

Getting There

Denmark Hill Conservation Park is within walking distance of Ipswich Central. The main entry and parking areas are located opposite the corner of Deebing and Clay Streets, just south of the city centre.

Walking tracks lead to the water tower and provide 360° views of Ipswich City and on a clear day, all the way to Brisbane. Triassic Park, located within the park boundaries, provides visitors with an opportunity to explore the many fossils that were once found in the area. The pond provides an ideal location for relaxation while the short walks are great for bird watching and give visitors a glimpse into the mining history of the park.

Visitors are advised to contact Ipswich City Council on (07) 3810 6666 for access requirements if they wish to:

- Venture away from the designated picnic area or graded track system
- Undertake organised group activities
- Undertake activities of a commercial nature

Under Council's Local Laws, conducting or engaging in the following activities is prohibited:



Walk Ipswich

Bushwalking is a great way to get active while getting back to nature! Want to know more about walking in Ipswich? Check out the Walk Ipswich program which is full of free and low cost walking activities suitable for all ages, interests and abilities.

- Try bushwalking with the friendly crew from the Ipswich Bushwalkers
- Join one of the many local walking groups across Ipswich
- Have a go in the next local fun run or other walking events
- Get a pedometer and aim for 10,000 steps every day

For more information, phone (07) 3810 6666 or visit www.ipswich.qld.gov.au/residents/healthy_lifestyle/walk_ipswich

Denmark Hill Conservation Park

Denmark Hill Conservation Park was established as a reserve in the 1880's. Covering 11.5ha in area, it is located near Ipswich Central, offering a number of local walking trails through eucalypt forest.

The park is steeped in history with the discovery of fossils and intense coal mining activity early last century. It now functions as a Conservation Park protecting a rich biodiversity so close to the city and even remarkably provides habitat for a local koala population.



Fossil at Triassic Park

Did You Know...

Triassic Park

Extremely well preserved insect fossils were discovered near the Deebing Street end of Quarry Street in the 1890's. Over the next 30 years, fossils unearthed dating back to the Triassic period between 210 to 250 million years ago became the subject of great interest to scientists around the world. Fossil insects resembling mantids, locusts, dragon-flies, lacewings and cockroaches were located in shale beds which also were quarried at the time. Historic mining activity has long since covered the fossil beds to an unknown depth with spoil heaps.

Before You Start Your Activity

Please refer to the Notice Board within the Information Bay located at the Day Use Area for user guidelines and detailed track information or visit Council's website at www.ipswich.qld.gov.au.

For your safety, please consider:

- Wearing a hat
- Bringing water and food
- Wearing suitable and comfortable shoes
- Using sunscreen
- Taking a detailed map
- Taking a first aid kit
- Notifying someone of your planned walk
- Taking a mobile phone and emergency contact details
- Checking class, length and features associated with your chosen walk
- Checking weather forecasts and any weather warnings
- Check Ipswich City Council website for estate closure during extreme weather conditions

Trail Etiquette

- Stay on tracks at all times
- Be prepared to share tracks with other recreational users
- Beware of falling branches, especially during strong winds
- Do not remove or disturb plants, animals or cultural sites
- In case of accident or other emergency please call 000

Mining

Underneath Denmark Hill is a maze of tunnels now sealed off and secured. It represents a history of mining in Ipswich which started in 1905 when a government geologist by the name of Cameron reported beds of grit covering the Bundamba coal measures, known as the Aberdare seam, appeared to resurface on Denmark Hill. It was not until 1912 that a seam was discovered 9m below the surface and the Ipswich and Rosewood Coal and Coke Company Limited opened up the seam the same year. Later a new company called Ipswich City Collieries Limited was formed and the colliery became known as City Colliery.

By 1919, the mine was employing 50 men. In that year, it was sold to Henry Noble, owner of the largest group of coal mines in Queensland, and renamed Noblevale No 6. Noble installed electricity, better ventilation and made other improvements. However, the mine had problems including fires and an unsafe roof. Other tunnels were opened in later years, but were never very successful. Mining ended in 1952 with the City Colliery No. 3 tunnel at the corner of Chelmsford Avenue and Outridge Street after the coal proved inferior.

Today, part of the walking trail circuits follow the former tramway along which coal skips were hauled. Coal can be seen beside the track, and there are a few concrete and metal remains near the western end of Quarry Street.



