Out and about at Googong

Walking or mountain bike riding at Googong is always interesting. There’s a variety of tracks and trails which provide opportunities to see wildlife and enjoy panoramic views of the dam and Queanbeyan Escarpment.

Short Walks

1. London Bridge Walk
   This 3.4 km return circuit leaves from the London Bridge car park. It crosses the Burra Creek via the London Bridge Arch and then takes you on to the historic London Bridge Homestead before following the fire trail back to the car park. Both the Arch and the Homestead are on the Register of the National Estate. A London Bridge Walk brochure is available at the start of the walk.
   The homestead is open to the public on regular open days, approximately once a month (except during the fire season). Access for groups may be arranged through the Rangers.

2. Black Wallaby Loop Track
   This 2.6 km return circuit leaves from the Downstream Picnic Area and parallels the course of the Queanbeyan River upstream to the dam wall. The short ‘River Walk’ (200 metres) takes you down into the gorge where there are a number of large swimming holes which are popular during the summer months. The Cascades Lookout and the Dam Wall Lookout are two scenic vantage points. These are both reached by walks of less than 100 metres from the car park and have seats or picnic tables where you can relax and enjoy the view.

3. Cascades Walks
   The Cascades is the name given to the gorge on the Queanbeyan River below the dam wall. The short ‘River Walk’ (200 metres) takes you down into the gorge where there are a number of large swimming holes which are popular during the summer months. The Cascades Lookout and the Dam Wall Lookout are two scenic vantage points. These are both reached by walks of less than 100 metres from the car park and have seats or picnic tables where you can relax and enjoy the view.

4. Shoreline Walk
   This easy walk takes you along one of the most popular and accessible stretches of shoreline at Googong. It runs between the Foreshores car park and Shannons Inlet. This track stays very close to the water’s edge and provides panoramic views of the northern part of the dam. On still quiet days you may see trout and Golden Perch swimming between the Foreshores car park and Shannons Inlet. Gas barbecues are provided in this area and strategic track markers define the route.

Long Day Walks and Bike Rides

5. Queanbeyan River Walk
   This 19.7 km return walk or ride leaves from the Downstream Picnic Area and initially follows a route marked by directional posts. Then, following fire trails, the walk skirts the northern shore of the dam, before climbing steeply up the Queanbeyan Escarpment. It is suitable for mountain bikes but requires much walking. The track passes several scenic vantage points of the dam and the Queanbeyan Escarpment to the east. There are also good opportunities to view wildlife, particularly Eastern Grey Kangaroos and Wedge-tailed Eagles.

6. Western Foreshores Walk/Ride
   This 19.7 km return walk or ride can be accessed from either end of Googong Foreshores. The northern track head is near the Foreshores car park and the southern track head is at Tin Hut car park. The track descends fire trails through grassland and open woods. It provides many scenic vantage points of the dam and the Queanbeyan Escarpment to the east.

7. Bradleys Creek Walk
   This 14.2 km return walk leaves from the Downstream Picnic Area and initially follows a route marked by directional posts. Then, following fire trails, the walk skirts the northern shore of the dam, before climbing steeply up the Queanbeyan Escarpment. It is suitable for mountain bikes but requires much walking. The track passes several scenic vantage points of the dam and the Queanbeyan Escarpment to the east. There are also good opportunities to view wildlife, particularly Eastern Grey Kangaroos and Wedge-tailed Eagles.

8. Queanbeyan River Loop Trail
   This mountain bike ride starts at the London Bridge car park and follows the fire trail to London Bridge Homestead. Before reaching Burra Creek (near the Homestead) follow the fire trail branching eastwards and travel past Gelignite Crossing to Flynns Crossing. From here follow the fire trail to loop back to Gelignite Crossing and then London Bridge car park. Strategically placed track markers define the route.
   The loop is moderate to difficult and involves some steep grades plus two crossings of the Queanbeyan River. The ride travels through picturesque dry sclerophyll forest on both sides of the Queanbeyan River. See Queanbeyan River Walk for further details.