



Mount Mathieson and Spicers Gap Circuit

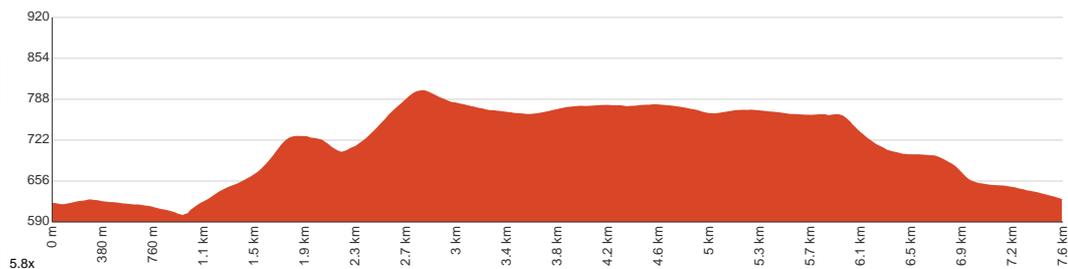
2 h 15 min to 3 h 45 min
 1 h 15 min to 2 h

7.6 km
Circuit

↑ 258 m
↓ 253 m

4
Hard track

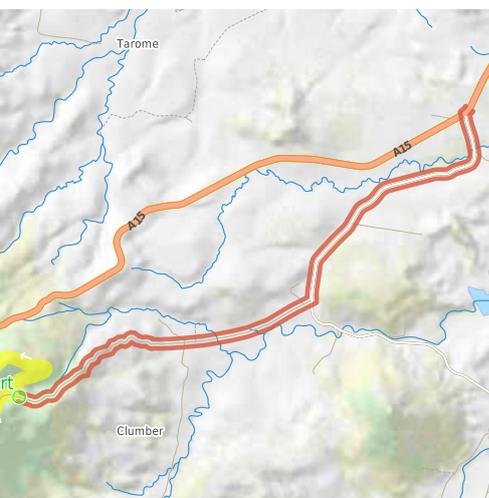
Starting from Spicers Gap Road, Swanfels, this circuit walk takes you to the summit of Mount Mathieson and through the Spicers Gap, optionally visiting the Governors Chair lookout along the way. Get ready to embark on a truly beautiful journey in the diverse woodland of Main Range NP. From vast grasslands to picturesque rock faces, this track is full of exceptional views of nature. Spicers Gap used to be the main route over the Great Dividing Range in this area. In fact, the early governors of Queensland used to rest on the aforementioned Governors Chair along their trip. You'll find several informational signposts about the history of the area, so delve into those if you want to learn more about those times. Lots of different bird species reside in the national park, so there's a good chance you'll be accompanied by birdsong throughout your hike. The Pioneer picnic area near the start can make a great spot for a well-earned rest and feast afterwards. A little bit of rock scrambling involved. Keep an eye out for snakes along the track. Whilst driving up to the starting point, approach from the east if you don't have a 4WD vehicle as the western approach requires lots of traction and power. Let us begin by acknowledging the Traditional Custodians of the land on which we travel today, and pay our respects to their Elders past and present.



Class 4 of 6 Rough track, where fallen trees and other obstacles are likely	
Quality of track	Clear and well formed track or trail (2/6)
Gradient	Very steep (4/6)
Signage	Clearly signposted (2/6)
Infrastructure	Limited facilities, not all cliffs are fenced (3/6)
Experience Required	Some bushwalking experience recommended (3/6)
Weather	Weather generally has little impact on safety (2/6)

Getting to the start: From Cunningham Highway, A15

- Turn on to Lake Moogerah Road then drive for 5.8 km
- Turn right onto Spicers Gap Road and drive for another 6.9 km



