



**ULTRA-TRAIL AUSTRALIA 50**  
**16 May 2021**

**COURSE DESCRIPTION AND COURSE NOTES**

**LEG 1 –KCC Oval (Start) to Queen Victoria Hospital (Checkpoint 501)**

**Course Description:** From the start on KCC Oval, travel across Violet St and turn right onto Cliff Drive. Continue on Cliff Drive for 1km to Glenraphael Drive. Turn left onto Glenraphael Drive and travel approximately 1km to a turnaround point. Return to Cliff Drive and turn left. Continue on Cliff Drive for 1km to the junction with Narrow Neck Rd and turn around to return past Scenic World on Cliff Drive. *The whole of this first 5.9km should not be run in training as there is no footpath or safe verge on which to run. During the event a full road closure will be in place for this section of Cliff Drive and Glenraphael Drive.* Continue on Cliff Drive 250m past Katoomba Falls Kiosk, turning right into Katoomba Falls Reserve at the junction of Cliff Drive and Kamillaroi Rd. *This section is fine to run in training as there is a combination of off-road and on-road footpath between Scenic World and Katoomba Falls Reserve.* Continue straight ahead through the park to join a concrete footpath on the far side which leads towards Echo Point ignoring the footpath and stairs down to the right to Katoomba Cascades. Continue following this footpath, Cliff Top Walk / Prince Henry Cliff Walk, around to the right and away from the road. This track passes under The Scenic Skyway cables and past Cliff View lookout, Allambie lookout and Lady Darley lookout. At the top of the stairs above Lady Darley lookout, turn right to continue towards Echo Point. Take the next left fork in the path to go up to the Echo Point main lookout. Turn left at the main lookout and head towards the Visitors Information Centre on the right-hand side of the small car park and toilets. Turn right around the far side of the Visitors Information Centre and go under a stone archway. Follow the signs all the way to the Three Sisters and Giant Stairway ignoring all minor junctions on the way including 'Prince Henry Cliff Walk'. Immediately after passing under another archway turn left to go down the Giant Stairway.

**CAUTION:** The Giant Stairway is long and extremely steep and narrow. The stairs descend 200m in elevation. It is uneven and may be slippery if wet. Please be careful and be courteous to other walkers and tourists on the stairs. **PLEASE DO NOT PUSH ANYONE OUT OF THE WAY.**

At the bottom of the stairs turn left onto Dardanelles Pass. Follow this for 1.2km to Leura Forest. Immediately after passing the rotunda in the Leura Forest picnic area, turn left onto Federal Pass towards Fern Bower. Continue over a bridge and past a picnic table. 250m after this bridge you will cross another bridge at Marguerite Cascades. Then continue straight ahead up the stairs on 'Fern Bower Track' 'To Prince Henry Cliff Walk'. Continue up many flights of stairs past Linda Falls and Lila Falls. At the top of a long straight metal and plastic staircase, turn left towards 'Cliff Drive & Katoomba via Fern Bower & Prince Henry Cliff Walk' ignoring the track to the right to 'Leura Cascades / Bridal Veil Falls via Amphitheatre Track'. Continue up the stairs past 'Fern Bower' and at the top, turn right on 'Prince Henry Cliff Walk' towards 'Leura Cascades' ignoring the track to the left to 'Echo Point' then turn left up a short flight of stairs and turn right onto the footpath beside Cliff Drive on 'Prince Henry Cliff Walk' to 'Leura Cascades / Gordon Falls Reserve'. Solitary Restaurant is on the opposite side of Cliff Drive. After 70m on this footpath, turn right down a flight of stairs to remain on 'Prince Henry Cliff Walk' to 'Leura Cascades' and 'Gordon Falls Reserve'. Continue straight ahead ignoring tracks to the right to 'Copelands Lookout' and 'Bridal Veil Lookout'. Continue straight ahead on 'Leura Cascades Round Walk' to 'Leura Cascades Picnic Area via Leura Falls Lookout' ignoring 'Amphitheatre Track' to the right. Continue straight ahead towards Leura Cascades ignoring the track to the right to an unnamed lookout. After descending some stairs you arrive at the top of Bridal Veil Falls and Leura Cascades. Cross over the first bridge and ignore the second bridge which goes to a cave. Continue up the stairs and turn hard right onto 'Prince Henry Cliff Walk to Gordon Falls Cliff Top Lookouts' ignoring the bridge to the left that goes to Leura Cascades Reserve and toilets. Continue on Prince Henry Cliff Walk following signs towards 'Gordon Falls' and ignoring tracks to lookouts

