

Getting there

It's only a 45-minute drive from Ulverstone (42 km) or can be reached from Cradle Mountain, via Wilmot and the C132 route, in 75 mins.

Facilities

- > Stories and information revealing the significance of the Canyon and surrounds
- > Picnic area with barbecues, tables & picnic shelter – disabled access
- > Toilets

Be prepared for changing weather conditions and carry sunscreen, water, and a jacket for wet weather.

Depending on weather conditions, track surfaces may be slippery and covered in ice.

Please stay on the track, for your protection and to protect the environment, and place rubbish in bins provided.

For information on accommodation providers, the Canyon in general and other walks:

Ulverstone Visitor Information Centre

13-15 Alexandra Rd, Ulverstone
03 6425 2839

Penguin Visitor Information Centre

78 Main Rd, Penguin
03 6437 1421

www.centralcoast.tas.gov.au

Walks close by

Canyon Floor Walk

30 mins return to Leven River, moderate walk

Drive to start of walk, off Loongana Rd (see inset on map). Downhill track leads to the boulder-strewn Canyon Floor – enjoy it from the Leven River footbridge. Experienced walkers can continue on to Devils Elbow, 1 hr return from footbridge, challenging walk.

This is part of the 80 km Penguin-Cradle trail, linking the coast to Cradle Mountain.

Preston Falls

15 mins return, easy walk

Delightful 25m waterfall that plunges into the shady depths of a gorge and is surrounded by blackwood forest.

Winterbrook Falls

5 hrs return, challenging walk

Track starts from the Smiths Plains Road Tramway Track car park, accessed via South Nietta Rd, about 15km south of the Canyon. Walk along an old tramway to a King Billy pine forest up to 2000-years-old, and magnificent falls cascading 200m from Black Bluff peak. Track not regularly maintained or well-marked.



Black Bluff

6-7 hrs return, challenging walk

Rewarding walk through an alpine garden to a 1339m mountain summit dominating North-West Coast skyline. Views from Cradle Mountain to the Great Western Tiers. Spectacular Paddys Lake is below the summit.

Track starts at Taylors Flats, off Loongana Rd. It is not regularly maintained or well-marked.

Dial Range Walks

This mountain range, near Penguin, has more than 50km of trails. Walking tracks start from Ironcliffe Rd, Penguin.

Maps available from Penguin and Ulverstone Visitor Centres.

Special because...

> Places like the Leven Canyon Reserve are all that stand between several threatened species of Tasmania's animals and their disappearance forever. This reserve provides vital habitat and hunting grounds for creatures like the Tasmanian devil, spotted-tailed quoll, wedge-tailed eagle, eastern barred bandicoot and grey goshawk.



> Unlike most rivers in the world, the 108 km Leven River retains its original vegetation cover for most of its length.



> Enough water runs through the Canyon every day to satisfy the thirst of a major city. About 45,000-70,000 kilolitres of water flush through the Canyon daily, equivalent to water consumption for 350,000 people.



> Leven Canyon is Tasmania's deepest limestone gulch, with challenging terrain. The Canyon floor footbridge was made locally and components lifted in by helicopter.

LEVEN CANYON

inspiring
exciting



Drama of a rare place

Come to the edge of a dramatic canyon with a river twisting and roaring 275m below – and hear nature's wild call.

It's rare in the world to find a powerful place like Leven Canyon that's so easy to access. Enjoy the excitement of the canyon, only 45 minutes away from tranquil beaches and coastal parklands.

The reserve, almost 2,500 ha, is a refuge for Tasmanian plants, animals and birds. Experience them on a range of fascinating walks, most of them easy.

Relax in bushland surrounds while having a picnic or barbecue. There's much to explore, so allow at least two hours on-site.

Exploring the Canyon reserve

Picnic Area

This is brown-top stringybark wet forest, with some rainforest species like myrtles. Storms and lightning strikes have wiped out the tops of many large eucalypts. A sudden noise may be a Tasmanian pademelon bounding away. They're also called rufous wallabies.

Cruickshanks Lookout Walk

Enjoy breathtaking Canyon views from the lookout, 275m above the Leven River. Dominant plants nearby are the 'tough characters' of the eucalypt family – Smithton peppermints, which grow on less fertile soils. On the ground are small trigger plants and greenhood and other orchids, in season.

20 mins return
easy walk, all ages

Forest Stairs

Take on the challenge of 697 stairs – or walk just past the start and soak up the forest peacefulness from a seat. Watch or listen for birds like pretty pink robins (11 of Tasmania's 12 endemic birds are found in the reserve). Amazing small ferns grow here, like batwing, fishbone waterferns and kangaroo ferns.

