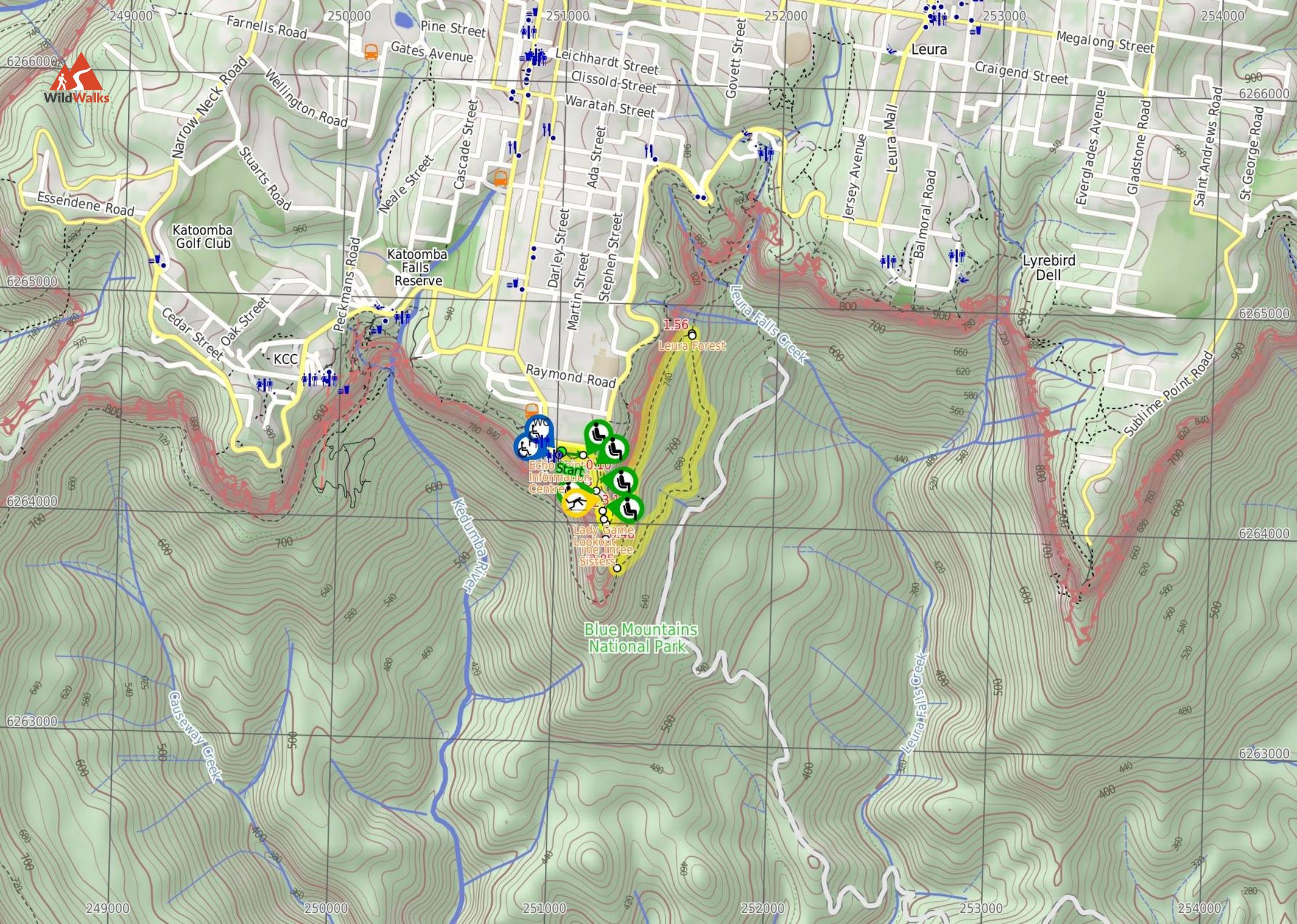
3.42 | Oreades Lookout

(110 m 3 mins) Continue straight: From Oreades Lookout, this walk heads uphill along the path for about 30m to pass a stone seat (on the right), in a small sandstone overhang. Check the miniature cicada sculptures above the overhang. From here the walk leads moderately steeply uphill along the smooth concrete path for about 90m, to come to a clear intersection marked with a large 'Three Sisters Walk' sign. On the left is a small flat loose gravel area with two seats.

