

DAY 4: Balmain East Wharf to Circular Quay

Total Distance: 15km **Time:** Approximately 5 hours **Walk Notes in Six Sections**

Section	Name	Length	Time
4:1	Balmain East Wharf to Stephen St, Balmain	1.75km	40mins
4:2	Stephen St, Balmain to Victoria Rd, White Bay	1.75km	40mins
4:3	Victoria Rd, White Bay to Pyrmont Point	2.75km	1hr
4:4	Pyrmont Point to Pyrmont Bridge	2.75km	1 hr
4:5	Pyrmont Bridge to Observatory Hill	1.75 km	40mins
4:6	Observatory Hill to Circular Quay	4.25km	1hr 30mins



Day 4:1 - Balmain East Wharf to Stephen St, Balmain

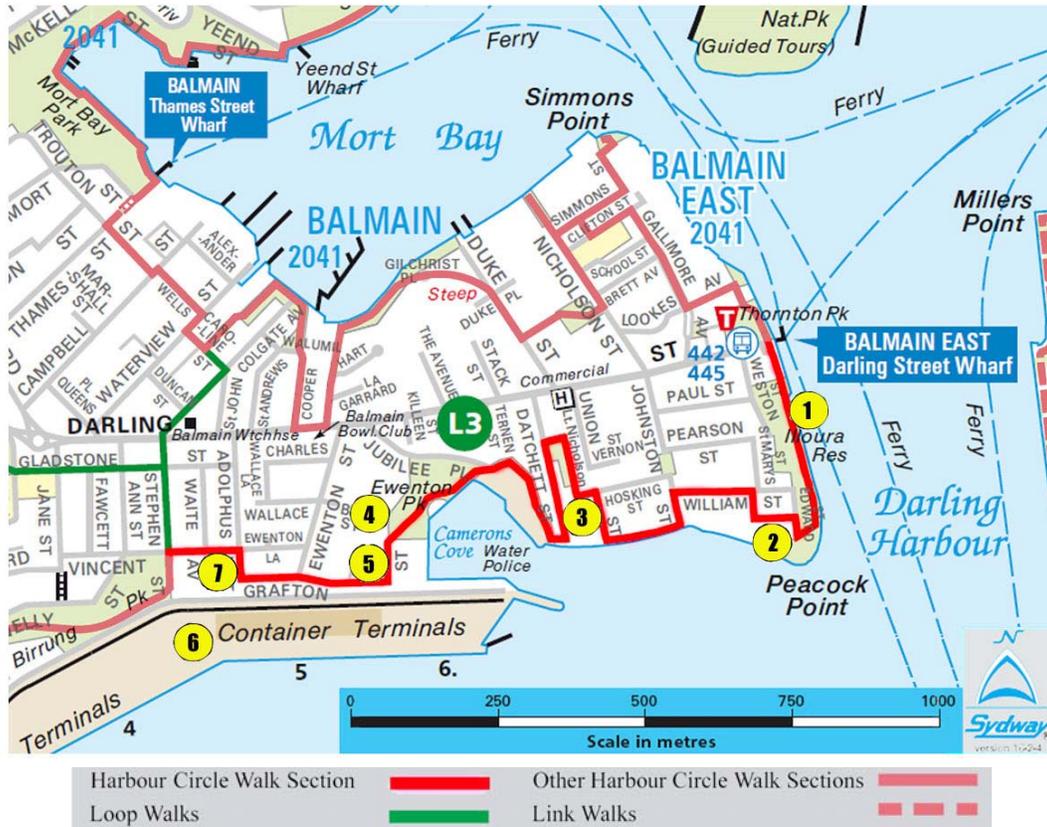
Distance: 1.75km

Approximate time: 40 minutes

Condition: Mostly paved footpaths or park paths. Some steps and inclines.

Public Transport: Balmain East Wharf. Darling St buses.

Facilities: No shops or eating places directly on route, but hotels and shops on Darling and Stephen Sts; toilets at Thornton Park.



