



When you're done with the shopping and nightlife, Sydney boasts a coast with the most!

5 reasons to walk COOGEE TO BONDI

One of my favourite things to do when I visit Sydney is to walk from Coogee to Bondi. With sandy beaches and buzzy eateries at either end, plus fancy houses to look at on one side and the ocean on the other, it has to be the one of the world's best urban coastal meanders.

1 Coogee I prefer this direction as I like to only go one way, so I park at Coogee, then call a taxi from Bondi to go back and pick up the car. Bondi has more taxis so it's easier this way, but I've also done the return walk, which is double the loveliness but also double the time (three hours return). Coogee doesn't have Bondi's glamour, but the beach is still pretty spesh and it's an easy bus ride from downtown Sydney if you don't have wheels. I used to live here and caught that bus to work every day, listening to my Walkman. There's one particular corner where "Rat in the Kitchen" by UB40 pops into my head every single time I go around it.

2 Clovelly This small beach, initially known as Little Coogee, is a gorgeous spot, whether you're

just trundling through or stopping for a swim in the sea or in the saltwater pool, or for a coffee at the café. The Clovelly Bowling Club, up on the hill as you head towards Bronte, possibly has the best view of any bowling club on the planet and you can hire it out for functions – I've passed parties there several times and wished I was on the invitation list!

3 Bronte This lovely open beach with a park behind it claims ownership of the first surf life saving club in the world, in 1906, but so does Bondi and Clovelly, so let's just accept that the folks around these parts generally know how to save lives and fill out their Speedos. To get to Bronte, walkers pass the spectacularly situated Waverley Cemetery and I can highly recommend taking a detour off the coastal boardwalk to respectfully check out some of the graves, which date back as far as 1877. It's an Australian history lesson.

4 Tamarama I love Tamarama – often known as Glamarama – just on the grounds of its name alone. This spot has less park and only

80m of shoreline but a lot of sandy beach and is very popular with locals – you'll often see little kids having their birthday parties there. It's actually a bit dicey for swimmers, though, with many a nasty rip, but the surfers like it. Hard to believe, but between 1887 and 1911, a rollercoaster looped out over the water as part of an amusement park.

5 Bondi This Sydney jewel hardly needs any introduction, but arriving from the south at the end of your walk, one of the first things you pass is Bondi Icebergs Club, more recently known for its top-floor restaurant where Nicole Kidman and Keith Urban et al like to hang out. You can get just as good views and cheaper grub from the bar and café down below, though. If you want to officially join the Icebergs swimming club as a permanent member, you must swim three out of four Sundays during the winter for five years in a row. Me, I keep going for a walk on the beach, past the famous pavilion that once contained dressing areas for 12,000, then follow my nose to whatever's new and smells good on the eating front in this world-famous part of Kiwis' favourite place to visit.



Even if you don't spot Nicole and Keith, Bondi Icebergs Club has great food and other lovely views.



Location, location! The cliff-top Waverley Cemetery is history set in stone and a serene spot to rest.



Tempting though it may be to just beach yourself at Coogee, I recommend you walk this way!