

Chinamans Hat and Pheasants Cave

Walk Signage Colour: Red

Length: 3.7 km (circuit)

Elevation Change: 130 m

Time: 1 ¾ hours

(1 hour if exclude Pheasants Cave)

Grade: Easy/Moderate

Starting point:

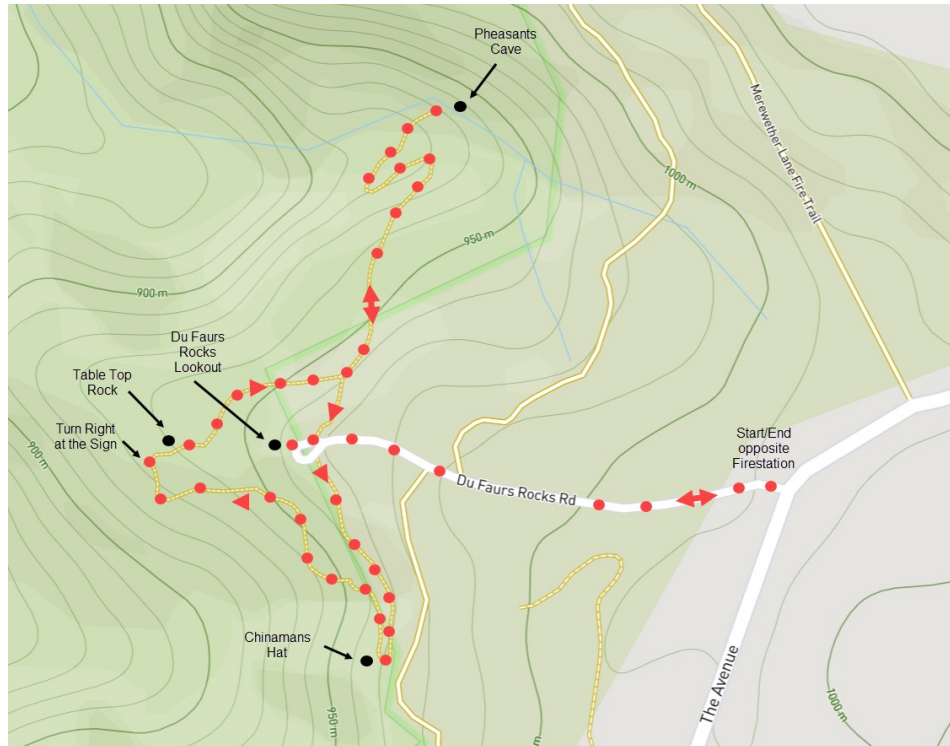
Corner of Du Fours Rocks Road and The Avenue, opposite the Rural Fire Station.

Walking conditions:

- Well formed track.
- Very easy to take the wrong track so be alert for the signs.

Highlights:

- Great views
- Cliff faces and caves
- Spectacular circuit walk



The track starts and ends adjacent to the fire station. Head down Du Fours Rocks Road. At the turning circle at the bottom of the road take the turnoff to the Chinamans Hat Track. As you walk along this well-formed track there are lovely views west. Note the Aboriginal markings on the rocks where they sharpened their tools and made little grooves for the water to run. It is wonderful to sit on Chinamans Hat and enjoy the quietness and view part of the Wollangambe wilderness area.

The tracks heads down on the right hand side of Chinamans Hat. There are wonderful weather worn caves along this section of the walk.

ALERT: Be extremely vigilant for signs as the track splits and the correct track heading right must be taken.

After turning right the track heads up a short rise to Table Top Rock. Another sensational spot for spectacular views. A great spot to stop and soak up the views.

The track heads to the right hand side of the ridge above Table Top Rock and then turns left down to where the track follows contour lines below Du Fours Rocks Lookout and then meets up with the Pheasants Cave Track.

At this point you can head back to Du Fours Rock, but it is highly recommended that you go down to Pheasants Cave.

Pheasants Cave is a magical place. Allow 45 minutes return for this section of the walk plus some extra time to spend in this charming cool bower. There are quite steep steps on part of this bush walk. It is not recommended for wet weather. A path has been cut into the rocks and is well marked. There is a handrail at the steepest section and this is especially useful when there is any moisture on the rocks. Once down to the stream, cross it and head to the right until you come into a small rainforest area where the water falls over the edge of the rocks. The cave is beyond the fall and has been frequented by lyre birds (early explorers mistook these as pheasants).

Return back up the same track until you get back to the junction of the Pheasants Cave walk. It is then a short walk up to Du Fours Rocks Lockout. When you get to the road turn right and enjoy the spectacular views. The Wollangambe Canyon winds through the valley in front of you. To the left (South) you also get a view of Chinamans Hat. This is also a great place watch the setting of the sun as it faces directly west.

Head back up Du Fours Rocks road to complete the walk.