



PENRITH VALLEY
River Mountains Lakes

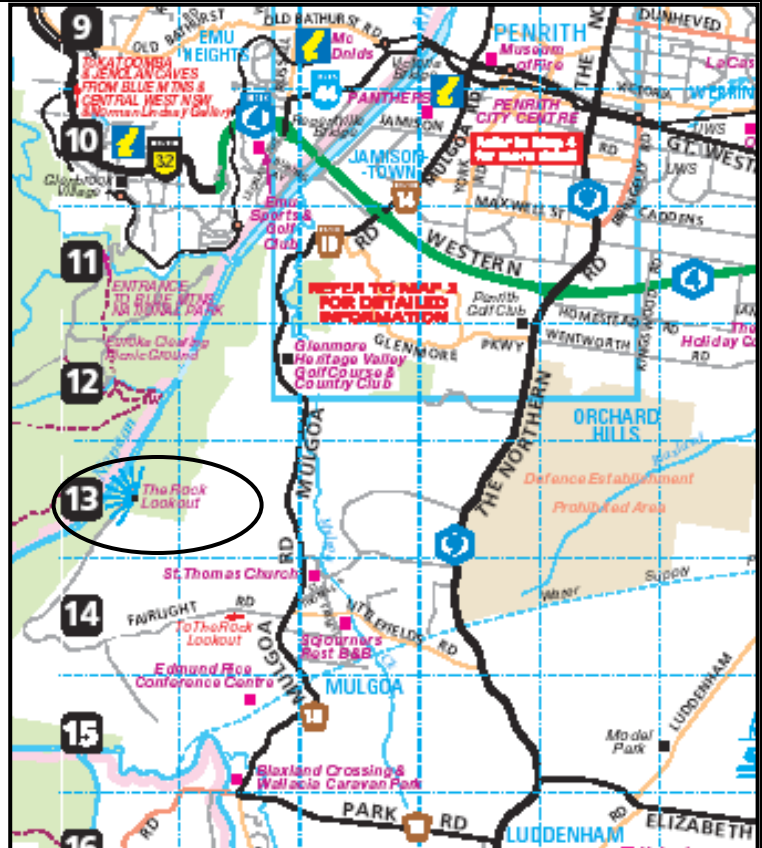
The Rock Lookout

The Rock Lookout is situated within the historic Mulgoa Valley, only minutes from the city of Penrith. Access to The Rock Lookout is by foot from the car park at the end of Fairlight Road, Mulgoa.

The last few kilometres of Fairlight Road leading to the Lookout is a dirt/gravel road.

A short walking track of a few hundred metres leads to 'The Rock' with superb views of the Nepean River. Please Note: This walking track is unlevel and has some steps.

A longer track of 2.5km (40 mins return walk), leads from the car park through swampy heath and Eucalypt forest to Riley's Mountain Lookout that offers more views of the Nepean Gorge and it's beautiful surrounds.



History	This part of the Nepean Gorge was once part of the Fairlight Estate. Annexed by a former owner of Fairlight, 'The Rock' and the adjoining Nepean River Gorge were reserved as a gift to the people of Mulgoa in the early 1900's. Later, in 1978, this area becomes an important addition to Blue Mountains National Park. It shares Mulgoa's historic past and also has evidence of Aboriginal occupation predating European settlement by several thousand years.
Geology	Visitors can also admire the fascinating landforms of the area that were moulded and shaped by the lifting and folding that occurred along the Kurrajong Fault during the tertiary period resulting in a complex structure of soils and sediments. Shale and sandstone soils in the area support forest communities.
Flora	The Nepean Gorge area has a diversity of plants and animals and provides spectacular views over the Nepean River. Flora in the area is characterized by <u>Eucalyptus eximia</u> , Yellow Bloodwood, <u>E. sclerophylla</u> Scribbly Gum and <u>Angophora bakeri</u> , Narrow leafed Apple which a shrubby understorey including <u>Banksia spinulosa</u> , <u>Lambertia Formosa</u> , Mountain Devil, the tea tree <u>Leptospermum attenuatum</u> , and <u>Bossiaea rhombifolia</u> , Rounded-leaved Bossia.
Fauna	For the discerning bird watcher, the swamp heaths are frequented by a variety of honeyeaters and other birds seeking nectar from flowering shrubs. When the swamp banksias flower in late summer or Autumn, the New Holland, White Naped, Yellow Tufted and White Eared honeyeaters are just a few of the bird species which can be observed together with the Eastern Spinebill, Leaden Fly Catcher and Red Browed Finch.



Penrith Valley Visitor Information Centre
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