

ROUTE 5 CASTLE COVE

6km walk (plus 260m return loop)

Following the North Arm Walking Track, this route takes in views over the valley and the waters of Sugarloaf Bay, Castle Cove and Middle Harbour. You can admire these views from both the track and several lookouts along the way.

Allow 1 hour 50 minutes for the main walk and an additional 30 minutes for the return loop.

Nearby Amenities:



Eastern Valley Way with a bus stop near Greenfield Ave

WALKING NOTES – CASTLE COVE LOOP

The North Arm Walking Track starts in North Arm Road opposite Number 30, and follows a steep set of steps down to the mangroves beside North Arm and Castle Cove. Crossing a wooden bridge at the bottom, take the steps up the hill 50 metres along on the left. When you reach Scotts Creek turn left in the direction marked H C Press. *There are attractive rock formations on the left, and you may spot the Azure Kingfisher.* Cross the bridge over Scotts Creek and go up the steps and turn right into the sealed road. After 250 metres turn right along a path. The road ahead marked 'Denawen Rd' is the route by which the return loop rejoins the main route. *The track winds along with pleasant views over the valley and goes through open woodland with glimpses of the waters of North Arm on the right. You pass a Sydney Water station on the right, where there are fine views across the bay – a good place to stop for a rest and a drink.* Follow the gravel road until you get to a car park. The track goes off on the right past a locked gate. *For an interesting detour to see Willis Castle, take the sealed road – Willis Rd - up to the left. Willis Castle is about 350m on the left. The best place to see it is from Cherry Pl. Please note that the grounds are private. This detour takes about ten minutes.* Return to the main track which goes along by Sugarloaf Bay. After about 50 metres along a sealed section, the track goes off on the left, with a marker saying H C Press. *Along the track on the left is a nice beach and lovely*

views of water and boats as it winds up the hill. The track continues alongside Sugarloaf Bay and up the hill until it reaches the site of the H C Press Picnic Grounds and Dance Hall, which was very popular between 1935 and 1958. Go through this and continue along the track to the junction of Cammeray Rd and Emerstan Dr and follow Cammeray Rd. *Explosives Reserve is on the right, which has some pleasant circular walks which all return to the entrance in Cammeray Rd.* When you reach Willowie Rd, turn right and follow the road alongside H D Robb Reserve. *There are magnificent views across the water and up to Roseville Bridge. At the top of Willowie Rd are a couple of benches overlooking the harbour. There is also a short path down to a lookout.* At the end of Willowie Rd, turn right into Neerim Rd and take a quickly left into Denawen Rd until you reach Deepwater Rd. The main track continues along Deepwater Rd, but the return loop goes off to the left after a few yards, past a locked gate down a sealed road marked with North Arm Reserve.

RETURN LOOP TO NORTH ARM ROAD

The sealed road goes downhill, passing a track off to the left – this is the point where we re-join the main track. Continue along the sealed road, and just before the gates of Sydney Water take the track down the steps on the left. This takes you back across Scotts Creek to North Arm Rd and the start of the walk.



North Arm Track