

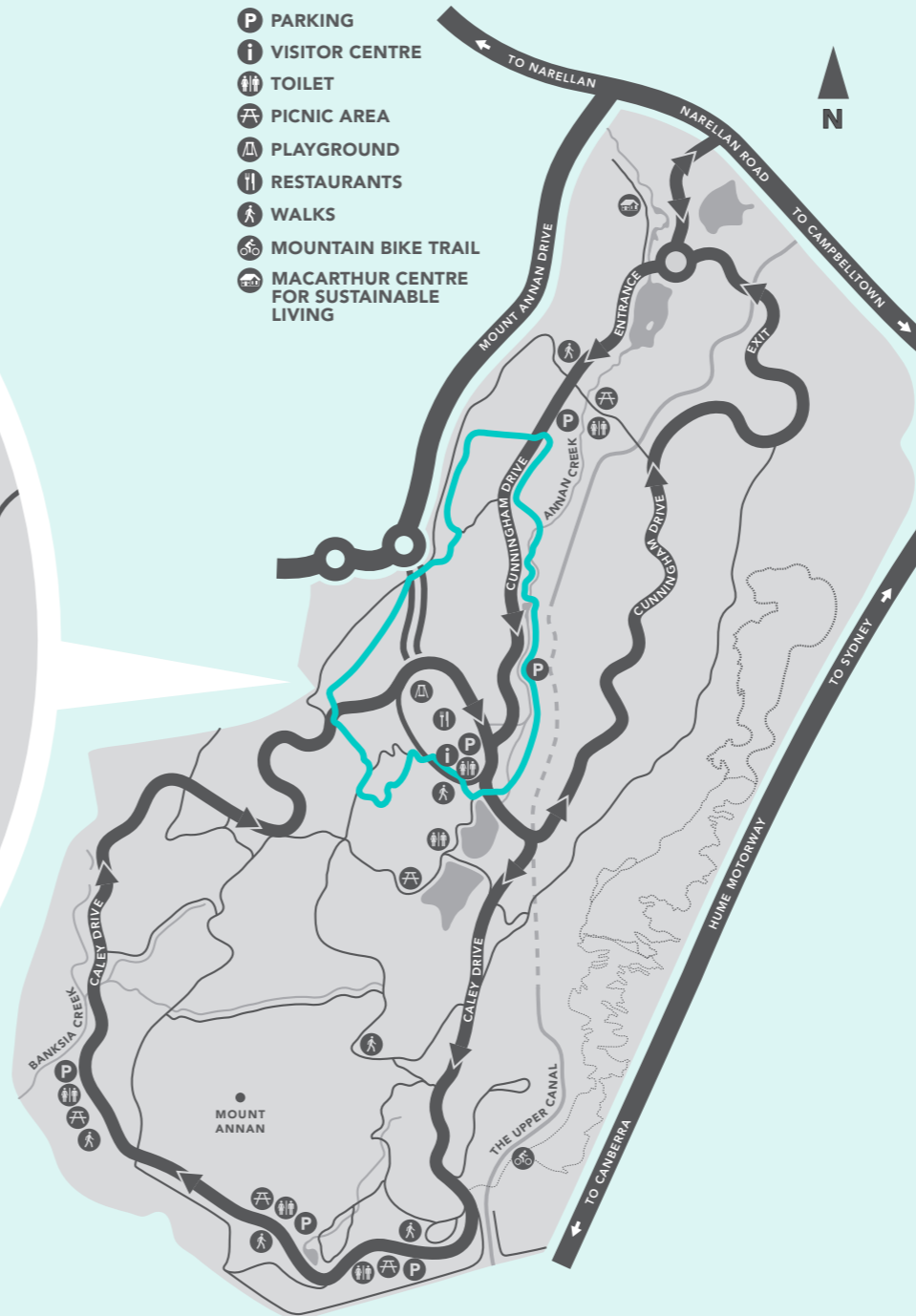


WALK LENGTH 4KM

RATING EASY



- PARKING
- VISITOR CENTRE
- TOILET
- PICNIC AREA
- PLAYGROUND
- RESTAURANTS
- WALKS
- MOUNTAIN BIKE TRAIL
- MACARTHUR CENTRE FOR SUSTAINABLE LIVING



The Cumberland Plain Woodland is a haven for wildlife, so on your walk, keep an eye out for:



**TAWNY FROGMOUTH**  
*(Podargus strigoides)*

Often mistaken for owls, Tawny Frogmouths are in fact members of the nightjar family, and are more closely related to kookaburras and kingfishers. Frogmouths are masters of camouflage, and roost on low branches blending in with the colour and texture of tree bark.



