

## Glenbrook to Red Hands Cave (via Jellybean Pool)



This walk takes you across Glenbrook Gorge and up Campfire Creek to Red Hands Cave. The walk is quite serene and you can enjoy some peace as you wander along the trail to the art in Red Hands Cave. The side trip to the grinding grooves is worthwhile to complement the cave art.

Blue Mountains National Park

Length: 4.4 km
Time: 2 hrs
Climb: 259 m
Style: One way

Rating: Track: Hard

Where: 1.3 km SSE of Glenbrook

**Transport:** bus car

Visit <u>www.wildwalks.com</u> for more info



Side trips and Alternate routes mentioned in these notes are not included in the tracks overall rating, distance or time estimate. The notes only describe the side trips and Alternate routes in one direction. Allow extra time for resting and exploring areas of interest. Please ensure you and your group are well prepared and equipped for all possible hazards and delays. The authors, staff and owners of wildwalks take care in preparing these notes but will not accept responsibility for any inconvenience, loss or injury sustained by using these notes or maps. Please take care and share your experience through the website. Please check park closures, weather information and Fire Danger Rating just before leaving for your walk. Walk maybe closed during Total Fire Ban. GPS for start the start of this walk:-33.7782,150.6207 & for the end:-33.7834,150.5903





#### Wildwalks

April & May 2014 bushwalking Magazine.

Download the full magazine for free **Bushwalk Australia eMag** 

The eMagazine is produces by the community at <u>bushwalk.com</u> and the Wildwalks team <u>Bushwalk.com</u> Australia's most active bushwalking forum - Check it out.

Happy Reading. Matt :)



#### **NPWS Glenbrook Information Centre**

The NPWS information centre and car park are found just before the 'toll both' on Bruce Road. You will find tap water, toilets, garbage bins and information signs about the region. A great spot to chat to staff and get updates on the conditions in the park.



#### Glenbrook Information Centre car park to Jelly Bean Pool 0.5km 10 mins

(From S) From the bottom of the car park in front at the visitor information centre, the walk follows the direction of the 'Jellybean Pool' sign down the hill. The path leads down the hill passing two benches (on the right) and then descends track (and steps) into the bush. The track winds down the hill for a while, crossing a road two times on the way. The walk comes to the road a third time, just before the end of the sealed section, at a large gravel clearing (Jelly Bean Pool car park). The walk continues down the car park to the bins at the bottom, near a 'Jelly Bean Pool' sign.

Continue straight: From the bins at the bottom of Jellybean Pool car park, the walk heads down the hill to the 'Jellybean Pool' sign next to the stairs. The walk heads down the stairs and soon turns right, under the rocks. The track then leads below the rocks and turns left, down the metal stairs to the rock platform above Jellybean Pool.



#### Jellybean Pool

Jellybean Pool is a large pool in Glenbrook Creek, just south of the weir. The pool has a few sandy beaches, rock platforms and is surrounded by cliffs. Jumping and diving is not a good idea, and is not permitted. This is a popular spot for locals to swim. Swimming can be dangerous - the creek is especially dangerous after rain. Check with rangers before heading in.



#### Jelly Bean Pool to Eastern side of Causeway 0.3km 5 mins

(From 0.5 km) Turn right: From the bottom of the metal stairs, the walk follows the edge of the creek upstream keeping the water (This creek does become impassable after heavy or prolonged rain). The track is not very obvious but this section of the walk winds over and around boulders beside the main creek until coming to a paved area just before the Bruce Road causeway. The walk heads through the paved area to Bruce Road, with the causeway and creek still on the left.



#### Eastern side of Causeway to Campfire Creek sign side of Causeway 0km

(From 0.82 km) Turn left: From the paved area side of the causeway, the walk crosses the creek via the causeway, then heads to the area beneath the 'Camp Fire Creek Track' sign. The causeway may be impassable after rain.