Circled numbers refer to text points in accompanying Background and Historical Notes

Walk Guide

From Darling Street Wharf, follow the waterfront path (Bells Foreshore) south into Illoura Reserve. At the far end of the reserve, take the stone (not the wooden) steps around and back up into Edward Street. Turn left into Little Edward Street, following its dogleg around into William Street. At John Street turn right, downhill and follow the waterfront across to and up the wooden steps to Union and Hosking Streets. Turn left at Hosking Street and then right into narrow and steep Little Nicholson Street. About half-way up are two terraced parks on the left, the first less inviting but the second more definitely a little park. Pass through it and turn into Datchett Street. Turn downhill and follow Datchett St to the waterfront. Steps and a pathway lead around behind the Water Police Base to Ewenton Park.

Cross Ewenton Park to its southwest corner and take Grafton Street around its right hand bend to Adolphus Street. Take the first left from Adolphus into Vincent Street and at the intersection with Stephen Street, turn downhill to enter Birrung Park.

Stephen St is a turning point for both the **Balmain East Loop Walk L3** and the **Birchgrove Loop Walk L2**.

Day 4:2 - Stephen St, Balmain to Victoria Rd, White Bay

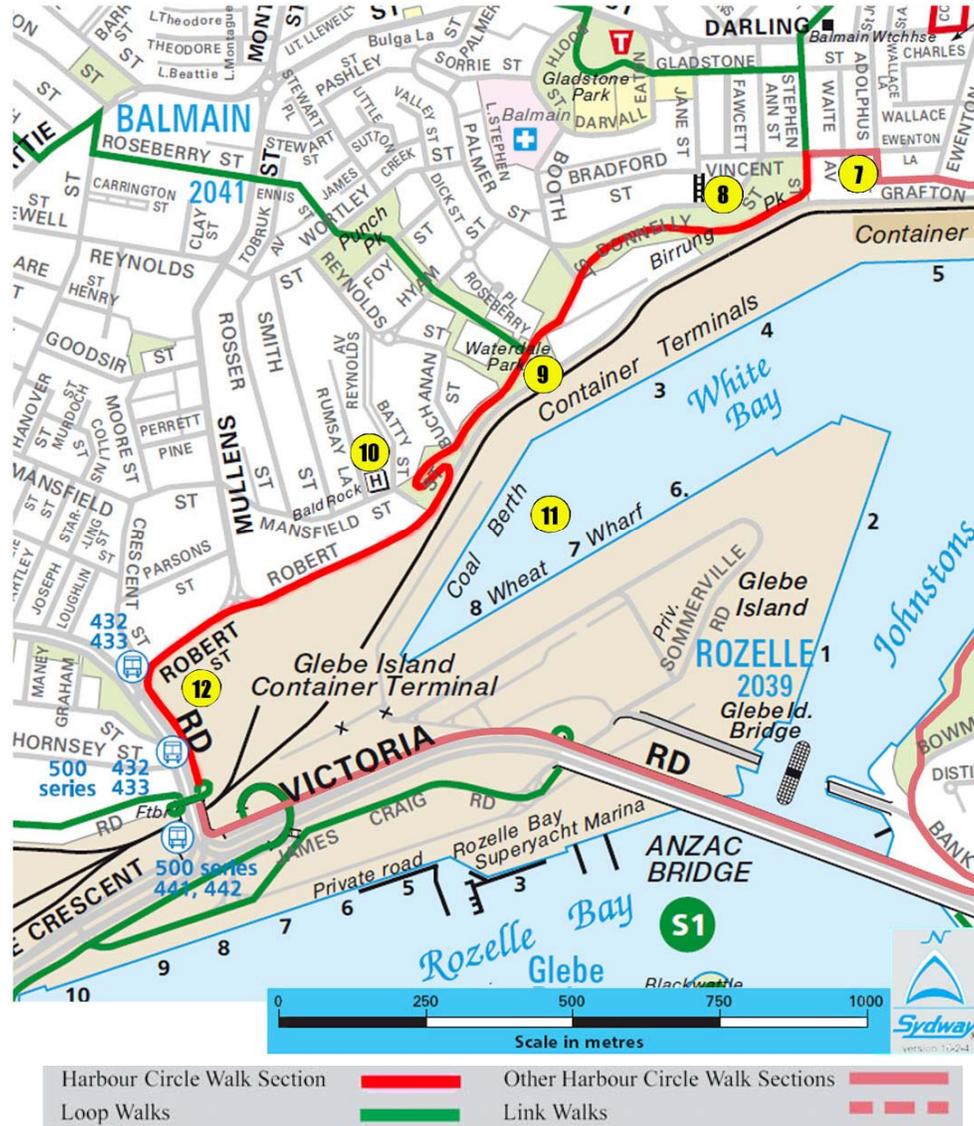
Distance: 1.75km

Approximate time: 40 minutes

Condition: Mostly paved footpaths or park paths. Some steps and inclines.