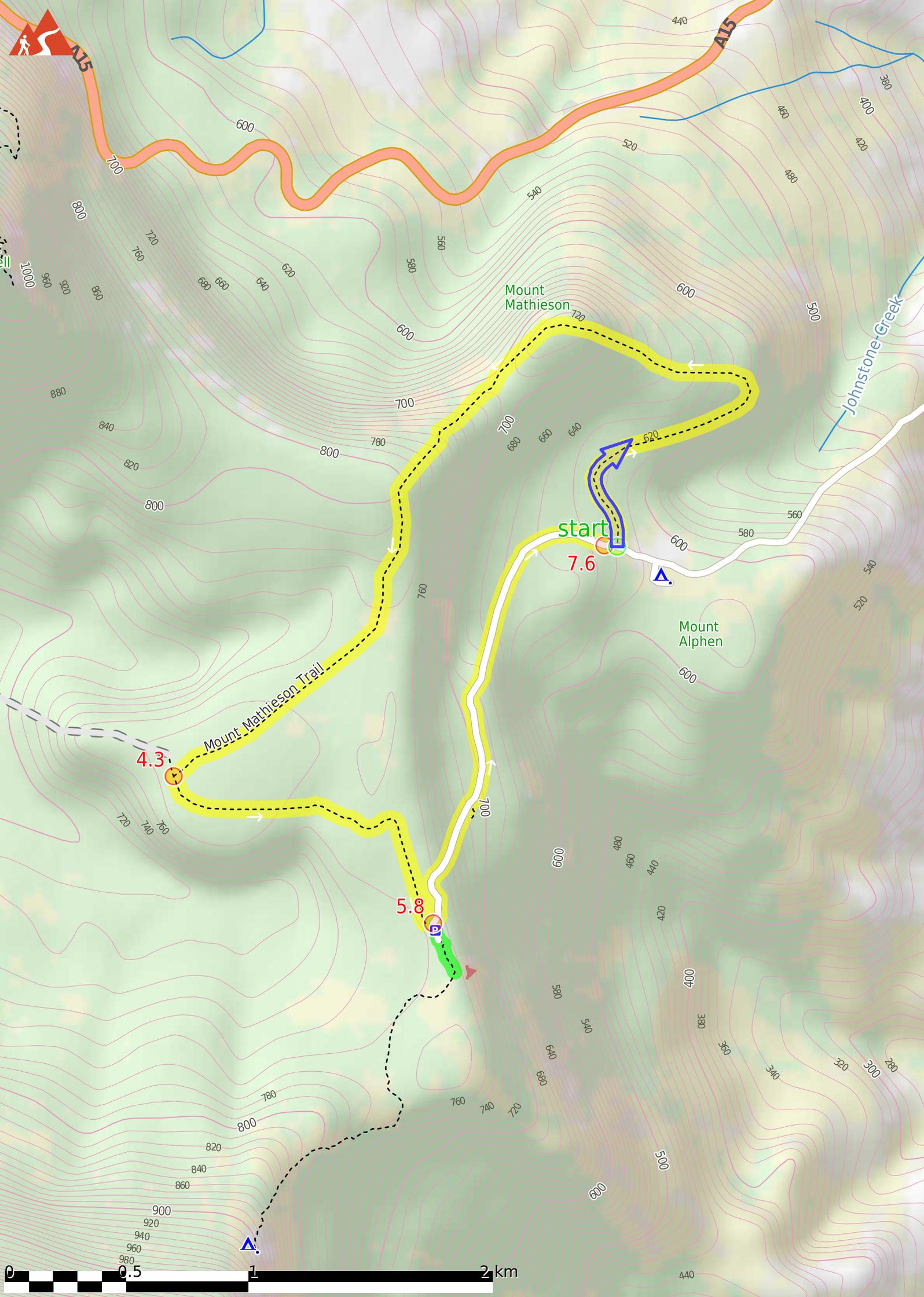
Before you start any journey ensure you;