**SWAMP WALLABY**  
*(Wallabia bicolor)*

This short, stocky wallaby was named (*Wallabia bicolor*) because of its varying fur colour. Preferring moist undergrowth to swamps, you should look out for it in the Cumberland Plain Woodland undergrowth in late afternoon.



**CUMBERLAND PLAIN LAND SNAIL**  
*(Meridolum corneovirens)*

This endangered species is found under logs and other debris like leaf and bark litter. Feeding on fungi and active mostly at night this is one of the largest land snails in Australia.



**GOLDEN ORB WEAVER**  
*(Nephila edulis)*

Found in many countries, not just Australia, these giants of the spider world can grow (females) up to 20cm in overall body size. They love building webs across pathways in bushland, so watch out!

The Cumberland Plain Woodland is what it is because of the plants that make up the ecosystem. Plants to look out for on your walk:



**NARROW-LEAVED IRONBARK**  
(*Eucalyptus crebra*)

These beautiful trees have a distinctive bark that looks like it could be made from iron. From seed to sapling these trees will take 20–30 years before they flower and have a life span of approximately 100–200 years.



**BLACKTHORN**  
(*Bursaria spinosa*)

With beautiful white flowers that bloom from January to May, this shrub is great for attracting native bees and can grow up to 5m high. It is an extremely valuable habitat for birds of the Woodland as well as nectar source.



**SPIKED RICE FLOWER**  
(*Pimelea spicata*)

Only 26 small populations of *Pimelea spicata* in western and southern Sydney remain. The main threats to the survival of this endangered species are urban development and weed invasion.



***Heterodea muelleri***

Lichens and mosses can be considered the nursery of any ecosystem. It's where seeds have the chance to germinate protected from birds and other predators. Don't miss the Lichen Garden at the Australian PlantBank on your way along the walk.

## A place to call home

A healthy woodland ecosystem has many layers, from the tree canopy down to the grassy understorey, and supports an amazing diversity of plant and animal life – our local biodiversity!

The backbone of the woodland are our three main eucalypt species. The dark one with very rough bark is the Narrow-leaved Ironbark (*Eucalyptus crebra*). The smooth streaky barked gum is the Forest Red Gum (*Eucalyptus tereticornis*) and the fibrous grey barked one with smooth upper branches is the Grey Box (*Eucalyptus moluccana*).

But plants aren't the only species to call the Woodland home and our native fauna residents are all around you. Keep an eye out for wallaroos feeding or reclining amongst the scrub and grasslands. The elusive swamp wallaby can sometimes be heard thumping through the understorey, while the bearded dragon is a frequent warm weather sight reclining on rocks.

Year round the air is filled with the calls of many birds and on most days visitors will hear the Superb Fairy-wren and the Sulphur Crested Cockatoo. A feature resident is the endangered Cumberland land snail who spend their days sheltering under leaf litter or logs, or buried under loose soil eating fungi.

We can all play a part in conserving this precious bushland – so why not get involved with your local bushcare group and do your bit for the local environment?



SUPERB FAIRY-WREN

For more information on Your Garden, please visit [www.theaustralianbotanicgarden.com.au](http://www.theaustralianbotanicgarden.com.au) or follow us on Facebook, Twitter or Instagram



**WOODLAND WALK**

The Australian Botanic Garden Mount Annan

## Why is Cumberland Plain Woodland so important?

A vital habitat for native birds, animals and plants, this endangered bushland is unique to western Sydney and is under direct threat from urban growth. Once thought of by many as unsightly scrub, this bushland is now being recognised for what it is – a unique type of woodland not found anywhere else in Australia, which is rare and threatened with extinction.

Heavily cleared in the past for farming, it is still being cleared today to accommodate much of Sydney's population growth. With less than 9% of the original Cumberland Plain Woodland remaining, it is now listed as a Critically Endangered Ecological Community. But even with laws to protect the Woodland, it is still under threat, and in many places, being badly affected by weeds, fertiliser run-off and rubbish.