Public Transport: Darling St and Victoria Rd buses.

Facilities: Bald Rock Hotel on route, shops close on Reynolds St. No public toilets on route.



Circled numbers refer to text points in accompanying Background and Historical Notes

Walk Guide

From Grafton St enter Birrung Park and follow it along to its end at closed-off Booth Street. Cross the now abandoned Booth Street on the lower side of the grassy terrace in front of townhouses to locate the steel steps leading down to former Lever Brothers industrial buildings and the new apartment blocks around Waterdale Park. Walk along the waterfront.

Waterdale Park is also a connecting point for the **Rozelle/Balmain Loop Walk L1** which turns inland at this point.

Continuing along the waterfront, parallel to the wharves, walk to Buchanan Street. At Buchanan Street, the most direct option is to go to its intersection with Robert Street and turn right,

heading for former White Bay Power Station. However there is an excellent short (and refreshing) option, which is to climb the steel stairs and path up to the reserve and through to Mansfield Street.

From the hotel in Mansfield St, turn back towards the reserve above White Bay and follow the concrete pathway at the edge where the pathway ramps down to Robert Street. From here, Robert Street leads out alongside the former White Bay Power Station to Victoria Road.

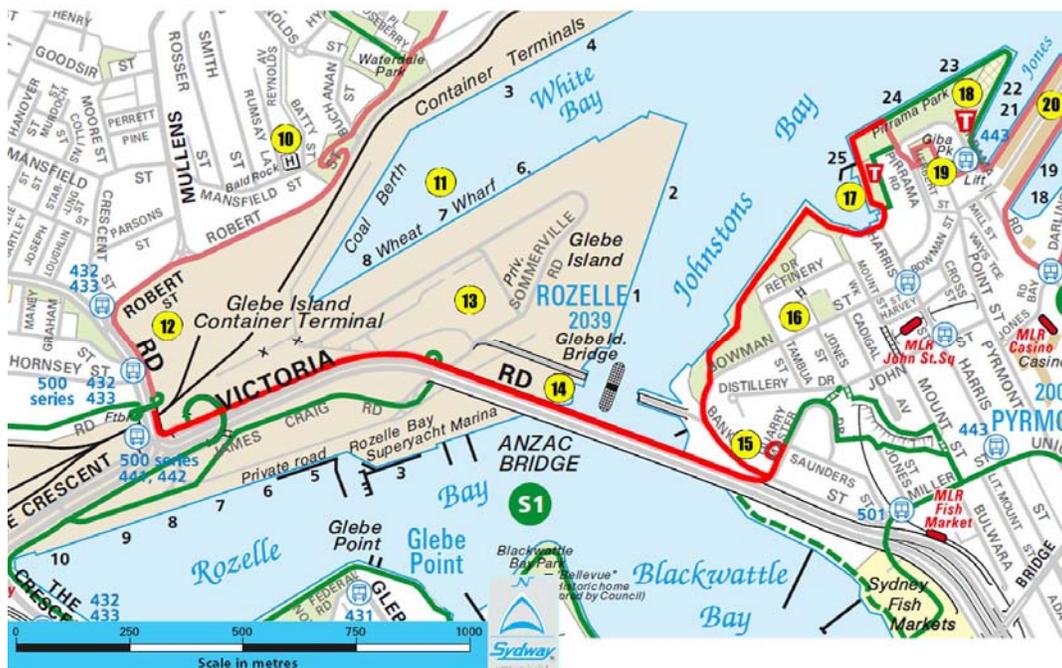
Day 4:3 - Victoria Rd, White Bay to Pyrmont Point

