

14 Ada River Sawmills and Tramways

A walk through tall mountain ash forest, interspersed with myrtle beech and sassafras to explore the remains of the historic sawmills and tramways that operated in the early 20th century. May be muddy in places, sturdy footwear and gaiters recommended.

- Distance** 16km
- Type** Car shuffle
- Duration** 6 hours including breaks and exploring the sawmill
- Grading** Medium
- Total Ascent** 380 metres, 430 metres descent
- Path** 5% vehicular track, 95% foot track. Numerous fallen trees, deep leaf and bark litter.



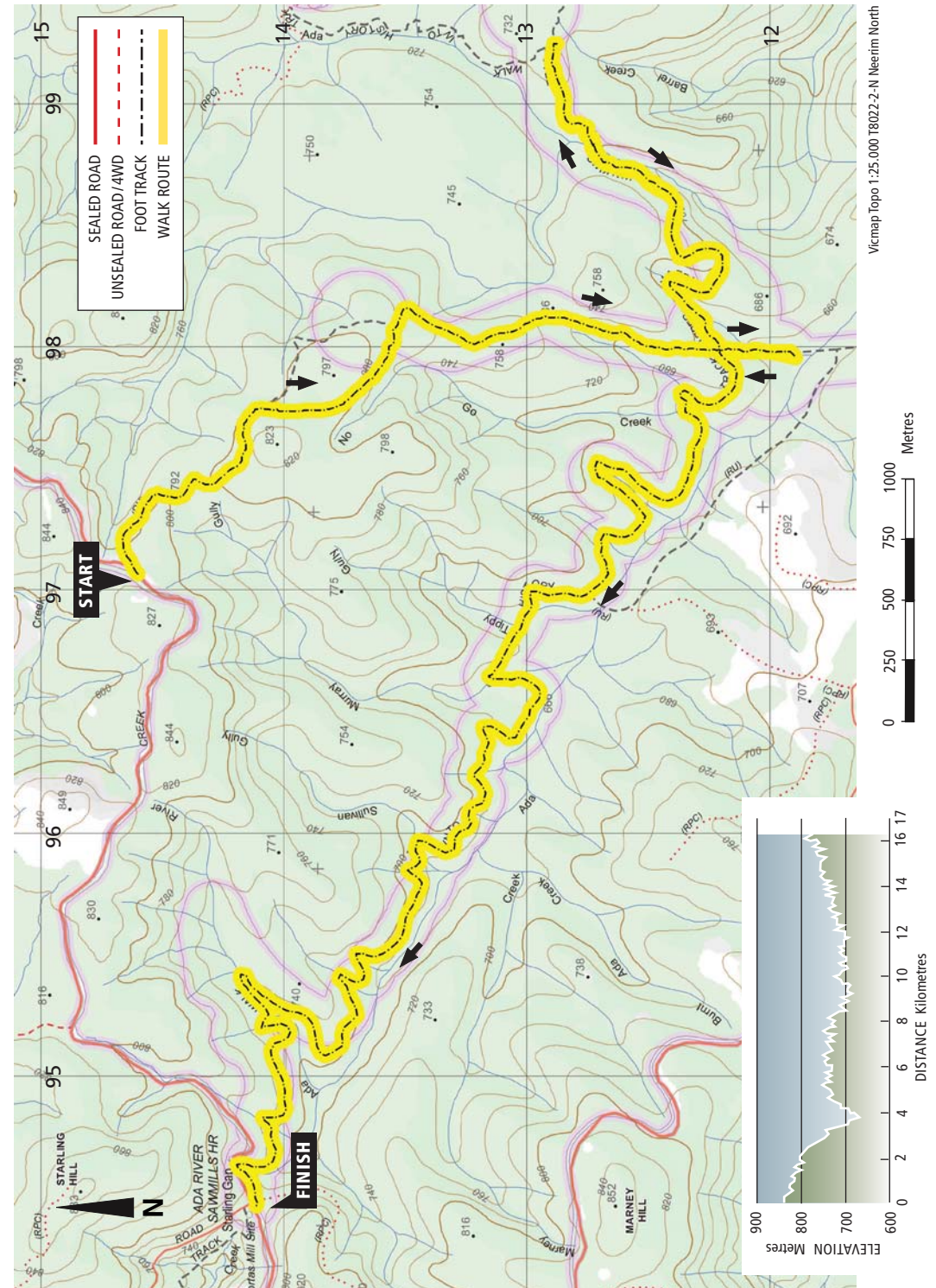
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GETTING TO THE START

From Warburton Visitor Centre, drive along the Warburton Highway (B380) and Woods Point Road (C511) for 10km turning right onto unsealed Brahams Road. Continue for a further 13km, turning right onto Big Creek Road toward Warragul for 2.2 km to VHC Track (orange sign). Leave sufficient cars along Big Creek Road at Starling Gap for the car shuffle. Allow 40 mins.

