

**Further Information**

This brochure is one of a series under the theme ‘Sharing Sydney Harbour’ for walks near the Harbour. It covers coastal walks from Berrys Bay to Cronulla as shown on the Trunk Walking routes diagram. For adjacent connecting walks see Manly Lagoon to North Head & the Spit and Harbour to Great North Walk, while south of the Bridge see Harbour Bridge to South Head & Clovelly or explore the inner harbour west of the Bridge with A Harbour Circle Walk.

Although material in these brochures is downloadable from www.walkingcoastalsydney.com.au or www.walkingnsw.net, printing out brochures such as these may be a problem and it would be better to obtain the actual brochure/maps. Subject to print runs, these are free from these bodies and the Councils below. In some cases they will also have supplementary material relevant to these walks. All maps are also available on the ‘Sydney Walker’ mobile phone app. Department of Planning and Infrastructure Information Centre 23 Bridge St, Sydney 2000 Tel 9228 6111 www.planning.nsw.gov.au/harbour and follow link to ‘Walking Sydney Harbour’

**Land & Property Management Authority**

1 Prince Albert Road, Queens Square, Sydney 2000 Tel 9228 6666

The Sydney Map shop on the ground floor has copies of the Harbour to Hawkesbury Walking Track brochure and a map and guide to The Great North Walk. See also www.lands.nsw.gov.au

**Sydney Harbour Federation Trust**

Best Avenue, Georges Heights, Mosman 2088 Tel 9699 2100

They have a Walking Taronga to Balmoral brochure. For information on Sydney Harbour Federation Trust, please visit their Facebook page.

**National Parks & Wildlife Service**

Governors Road, Middle Harbour 2088 Tel 9960 6266

They provide information on Sydney Harbour National Park walks, brochures on Middle Harbour fortifications and tours booked by tel 9437 3033 or www.nationalparks.nsw.gov.au

**Mosman Council**

Mosman Square, Spit Junction 2088 Tel 9978 4000

Brochures for walks in Mosman are available from the Community Information and Advice Library or from www.mosman.nsw.gov.au

**North Sydney Council**

200 Miller Street, North Sydney 2060 Tel 9936 8100

Publications describing walks in North Sydney are available from Council’s Customer Service Centre or Stanitar Library or from www.northsydney.nsw.gov.au and follow the link to ‘recreation’.

**Harbour Bridge to Spit Bridge Walks**

The routes between these two bridges embrace main and Middle Harbour foreshores, a section of one of Sydney’s most interesting residential streets with a mixture of Federation style and opulent modern architecture. There are also reminders of the span of history from Aboriginal times, from the First Fleet, from times when it was a base for whaling and times of war or threat of war when fortifications were built to guard the shipping entrance and over headlands and ridges, skirt many viewpoints and pass through parks, rainforest remnants and bushland.

At the Spit Bridge longer distance walkers can join the Harbour to Hawkesbury (Mary to Cowan) Track which then connects with the Great North Walk to Newcastle. For a circle, you could then take the Great North Walk back through the Lane Cove National Park to the Harbour Bridge (see adjacent Trunk Walking Routes map).

This brochure suggests two main walks (marked in red) from the Harbour Bridge to the Spit Bridge and from there on to Manly (see below). It also indicates a variety of loop or short cut routes marked in green. These enable the walk to be broken into smaller segments to be tackled over a number of days. They allow you to explore significant areas not covered by the main routes, for example, a network of paths over the Mosman headlands including the former military bases and fortifications. For more details see the brochure ‘Walking Taronga to Balmoral’ available free from Harbour Trust, National Parks and Mosman Council.

**The Harbour (East) Route**

From the Harbour Bridge this route skirts the foreshores of the main harbour at Cremorne Point and Mosman Bay past Taronga Zoo and Middle Head then to Balmoral and Chimneys Beach to the Spit.

**The Middle Harbour (West) Route**

This route diverges from the main harbour route at Ben Boyd Road then via Barry and Young Streets to Middle Harbour at Primrose Park, following waterfront properties to Quakers Hat and Beauty Point then via waterfront reserve as far as Spit Bridge.

