

BASTION CASCADES – STONE HUT LOOP

Forming part of the Tasmanian Wilderness World Heritage Area, this track takes the walker through temperate rainforest of the Great Western Tiers. It features a set of stunning cascades surrounded by ferns and mossy rocks as well as a series of intriguing rock formations known as 'Wave Rock', 'Crowden's Croft', 'Stone Hut' and 'Arch Rock'.



Time: 5 hour circuit

Distance: 8.5km circuit



Take the A5 from Deloraine then the C167 through to Meander and continue along Huntsman Rd, then Meander Falls Rd. Just past the bridge, go straight onto Quarry Rd and park at the Quarry.

Ref: -41.708629, 146.556682 (type this grid reference or "Stone Hut Track" into Google Maps).

Retail Map: TL06 Jerusalem & TL07 Breton



No facilities. Meander Bridge Café offers postal services, supplies, petrol and coffee as well as tasty food. There are toilets at Meander Hall and at the end of Meander Falls Rd.



Grade 4: Bushwalking experience recommended. Tracks may be long, rough and very steep. Directional signage may be limited. Some very steep muddy sections with navigation around tree fall.



Fallen trees, scrambling and short rope ascents required.

Your walk starts at the quarry/car park at an elevation of 580m. Continue up Quarry Rd for 1km, following the signs. Walk to the very end of the road past the start of the Stone Hut Track and enter the forest here. This route will take you past the Cascades and Stone Hut in a clockwise direction.

As is usual on these walks up the escarpment, the start of the track has been recently rerouted around significant tree fall. Follow the ribbons and worn pad here. The track after this is generally well defined, narrow with regular red triangles to guide you. The rainforest is usual to that of the Tiers; mossy with giant Myrtle, scented Sassafras, ancient Tree Fern, a few tall gums and an abundance of birdlife.

Upon reaching a short rope ascent and a massive rock overhang aptly named 'Wave Rock', climb the rope and head west beneath the rock to Bastion Cascades. Some may stop their walk here and return the way they came. Others will take in the spectacular falls before retracing their steps back to the overhang, and then heading east along the Croft Track. It is slippery here so take care. Follow the ribbons around the overhang and use the rope and tree roots to help you up the steep narrow section between the two boulders. The track becomes less obvious from here, with more fallen trees further up, but there are some ribbons and triangles to guide you.

Further up, the track takes you beneath some more rock formations at what is now called 'Crowden's Croft', an intriguing place for the history it has seen. It's not long until you reach the highest point of your walk at 930m. The forest changes here with the addition of Cutting Grass mounds, Tea Tree, Waratah and Snow Gums.

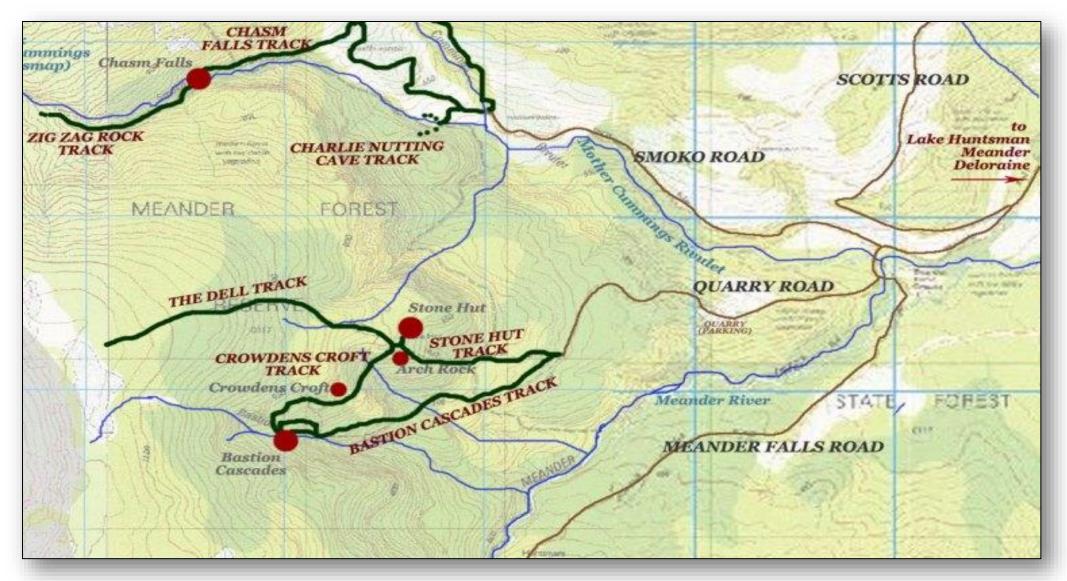
At the gumtree intersection, take the north eastern track downhill to the right. This will lead you to Stone Hut if you take the left fork at the base of the boulder further down. Right continues on to 'Arch Rock' and descends steeply back to the old road and car park.

<u>SAFE WALKING:</u> Plan, be prepared, walk with friends, tell someone where you are going. Consider hiring an EPIRB from Service Tasmania (Launceston & Devonport) to prepare for emergency events. Make a personal determination as to your fitness and ability to undertake specific walks.

LEAVE NO TRACE: walk on formed tracks, observe all restrictions, dispose of waste properly and leave what you find.

<u>FURTHER INFO:</u> National Parks: <u>www.parks.tas.gov.au</u> Restrictions & Alerts: <u>www.fire.tas.gov.au</u> & <u>www.police.tas.gov.au/community-alerts</u> Weather: <u>www.bom.gov.au/tas</u>

BASTION CASCADES - STONE HUT LOOP





Quality

Great Western Tiers Visitor Centre

Talk to a local expert!

Accommodation & Tour Booking | Gift Shop | Yarns Artwork in Silk | Deloraine & Districts Folk Museum



