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Austins Ferry/Granton Walking Trails¹

Map References are to the Tasmanian Towns – Street Atlas

This document is entirely from “Glenorchy Walking Trails” published by the Glenorchy City Council and available freely on their web at

<http://www.visitglenorchy.com.au/resources/files/glenorchyWalkingTrails.pdf> (last accessed 23 Jan 09)

1 Lagoon Walk

300 metres Map 69 - C2, C3

Easy

Begin at the Gould’s Lagoon parking area in Hestercombe Road. Walk around the edge of the lagoon in a north or south direction. This is a bird sanctuary of great significance for Tasmania. This is a short walk with emphasis on relaxing in a truly natural environment with the bird life and its colourful and feathery extravaganza, food for the soul.

If you stop and listen sometimes you can hear the banjo frog singing. The track is short and the bird hide can also be accessed. The special feature of this walk is the bird sanctuary. Swans and many water birds crossing the Main Road to Glenorchy is a regular site to be seen and we caution drivers to drive slowly.

Remember, birds have the right of way. The lagoon as wetland area is also the breeding area for various bird species. Make sure that you take your Tasmania Bird life Book, binoculars and camera with you. Walks for this area should be planned for early morning and late afternoon when traffic is quiet and the beauty of the rising and setting sun with bird life awakening are at its fluttering best Weekends are the best time to do walks around this area.

2 Residential Walk

2 km (Circle) Map 69 – C2, B2

Medium

Begin at the parking area at Gould’s Lagoon. Walk to the entrance and turn right into Hestercombe Road in a northerly direction. Walk on the footpath on the right-hand side of the road. Follow the road up the hill turn right into Sharron Drive. Enjoy the great views of the Derwent River, the North Eastern Escarpment, the Eastern Shore Mountains and the distant features of Mount Wellington.

¹ Acknowledgement is made to the Glenorchy city council for assistance on this document

Continue walking down Sharron Drive to the Main Road T-Junction. Turn right into Main Road and follow the road to the Sharron Drive junction. There is a Caltex Garage on the corner with a convenient store for refreshments.

Turn right and head back to the entrance to Gould's Lagoon parking area. You can do this walk in a clockwise or anti-clockwise direction.

There are no toilets or other facilities at the beginning of the Gould's Lagoon walks.

Link Walks

Map 69 – C2, C3, D4, D5, E5, D6, E6

Gould's Lagoon to Roseneath Park

2.3km one-way, or 4.6 km out and back.

Gould's Lagoon to Poimena Reserve

2.8km one-way or 4.6 km out and back.

Walking down the northern slopes of Poimena Reserve onto Sunshine Road and then travelling north to Arncliffe Road turning right and rejoining Main Road returning to Gould's Lagoon can vary this walk.

Gould's Lagoon to Austins Ferry Foreshore Parks

Walking to James Austin Park, Weston Park and Shoobridge Park is approximately 2.8 km one-way or 5.6 out and back.

Easy walks

Take an easy walk beginning either from Gould's Lagoon, Roseneath Park, Poimena Reserve or Austins Ferry Bay. Follow Main Road from either way.

Walk on the footpath, left or right. The walk goes past residential areas and also past St Virgil's College. This is an excellent walk to do in early morning or late afternoon when it is quiet and the natural and urban setting can be appreciated.

It is recommended for serious walkers that want to do a longer distance to start at Roseneath Park and walk to Gould's Lagoon and back – **4 km**.

There are picnic, water and toilet facilities at Roseneath Park. This **walk** can be enhanced by walking into Poimena Reserve via Wakehurst Road or Austin's Ferry Cottage at the James Austin Park via Austins Ferry Road.

You can explore the foreshore parklands of Weston Park and Shoobridge Park via the Austins Ferry Road to extend the distance and interest, visiting the natural foreshore in Rusts Bay.

3 Reservoir Walk

600 metres (circle) Map 69 – C5, C6, D5, D6

Easy

Begin at the parking area adjacent the reservoir at Poimena Reserve. This walk is one of three walks inside the Reserve and also the shortest with the best views in all directions of the Mountains in their full glory. Majestic views can be seen of the Derwent River snaking its way from the North to the South. The walk is to the top of the escarpment area and covers all wind directions. A magical experience!

Begin the walk at the parking area where a sign will direct you. Move along the gravel road turning left immediately north of the Reservoir.

The trail is clearly defined and easy to follow and surrounded by dry woodland and sclerophyll forest. Special features are the birds, insects and grassland areas. There are various lookouts with views of the Derwent River estuary. Begin and finish the walk at the Reservoir.

4 Border Fence Walk

1.7kms (Circle) Map 69 – C5, D5, C6, D6

Medium to hard

Begin the walk at the parking area next to the **Reservoir**. Follow the clearly defined trail downhill in a southwest direction. Continue on the trail through dense bushy surroundings.

