

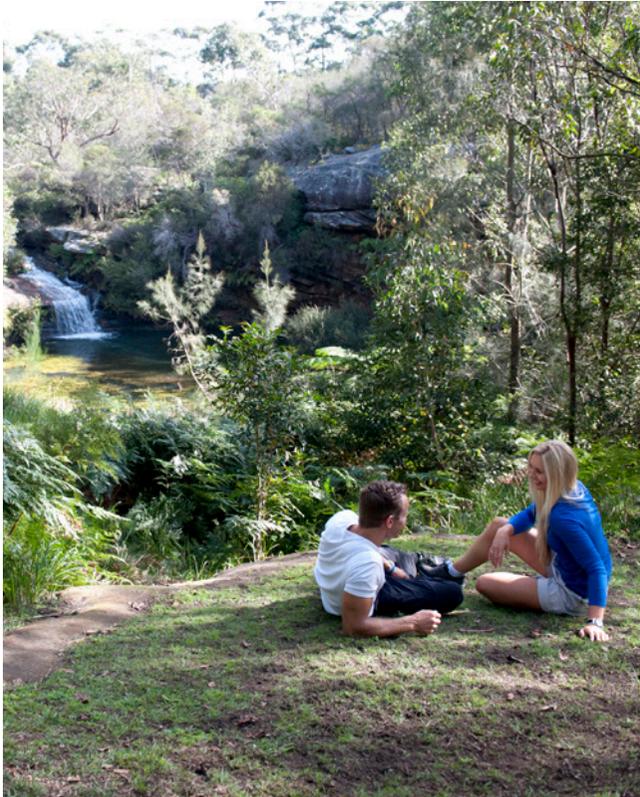
MANLY DAM HERITAGE WALK

G The Mermaid Pool, which is just outside the park boundary, is the largest in a series of pools fed by a cascading waterfall. It was given its name during the great depression of the 1930s when young women from a camp at Allambie used to swim here naked. Since 2002 the area has undergone extensive rehabilitation thanks to volunteers.

Catchment Health: Runoff from houses, gardens and roads carries pollution to the waterways and threatens the fragile ecosystem. Protecting the environment from catchment impacts is important to ensure this environment can be enjoyed for years to come.

Dogs: Dogs are permitted on the bush tracks around Manly Dam providing they remain on a leash. Dogs are not permitted in the water, picnic areas, internal roads or carparks.

The ducks around Manly Dam are always looking for a feed – however please do not indulge them! Bread is not a natural food source and can be harmful.



Mermaid Pool

The regeneration of the Mermaid Pool has only occurred through the tireless efforts of dedicated volunteers.

Printed on 100% recycled paper.

Hello MANLY DAM HERITAGE WALK



MANLY DAM HERITAGE WALK

As the largest freshwater lake in Sydney, Manly Dam boasts 377 hectares of bushland hosting an abundance of native plants and animals. A popular spot for walking, mountain biking, picnicking, water skiing, swimming and fishing, the Dam also has significant heritage value. So come and experience the heritage of the park, there's definitely something for everyone!

- (A) Originally known as **Manly Reservoir**, the damming of Curl Curl Creek was completed in 1892. The wall was raised three times, initially in 1909 and then finally to its current height of 35 metres in 1922. Stone for the dam was quarried on site from the rock along the entrance roadway.
- (B) Following World War I, the Dam was placed under the care of a committee of ex-servicemen. During World War II the Dam was fortified with machine guns and barbed wire. The **War Memorial** is a special place for Anzac Day and Memorial Day ceremonies. With two monuments present, the first is of a more traditional granite and the second a more contemporary design of columns and a sphere with an inscription reading 'World Peace.'
- (C) Although the **wetlands** were artificially created by the damming of the creek, they have formed part of an important ecosystem. Supporting Black Swans and Native Swamphens, it is also an important habitat for native Australian freshwater fish such as Climbing Galaxias (*Galaxias brevipinnis*), which gets its name from the ability to climb boulders and waterfalls.
- (D) By looking carefully you will find **grinding grooves** around the waterfall, evidence of Aboriginal people sharpening their tools. This area would have supplied an abundance of food and resources, with engravings also common on the higher plateaus.
- (E) Enjoy your own private beach, or watch the **waterbirds**. The water here was once infested with the exotic water fern *Salvinia biolobia*, but the boom succeeded in preventing its spread. Native bulrush now grows in its place.
- (F) A great spot for bird watching or enjoying the **wildflowers** that bloom at different times of year. The iconic and beautiful flannel flower is abundant around Manly Dam in spring and summer.

GRADE
Medium

TIME
3 hours

DISTANCE
7.3km loop

PATH
Formed track, short steep hills, some obstacles, many steps



Manly Dam Construction

Aboriginal Grinding Grooves



0 150 300
SCALE 1:15000 (METRES)



★ START HERE
♿ TOILETS
P PARKING

🚌 BUS STOP
- - - OTHER TRAILS

McCOOMB HILL
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