

## SPLIT ROCK TRACK TO SHOWER CAVE FALLS

Split Rock Track is nestled within the World Heritage Area in the Meander Forest Reserve. The track takes the walker through some beautiful virgin rainforest, past ancient sandstone overhangs, waterfalls and Split Rock, in which a sassafras tree grows between two giant boulders.



Time: 2 - 3 hour return

Distance: 3km return



Take the A5 from Deloraine then the C167 through to Meander and continue along Huntsman Rd, then turn onto Meander Falls Rd. Follow the gravel road to the end.

Ref: -41.722706, 146.545723 (type this grid reference or "Meander Falls Carpark" into Google Maps)

Retail Map: TL06 Jerusalem & TL07 Breton



Toilet and information board at the car park. Meander Bridge Café offers postal services, supplies, petrol and coffee as well as tasty take away and eat in options. There is also a picnic table, toilets and BBQ facilities at Huntsman Lake.



**Grade 3:** Some bushwalking experience recommended. Tracks may have short steep hill sections, a rough surface and many steps.



The track is sometimes muddy and rough with many steps and some fallen debris. There are few track markers, take care to follow them.

Follow the signs from the car park. You will pass the mega fauna 'Creature Being' sculpture, which forms part of the <u>GWT Sculpture Trail</u>, and then you will cross the Meander River via a suspension bridge. Once across the river, the track enters native rainforest dominated by towering myrtle, sassafras and tree fern. It gets quite muddy here in the wetter months. Follow the track up as it winds beneath the tree ferns and veer right immediately after crossing a large fallen tree with steps carved in its trunk. It's lovely to hear the birds and flowing water of streams as you make your way uphill in a south westerly direction.

The track is quite obvious at this stage but becomes less well defined as you go on. Be sure to keep sight of the ribbons and coloured triangles as there are a few false tracks further up that can lead you astray. There are often piles of sticks or logs at the intersection of these false tracks to help keep walkers on the correct path.

The exposed tree roots provide good footholds along the track, and the sandstone overhangs toward the top are quite unique, one can picture past inhabitants using them as shelter. 45 minutes to an hour in you reach your first overhang, covered in ferns and dripping water to the left of the track as you climb steeply up to the split in the rock.

The path intersects above the overhang at a large mound of cutting grass; take the northern branch uphill to Split Rock. Then head west toward the sound of running water and past some more overhangs and a small waterfall. From here the track crosses a few streams; Unnamed Falls can be seen when looking upstream from the largest of the three. Take care here while crossing the slippery rocks; your destination is just around the corner. Return the way you came.

**NOTE**: The track continues up from the falls and links onto the Meander Falls track but it is not well marked. It requires navigation over a large section of scree and walkers must cross the Meander River on foot, which should not be attempted if the river is in flood. Only those with solid bushwalking experience should attempt this route.

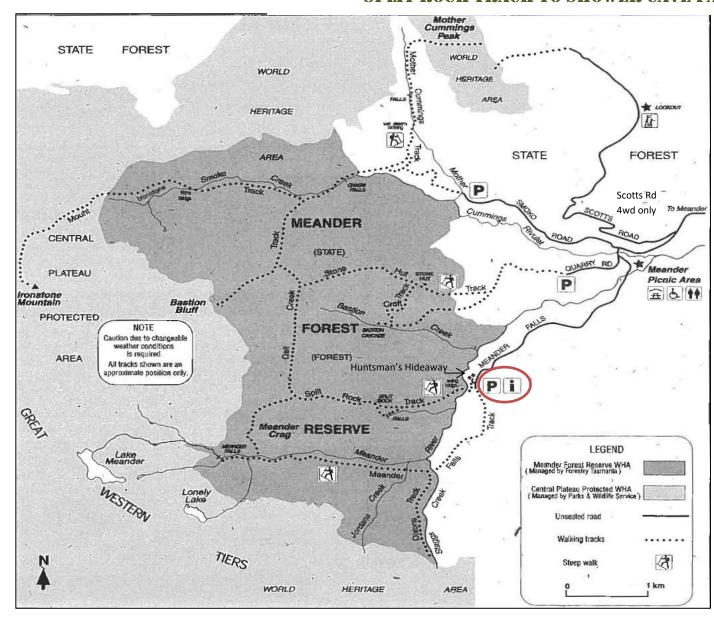
<u>SAFE WALKING:</u> Plan, be prepared, walk with friends, tell someone where you are going. Consider hiring an EPIRB from Service Tasmania (Launceston & Devonport) to prepare for emergency events. Make a personal determination as to your fitness and ability to undertake specific walks.

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

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

Weather: www.bom.gov.au/tas

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