Distance: 2.75km **Approximate time:** 1 hour

Condition: Mostly paved footpaths or park paths. Anzac Bridge and approaches shared bike path. Some steps and inclines.

Public Transport: Buses: Victoria Rd, Pyrmont Point; light rail: Fish Markets and John Square.

Facilities: Shops and restaurants in Pyrmont on and near route; Fishmarkets near route. Public toilets at Water Police Park and Pyrmont Point Park.



Circled numbers refer to text points in accompanying Background and Historical Notes

Walk Guide

The pedestrian footbridge west across Victoria Rd towards Rozelle is also a link point with the **Rozelle/Balmain Loop Walk L1**.

From the White Bay (northeastern) end of the footbridge over Victoria Rd near the intersection with The Crescent, follow the shared bike and pedestrian path towards Glebe Island and the Anzac Bridge (*be wary of bikes!*).

The curved pedestrian / bike bridge crossing Victoria Rd towards Rozelle Bay connects with the **Rozelle and Blackwattle Bays Loop Walk S1**.

For the Harbour Circle, continue on the shared path towards the Anzac Bridge.

The **Rozelle and Blackwattle Bays Loop Walk S1** can also be accessed from steps down and under the Anzac Bridge at the Australian Anzac statue.

For the Harbour Circle, continue on the Bridge walkway crossing to the circular pedestrian / bike ramp from the Pyrmont (southeastern) end of the bridge down to Quarry Master Rd.

The **Pyrmont / Darling Harbour Loop Walk S2** connects at the foot of the ramp at Quarry Master Rd.

To continue the Harbour Circle walk, turn south down Quarry Master Rd towards the water and then right at Bank St. After Bank St curves into Bowman St, take the path left towards the water on the waterfront pedestrian promenade which follows the waterfront around to Pirrama (formerly Pyrmont Point) Park.

