

Upgrading

Evans Lookout

visitor precinct



Evans Lookout

Evans Lookout is a popular spot in Blackheath to bushwalk, picnic, and enjoy the escarpment views of Blue Mountains National Park. It is an entry point to walk the Grand Canyon and Cliff Top tracks and to make the descent into the Grose Valley.

The precinct is managed by the National Parks and Wildlife Service (NPWS) with Blue Mountains City Council responsible for Evans Lookout Road. This upgrade project will improve visitor facilities including enhancement of the carpark, replacement of toilets, provision of a new access pathway and improvements to the lookout.

The upgrade project is part of the NSW Government's *Improving Access to National Parks* program which aims to improve safety and access. Over the next 2 years NPWS will deliver additional projects to improve the Grand Cliff Top Walk, Govetts Leap and Conservation Hut precincts, as well as improvements to local walking tracks.

Access for all

NPWS has a Disability Inclusion Action Plan which outlines our commitment to the *Disability Inclusion Act 2014*. The plan aims to enhance inclusion by improving access to national parks, lookouts, picnic areas, tracks and camping grounds for people with restricted mobility.

This upgrade project supports this commitment and the disability improvement requirements in the Blue Mountains National Park Plan of Management 2001.

The plan in detail:

- redesign and resurface of the carpark to maximise spaces and allow for minibus turn around
- improve lookout safety with new handrails

- construct accessible parking and pathways for access to amenities and lookout
- replace existing toilet with new accessible facilities
- realign tracks, close and rehabilitate obsolete tracks
- update track head and wayfinding signage
- revegetate works area

The design plan requires limited changes to the existing site. Before the work begins, all works will be assessed for impact on the natural and cultural environment, through the undertaking of a Review of Environmental Factors.

The timeline

Once approvals are in place, the works will go to tender with construction planned to start in February 2022. The area be closed during construction work. However, NPWS will arrange safe access to the walking tracks during the construction period.

All closures will be notified on the national parks website. nswparks.info/alerts-blumentns



Evans Lookout Precinct Masterplan

Valley View Lookout



KEY

1. Existing car parking area to be improved to provide a mini-bus drop off areas, disabled parking bays and short stay parking.
2. New track head.
3. New triple stall gable toilet (including accessible toilet).
4. Access to Cliff Top Walking Track
5. Access to Grand Canyon Car Park
6. Connection to existing Valley View Lookout track.
7. Proposed 1.8m wide class 1 walking track.
8. Accessibility improvements to Evans Lookout.
9. Access to Grand Canyon Walking Track.
10. Decommissioned tracks to be rehabilitated.