

The Katoomba Night Walk

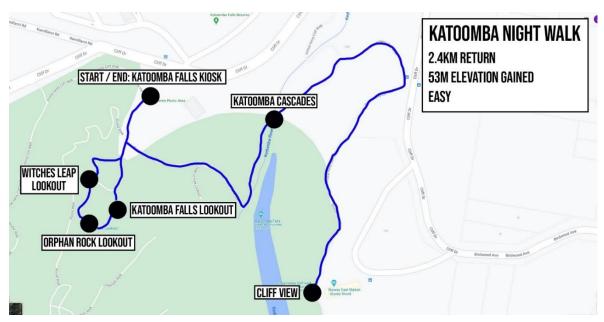
The Stats

Distance: 2.4km return

Elevation: 53m

Difficulty: Easy, either paved or boardwalk. But there are a few stairs so it's

not wheelchair accessible track.



The Katoomba Night Walk offers the unique opportunity to check out some of the most beautiful waterfalls and rock formations in the area after dark. The Three Sisters at Echo Point have been lit up for years, but the Katoomba Night Walk is a new addition which allows you see much more, with over a kilometre of track illuminated until 11:00pm.

It's incredibly atmospheric to stroll along the forest pathways with small twinkling lights, and if you're lucky a gorgeous starry sky overhead too. It's an easy walk and suitable for anyone who can manage staircases.

There are two sets of lights for the night walk, the flood lights which illuminate the things you are looking at, like the waterfalls, and the small spotlights which light up the paths so you can see where you're going.





The flood lights come on at dusk and remain on every day until 10.30pm.

The small pathway lights remain on until 11pm so that you have plenty of time to make your way back if you're staying until the flood lights go off.

Personally, all the lights were plenty bright enough for me not to need any additional light, but I did see a few people with torches. You won't need any more than a phone torch though.

The walk highlights

We started the walk at the Katoomba Falls Kiosk. After 60m you'll arrive at the staircase which takes you up to the main lookouts over the waterfall and valley.

You can't see a lot from the first one, Solitary Lookout, but the second, Katoomba Falls Lookout, is the best one of all. The waterfall and Three Sisters are lit up, as well as Orphan Rock. If you stand here long enough, you'll probably see the odd bat swooping over the valley too.

Just beyond Katoomba Falls Lookout you'll come to the main viewpoint for Orphan Rock, which gives you a close-up view. It looks like one of the Three Sisters, but all on its lonesome.

A minute further along is Witches Leap Lookout. This one is really well lit and it feels more intimate than the other viewpoints. Unfortunately, the waterfall is often just a trickle, but it's still a pretty view.





Orphan Rock

Witches Leap

The walk then continues along the forested pathway, past two more lookouts, to Katoomba Cascades. The final part of the walkway to the cascades is lined with tree ferns, and the river running on your right offers a relaxing backdrop to the track.



The cascades are the most well illuminated of any of the spots on the whole walk. You can also walk right into the pools at the base if you want to, we saw lots of kids in wellies having a great time splashing around.

There are several benches here to sit and enjoy the cascades too.

Once you're here you've done the premier part of the walk. Whilst it does continue on for another 420m (each way), there's not a lot more to see.

You can catch a glimpse of the top of the cascades at the lookout to the left of the stairway, but it's not a view as such. The walkway then heads right and takes you to Cliff View, which is strangely not lit. It's almost like they haven't quite finished this bit yet.



