

# ROUTE 1

## ARTARMON TO NORTHBRIDGE VIA NAREMBURN AND ST LEONARDS

5.7km walk (plus 1.2km return loop)

*Starting from Artarmon Station, this walk highlights some of Artarmon and Naremburn's hidden delights. This section of the walk will take you through the remnant Blue Gum High Forest of Artarmon Reserve and past Naremburn's early 1920s architecture and the historic ruins of Fatty Dawson's Piggery.*

**Allow 1 hr 15 min for the main walk plus an extra 30 min for the return loop.**

### Nearby Amenities:



St Leonards Station, Artarmon Station, Willoughby Rd Naremburn



Pacific Highway St Leonards, Willoughby Rd Naremburn



St Leonards Station, Artarmon Station

This walk starts at the rail underpass on Burra Rd. Enter Artarmon Reserve along the bush track beside the railway line and follow the path through remnant Blue Gum High Forest. *You will find a number of information plaques along the path providing facts about the area.* Once you reach Artarmon Oval, follow the path to the Warringah Freeway underpass, until you reach the junction. Take the path to the right and continue through to Francis St. On the far side of Francis St is a bush track which takes you past Naremburn Park, and across Dalleys Rd joining a sealed track at Talus Reserve. On exiting Talus Reserve, turn left towards Northcote St. *You can spot some charming cottages on your right in Plunkett St.* Continue along Northcote St and take a right into Hutton Ln into Dalleys Rd turning right at Willoughby Rd. *If you want a good cup of coffee turn left down Willoughby Rd and take a 50 metre detour to the local shops.* Cross Willoughby Rd and follow the route along Merrenburn Ave, left into Brook St and right into Marks St. The steps at the end of the road will lead you down to the lower section of Marks St where there is a cycle path to the

right of Quarry St. Follow West St through to the end of Market St where you enter Flat Rock Gully. Take the path on the right and turn right after a few yards down the steps along the Dawson Track. Follow this down towards the creek where there is a signpost with arrows. *A detour uphill will take you to the ruins of a sandstone cottage built by Fatty Dawson who ran a Piggery nearby in the 1870s, or go left to the creek crossing to continue the walk. The walls along point were constructed during depressions in the 1890s and 1930s.* The path winds up the bank and past an attractive waterfall. At the end of the bush track you reach a junction in the paths. Take the left bush path to do the return loop (see additional notes below). If you are continuing the main walk, take the right hand sealed path. *The boardwalks off to the right – which lead to frog habitats – rejoin the main path.* About 50 metres along this path, take the bush track to the right, and go 20 metres along to a set of stepping stones across the gully on the right. Cross the gully and go up the rough track – avoiding the faint path which goes straight on – and veering left along the rocky track. This goes up some steps to a bush path which leads to Calbina Rd, and Route 2 of the Round Willoughby Walk.

### RETURN LOOP TO ARTARMON STATION

Follow the bush path to the attractive underpass beneath Flat Rock drive. Follow the path through Bicentennial Reserve, past Henry Lawson's Cave and through a sandstone bridge. *Constructed in 1886, this bridge is one of Sydney's few remaining sandstone arch bridges.* At the junction after the bridge, take the right fork along the shared path towards Artarmon. When you reach the point where the path goes under the freeway, turn right to Artarmon. It's a ten minute walk back to Artarmon Station through Artarmon Reserve.



Flat Rock Creek