3.53 | Int of Prince Henry Cliff Track and the Three Sisters

(300 m 7 mins) Continue straight: From the intersection, this walk follows the large 'Echo Point' sign uphill along the smooth concrete path. The path leads uphill for about 45m to find a sandstone seat (on the right). From here the path continues winding gently uphill for another 70m to pass another sandstone seat (on the right). From this seat the path continues gently uphill for another 60m past yet another similar stone seat (on the right), this seat has a blue tongue lizard sculpture. After another 15m this walk comes to a clear signposted Y-intersection.

Continue straight: From the intersection, this walk follows the 'Katoomba & Echo point' arrow uphill along the concrete path, initially keeping the metal fence to the left. The path leads uphill for about 80m then over a rise to head downhill for short distance to an intersection with a track (on the left) just before the stone archway near Echo Point.



Summary navigation sheet for the Echo Point to Leura Forest via Three Sisters and Giant Stairs loop



km	From	Up/Dwn	Length	Initial directions (Use full tracknotes and maps for more detail)
Start	Echo Point Archway Intersection -33.732,150.3127 (GR Katoomba, 510643)	0 -4	100 m 2 mins	From the intersection, this walk heads along the 'Three Sisters walkway' footpath, initially keeping the metal fence to the right.
0.10	Int of the Three Sisters Pathway and Spooners Lookout path -33.7321,150.3138 (GR Katoomba, 511643)	10 -33	300 m 8 mins	Continue straight: From the intersection, this walk follows the 'Three Sisters 400m' arrow downhill along the concrete path, keeping the valley to the right.
0.41	Oreades Lookout -33.7344,150.3147 (GR Katoomba, 512641)	0 -11	20 m 1 mins	Continue straight: From Oreades Lookout platform, this walk follows the main path down the steps, keeping the valley views to the right.
0.43	Int of Lady Game Lookout Track and the Three Sisters Footpath -33.7345,150.3148 (GR Katoomba, 512640)	0 -10	20 m 1 mins	Continue straight: From the intersection, the walk follows the footpath down the gentle hill towards the Three Sisters, passing under a rock archway and coming to the top of the Giant Staircase.
0.44	Top of the Giant Staircase -33.7347,150.3148 (GR Katoomba, 512640)	0 -12	10 m 1 mins	Optional sidetrip to Lady Game Lookout. Continue straight: From the intersection, the walk follows the footpath down the hill towards the Three Sisters for about 10m before coming to the Lady Game Lookout.
0.44	Top of the Giant Staircase -33.7347,150.3148 (GR Katoomba, 512640)	0 -31	40 m 4 mins	Turn left: From the intersection, the walk follows the steep stairs, winding down the side of the cliffs, to the intersection next to the bridge (which goes across to the overhang under the First Sister).
0.48	The Three Sisters Bridge Intersection -33.7349,150.3149 (GR Katoomba, 512640)	0 0	10 m	Optional sidetrip to The Three Sisters. Turn right: From the intersection, the walk crosses the bridge over to the Three Sisters.
0.48	The Three Sisters Bridge intersection -33.7349,150.3149 (GR Katoomba, 512640)	109 -259	1.1 km 46 mins	Veer left: From the bridge, the walk goes steeply down the cliff using the metal Giant staircase with handrails.
1.56	Leura Forest (Int of Federal Pass and Dardenelles Tracks) -33.7271,150.3192 (GR Katoomba, 516649)	117 -99	1.3 km 36 mins	Turn right: From Leura Forest, the walk follows the 'Federal Pass' sign towards 'Scenic Railway'.
2.85	Int of Federal Pass, Scenic Railway and Dardenelles Tracks -33.7367,150.3155 (GR Katoomba, 513638)	36 -33	290 m 10 mins	Turn right: From the intersection, the walk follows the sign pointing along the 'Dardenelles Track' towards the 'Giant Steps' - this is the upper track, keeping the main cliffs on the left.
3.14	Bottom of Giant Staircase -33.7343,150.3161 (GR Katoomba, 513641)	203 -20	280 m 25 mins	Turn left: From the intersection, the walk follows the sign up the 'Giant Staircase'.
3.42	Oreades Lookout -33.7344,150.3147 (GR Katoomba, 512641)	18 -2	110 m 3 mins	Continue straight: From Oreades Lookout, this walk heads uphill along the path for about 30m to pass a stone seat (on the right), in a small sandstone overhang.
3.53	Int of Prince Henry Cliff Track and the Three Sisters Pathway -33.7336,150.3144 (GR Katoomba, 512641)	19 -8	300 m 7 mins	Continue straight: From the intersection, this walk follows the large 'Echo Point' sign uphill along the smooth concrete path.