DAY 3: Huntleys Point Wharf to Balmain East Wharf

Total Distance: 14.5km  Time: Approximately 5 hours  Walk Notes in Five Sections

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Day 3:1 - Huntleys Point Wharf to Iron Cove Bridge

Distance: 4km  Approximate time: 1 hour 15 minutes

Condition: Flat or gentle inclines on paved footpaths. Steps at Iron Cove Bridge.

Public Transport: Huntleys Point and Birkenhead (limited service) Wharves. Buses at Huntleys Point and Victoria Road.

Facilities: There are shops, eating places and toilets at Birkenhead.

Walk Guide

Huntleys Point Wharf is also the starting point for the Parramatta River Walk (northern bank) and for local Huntleys Loop Walk H4.

For the Harbour Circle, from Huntleys Point Wharf, follow Huntleys Point Rd around to the right until midway under the Gladesville Bridge abutment. In the centre of the abutment is an
opening and steps. Once through the short pedestrian tunnel, turn right up and onto the pedestrian way at the northwestern end of the Gladesville Bridge. At the Drummoyne (southern) end of the Gladesville Bridge, take the first footpath exit left into Cambridge Rd, reversing direction (parallel now to the Bridge) down to Drummoyne Ave.

This is also the starting point for the Parramatta River Walk (southern bank). To continue the Harbour Circle, turn right into Drummoyne Av, and later left to follow Wrights Rd southwards to Wolseley St. This is also the starting point for the Drummoyne Loop Walk C1.

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Walk Guide

On the Rozelle side of the Iron Cove Bridge steps lead down to a path under the bridge which links with the Bay Walk via a flight of stairs. Alternatively, continue under the newer bridge and follow the path down to the waterfront.

This is also the start point for the Rozelle/Balmain Loop Walk L1 and a connecting point for the Iron Cove Loop Walk C3 and the.

Down at the water’s edge, the Harbour Circle leads easterly from the Iron Cove Bridge, following the waterfront below the apartments. Historical plaques explain some of the history.

At the northeasterly end of the large grassed area (Bridgewater Park) in front of Balmain Shores, steps and a ramp lead up to Margaret St to connect with the Rozelle/Balmain Loop Walk L1.

The Harbour Circle continues along the waterfront. Where it curves uphill and splits (at the school basketball courts), turn left to follow the waterfront in front of Sydney Secondary College. Climb the wooden steps up to the corner of Longview and Bayville Streets. Despite appearances, Longview leads to a small right-of-way at its end cutting up to Broderick Street. Follow this around its dogleg to Elliott Street and turn downhill to the wharf. Follow the waterfront reserve along in front of the flats until taking the steps almost opposite a small dock up past Laggan Av to Phoebe St, then continue to the left along Phoebe and Tilba Streets. Cross White Street into Elkington Park.

Day 3:3 - Elkington Park, Balmain to Yurulbin Point, Birchgrove

**Distance:** 2km  **Approximate time:** 40 minutes

**Condition:** Mostly paved footpaths or park paths. Some steps and inclines and one lift.

**Public Transport:** Birchgrove (Louisa Rd or Yurulbin P) Wharf. Buses at Darling St and Grove St, Snails Bay.

**Facilities:** There are no shops or eating places directly on the route. There are toilets at Elkington and Birchgrove Parks.
Walk Guide

Elkington Park is also the end of the Birchgrove Loop Walk L2.

Follow the path past the Dawn Fraser Pool as far as the waterfront allows. Take the flight of stairs near the boat storage up to Punch Street, and turn left from it into Gow Street. After No 20, steps lead steeply down to the waterfront (there are alternative steps at No 28 leading left from the turning circle behind the school). Continue northeasterly along the waterfront walk almost to the sailing club, then turn right on a pathway which offers stairs and a lift(!) up to Water and River Streets. Continue left along River Street and cross Cove Street into Louisa Road which is followed to its end at Yurulbin or Long Nose Point with its viewing platform and industrial remnants.

Day 3:4 - Yurulbin Point, Birchgrove to Balmain (Thames St) Wharf

Distance: 2.5km  Approximate time: 1 hour
Condition: Mostly paved footpaths or park paths. Some steps and inclines.
Public Transport: Birchgrove (Louisa Rd or Yurulbin Pt) and Balmain (Thames St) Wharves. Buses at Darling St and Grove St, Snails Bay.
Facilities: There are no shops or eating places directly on the route. There are toilets at Birchgrove and Ballast Point Parks.

Circled numbers refer to text points in accompanying Background and Historical Notes
Walk Guide

From Yurulbin or Long Nose Point, retrace Louisa Road to just past No 83 and step down into the Deloitte Avenue walkway following it across the waterfront of Birchgrove Park to Grove Street. At Grove Street, cross into Wharf Road and follow that to its end at Ballast Point Park.

Enter Ballast Point Park and explore its various walks and viewpoints. At the waterfront on the Morts Bay side follow the path out of the park to Yeend Street. Follow the street which leads into Mort Bay Park, continuing along the waterfront around to Thames Street Wharf.

Day 3:5 - Balmain (Thames St) Wharf to Balmain East Wharf

Distance: 2.5km  Approximate time: 1 hour

Condition: Mostly paved footpaths or park paths. Some steps and inclines (esp. Gilchrist Place and the Zig Zag at Waterview Wharf.

Public Transport: Balmain (Thames St) and Balmain East Harves. Buses on Darling St.

Facilities: There are no shops or eating places directly on the route but hotels are nearby on Cameron St, and shops and hotels on Darling St. There are toilets at Balmain East Wharf.

Walk Guide

From the Wharf walk up Thames Street and turn left into Trouton Street, then cross Campbell Street to Wells Street. At the end of Wells Street turn right uphill into Waterview Street and then left into Caroline Street.

Caroline St is also a connecting point for the Balmain East Loop Walk L3.

To continue the Harbour Circle, halfway along Caroline Street turn left down Caroline Lane and down steps to the shoreline in front of the Colgate Palmolive apartments. Turn right and then right again at the tug depot up Cooper Street to Darling Street. Turn left and then left again down Hart Street. Instead of turning right with the bend in Hart Street, take the small pathway at
the bend (next to No 12) down to the waterfront on the eastern side of the tug depot. Continue along this waterfront to the cul-de-sac end of Gilchrist Place. Turn right into the cul-de-sac at Gilchrist Place and climb it to Duke Street, turning uphill. Between Nos 31 and 27 Duke Street, a small path leads through into Origlass Park and thence to Nicholson Street. Turn left, downhill, and walk to its end, taking the Zig Zag walkway down to the waterfront at the Waterview Wharf Workshops.

Unfortunately, the few metres of land between the end of the Waterview wharves and Simmons Point Reserve is private property, so to avoid trespassing and still visit the Point, it is necessary to return up the Zig Zag and part-way up Nicholson Street before turning left and following Simmons Street around to the Reserve.

Return up Simmons Street, almost to Nicholson Street but cut to the left through the small reserve immediately beyond the block of units and into Clifton Street. Turn left again and then right at Gallimore Avenue. At its junction with Lookes Ave, turn left downhill and take the pathway between Nos 15 and 17 into Thornton Park and beyond it to Darling Street Wharf.