45 mins return
full circuit including steep terrain and steps

Edge Lookout Track

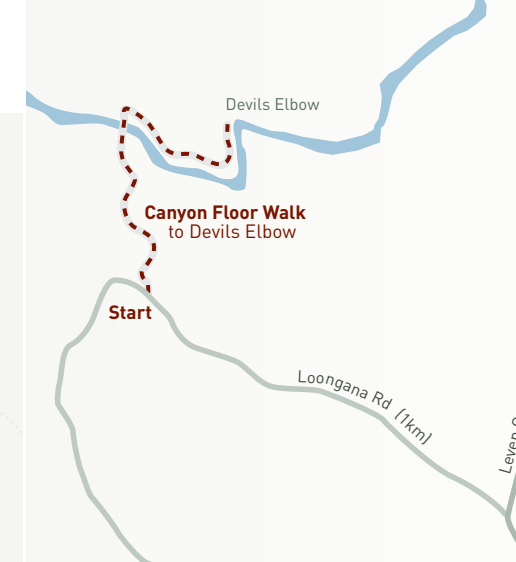
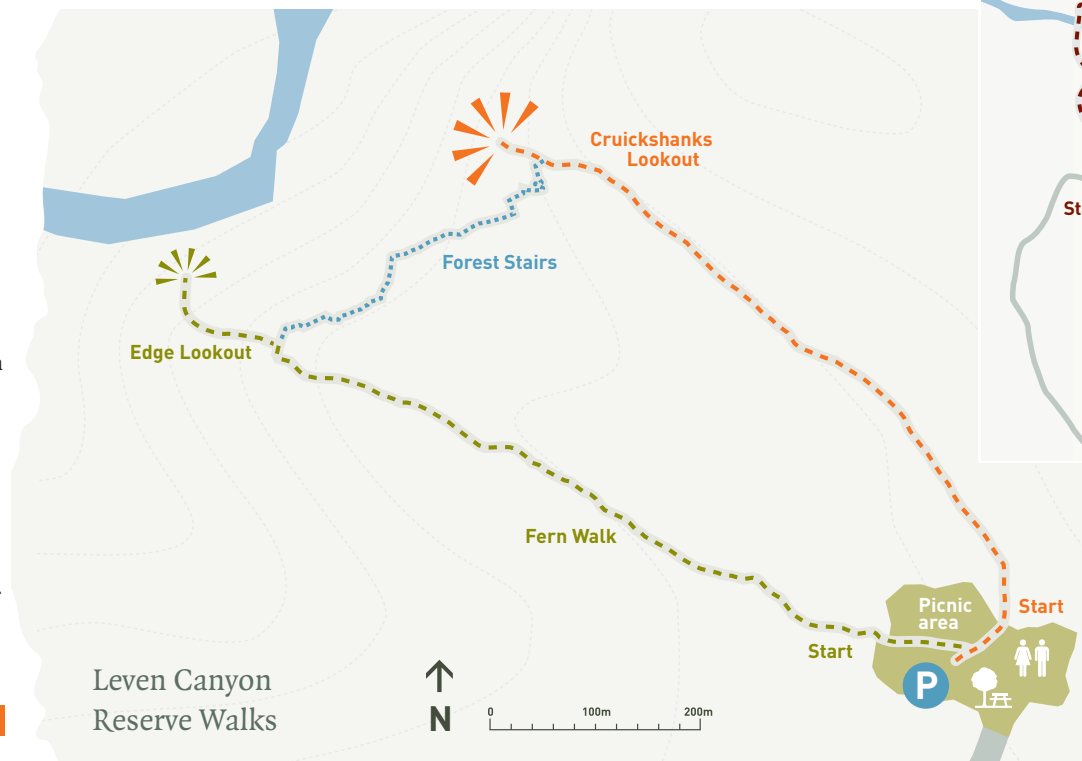
Several vegetation communities come together here, from wet forest to plants of the drier cliff edge. The huge tree is a whitetop stringybark. Coral fungi grow on rotten logs, usually in autumn. At the Edge Lookout, you can see the Canyon walls up close.

30 mins return
easy walk, all ages

Fern Walk

Grand old treeferns feature here, up to 5m tall and 150-years-old. Covering the ground is mother shieldfern, which grows 'babies' on the tips of fronds. This kind of wet forest is home for small mammals like the dusky antechinus, eastern pygmy possum and long-tailed mouse.

20 mins return
easy walk, all ages



exploring
the canyon

Beauty that's
both large and
small...



Spectacular, sweeping views from Cruickshanks Lookout contrast with captivating discoveries alongside walking tracks, like ferns and brightly-coloured fungi. This one, with leathery orange fans, is *stereum ostrea*, sometimes called 'false turkey tail'.