Day 4:4 - Pyrmont Point to Pyrmont Bridge

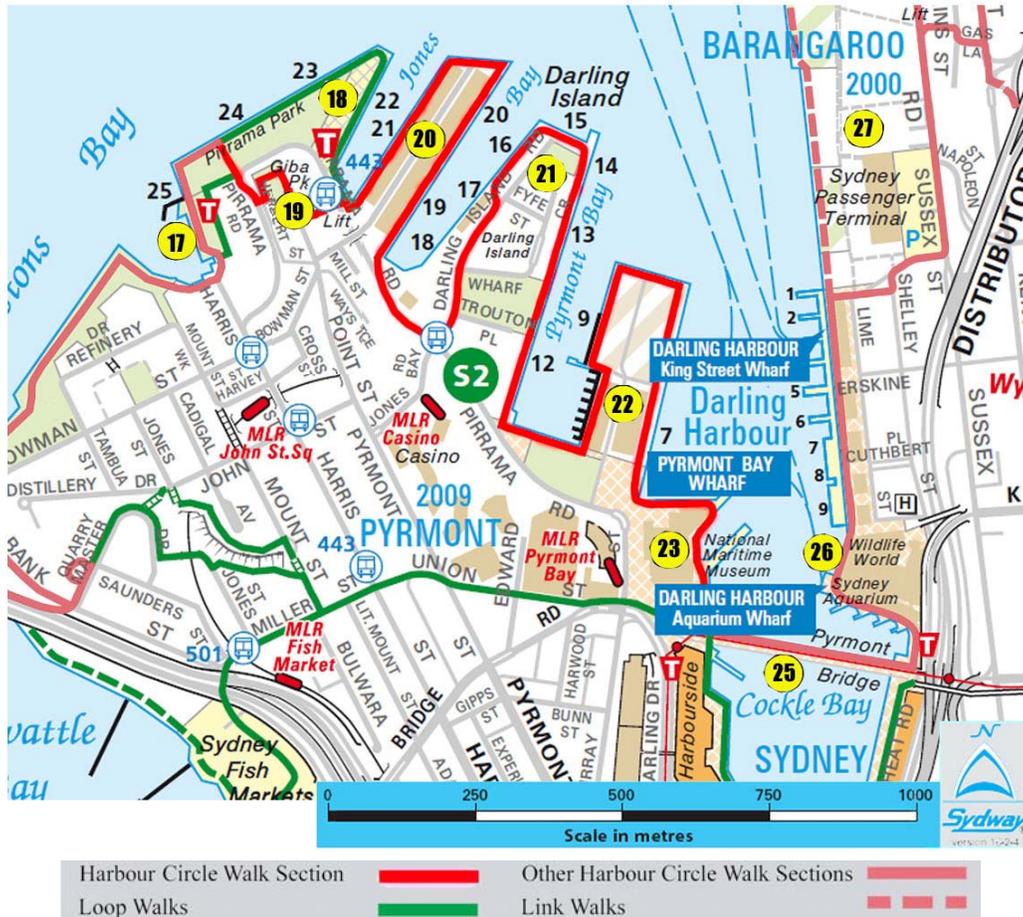
Distance: 2.75km

Approximate time: 1 hour

Condition: Mostly paved footpaths, wharf decks or park paths. Some steps and one lift.

Public Transport: Pyrmont Point and Pyrmont Bridge Rd buses; light rail at John Square, Casino and Pyrmont Bay; monorail at Pyrmont Bridge. Ferry at Pyrmont Bay Wharf.

Facilities: Shops, restaurants, hotels and casino in Pyrmont on and near route. Public toilets at Pirrama Park and Pyrmont Bridge.



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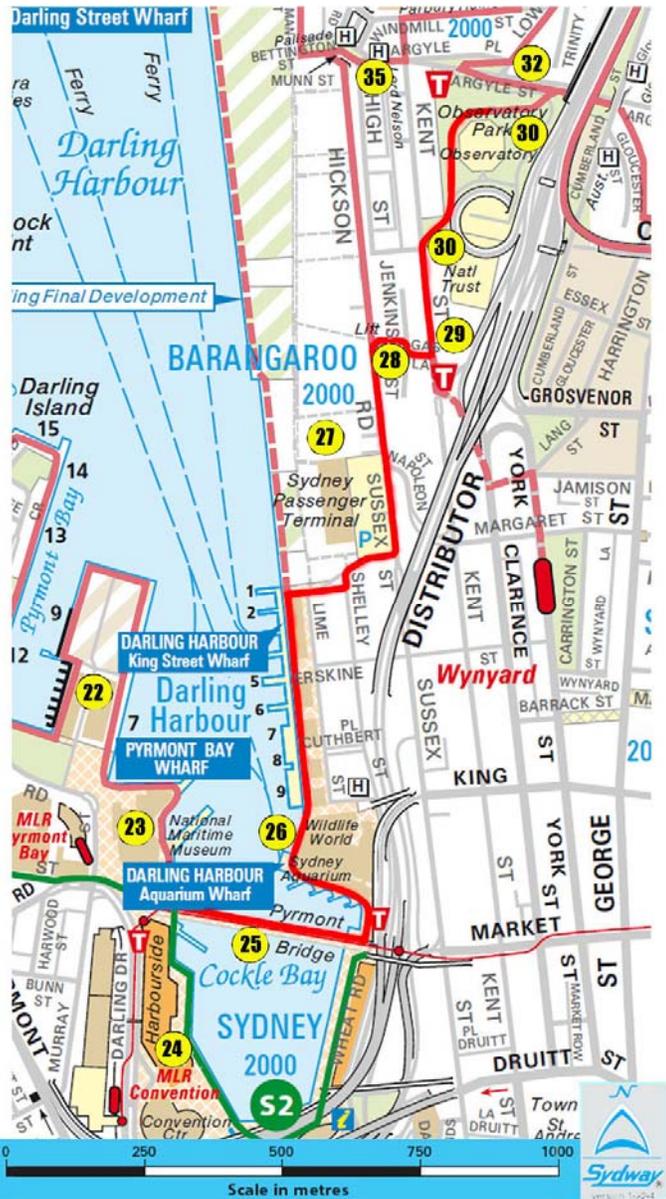
Walk Guide