Koala

1 Denmark Hill Conservation Park

TRAILS OF IPSWICH



www.ipswich.qld.gov.au



A Wildlife Refuge

Despite being extensively cleared from around 1919 for mining, nature is making a comeback. The forest in Denmark Hill Conservation Park is slowly maturing and over the coming years hollows will start to provide habitat for animals such as possums, gliders and various birds species.

Blue Gum (*Eucalyptus tereticornis*), Spotted Gum (*Corymbia citriodora*), Rusty Gum (*Angophora leiocarpa*) and Brush Box (*Lophostemon confertus*) grow naturally here and support a small resident koala population.

Claw marks visible on trunks of trees give the best indication that koalas are about. To climb a tree koalas spring from the ground and catch their front claws in the bark, then bound up the trunk producing the characteristic scratch marks. Koalas use a wide variety of sitting and sleeping postures, and they will move around the tree during the day and night to catch the sun or breeze.

Interesting facts:

- Of the 600 types of eucalypts found in Australia, koalas will only eat 40- 50 species with only about 10 being preferred
- Koalas live in societies
- Koalas can tell if a tree 'belongs' to another koala or not
- Each koala eats approximately 200 - 500 grams of leaves per day
- Eucalyptus leaves are very fibrous and low in nutrition, and to most animals are extremely poisonous
- Koalas will sleep up to 18 hours per day so that they have enough energy to digest eucalyptus leaves



Water Dragon

Birds to watch out for include wrens, owls, kookaburras, finches, parrots and lorikeets. You may spot the occasional water dragon sunning itself near the pond at Quarry Street

Walking Track Classification

All walking tracks have been given a one to six rating in accordance with the Australian Standard track classification system.



Class 2 (Easy)

Easy level track, suitable for all fitness levels, with all junctions sign-posted.