Continue downhill ignoring a side trail that turns off to the left, follow the trail downhill until you reach **Roseneath Rivulet**. Then walk parallel with the rivulet in an easterly direction. The trail gets very bushy and overgrown in some places. Be careful of some thorny overhangs. The bird life in this area of the forest is energetic and varied as their calls shatter the bush. It is the home for nesting parrots.

The area alongside the rivulet is a bushy wonderland. The trail takes you into an area where it feels as if you are in the middle of the most secluded rainforest. The trail is rich with undergrowth and shrubs continue along this trail until you reach **Roseneath Park**.

Walk until you are at the **middle of the cricket pitch** and turn left up the hill following the Park and Reserve's fence to the top of the hill at the Reservoir. This section is very tough as it climbs for approximately 600 metres at a very steep gradient. Follow the water pipeline to the top.

After completion of this wonderful and exciting trail you will be a very satisfied walker. One of the best walks in the Glenorchy series of walks. Take a well-deserved rest at the top enjoying the serene and splendid surroundings and views and soak in the essence of bush, mountains and river.

Excellent facilities; toilets, picnic shelters, barbeque facilities and parking areas are part of the total experience of Poimena Reserve and Roseneath Park has to offer. There is a local shop opposite the park in Main Road if you do not choose to pre-pack some goodies.

5 Inner Circle Walk

700 metres (Circle) M69 – C5, D5, C6, D6

Medium

Begin at the Reservoir. Follow the trail downhill for approximately 200 metres. Turn left and follow the trail back to the Reservoir. Bushy features with lots of bird life activity are part of this short beautiful trail.

Link walks Map 69 – C6, D6, D7, E6, E7

Easy

Poimena and Roseneath Park are adjacent to each other and can be accessed from both Roseneath Park parking area or Poimena Reserve parking area at the top of the hill. Both starting points have excellent facilities to cater for the whole family.

From Roseneath Park and Poimena Reserve the link with James Austin's Park, Weston Park and Shoobridge Park is just across Main Road.

Poimena to Roseneath Park – 200 metres.

Poimena to James Austin Park – 700 metres.

Poimena to Weston and Shoobridge Park – 900 metres

6 Roseneath Park Walk

500 metres (Circle) Map 69 – D6

Easy

Begin at Roseneath Park parking area just off Main Road. There is no defined walking trail. You can walk around the flat open space outside of the community cricket field in a circle. You can do the walk clockwise or anti-clockwise.

Walk up and down Roseneath Rivulet and circle the oval area a number of times for extra fitness.

This is an ideal walk and exercise area for families and young children. The park is surrounded by big trees and it creates a peaceful atmosphere to relax, exercise and enjoy yourself.

Excellent facilities include an enclosed children's playground, toilets, water, take-away shop and Metro bus routes along Main Road. For the fitter walkers there is the challenge to walk up to Poimena Reserve Reservoir and back.

Roseneath Park is popular for its close proximity to other trails. There is also a popular new 15 metre super slide at the park attracting young and old.

Link Walks via Main Road

Map 69 – D6, E6

Map 72 – A1, B1, B2, B3, B4, B5, B6

Map 76 – B1

Easy

Roseneath Park to Beedhams Reserve – 500 M.

Roseneath Park to Claremont Community Centre – 900 M.

Roseneath Park to Claremont Shopping Centre – 1 km.

Roseneath Park to Berriedale Treasure Island – 3.2 km

Roseneath Park to Moorilla Winery Estates – 3.4 km

7 Austin Walk

1km (return) Map 69 – E5, E6 Map 72 – B1

Easy

Begin the walk at historic **James Austin's Cottage** or adjacent parking area near the foreshore. Follow the Austins Ferry Road walking on the footpath, turn left into **Harbinger Lane** and continue until you reach Weston Park stone steps that take you down into the park and onto Shoobridge Park.

You have various options in these two parks. You can use them as a basis to begin your walks to link with other trails in the area or do exercise walking around the perimeter of the sports ground and parklands.

The magic of this area is the link with the past. Historic Austin's Cottage, Harbinger Lane stonewall and historic well, commanding views to Mount Wellington to the south and Mt Direction to the east and outstanding water views provide visitors with an exceptional setting. This area was a popular retreat for Hobart citizens to visit in the 1920's and enjoy Sunday afternoons at the Lavender Tea Gardens in Harbinger Lane. Unfortunately little remains of this activity.

The bay near Austins Ferry Yacht Club is a popular boat launching and sailing area with views across the Derwent to Old Beach. This site was one of the earliest transport links in Australian history.

