

# 9 Ada Tree and Three Sawmills

This walk features tall mountain ash, rainforest, and magnificent ferns and creeks. The 76 metre Ada Tree is one of the tallest mountain ash in Victoria and is over 300 years old. The area has many saw mills and tramways: New Ada Mill; New Federal Mill; and especially the Ada No. 2 site with its spectacular old boilers and machinery. Gaiters and walking sticks are useful.



<b>Distance</b>	16km
<b>Type</b>	Circuit
<b>Duration</b>	6 hours including breaks and exploring the historic sights
<b>Grading</b>	Easy / Medium
<b>Total Ascent</b>	375 metres, including a 100 metre climb at the end
<b>Path</b>	40% unsealed roads and 60% foot tracks.

## GETTING TO THE START

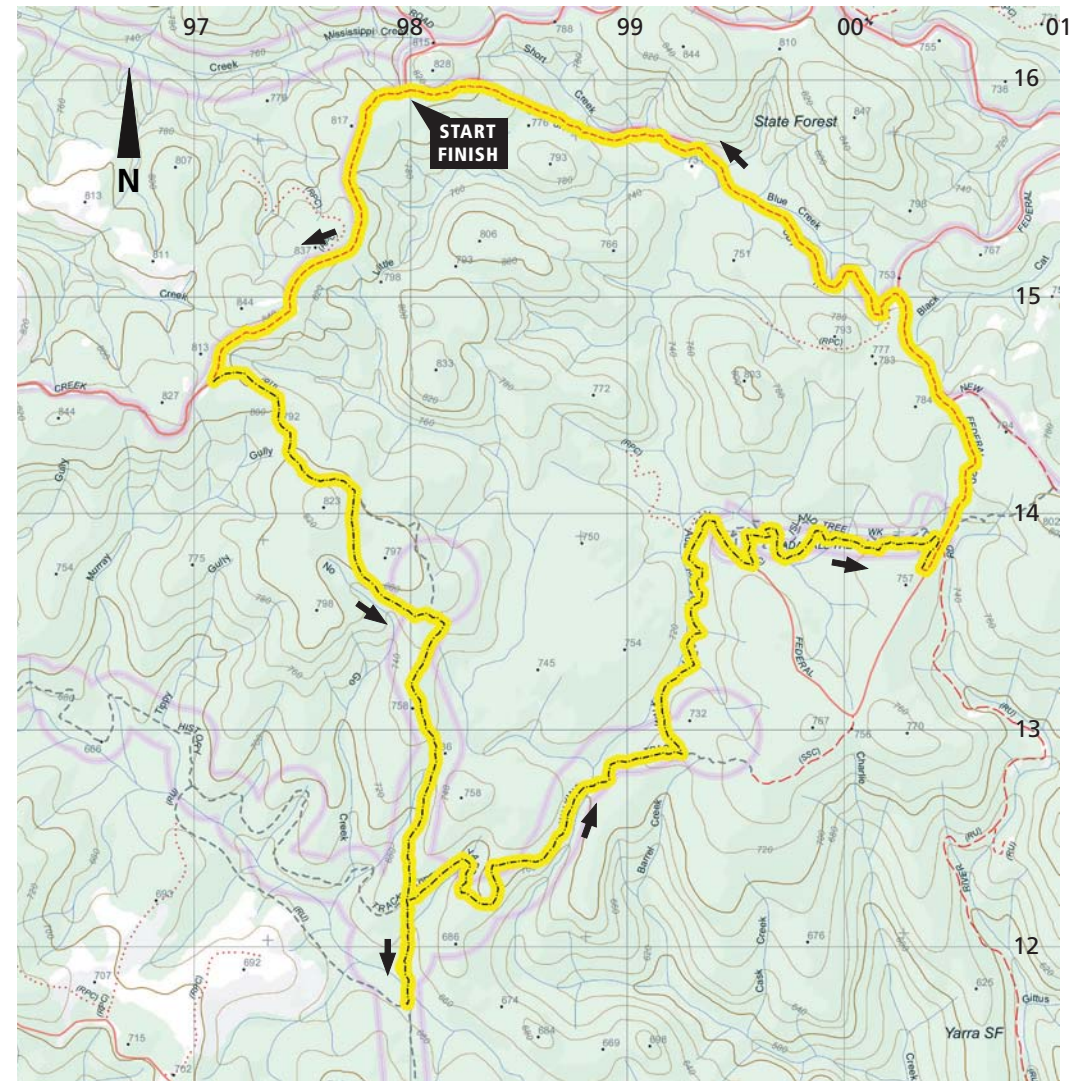
Drive east from the Warburton Visitor Centre on the Warburton Highway (B380) and Woods Point Road (C511) for approx. 11km then turn right into well formed 4WD/gravel Brahams Road. Follow it for 13 km to the T junction with Big Creek Road generally keeping left at each junction. Turn right and 200m later park the cars on a right hand bend near the Federal Road Short Cut (closed to vehicles). Travel time is approx. 30 minutes.

