

Western Girrakool Loop

30 mins

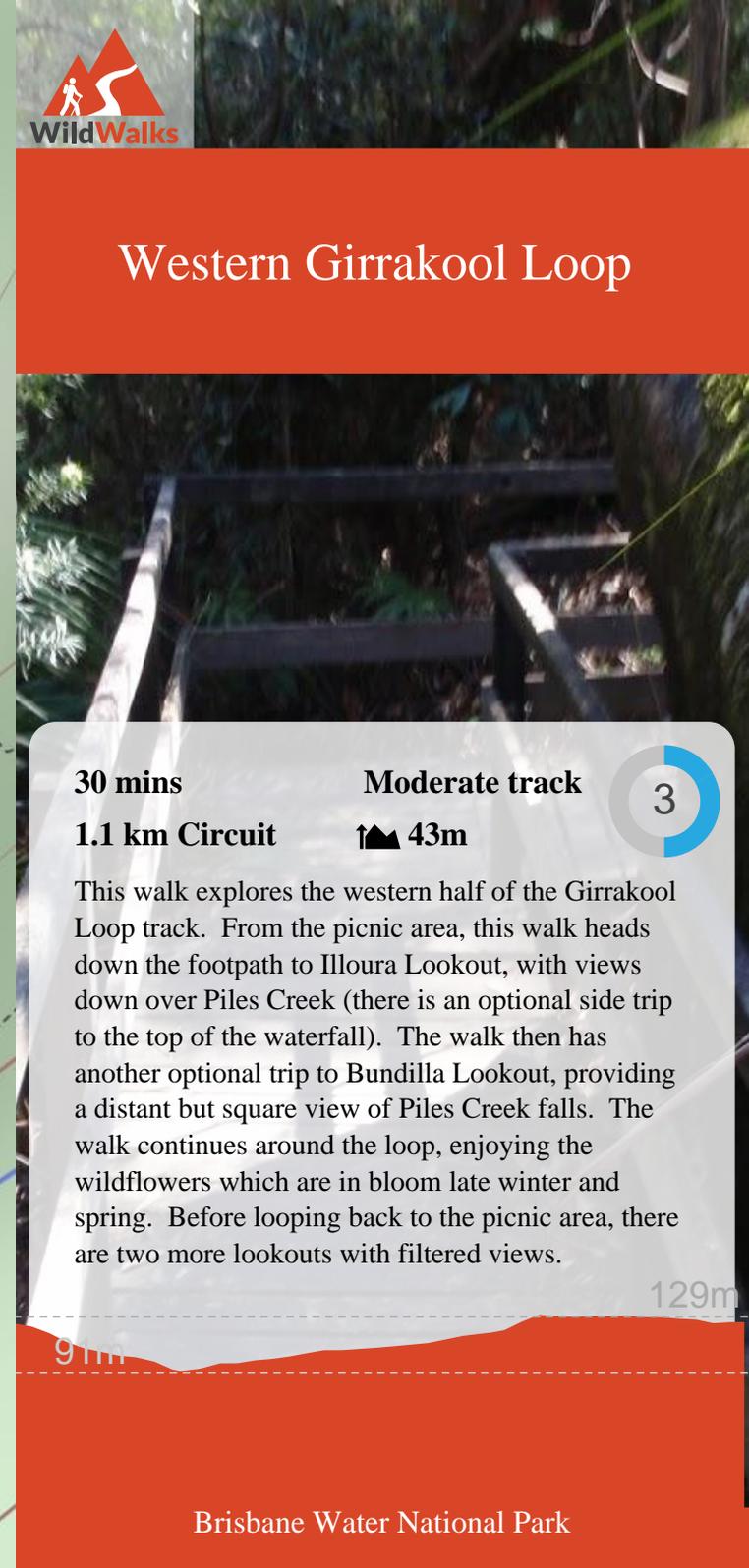
