

Choose the trail best suited to your bike and capability.

State Conservation Area



Gateway	440r
Easy Rider	730r
Power Up	840r
Creekside	850r

Intermediate

Flint Affect	120m
I Think I Can	380m
I Know I Can	430m
False Start	590m
Chameleon Blue	600m
Coastline	620m
Vortex	1050m
4 Seasons	1180m
Endless Summer	1460m
Echo	1560m

Intermediate (climb)

Pit Props	140m
Stinger Climb	880m
Switched Up	2000m

Intermediate/difficult

Chameleon Black 350m

Mind The Gaps	280m
Espresso	290m
Chalk n Cheese	310m
The Meg	310m
Jaws	350m
Mad If You Don't	870m
Do Drop In	1100m

Two-way links

Causeway Link	75m
2 Chain Link	160m
3 Slip Stream	110m
4 Coastline Link	35m
5 Gate Pass	220m

Kembla mountain bike trails

Stage 1, Illawarra Escarpement Mountain Bike Network

The Kembla mountain bike trails offer adventures for riders of all ages and skill levels. These special trails have been carefully crafted to get your legs pumping while protecting the surrounding environment; come and ride lightly through this awesome landscape.

Whether you're exploring with family or seeking epic flowing trails, it's an exhilarating way to discover the Illawarra Escarpment State Conservation Area on Dharawal Country.

Trail guide

Trails are graded according to the 'Trail Difficulty Rating System' developed by the International Mountain Bicycling Association. **Choose the trail best suited to your bike and capability.**

Grade	Trail name	Trail information
	Gateway 440m	Perfect for beginners with flowy turns, gentle rollers and small jumps. It's a great way to ease into jump-based riding.
Green – easy Suitable for beginner mountain bikers. Wider trails, gentle gradients and few obstacles.	Easy Rider 730m	This trail features two large bridges and has climbing and descending corners. It connects to the central climbing section, introducing riders to jumpable rollers and steeper sections.
	Power Up 840m	With stunning coastal views, this scenic trail climbs follows the main creek and descends along the gas line, passing through wooded and grassy terrain before reaching the advanced trails—The Meg and Jaws.
	Creekside 850m	An easy, fun exit trail ideal for beginner riders, featuring smooth terrain with rollers, big turns, bridges, and rock features as it winds through the valley and loops around the main creek.
Blue – intermediate	Flint Affect 120m	Short, sweet and a test of precision. The steep descent with scattered rock boulders is a challenge to navigate and serves as a fun and dynamic link between descending levels.
Suitable for skilled mountain bikers. Narrower trails, more obstacles and moderate gradients.	Pit Props (climb) 140m	Following an old log road this climb offers a short yet rewarding challenge. The trail twists and turns, connecting the front two eastern levels of the network.
	I Think I Can 380m	A progression-focused trail building on 'I Know I Can,' featuring larger jumps, rollers, berms and a flyover bridge—all rollable and perfect for advancing skills with smooth, controlled flow.
	I Know I Can 430m	A jump trail perfect for beginners to work on their airborne skills. It has larger berms, rollers, and jumps that you can roll over to gain confidence before taking flight.
	False Start 590m	A dynamic trail with tight climbing switchbacks leading to a rolling flow section featuring rollers, small tabletops, bridges, and rock-armoured segments, connecting to Creekside's main junction.
	Chameleon Blue 600m	A popular blue descent starting in pine forest, flowing onto a raised rainforest boardwalk, then transitioning into fast jumps and steep, rock-armoured turns for an adventurous ride.
	Coastline 620m	An exhilarating descent with coastal views, flowing through berms, step-downs and table-tops on a grassy hillside. Highlights include an iconic corner overlooking Lake Illawarra and a fast, jump-filled run into the Chameleon black trail finale.
	Stinger climb 880m	A scenic blue climb with challenging grades, this trail winds through temperate forest on smooth bench cuts, ascending to the heart of the trail network
	Vortex 1050m	Vortex delivers a thrilling 130m descent packed with spicy blue jumps, drops, step-downs, steep sections, tall berms, and dynamic flow—perfect for jump enthusiasts.
	4 Seasons 1180m	A long, varied descent with tabletops, rollers, rock armouring, and rollovers. Features include big bridges, tight bermed corners, a thrilling rock drop, and a rollable finish.
	Endless Summer 1460m	This upper XC loop follows the mid-ridge featuring technical rock sections, gully bridges and tight turns through varied vegetation. It links back via a climb, offering an alternate descent without dropping to the valley floor.

Grade	Trail name	Trail information
Blue – intermediate Suitable for skilled mountain bikers. Narrower trails, more obstacles and moderate gradients.	Echo 1560m	A cross-country trail with rocky climbs and descents, flowing through tight, fast sections in Lomandra bush and linking to trails on the network's edge.
	Switched Up (climb) 2000m	The main climbing trail in the central network guides riders to the peak of the network with 47 switchbacks winding through diverse vegetation.
Blue/black – intermediate/difficult For competent mountain bikers. Some steep climbs or descents, loose surfaces and obstacles.	Chameleon Black 350m	The lizard has changed colour and picked up the pace. This adventurous descent becomes ever steeper before flattening out to one of our park entrances.
Black - difficult Suitable for experienced mountain bikers. Challenging trails, many obstacles and steep gradients.	Mind The Gaps 280m	A brief but thrilling black diamond trail with multiple gap jumps, fast, flowy sections, and steep descents.
	Espresso 290m	A short, steep, black-rated technical trail, including off-camber sections, rock drops, chutes, and a thrilling descent through a watercourse.
	Chalk n Cheese 310m	Starting off smooth and easy but guaranteed to get the heart pumping. This trail quickly skirts the gully before plunging into a short, intense rock-filled descent through lush rainforest.
	The Meg 310m	A challenge for advanced riders only. This trail has extensive gap jumps, larger shark fin-style features, huge berms, big drops and a thrilling flyover jump.
	Jaws 350m	For advanced riders only, this tough, black-rated jump trail has small gaps, shark fin-style jumps, big berms and drops. It's full of technical challenges for a thrilling and intense ride.
	Mad If You Don't 870m	A fast, technical black diamond descent through rainforest, featuring gaps over watercourses, big rocks, steep drops, and precision riding—linking back to the lower Chameleon trail.
	Do Drop in 1100m	A black diamond descent from the network's highest point, featuring rock and log drops, fast berms, rugged creek crossings, an 8-metre gully bridge and a technical rock-armoured finish along the main creek.

Be prepared

- Australian standard helmets are mandatory, full-face helmet advised
- Make sure your bike and footwear are clean before riding the trails help prevent the spread of weeds and plant diseases
- Trails may be closed for maintenance or in wet or windy conditions. Follow the direction of park signs. Do not ride on wet or closed trails.
- There is no drinking water or shelters on the trails



Scan the QR code for trail and safety information before you visit

nswparks.info/illawarra-mtn-bike



Find the Kembla mountain bike trails on the Trailforks app

The Kembla mountain bike trails are part of the **Illawarra Escarpment Mountain Bike Network** – a joint NSW National Parks and Wildlife Service and Wollongong City Council initiative for sustainable mountain bike riding on the Illawarra Escarpment.



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