

Bushwalking NSW

The Great Escarpment Trail

Linking Gondwana World Heritage Rainforests

The Great Escarpment Trail will provide an outstanding recreation opportunity to explore the World Heritage Gondwana Rainforests of Australia, culture, history, and much more, stretching from the Mid-Coast region of NSW to the Queensland border ranges.

Going *on country* to experience firsthand the natural attractions of our great land is a privilege available to all.

The trail will enable those undertaking low impact recreation activities such as walking to experience our bush heritage as they pass though national park, state forest, rural landscapes, historic sites, country roads and towns.

Whether done in toto over an extended period, or in increments over a period of years, the Great Escarpment Trail will become a valued asset to enhance the health and wellbeing of both Australian residents and international visitors as they accept the challenge of completing it in a manner suited to themselves.

Not only will they discover our natural wonders, the scenic beauty, sounds and smells of our bushland, but they will discover themselves as they satisfy their wanderlust.



Some statistics on the full trail:

- Length: 1454.38 km (Lagoon Pinch Picnic Area to Boonah Visitor Information Centre.)
- Maximum elevation: 1582 m Flank of Polblue Mountain, Barrington Tops NP.
- Minimum elevation: 6 m Bellinger River Bridge, Bellingen.
- Average elevation: 820 m inside the altitude band for Gondwana Rainforests of Australia.
- Total elevation gain:
 - Travelling towards Boonah 42681 metres
 - o Travelling towards Barrington Tops 41490 metres
- Average gradient:
 - o Travelling towards Boonah 2.93%
 - Travelling towards Barrington Tops 2.85%
- Steepest section gradient:
 - Travelling towards Boonah Dorrigo National Park section 7.5%
 - Travelling towards Barrington Tops Oakes State Forest, Baalijin Nature Reserve,
 Diehappy SF, Scotchman SF section 5.5%
- Gentlest Section:
 - Travelling towards Boonah Barrington Tops to Woko NP section 2.62%
 - Travelling towards Barrington Tops Girard SF section 0.68%

TRAIL PROMOTION

The trail is being identified, mapped and promoted by Bushwalking Queensland Inc. (BWQ), the peak body of bushwalking clubs in Queensland, and Bushwalking NSW (BNSW), the peak body of bushwalking clubs in New South Wales and the Australian Capital Territory.

BWQ and BNSW are working on developing this trail through the World Heritage Gondwana Rainforests of Australia to eventually provide a multi-day walk linking Sydney and Brisbane.

We would like to hear your thoughts on the trail in this <u>quick survey</u>.

If you would like to help us ground truth the trail let us know at: https://www.bushwalkingnsw.org.au/contact-us/ and you could win a great Paddy Pallin prize in our ground truthing competition!

GOVERNANCE

A governing body will be created whose objectives are to promote and oversee the use of the Great Escarpment Trail (GET), and to foster the development and maintenance of the GET.

The governance body would apply for grants to support its activities, provide information on the trail and promote its use, run a website and smartphone app (funding permitting) with trail information, develop and deploy signage along the trail. It could also organise volunteers to maintain the trail, and organise events on the Trail.

If you are interested in being involved just reach out to us at: https://www.bushwalkingnsw.org.au/contact-us/