After investigating Pirrama Park, return to the bend in Pirrama Rd opposite the harbour end of Water Police Park. Stone steps lead up through stonework to Giba Park. Follow the path around the edge with its wonderful views until almost above Wharf 21 where a public lift (and steps)

lead down to Pirrama Rd opposite the wharf. Follow the waterfront perimeters of the wharf (Wharves 21/20/19), then the paths and waterfront of Darling Island (Wharves 18/17/16/15/14/13/12) and finally the perimeter of Wharf 9/8/7. Continue around the waterfront on the National Maritime Museum wharves to Pyrmont Bridge. The waterfront promenade under Pyrmont Bridge is also a connecting point with the **Pyrmont / Darling Harbour Loop S2**.

Day 4:5 - Pyrmont Bridge to Observatory Hill

Distance: 1.75km **Approximate time:** 40mins **Condition:** Mostly paved footpaths, wharf decks or park paths. **Steps, inclines and one lift.** **Public Transport:** King St and city buses; rail at Wynyard Station; light rail at Pyrmont Bay stn. monorail at Pyrmont Bridge. **Ferries:** Darling Harbour (Aquarium) and Pyrmont Bay Wharves. **Facilities:** Shops, restaurants, hotels in Darling Harbour and King St Wharf and along route. **Public toilets** at Pyrmont Bridge, King St Wharf, and Argyle Place.



Harbour Circle Walk Section		Other Harbour Circle Walk Sections	
Loop Walks		Link Walks	

Circled numbers refer to text points in accompanying Background and Historical Notes

Walk Guide

The waterfront promenade under Pyrmont Bridge at either end is also a connecting point with the **Pyrmont / Darling Harbour Loop Walk S2**.