and tracks to Cliff Drive. At Olympian Rock, continue straight ahead ignoring the track to the left which goes up to Olympian Parade. Cross the bridge and continue straight ahead past Elysian Rock ignoring the track to the left which also goes up to Olympian Parade. Continue 230m to a 4-way junction. At the 4-way junction, continue straight ahead ignoring the stairs up to Olympian Parade and ignoring the track to the right to 'Gordon Falls Lookout'. The track then immediately veers left and shortly afterwards opens up into an open grassy area, Gordon Falls Reserve, with picnic tables, some picnic caves and a toilet block. Continue along the right-hand edge of this grassy area to a track at the other side of the open area. Veer right onto 'Pool of Siloam Track' to 'Golf Links Lookout 900m' ignoring the unnamed track straight ahead and ignoring another unnamed track to the left. At the next junction, turn right down the stairs to 'Pool of Siloam' and 'Golf Links Lookout' ignoring the track straight ahead to 'Lyrebird Dell, 500m'. Cross the bridge at Pool of Siloam and continue up the stairs towards 'Golf Links Lookout'. Turn left, ignoring the track to the right to Golf Links Lookout then immediately continue straight ahead to 'Grand Cliff Top Track' ignoring the track to the left to 'Gladstone Rd Leura'. Remain on this track through to Carleton Rd. Turn right into Carleton Rd and follow this road around the left-hand bend where the road becomes Willoughby Rd and continue a further 300m to Sublime Point Rd. Turn left into Sublime Point Rd.

NOTE: CARLETON RD, WILLOUGHBY RD AND SUBLIME POINT RD WILL NOT BE CLOSED TO TRAFFIC. BE AWARE AND GIVE WAY TO ALL TRAFFIC. Stay on the FAR left-hand side of these roads.

Continue along the far left-hand side of Sublime Point Rd and cross over Sublime Point Rd 10m before Watkins Rd. Continue on the footpath on the right-hand side of Sublime Point Rd ignoring Watkins Rd on your left and turn right into Fairmont Place. Follow the footpath beside Fairmont Place down to Fairmont Resort. Turn right on the service road which runs on the South or back side of Fairmont Resort. The large grassy area outside the Fairmont Resort bar is the location of the 17.3km water point. Continue on the service road to join up with a dirt road between the Fairmont grounds and the bush and past a high ropes course. This dirt road takes you to the 14<sup>th</sup> tee of the golf course. Enter the walking track, Grand Cliff Top Track, at the 14<sup>th</sup> tee and continue another 1.3km descending to Lilians Bridge. Immediately after crossing Lilians Bridge, the trail bends right. Follow the trail to the right and immediately turn sharply back to your left on the section of 'Nature Track Circuit' which heads to 'Conservation Hut Café 1 hr 30 min' and ignoring the section of 'Nature Track Circuit' which heads straight ahead to 'Conservation Hut Café 30 min'. (*Note that this text is only found on the back side of the signpost*). Continue on the trail through Lilians Glen and up the stairways towards Edinburgh Castle Rock. Continue another 280m past Edinburgh Castle Rock and turn right. After another 270m turn right back onto the Nature Track. Continue on the Nature Track for approximately 1.3km to arrive at a toilet block, a cul-de-sac in a road and Conservation Hut Café. Continue on the footpath past the entrance to the café and immediately turn right down the first flight of stairs on 'Valley Of The Waters Track'. At the first landing in the stairs, turn left onto 'Short Cut Track – Wentworth Falls Picnic Area 20 min' ignoring the stairs straight ahead which go to 'Queen Victoria Lookout / Empress Falls / To Overcliff Track'. After 300m on Short Cut Track, continue straight ahead towards 'Wentworth Falls Picnic Area 400m' ignoring the track to the right to 'Lyrebird Lookout 300m / To Overcliff Track'. In a further 50m, turn right to 'Breakfast Point Lookout 400m / To Overcliff Track' ignoring the track to the left to 'Murphy Lane, Fletcher St' and ignoring the track straight ahead to 'Wentworth Falls Picnic Area 350m'. Turn left onto Overcliff Track to 'Wentworth Falls Picnic Area -To the Falls' ignoring the track to the right to 'Conservation Hut Café'. Continue straight ahead on Overcliff Track to 'Wentworth Falls Picnic Area' ignoring the track to the right to 'Den Fenella Lookout 200m'. Then immediately cross the small timber bridge and turn right 'on 'Undercliff Track -To the falls' ignoring the track to the left to 'Wentworth Falls Picnic Area 10 min'. Overcliff Track becomes Undercliff Track at this point. Continue on 'Undercliff Track' to 'Wentworth Falls -To the falls 10 mins' ignoring the track to the left to 'Princes Rock Lookout 5 min' & 'Car park 15 min'. Continue straight ahead following signs 'To the falls' ignoring the track to right to 'Lookout 50m'. Again continue straight ahead on 'Wentworth Falls Track - to the falls 100m' ignoring the track to the right to 'Fletchers Lookout' and ignoring the track to the left to 'Car park 20 min'. Continue straight ahead down the stairs 'To the Falls' ignoring the track to the left signposted 'Weeping Rock Circuit'. Continue over Wentworth Falls on sandstone blocks and immediately turn left ignoring the track straight ahead to 'National Pass' and then immediately turn right onto 'Rocket Point Circuit 20 mins' & 'Kings Tableland Rd'. Continue straight ahead on 'Round Walk' ignoring the track to the right also signposted 'Round Walk'. Then turn left to 'Kings Tableland Rd' ignoring the track straight ahead to 'Rocket Point'. At the wide 4WD trail continue straight ahead. Ignore the 4WD trail back to your left. Continue straight ahead through two locked gates ignoring the track to the left after the first gate and ignoring the track to the right after second gate. Turn left onto the bitumen road (Hordern Rd). After 500m on Hordern Rd, turn right into Coronation Rd. At the end of Coronation Rd veer slightly left past the timber power pole and down the earth bank to a footpad. Turn left onto the footpad (stormwater pipe access track). The footpad narrows and pops out onto the edge of private land with a house on the left. Continue along the right-hand edge of the private land and turn right onto another footpad / rough track which links up to and then follows underneath the local distribution line