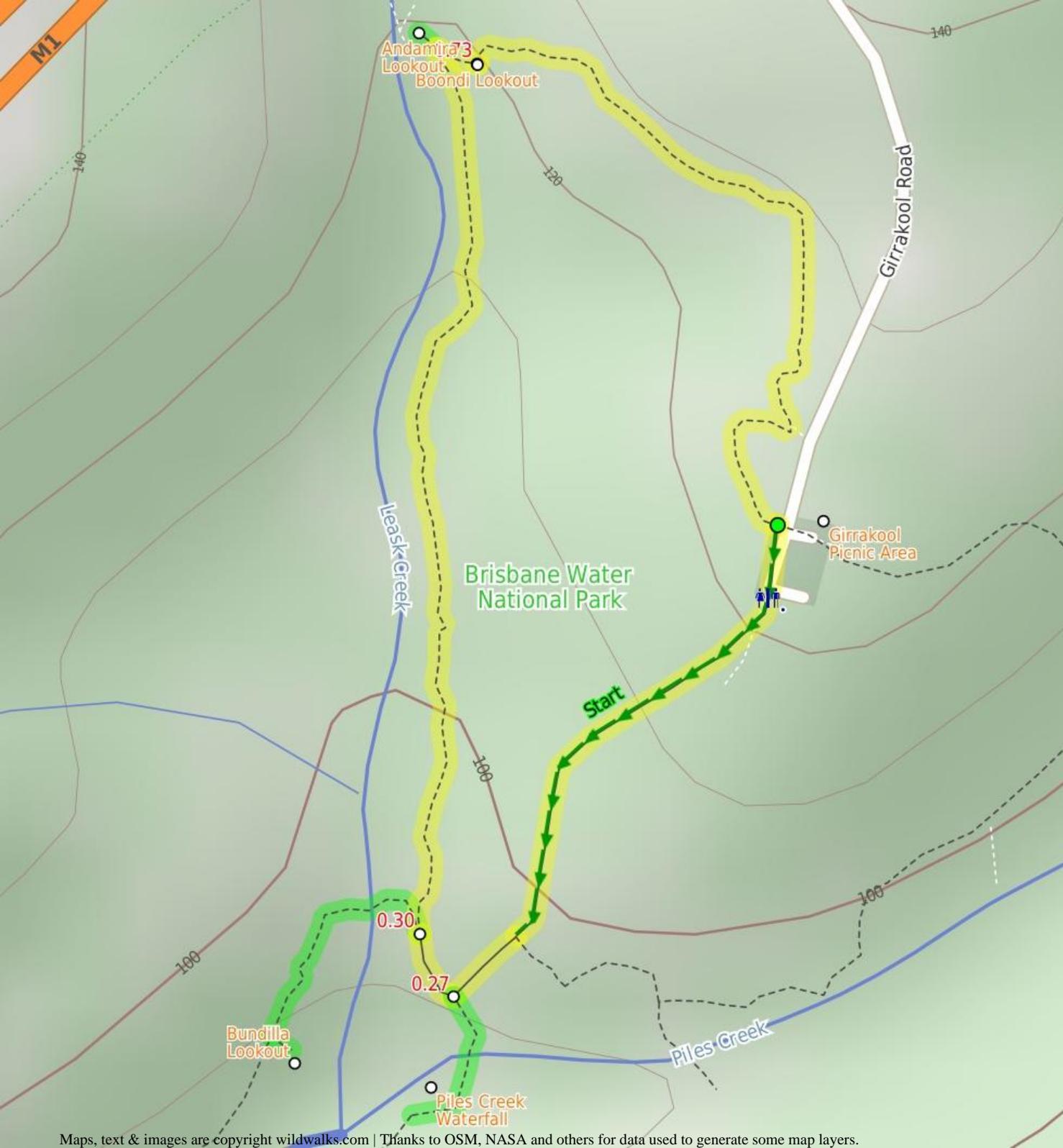
Moderate track