**Spit Bridge to Manly Walk**

This walk, through sections of the Sydney Harbour National Park, Council foreshores and beaches, provides one of the finest walks in the environs of a major city anywhere in the world. Starting and finishing close to water level at Bare Island suburbs, midway the walk climbs up through the National Park over coastal heath past Aboriginal rock carvings to the heights at Balgowlah offering expansive views across to the Heads guarding the entrance to the harbour.

In places the routes involves moderately deep climbs up steps cut into dramatic rock outcrops offering glimpses of secluded beaches below and overhanging slabs of ochre-stained sandstone above. Generally however the grades are gentle, bearing in mind that these are bush tracks rather than sealed suburban walkways.

For more details see the ‘Manly Scenic Walkway’ brochure at www.mansy.nsw.gov.au

**Planning Your Walks**

The suggested routes, both red and green, offer permutations that provide walks of varying length, difficulty and scenery. While the text describes starting at the Harbour Bridge and finishing at Manly, the direction can be reversed and a number of different starting points are possible, especially when a circle walk is planned. Accessing a starting point by car presents the problem of parking and returning to it (hence the attaction of circle walks) but fortunately the area of the walks is well served by buses and ferries and the rail stations at Milsons Point and Circular Quay are convenient. It is possible to begin walking and end their walk at the Harbour Bridge. Bus route numbers are shown on the map, Timetables and at ‘Walking Sydney’ should be checked at the Transport InfoLine tel. 131 500 or www.131500.com.au

Following are a number of suggestions for walks of a few hours to a few days duration utilising public transport, but see the section on Companion Brochures to help you plan further walks to suit your own interests, fitness and time budgets.

**SHORT WALKS**

Cremorne to Zoo – Ferry from Circular Quay to Cremorne Point. Opposite the wharf take the steps up to the path that takes you down the east side of the peninsula, part of the East (red) route, and follow this as far as the ferry wharf at Taronga Zoo for a ferry back to Circular Quay.

Kirribilli to Cremorne – Ferry to Jeffrey Street or Milsons Point wharves or train to Milsons Point station then use the green Kirribilli and Karabula Point loops before rejoining the (red) East route to Cremorne Point wharf for a ferry back to Circular Quay (or bus up to Military Road).

Squat Junction to Spit – Bus on Military Road to Cowles Road walk north to the Middle Harbour route at Bay Street to Quakers Hat and the Spit for return taxi.

Mosman Wharf to Balmoral – Ferry to Mosman then on green route as far as Wolseley Road then branch east at Keith Avenue for the green route leading to Plunkett Reserve and bus to the Balmoral Esplanade.

Taronga to Balmoral – Ferry to Taronga Zoo wharf then join the East (red) route to Mosman for bus connections (9hrs 30min 10km) or retrace the previous route for a walk back to Mosman wharf. (See also Council websites for additional short walks)

**ONE DAY WALKS**

A Circle Walk – Starting at Milsons Point station take the main Harbour (East) route to the Spit for lunch then return via the West (green) route back to Milsons Point. Walking time 6hrs 30min

A Walk/Ferry Round Trip – Starting at Circular Quay take the public lift from the plaza of the east side of the walk up onto the Cahill Expressway (or walk west through the Rocks to Cumberland Street) for access to the Harbour Bridge walkway then at Milsons Point proceed by the Middle Harbour (West) route to the Spit for lunch and in the afternoon walk the Spit to Manly ferry return to Circular Quay by the Manly ferry.

Walking time 6hrs 30min

**Acknowledgements and Suggestions**

These brochures have been developed by The Walking Volunteers, a group of individuals who enjoy exploring areas on foot and through their walking gains an awareness of how beautiful they are. It is possible that walking is one of the most effective means of maintaining health, in particular combating obesity. It is both recreation and a means of transport but without pollution and without adding to congestion on our roads.

While their achievements to date have been far reaching this could not have been possible without the active cooperation of the various authorities and Councils referred to earlier and without the assistance of Sydney Street Directories mapping division.

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Please let the Program Coordinator know of any errors, omissions, or suggestions to improve future editions or other similar publications.

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