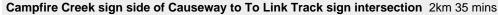


Glenbrook causeway is the only way for vehicles to cross Glenbrook Creek. It is a concrete road, with a raised gutter for pedestrians to cross the creek. The causeway is subject to flooding. Glenbrook causeway is a crossing point for many of the popular walks throughout the Glenbrook Valley area.

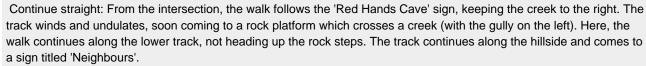


## Glenbrook to Red Hands Cave (via Jellybean Pool)





(From 0.83 km) Turn right: From the causeway, the walk follows the 'Camp Fire Creek Track' sign along the water's edge to the signposts for 'Red Hands Cave' and 'Car park'.





Continue straight: From the intersection, the walk heads across the small bridge and up the track. The walk soon passes over another small wooden bridge and then continues through the bush, with the creek on the right. Winding for a short time, the track comes to an un-signposted intersection.

Turn left: From the intersection, the walk heads up the hill, winding above the creek (on the right). The track follows the hillside for quite some time, passing near the creek in places, before coming to a 'Glenbrook Causeway' sign.



#### To Link Track sign intersection to Axe Grinding Grooves 0.4km 5 mins Optional Side Trip:

(From 2.82 km) Turn left: From the intersection, the walk follows the 'To Link Track' sign, which leads the track above the creek (keeping the creek below on the right). The track continues undulating above the creek for some time before passing a sign (with information about the grinding grooves), and almost immediately arrives at a rocky creek junction. (Retrace your steps back to the main track, then turn left to continue along this walk.)



#### **Axe Grinding Grooves**

These well-defined axe grinding groves are found on the sandstone bed of Camp Fire Creek. The grooves were formed by Aboriginal people when sharpening axes (or forming axe blanks). Rubbing the axe blanks would sharpen the stone into a more useful tool, and the process would also wear the sandstone, leaving these markings. These sites are typically found near water, as the water was added to make the stone more abrasive. Sites like this will fade in time due to erosion of the sandstone - please help them last as long as possible by not walking on, or close to the grooves. More info



#### To Link Track sign intersection to Red Hands Cave 1.1km 30 mins

(From 2.82 km) Continue straight: From the intersection, the walk follows the 'Red Hands Cave' sign down across the creek. The track leads over a small rise across another smaller creek, then follows the hillside for a short while, passing a bench seat and then a small log bridge. The track then starts tending left, heading up to a rocky outcrop where the walk arrives at the metal verandah of Red Hands Cave.



#### **Red Hands Cave**

Red Hands Cave, in the Glenbrook area of the Blue Mountains National Park, is found near the end of Red Hands Cave fire trail. The cave has quite a few hand stencils and prints of various colours (including red). The cave is well protected, with a perspex and steel cage. There are some information signs and some artifacts to help visitors learn more about the people who made these prints over 1600 years ago. In 1913, when searching for a lost child, this cave was found by Europeans and is now protected.



#### Red Hands Cave to Red Hands Cave car park 0.5km 10 mins

(From 3.9 km) Continue straight: From Red Hands Cave, the walk heads up the stairs, winding to be above Red Hands Cave. The track then continues across the rocky surface, slowly climbing through the bush and leading away from the rock outcrop. The track winds through a few rocky outcrops, tending right, before coming to a car park and 'Red Hands Cave' sign (pointing back to the cave).



#### **Red Hands Cave Picnic Area**

Red Hands Cave Picnic Area is found at the end of the Red Hands Cave Fire Trail in the Glenbrook area of the Blue Mountains National Park. The small picnic area is next to the car park and has a couple of platforms (to act as both a table and seat) as well as a fire place and toilet. The toilet itself is wheelchair accessible, but access to the toilet is over moderately rough terrain. A good spot to rest when exploring Red Hands Cave.

# wild

## Glenbrook to Red Hands Cave (via Jellybean Pool)



Give the joy of walking to a friend (and support wildwalks)

www.wildwalks.com/books.html