Use any of the starting points to begin a walk. Nearby Roseneath Park provides public toilets.

Residential Walk

2 km (return) Map 69 – E5, E6.

Easy

Begin the walk at **Austin's Cottage** walking in the direction of Main Road and for your own safety stay on the footpath. Turn right at the T- Junction with **Main Road**. Continue in a northerly direction until you reach **Merley Road** – turn right and walk down Merley Road until it becomes **Wendourie Parade**. Continue until the end of Wendourie Parade and turn around. Follow the road the same way back to finish at Austin's Cottage. Have a good look at the residential buildings and interesting gardens. There are some older historical residential properties in this area. This walk can easily link with the other walks in Roseneath Park and Poimena Reserve to extend your time and enjoyment.

8 Weston Park Walk

1 km (Return) Map 69 – E6

Easy

Begin at **Weston Park** car park, follow the gravel road to **Roseneath Creek Bridge** and turn left walking along the top of the bank heading towards the stonewall. Walk right up to the end of the park keeping close to the boundary fence, head down to the car park and towards the railway then walking south head towards **Roseneath Rivulet** and then back to the gravel road near the bridge, return to the car park. This walk takes you through the newly planted Weston Park and can be done many times as you increase your fitness.

9 Shoobridge Park Walk

1 km (return) M69 – E6

Easy

Begin at Shoobridge Park and follow the **rail track** in a southerly direction to **Beedhams Bay Reserve**. Turn around at Mt Faulkner Scout Hall and come back the same way. Walk around the oval outside the fence and experience the Derwent River with its abundant bird life.

Short but a comfortable walk with foreshore features. Good walk for the whole family with park seats strategically located.

When near the rail track be alert for trains, as the line is active.



Claremont Walking Trails

10 Chocolate Trail

5 km (Return) Map 72 – D2, C2, B3.

Easy to medium

Begin the walk at the main entrance to **Cadbury Chocolate Factory** in **Cadbury Road**. Heading south you begin a pleasant walk through a stand of pine trees and a backdrop of the Mt Wellington range. Alternatively you can begin the walk at the **Cadbury Recreation Ground** across the road from Cadburys. Cadbury Recreation Ground is a central place to begin many walks in Claremont. Public toilets are available as well as ample car parking and shade.

The first section is mostly flat, easy and in shade. Continue for approximately 300 metres where the trail goes gradually downhill towards Claremont Primary School and along the foreshore.

The trail levels out as you reach the bottom of the hill. Windermere Bay with its natural beauty lingers on your left as you enter the **Windermere Bay Foreshore Reserve**.

The trail follows the foreshore to a picnic shelter; it is a good place to take a short rest here. While relaxing and perhaps drinking a cuppa, be on the lookout for Black Swans, Geese and the occasional Pelican. A variety of bird species reside in this location. The distance walked from the start to the **shelter** is **1 km**. To continue from here you have two options. Turn around and follow the track back to Cadbury Factory or continue onto **Knights Point**.

11 Knights Point Walk

2.4kms (Return from Windermere Bay or if continuing from the Chocolate Trail 4.4 km from Cadburys)

Map 725 – C3, D3

Easy

Begin at the picnic shelter in **Windermere Bay**. Your car can be left in the car park just nearby. Follow the boardwalk that crosses the wetland areas of the bay. At the end of the boardwalk turn right and continue towards Cadbury Road. To cross to the other side of the rivulet walk for approximately 20 metres on the footpath of the road and return to the foreshore. Continue to walk along the reserve heading towards the river where the reserve opens up adjacent **Curlew Parade**. There is no formal trail but you can walk along the foreshore for about 500 metres.

The best area to walk for the next 500 metres or so is just on the road verge where the surface is covered with grass and also fairly level making walking easy.

At this point you will have wonderful views of **Windermere Bay** and also the wooded areas behind Cadburys where the Chocolate trail started.

Foreshore access becomes difficult at this point and it is necessary to use the footpath on Curlew Parade to connect with **Windermere Beach Road** turn left and then left again onto the gravel road to walk out to **Knights Point**.

Continue down the trail to **Knights Point** and walk out to the very end through Casuarina trees and native grasses. The view down the river on a clear day is breathtaking. Within the reserve are picnic tables and benches to sit, relax and ponder one of the truly wonderful walks in Glenorchy City.

From this point you will have great views of the Derwent River in its full glory. Across from Knights Point you will also have a good view of the Claremont Golf Club. The golf course was built on a stretch of land pointing out like a finger.

Heading south along the foreshore you come to Windermere Beach. The area at Windermere Beach is covered with indigenous bush and brushes and at low tide you can walk on the beach. It is a secluded and beautiful area. The end of the trail is at the signage board of the start of the **Connewarre Bay Walk**.