## WALK DESCRIPTION

From the cars walk 2.4 km west along Big Creek Road to the VHC Track. The path to Federal Crossing has new tracks not on the maps. Turn left on VHC Track keeping left after 0.9 km on the smaller track, then pass a revegetation area. After 0.9 km turn left again following the walking track sign, in 200m pass a sign for the New Ada Mill site (no trace), its then 1.4 km past our first mill machinery to Federal Crossing (a four ways intersection for old tramways).

Proceed south (signed High Lead) to the Ada No. 2 Mill site. This is a good place to have a break, explore the extensive mill remnants, and the bridge over the Ada River 150m further on. Return to Federal Crossing and turn east/right for the New Federal Mill site and Ada Tree. There is a stone crossing over the Little Ada River (the old bridge is too dangerous) which may be difficult after heavy rain. From the mill site turn left following the signs for 1.4 km to the Ada Tree.

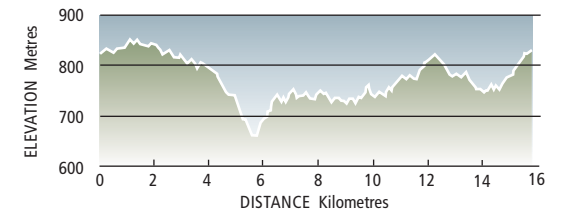
From the Ada tree take the path "Return to Car Park 1.5 km" through the Island Creek Rainforest. Then follow Ada River Road north for 1.6 km to the unnamed left track at GR002150 (a sign points to the Ada Tree). Cross the earthworks that prevent vehicle access and follow the track for 3 km first downhill then climbing 100m to the cars.



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SEALED ROAD	
UNSEALED ROAD / 4WD	
FOOT TRACK	
WALK ROUTE	



## WALK LOCATIONS

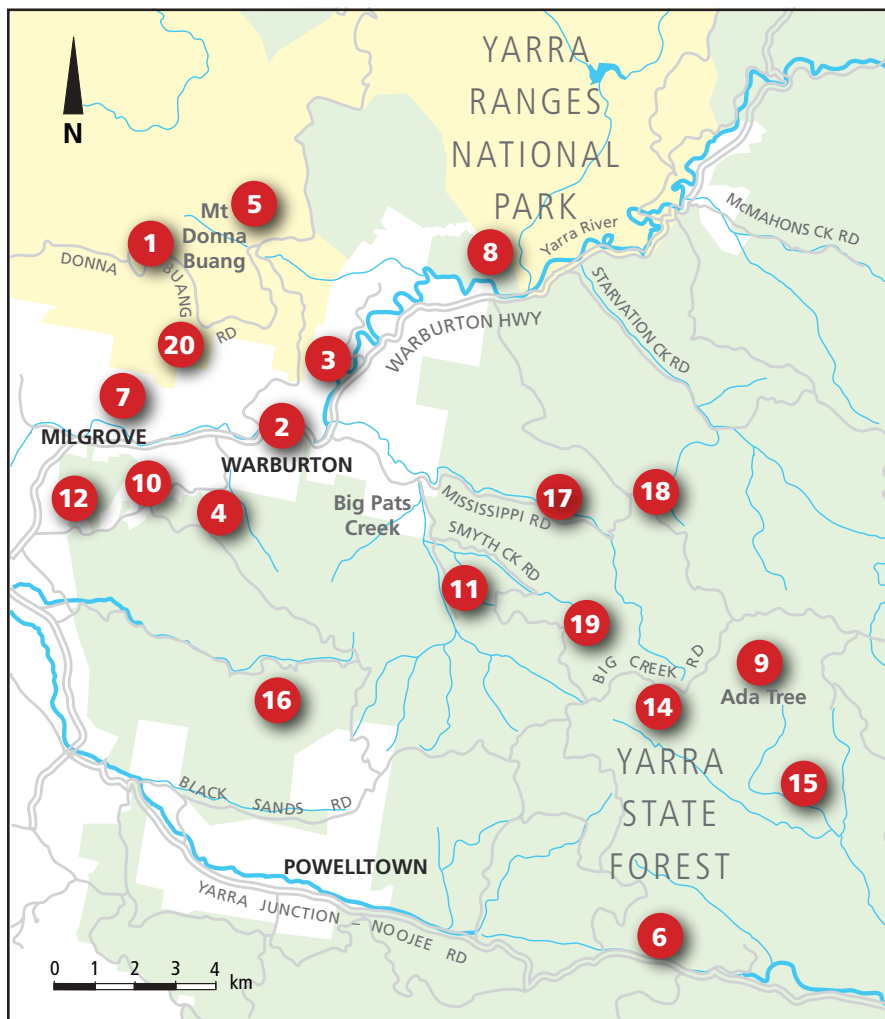


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This Walk Sheet describes a bushwalk, part of Bushwalking Victoria's Federation Walks 2017 program in the Warburton and Powelltown areas on 28th and 29th October 2017. Bushwalking Victoria and the host club, Melbourne Bushwalkers Inc., their members 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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