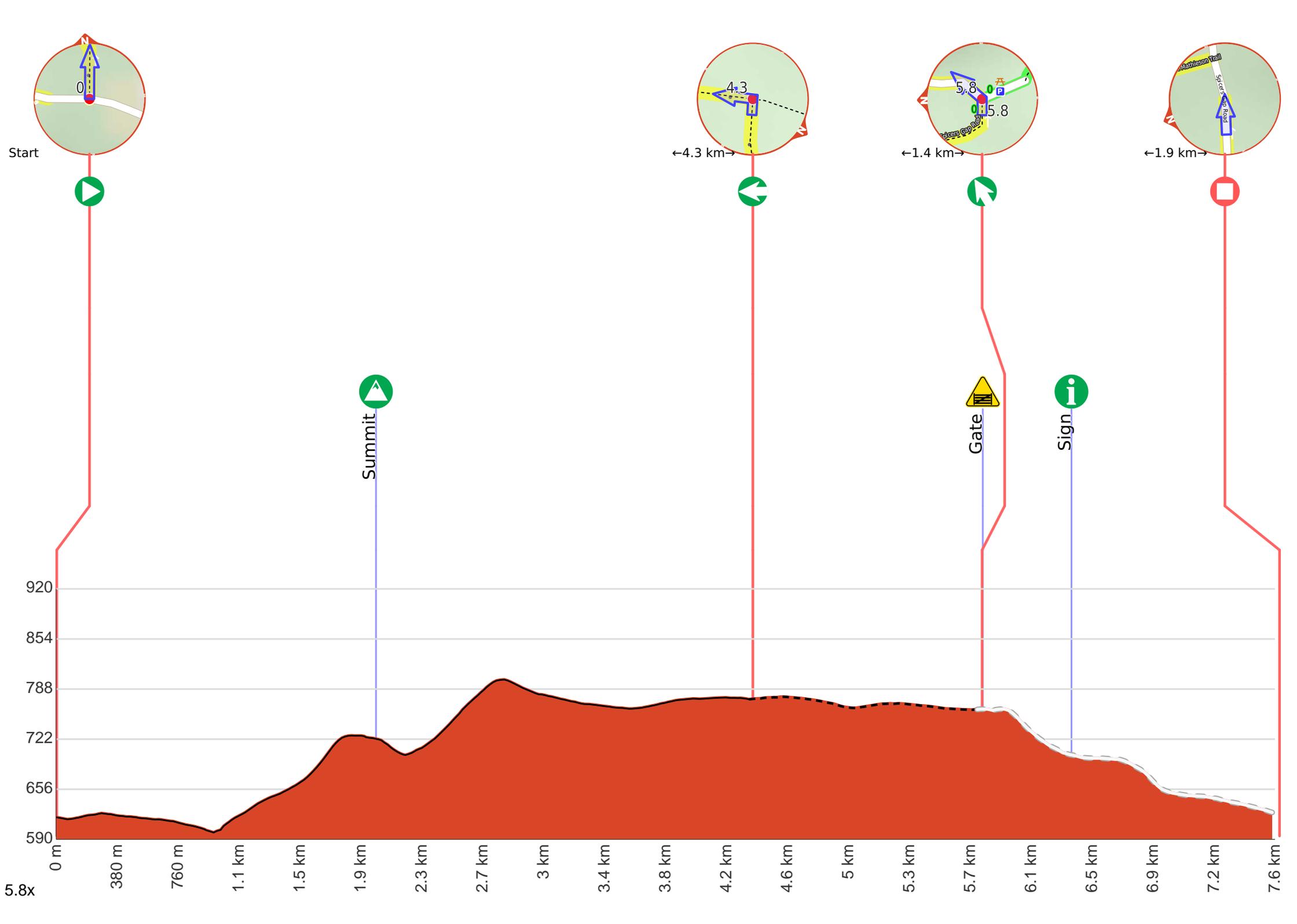
- Tell someone you trust where you are going and what to do if you are late returning
- Have adequate equipment, supplies, skills & knowledge to undertake this journey safely
- Consider weather forecasts, park/track closures & fire dangers
- Can respond to emergencies & call for help at any point
- Are healthy and fit enough for this journey

If not, change plans and stay safe. It is okay to delay and ask people for help.

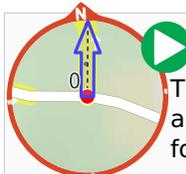
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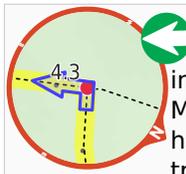


Getting started: From Spicers Gap Road(90 metres north of Spicers Gap Campground and Pioneer picnic area), pass through the bollard and head towards the green Mt Math(i)eson Trail sign along the dirt/grass path. After a few metres, pass by a slanted little informative signpost to your left. Follow the said trail(Mount Mathieson Trail) as you move directly away from the road to continue along Mount Mathieson and Spicers Gap Circuit(counterclockwise).



At the intersection of Mount Mathieson Trail & Spicers Gap Road **Start** heading along *Mount Mathieson Trail* (a footpath).

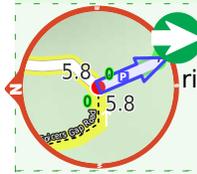
After 2 km pass the "Mount Mathieson" (65 m on your right).



After another 2.3 km (at the intersection of Spicers Gap Road & Mount Mathieson Trail) **turn left**, to head along Spicers Gap Road (a walking track).

After another 1.4 km head through/around the gate.

Start of an optional side trip: This optional but recommended side trip takes you to the Governors Chair lookout. The early governors of Queensland stopped and rested at this big rock on the cliff edge, hence the name.



To start this optional side trip turn right here. **Start.**

Find the gate at the start.



Find the picnic table at the start.



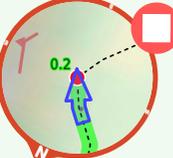
Find the Governor's Chair at the start.



After another 90 m come to "A changed landscape".



About 50 m past the end is "Governors Chair".



The end.



Turn around and retrace your steps back the 210 m to the main route.



Back at the main route turn right and follow on from the 5.8 km waypoint.



Veer left, to head along Spicers Gap Road.



After another 560 m pass the sign (30 m on your right).



Continue straight, to head along Spicers Gap Road.



After another 1.3 km come to the end.