

Car Race Hill The Templestowe Hill Climb Walk



This walk is one for the car-racing enthusiasts. The walk begins at Beasley's Nursery and Teahouse and follows a boardwalk and open grasslands to a small wetlands in Tikalara Estate. The trail then joins an abandoned car-racing track that was once the steepest paved road in Australia. It includes an extremely sharp but short incline called 'The Wall'—and you might feel like you've hit it part way up. But it is over quickly and the views are worth the climb.

The walk then heads through a new estate to a narrow pathway that opens onto a hilltop walk under powerlines—but not for long. The jeep track takes you back to Beasley's Nursery and Teahouse where refreshments await you.

Suitable for

Active Families	✓
Seniors & Strollers	
Pleasure Walkers	
Super Striders	✓
Circuit	✓
Seating	✓
Dogs Welcome	✓
Trail Type	Natural Heritage with Historic Places

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Walk Overview

This is partly a gentle walk and a very steep climb up an old car-racing track—once the steepest paved road in Australia! There are also views, wetlands bushland and a new urban estate to walk through.

Time

1 hr

Distance

2.7 kms

Difficulty

Medium

Accessibility



Location

Start and finish at Beasley's Nursery and Teahouse, 195 Warrandyte Road, East Doncaster.

Melway Reference

34 F2

Public Transport

Metlink: t 131 638

Ventura Buses: t 9488 2100 www.venturabus.com.au

www.metlinkmelbourne.com.au

Parking

Beasley's Nursery and Teahouse, 195 Warrandyte Road, East Doncaster.



Facilities

Toilets, playground, café, picnic areas.

Hazards

Steep descent may be slippery
Take care at road crossing
There are no footpaths, take care
on the roads.



Be Prepared

Sun protection recommended
Carry water
Hiking stick a good idea
Good trail for Nordic Walking sticks.

Days of total fire ban

Check the fire risk warning before embarking on this walk: www.cfa.vic.gov.au



Additional Walks

There are 20 walks in the series to choose from. If you liked this walk, you might like the ones listed below:

Petty's Fruits and You Beaut Eucs Petty's Orchard and Riverside Walk

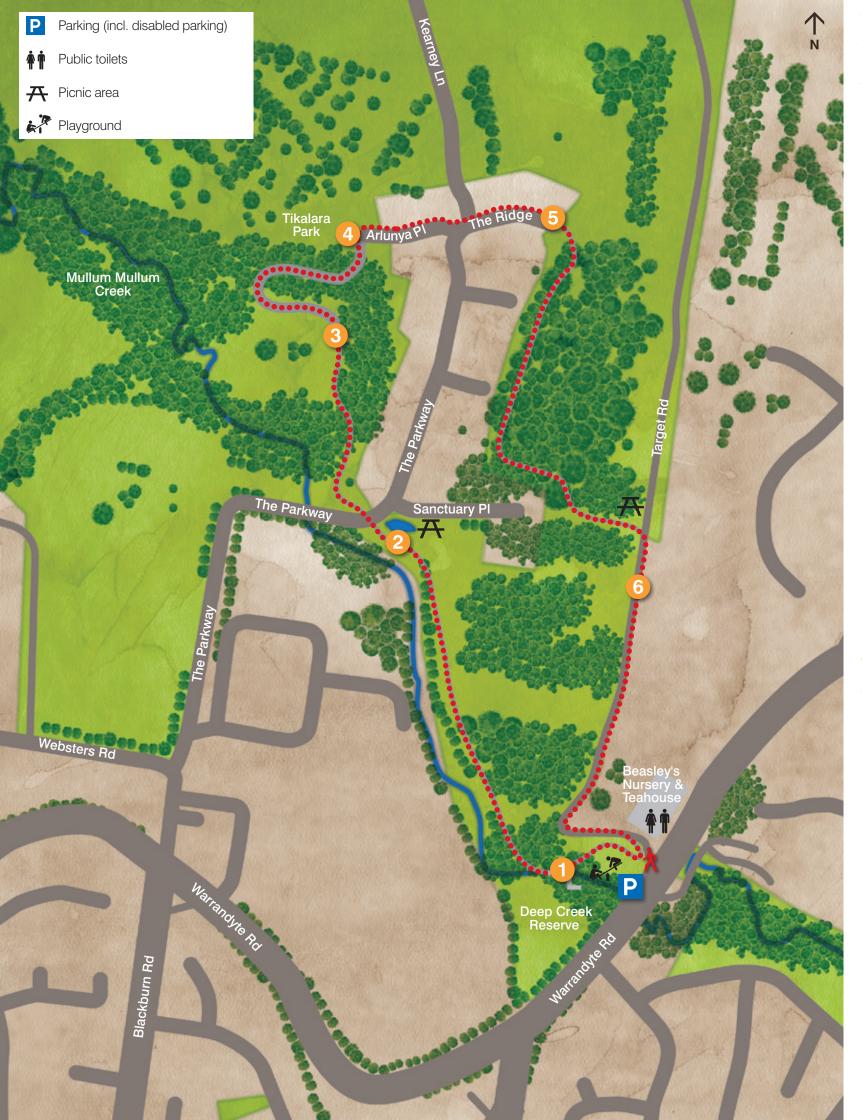
All Manna of Gums

Currawong Bush Park to Mullum Mullum Creek Walk.



Wheelchair Access

We have developed three walks specifically for wheelchairs. Look for **A Wheel Pleasure** pamphlet.



Your walk begins at the Beasley's Nursery and Teahouse car park. There is a playground here, café and toilets. Your walk is the track that borders the playground.



1 Boardwalks are popular throughout Manningham. They assist pedestrian traffic to minimise erosion to fragile habitat. This boardwalk is particularly stunning given its meandering shape designed around the future growth of riverside Manna Gums.



2 The Tikalara Wetlands are a good resting spot while you prepare for your hill climb. The traditional owners, the Wurundjeri, called this area *Tikalara*, which means 'the spirit of the place'. Wetlands, rivers and creeks provided Indigenous groups with food, water and recreation. Fish and yabbies were good tucker, while animals such as wallabies, wombats and wader-birds could be caught when they came to the water's edge.

At the picnic shelter cross the road to the sign about the car race. Turn left and follow the sign to the Hill Climb Walking Track.



3 The sign ahead is a copy of the earlier one. You need to turn left here. The old road to your right was part of the approach and allowed for a good run up towards the climb. The track does a U-turn up ahead before you meet 'The Wall'. Good luck, see you at the top!



4 Congratulations, you made it! And what a view awaits you. The incline is a 2.5 per cent rating, which is very steep. Many cars didn't make it and instead rolled backwards. The view to the paddocks below is where the spectators would park and watch, binoculars pinned on their favourites.

Now turn to your right and walk straight down this road to the very end of the cul-de-sac.



off into the bush between two end houses. There is also a sensational Banksia spinulosa to the immediate right of the path. Also known as Hairpin Banksia it has a long flowering season from autumn to spring by which time you should see the seed capsule. As you head to your right into the bushland keep a wary eye out for the illusive echidna in warmer months along with Blue-tongue Lizards and several species of snake. They are all protected so take only pictures.

At the end of the path turn right and follow the narrow bush track to a connecting track off to your left. It runs behind the houses.



The powerlines do not last long. They are reminders of how these areas have remained green belts and free of housing. Eastern Grey Kangaroos are known to dine on the grasslands that open up on your right.

Stay on the unsealed quiet road all the way back to Beasley's Nursery and Teahouse.

This finishes your walk. Time to relax and plan your next adventure.