



St John's
Cartophiles

Wondabyne Station to Kariong Brook waterfall Saturday 23rd August, 2014

As the Great North Walk traverses the Brisbane Waters National Park it passes through harsh, dry country on a bed of Hawkesbury sandstone. Then the track drops from the ridgeline into a gully where you discover the surprisingly tranquil and beautiful Kariong Brook falls.

Our seventh day walk for 2014 takes us up into the Brisbane Waters National Park and follows a section of the Great North Walk to these lovely falls and water hole.



The walk starts and finishes at Wondabyne railway station, the only railway station in Australia which has no road access. The station is noted for its remoteness and having an extraordinarily short platform, less than a train carriage long, so passengers for Wondabyne must travel in the last carriage of the train and exit through the rear door only. It was because track work prevented us getting to the station that we had to reschedule this walk from May.

We'll meet at Hornsby Station at 9.15am on Saturday 23rd August and catch the 9.22am train to Wondabyne. We'll start walking at about 10.00am. After the walk we'll catch the train from Wondabyne back to Hornsby and retire to the Blue Gum Hotel in Waitara for a late lunch and to discuss the day's activities.

The 8.1km walk is rated hard and should take 3-3½ hrs. The initial climb out of Wondabyne Station is quite steep as is the descent to the falls, and there is the occasional short steep hill along the rest of the route. About half of the walk follows a rough foot trail; the remainder is clear and well formed track. The route is reasonably well sign-posted. It's suitable for novice walkers of reasonable fitness.

There is no water available along the way, so you will need to carry at least a litre of drinking water. Kit will carry a first aid kit. This close to the coast the weather is quite variable so wear a hat and carry wet weather gear. You should wear boots or stout walking shoes for the rough track sections. Of course, bring a camera to preserve the memories and some money for fares.

**To register for the walk, or to get more information, contact Kit Craig
at cartophiles@stjohnswahroonga.org or on
0411 507 422.**