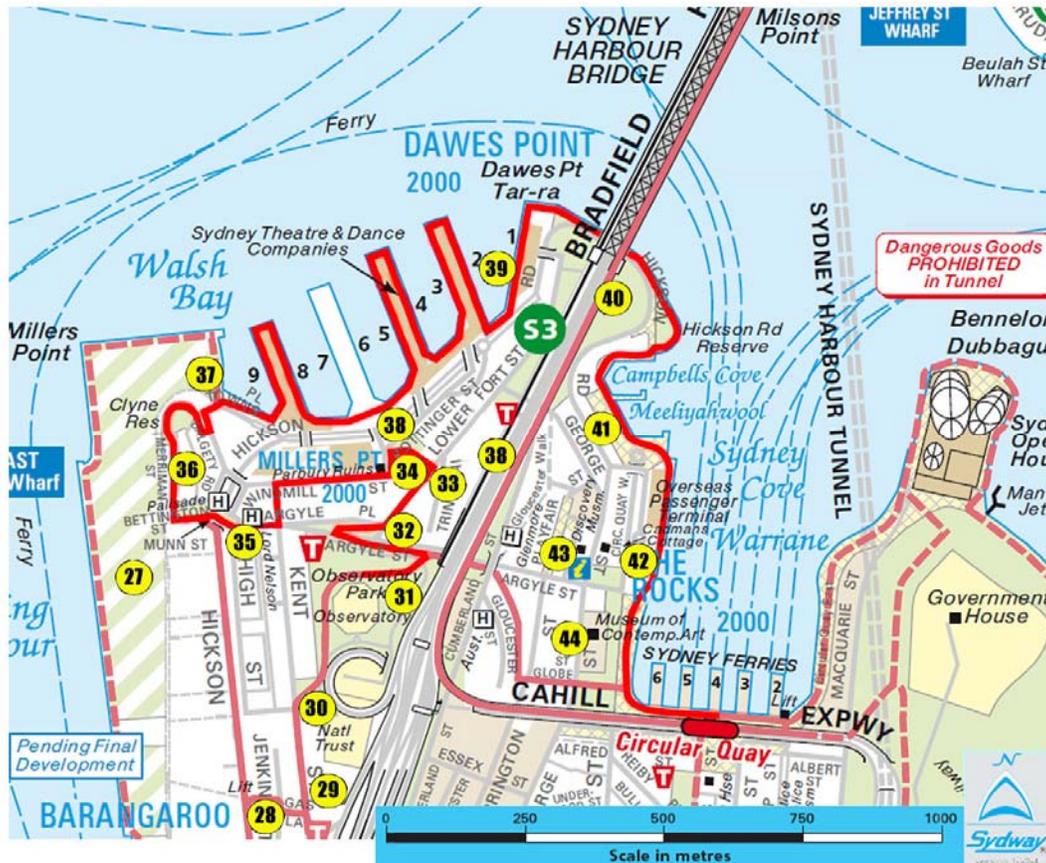
From the Pyrmont end of the Pyrmont Bridge above the National Maritime Museum, cross the pedestrian / monorail bridge and descend via the stairs, escalators or lift to the waterfront on the City side near the Sydney Aquarium. Follow the wharf fronts around past the Aquarium onto the wharf walk in front of the King Street Wharf complex to its end at Barangaroo. Turn right, up into Shelly St. At its end, turn left into Sussex St. Continue northwards on Sussex St, which, at Napoleon St, becomes Hickson Rd. At the Bond buildings at No 36, cross the courtyard to either the chromium staircase or the glass-walled lift. Take the lift (or stairs) to Level 4 (Jenkins St), turn right and then immediately left uphill along Gas Lane, then left into Kent St.

Climb the Agar Steps, immediately before a tennis court, to Observatory Hill. Circle the Observatory buildings around to the northern slope above the Argyle Cut.

Observatory Hill is also the start of **The Rocks Loop Walk S3** which mostly follows the Harbour Circle route to Circular Quay.

Day 4:6 - Observatory Hill to Circular Quay

Distance: 4.25km **Approximate time:** 1 hour 30 minutes **Condition:** Mostly paved footpaths, wharf or park paths. Some steps and inclines. **Public Transport:** Buses throughout. Circular Quay wharves and rail station. **Facilities:** Shops, eating places, hotels directly on route and nearby; public toilets at Argyle Place, The Rocks Centre, The Argyle Centre, Circular Quay.



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Walk Guide

From Observatory Hill, descend Watson Rd to Argyle Place. Turn back through Argyle Place and left down Lower Fort St. Immediately past Windmill St turn left down cobbled Ferry Lane, following it down steps and through the archaeological park to Pottinger St. Turn left and then right into Windmill St again at the Parbury Ruins display. At Kent St turn left uphill to the western end of Argyle Place. Turn right, walking down to and crossing the bridge above Hickson Rd into Bettington St (or the walkway behind the Palisade Hotel) and then right into Merriman St. Clyne Reserve, at the end, leads back to terraces above Dalgety Rd.

Go down steps into Dalgety, then left, downhill, to Towns Place. Piers 9-8, 5-4, 3-2 and 1 allow wharf-front walks off Hickson Rd. Continue on Hickson Rd, turning under the Harbour Bridge at the Harbour edge, and back towards The Rocks. Continue around the waterfront, in front of the waterfront Park Hyatt Hotel and along Campbells Cove to the Overseas Passenger Terminal in Sydney Cove, and then continuing on to the end of the walk at Circular Quay Wharves.

First Fleet Park at Circular Quay's western end is a turning point for **The Rocks Loop Walk S3**.