

Walk 2: Hollow Mountain

Northern Grampians

Length: 2.5km **Style:** Return

Difficulty: Medium **Duration:** 2hrs

Total uphill: 188m **Gradient:** Some steep sections.

Path: Formed path, plus track on rocks and some rock scrambling.

Highlights: Spectacular views of Mt Stapylton amphitheatre. A stunning three level cave to explore.

Start: Drive north on Northern Grampians Road for 3.8km. Turn right onto Pohlner's Road. Drive 4.4km and turn left. After 1.4km, veer right onto Mt Zero Road. In another 1km, you will reach the right turn into Hollow Mt carpark (Grid Ref 232169). **Distance to start:** 11.5km **Driving time:** 12min.



Walk Description: Starting from the Hollow Mountain carpark, follow the signposted walking track to Hollow Mountain. The first 450m is via a nice, easy wide foot track, which passes a couple of turn-offs into popular rock climbing areas. Wildflowers can often be sighted along this section of track.

The track then begins to rise steadily on a rocky trail marked by yellow arrows. Note – when you reach a signposted turn off (and map) to various rock climbing sites, veer left, following some cairns. You will soon reach a tall vertical orange cliff. Follow left along the base of the cliff until the track switches back hard right (north west). This next section is a short rocky scramble up the cliff line – a little exposed in some sections – but most people should manage this ok.

A further 50m from the top of the cliff, brings you to the mouth of the 'Wind Cave'. It is highly recommended to enter and explore this beautiful and unusual three level cave. There are two 'entrances' into the cave – one a bit of a squeeze for the more adventurous. You can also experience stunning views of Mt Stapylton's Taipan Wall and amphitheatre from the other side of the cave.

Moving on, yellow markers lead you onwards and upwards in an anti-clockwise direction up and around to the summit of Hollow Mountain. This is a great location for a break or lunch, while you take in the magnificent views of Stapylton's main ridge line and amphitheatre. Who knows...you may even sight the group doing the Stapylton Traverse! 360 degree views also take in Mt Zero and Wimmera plains to the north and Mt Difficult and Asses Ears to the south.

Return to the cars by re-tracing your route.

Cautions: There is one short, steep rocky scramble involved – a little exposed, but most people should be ok with it. Rocks could be slippery if wet. Some parts of the rocky track are very uneven and care should be taken. Good footwear recommended.

Facilities: Toilets are at Hollow Mountain carpark.

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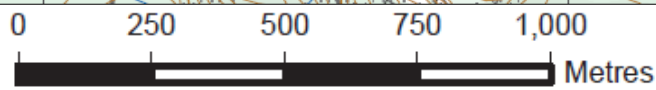


HOLLOW MOUNTAIN

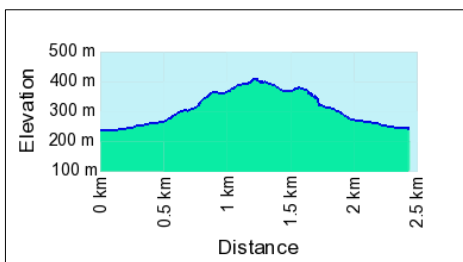


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Walk surfaces	
Road	
Vehicle Track	
Foot Track	
Off Track	
Walk Route	

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