1.1 km Circuit

43m

3

This walk explores the western half of the Girrakool Loop track. From the picnic area, this walk heads down the footpath to Illoura Lookout, with views down over Piles Creek (there is an optional side trip to the top of the waterfall). The walk then has another optional trip to Bundilla Lookout, providing a distant but square view of Piles Creek falls. The walk continues around the loop, enjoying the wildflowers which are in bloom late winter and spring. Before looping back to the picnic area, there are two more lookouts with filtered views.



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 Traveling by car is the only practical way to get to Girrakool picnic area car park (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/wgl>

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 car park

(270 m 6 mins) From the lower side of the car park, this walk follows the 'To The Great North Walk' sign down the path to the lower picnic area. The walk passes the toilet block (on the left) and comes to another picnic area. The path passes through this picnic area to turn right following the 'Piles Creek Loop Track' sign down the steps. The footpath then leads to an intersection with the Broula Lookout track (on the left) and a 'car park' sign pointing back up the hill.

Continue straight: 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'.

0.27 | Optional sidetrip to Piles Creek Waterfall

(70 m 2 mins) Turn left: From Illoura Lookout, the walk follows the left-hand 'Piles Creek' and GNW arrow down the wooden steps (keeping the valley to the right). The track soon passes a 'Caution Low Water Level Crossing Only' sign and crosses Piles Creek using the concrete stepping stones (the creek may be impassable after rain). The track then opens up on an unfenced rock platform, at the top of the waterfall. At the end of this side trip, retrace your steps back to the main walk then Veer left.

0.27 | Piles Creek Waterfall

The large waterfall on Piles Creek is south of Girrakool Picnic Area in Brisbane Water National Park. At the Piles Creek Loop track crossing at the top of the falls, there is a large rock platform. The cliff edge is unfenced and would be dangerous to approach for the view. The water falls down the large drop, into a big pool below. The 'Bundilla Lookout' on the other side of the valley provides the only square view onto the falls, but even this only witnesses the top half.

0.27 | Illoura Lookout

(30 m 1 mins) Turn right: From Illoura Lookout, this walk follows the 'Girrakool Loop' sign keeping the green fence to the left. The track leads up some steps to soon come to a 'Y' intersection and a sign pointing back to 'Girrakool Car Park'.

0.3 | Optional sidetrip to Bundilla Lookout

(120 m 3 mins) Veer left: From the intersection, this walk follows the 'Piles Creek Loop' sign down the rocky steps (keeping the valley to the right). The track soon crosses Leask Creek on a narrow concrete footbridge. The track continues to wind gently through the bush, soon coming to an intersection with a track which heads down to Bundilla Lookout (on the left).

Turn left: From the intersection, this walk follows the track downhill to the fenced and signposted Bundilla Lookout (which is visible). At the end of this side trip, retrace your steps back to the main walk then Turn left.

0.3 | Bundilla Lookout

Bundilla Lookout provides a good (but filtered) view from the southern side of the Leask and Piles Creeks junction. From the fenced lookout, you can see the top part of Piles Creek waterfall and much of the surrounding bushland. Bundilla is an Aboriginal word meaning 'meeting of waters'.

0.3 | Int of Girrakool Loop and Piles Creek tracks

(420 m 9 mins) Veer right: From the intersection, this walk follows the 'Girrakool Loop' sign (in the opposite direction to the 'Girrakool Car Park' sign), up the rocky track to soon pass the old 'lookout' sign. The track soon cross a small timber footbridge and continues to wind through the bush for a little while before crossing another footbridge with a handrail. A short time later, the walk crosses a longer timber bridge, then leads up the hill to an intersection with Andamira Lookout (unsignposted), a short distance to the left.

0.72 | Optional sidetrip to Andamira Lookout

(10 m) Veer left: From the intersection, this walk crosses the small bridge and climbs the stairs to the fenced Andamira Lookout platform. At the end of this side trip, retrace your steps back to the main walk then Veer left.

0.72 | Andamira Lookout

The fenced Andamira Lookout is on a platform, overlooking

Leaskes Creek waterfall on the Girrakool Loop walk. The waterfall is in a sandstone and ferny amphitheatre with a sandy base. Prior to reaching the waterfall, this creek has just passed under the F3 freeway, which can be heard a short distance away. Trees have grown up over the years and the view of the water if filtered through the leaves.

0.72 | Andamira intersection

(20 m) Turn right: From the intersection, this walk heads up the track and timber steps (away from Andamira Lookout and the freeway noise). At the top of the steps, the track comes to the fenced and signposted 'Boondi Lookout'.

0.73 | Boondi Lookout

Boondi Lookout is a fenced and signposted lookout on the Girrakool Loop track, in Brisbane Water National Park. The view is mostly of the trees in the valley, with some glimpses of Leaskes Creek to the right. 'Boondi' is a word used by the Darkinjung people meaning 'Club-headed weapon'.

0.73 | Boondi Lookout

(350 m 7 mins) Turn left: From 'Boondi Lookout', this walk heads up the stairs, following the main track. The track soon flattens and gently winds through the bush, across a rock platform and across a small wooden bridge. Soon after leaving the power lines, the track comes to a fence and the top of Girrakool Picnic area. The walk heads through the picnic area, tending left to the par park and large information sign.