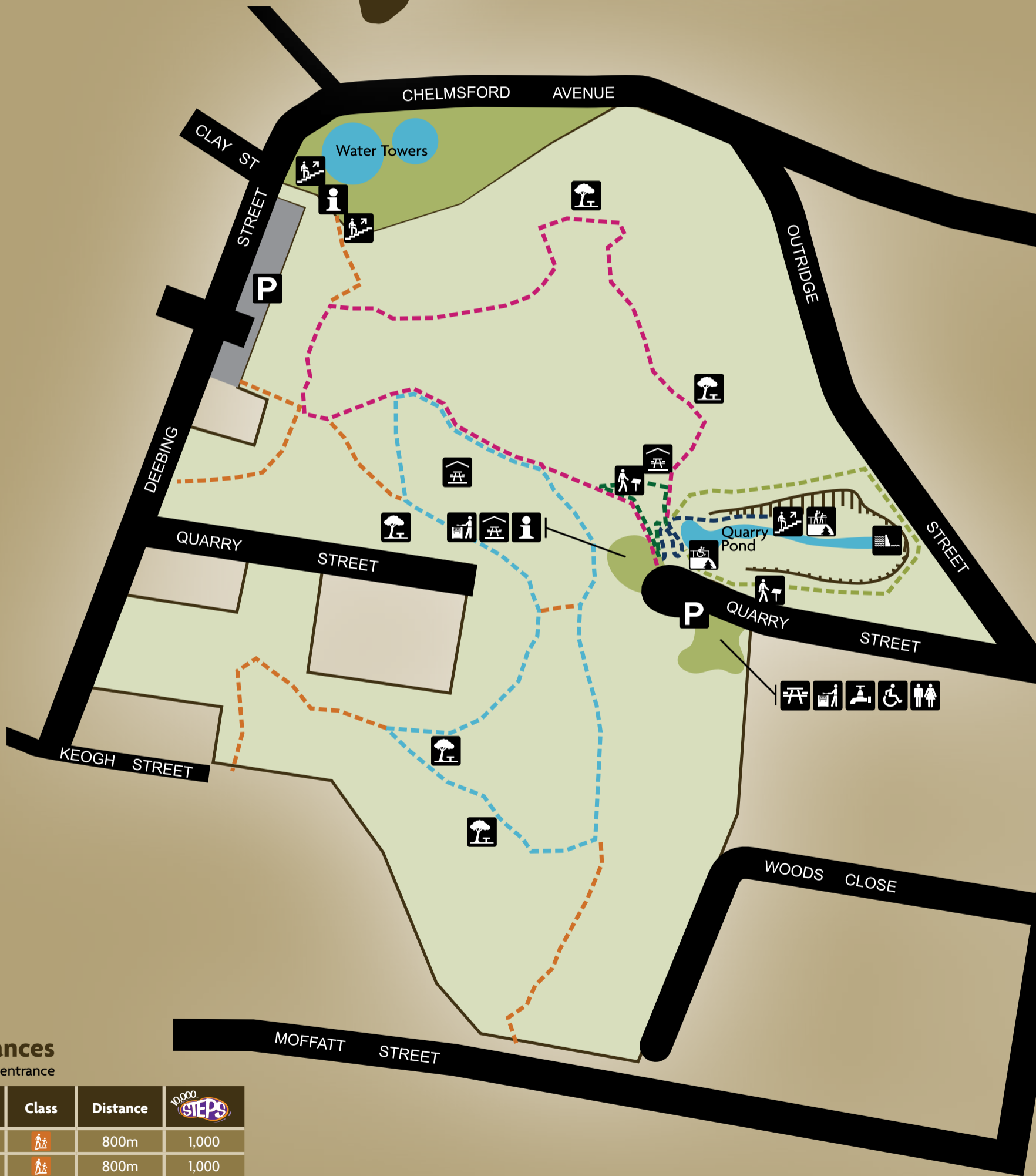
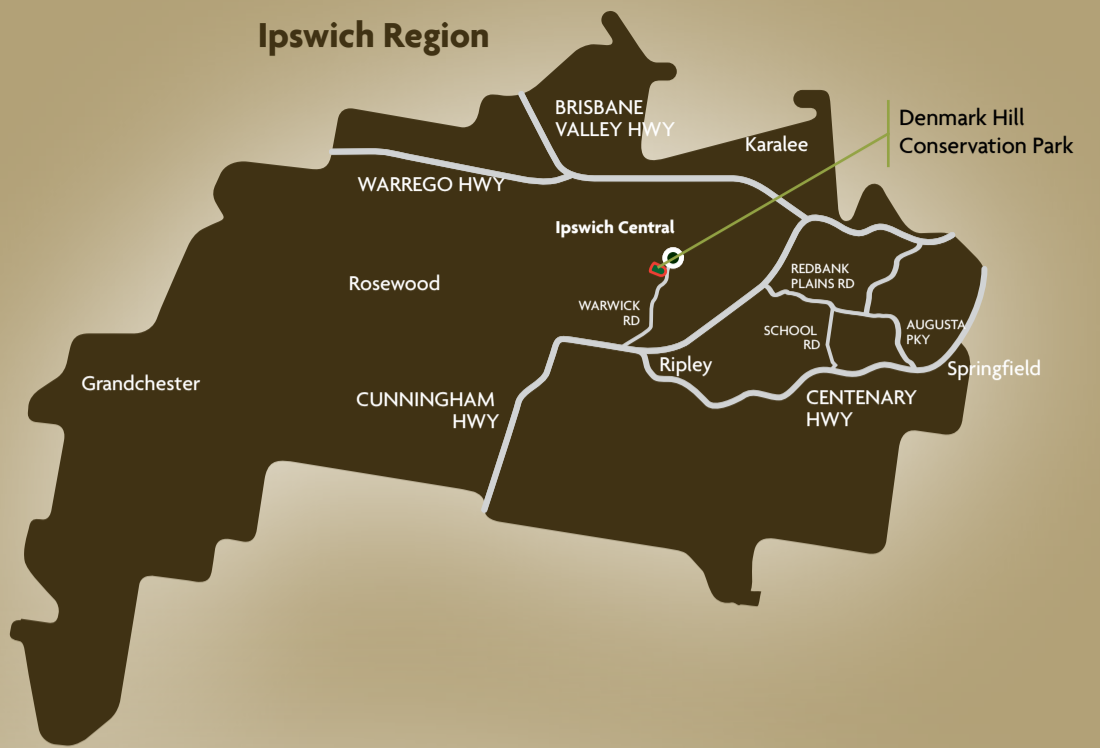


Class 3 (Moderate)

Moderate level track, suitable for average fitness levels, with junctions sign-posted.

Legend

- Major road
- Walking track
- Private property
- Grassed area
- Cliff line
- Parking
- Information
- Drinking water
- Toilets
- Toilets - disabled access
- Picnic table
- Picnic shelter
- Seating
- Barbecue
- Scenic lookout
- Disabled access lookout
- Interpretive walk
- Stairs
- Water feature



Walking Track Distances

Tracks accessed from Quarry Street entrance

Track name	Class	Distance	10,000 STEPS
1. Water Tower Circuit		800m	1,000
2. Bluey's Circuit		800m	1,000
3. Quarry Circuit		400m	500
4. Triassic Circuit		200m	250
5. Waterfall Track return		200m	250

