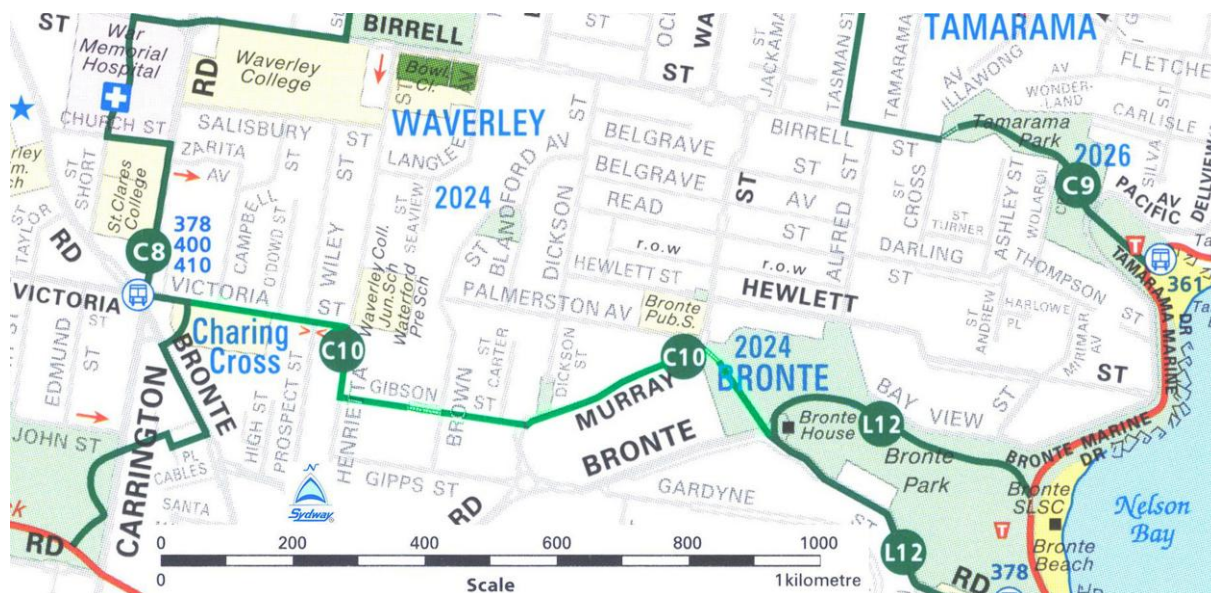


CIRCULAR QUAY TO SOUTH HEAD AND CLOVELLY

CONNECTING WALK C10: BRONTE

CHARING CROSS TO BRONTE PARK



- Main Walk:** — **Loop and Connecting Walks:** —
- Distance:** 1.6km.
- Time:** 30 mins.
- Level:** Easy-moderate (downhill), some steps.
- Transport:** Bronte Rd and Bronte buses.
- Connects with:** Main Walk (at Bronte); Link Walk L12 (Bronte Park); Connection Walk C8 (Charing Cross).
- Facilities:** *Toilets:* Bronte Park.
Picnic spots: Bronte Park.
Shops or hotels: Charing Cross, Bronte Beach.

This Connection Walk splits from Connection Walk C8 Charing Cross, in Victoria Street, Charing Cross, and drops down to join Bronte Park Loop Walk (L12) and the Main Walk at Bronte. It could be combined with walks like C8, C9, the Main Walk or the Federation Track and C2, to develop circular walks of various length and great interest.

Leave Connection Walk C8 in Victoria Street, Charing Cross, outside Mary Immaculate Church (see C8) and walk downhill in Victoria Street to the junction with Henrietta Street. Turn right and then left into Gibson Street and follow it downhill, down steps and paths to its end at Murray Street.

Even after Mary Immaculate Church, Victoria Street still has a lot to offer. The contemporary Benedictine Friary is on the right behind the tall stone wall that becomes increasingly tall downhill. Numbers 74 (*Dalrye*) and 76 (*Tavistock*), on the northern side, are Victorian villas of merit, *Dalrye* an early 1890s Italianate villa. A quick look into Wiley Street is rewarded too, as is one into Prospect Street with its fine stone terrace row full of dormers and old lace, at Numbers 5-11.

At the Henrietta Street junction, explore a little to the left (northwards). The trees are known as ‘the jungle’ and are on the site now of Waverley College Junior School, called Waterford Campus. Before the school acquired them, however, the buildings at Number 44-64 had been from 1924, the Sydney Kindergarten Training College, operated by the

Kindergarten Union. The College library after WWII was an interesting conversion of the wartime air raid shelter. However, the older buildings on the site have a longer history still. The oldest is probably *The Bungalow*, which had stood on more than a hectare of land from about 1868, while only a few years younger, is *Woodlawn*. Woodlawn has some other interesting associations, having been originally owned by the Armstrong family who were related to Dame Nellie Melba and who visited them here. From 1902, the mortgage owner (though not its inhabitant, was Alfred Deakin (1856-1919), then soon to be Australia's second Prime Minister. Deakin sold *Woodlawn* in 1916. The other house of interest on the site is the 1890s *Froebel House*, a late Victorian villa.

Henrietta Street continues as an interesting largely Victorian street to the right, but in Gibson Street, in the upper end of this street the housing becomes a very pleasant mostly Federation style. Numbers 4 and 8 are particularly good Federation examples, almost a pair, with characteristic terracotta roofs, tuckpointed brick walls and turned wood verandah posts. On the opposite side, Number 9 is another good example. All date from around the start of WWI.

The top part of the Gibson Street ends with a seaward view and steps through a pleasant park created in the steep section of the road reserve before the street resumes at Brown Street and runs down to Murray Street.

*At the Murray Street junction cross over and turn left, climbing up Murray to the point where the road swings around to the north at open space above Bronte Park. Immediately beyond a large brick unit block, steps on the right lead down to the upper reaches of Bronte Park and connection with **Loop Walk L12** and beyond that to the **Main Walk** at Bronte Beach.*

There is not much to note in Murray Street other than traffic, although it passes a Montessori pre-school just before the large brick apartment block beyond which the ocean views open up again as the street swings left. The steps down enter Bronte Park above the area once known as Ebsworth Glen, where remnant waterfalls feed the stream into the park. Once the level area is reached, Bronte Road is straight ahead up the incline of the park and Loop Walk L12 is joined on its way past Bronte House and down to rejoin the **Main Walk** at Bronte Beach.