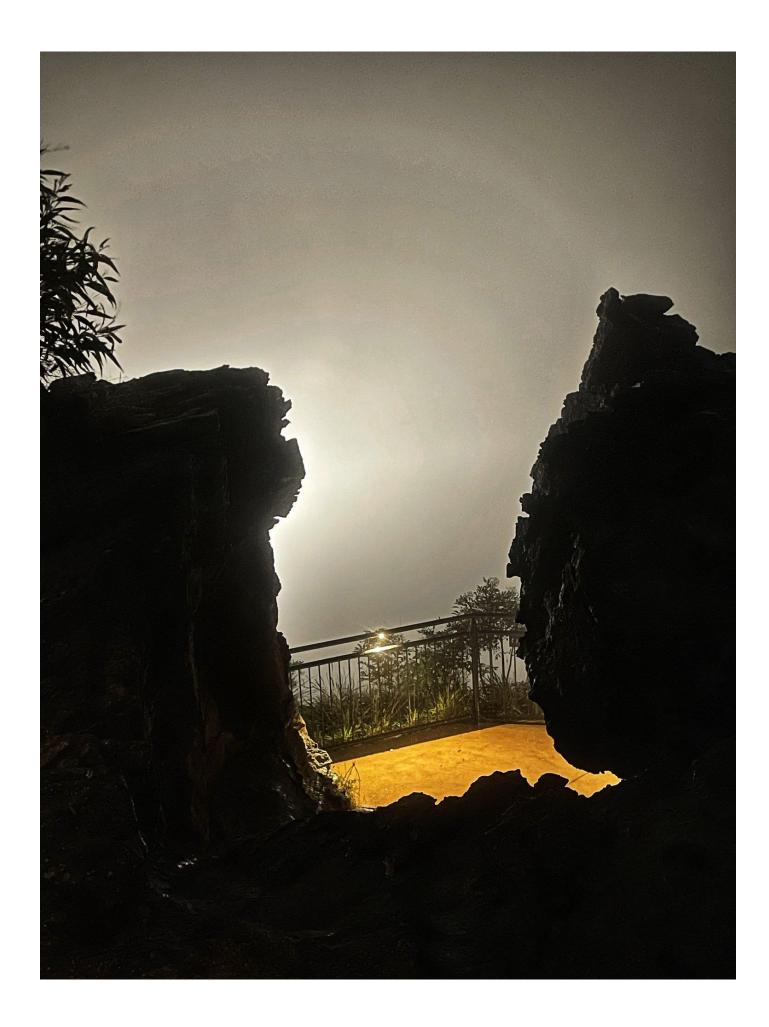
Overall this unique walk is one of our new favourites in the mountains.

More Great Views on the Walk









Facilities on the walk

There are no facilities whatsoever along the trail. The nearest toilets are in the park across the road from the kiosk where you park your car. You need to carry all your rubbish out with you and dispose of it in town.



Getting to the Katoomba Night Walk

The Katoomba Night Walk starts at the kiosk by the Prince Henry Picnic area

You can drive right to the start of the walk as there is parking by the picnic area, and more by the oval across the road or alternatively park at Katoomba Cascades carpark. Both are on Cliff Drive.

You also can get here by hopping on the 686 bus from Katoomba town centre, and they run fairly regularly.

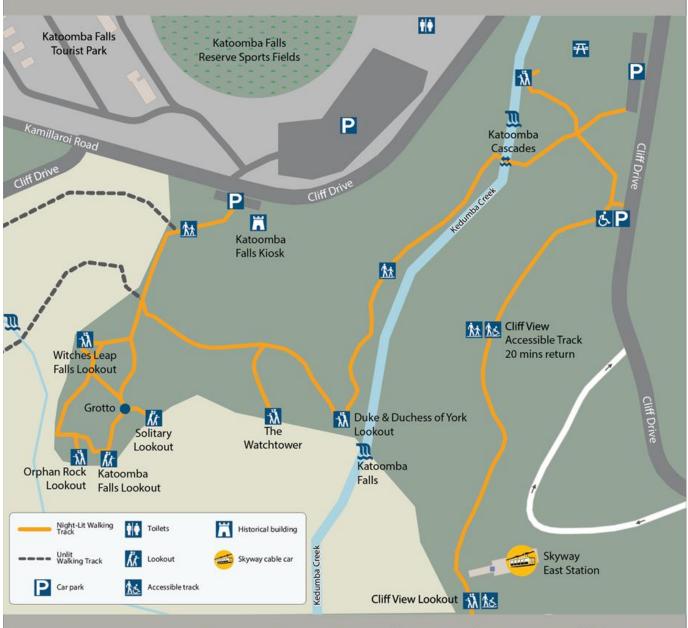


KATOOMBA FALLS NIGHT-LIT WALK



Hours of operation: Dusk - 11:00pm

Floodlighting turns off at 10:30pm











Ensure you have a personal light source at all times; such as a flashlight, mobile phone light or a head torch.











Slippery and uneven surfaces



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PRINCE HENRY CLIFF WALK