(powerline). Remain on this dirt track which runs parallel and beside Tableland Rd for 2km all the way to Checkpoint 501 (Old Queen Victoria Hospital) at the junction of Tableland Rd and Kedumba Valley Rd.

NOTE: HORDERN RD AND CORONATION RD WILL NOT BE CLOSED TO TRAFFIC. BE AWARE AND GIVE WAY TO ALL TRAFFIC. Stay on the FAR left-hand side of these roads, especially around the right-hand bend in Hordern Rd.

**Highlights:** The multiple views from Cliff Drive, The Cliff Top Walk to Echo Point, The Giant Stairway, Dardanelles Pass, Leura Forest, Linda Falls, Fern Bower, Bridal Veil Falls, Leura Cascades, the numerous lookouts along Prince Henry Cliff walk, the bridge at Elysian Rock, the Pool of Siloam, Golf Links Lookout, Lilians Glen, Overcliff Track and Wentworth Falls.

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## **LEG 2 – Queen Victoria Hospital (Checkpoint 501) to Scenic World (Finish)**

**Course Description:** From Checkpoint 501, continue along Kedumba Valley Rd for 1.2km to a locked gate. Continue straight ahead through the locked gate and down a long descent which goes through the big road cutting of Kedumba Pass and through a closed gate which is to stop feral pigs. 4.7km after leaving Checkpoint 501 and approximately 700m after the feral pig gate, turn hard right onto another main dirt road (*in training keep a look out for this right-hand turn. It can be easy to miss if not paying attention during training*). This dirt road is quite major, with white roadside posts and reflective markers. Remain on this dirt road for the next 11.5 km, crossing causeways at Jamison Creek (750m in elevation below Scenic World) and Leura Falls Creek and through a large clearing in a saddle (location of the 41.5km emergency aid station) before ascending steeply towards the majestic cliff lines of The Three Sisters. The dirt road then levels out, before dropping gradually to an open grassed area which is the old Katoomba Sewage Treatment Works site. Follow the now grassy road along the right-hand edge of the clearing and then uphill and around to the left. At the end of the clearing, the grassy road becomes a walking track where it enters the bush. Follow this walking track up the hill. After 560m cross a small creek and continue uphill until you see a concrete pipe with a very rough track going steeply uphill. Before reaching this concrete pipe, turn hard left onto a small path. Follow the small path for 50m until it reaches Federal Pass. Turn left onto Federal Pass to 'Leura Forest & Federal Pass' ignoring the stairs up to the right 'To Prince Henry Cliff Walk' and immediately cross a small bridge (you passed through here in the opposite direction during Leg 1). 100 meters after crossing this bridge you will come to the start of Leura Forest. Continue on Federal Pass past the Leura Forest picnic area and remain on Federal Pass following signs to Scenic Railway. 1.7km after Leura Forest, continue straight ahead on Federal Pass ignoring 'Dardanelles Pass' to the right. After another 2km on Federal Pass, turn hard right up Furber Steps signposted 'Furber Steps – Katoomba Cliff Drive 45 min' ignoring the metal bridge straight ahead to 'Federal Pass – Scenic World Valley Station 100m'. If you reach Scenic World lower train station, turn around and go back 100m to the Furber Steps. Furber Steps will take you to the top of the cliffs. This ascent has 951 stairs and about 220m of elevation gain. On the ascent keep following signs to 'Katoomba –Cliff Drive' ignoring all side tracks (Vera's Grotto, Furber Lookout, Lyne's Point, Queen Victoria Lookout, Underfall Walk and Rainforest Lookout). Just after Rainforest Lookout, turn left onto 'Katoomba Falls Round Walk' to 'Scenic World car park via Prince Henry Cliff Walk 15 min.' Continue up the stairs past two side lookouts and when you finally reach the top, turn left to Scenic World ignoring the track to the right marked 'Prince Henry Cliff Walk to Echo Point'. Continue to the finish line at Scenic World

**Highlights:** Kedumba Pass and the views to Mt Solitary and The Three Sisters. The old sewage treatment works site, Leura Forest, Federal Pass walking track with rainforest and waterfalls, the spectacular views of the cliffs from many locations on Furber Steps and finishing ULTRA-TRAIL AUSTRALIA 50.