WALK DESCRIPTION

Start walking along VHC Track, taking the minor track to the left after 850m. At 1.75 km take the walking track to the left indicated by a sign post. The track continues to the left leading to the New Ada Mill site at 1.8km. Follow the track to the right and descend past an old boiler to Federal Crossing at 3.4km. This is the junction of the old Powelltown Tramway and the Federal Tramway to Warburton. Continue south on the track marked 'High Lead' for 250m to the Ada No. 2 mill site. There are many relics remaining of the mill and tram tracks. Return to Federal Crossing and take the old tramway track marked 'Ada Tree' to the northeast for 2.2 km to the site of the New Federal Mill. This makes a good lunch stop. The Little Ada River is crossed on stepping stones along the way, below the remains of a large moss covered tramway bridge. Returning to Federal Crossing for a second time, the route follows the tramway for 8km. Vegetation changes can be observed as the track climbs gradually towards Starling Gap. There are a few creek crossings and the sites of Ada No. 1 and Ada sawmills are passed along the way. However, these mills are unmarked and little evidence remains of them. The walk finishes at Starling Gap where there are more sawmill relics, an information board and pit toilets.



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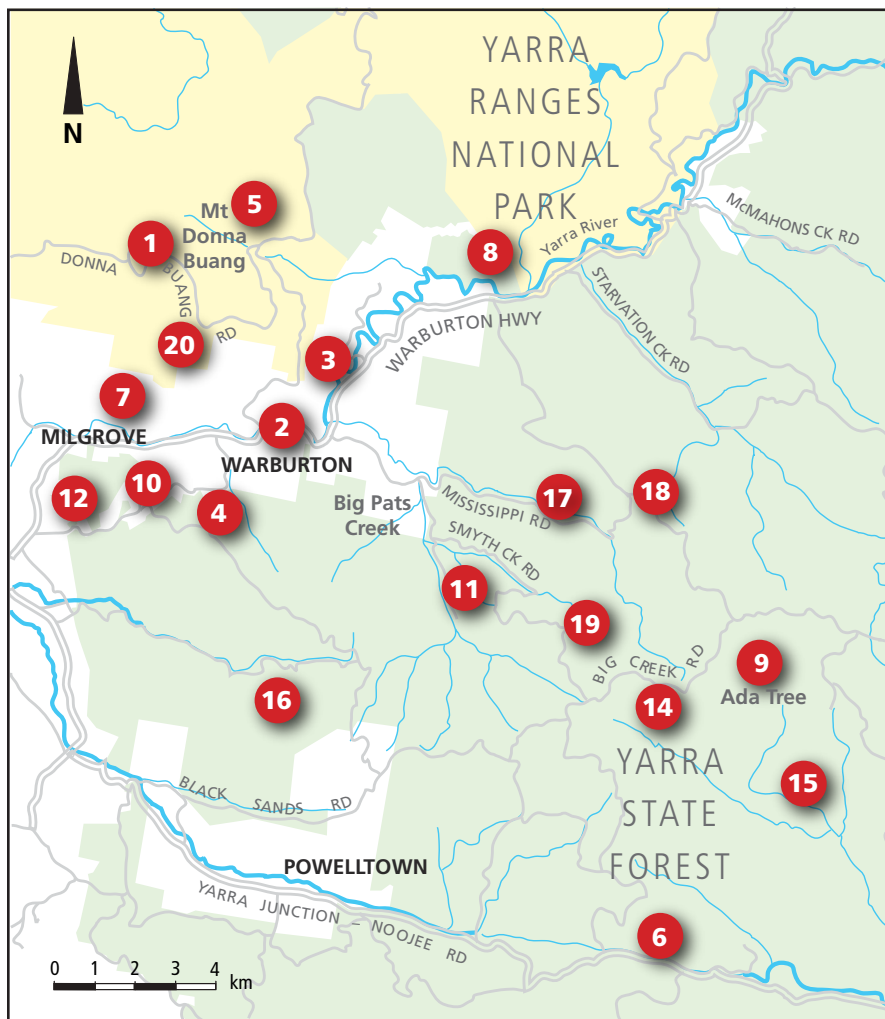
WALK LOCATIONS



Melbourne
Bushwalkers

FEDERATION WEEKEND
27-29 OCTOBER 2017

Bushwalking Victoria
towards better bushwalking



This Walk Sheet describes a bushwalk, part of Bushwalking Victoria's Federation Walks 2017 program in the Warburton and Powelltown areas on 28th and 29th October 2017. Bushwalking Victoria and the host club, Melbourne Bushwalkers Inc., their members and walk leaders cannot accept any responsibility for errors, omissions or changes in circumstances on which this information is based. Nor can they accept any responsibility for any loss or injury sustained by any person using this Walk Sheet.

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