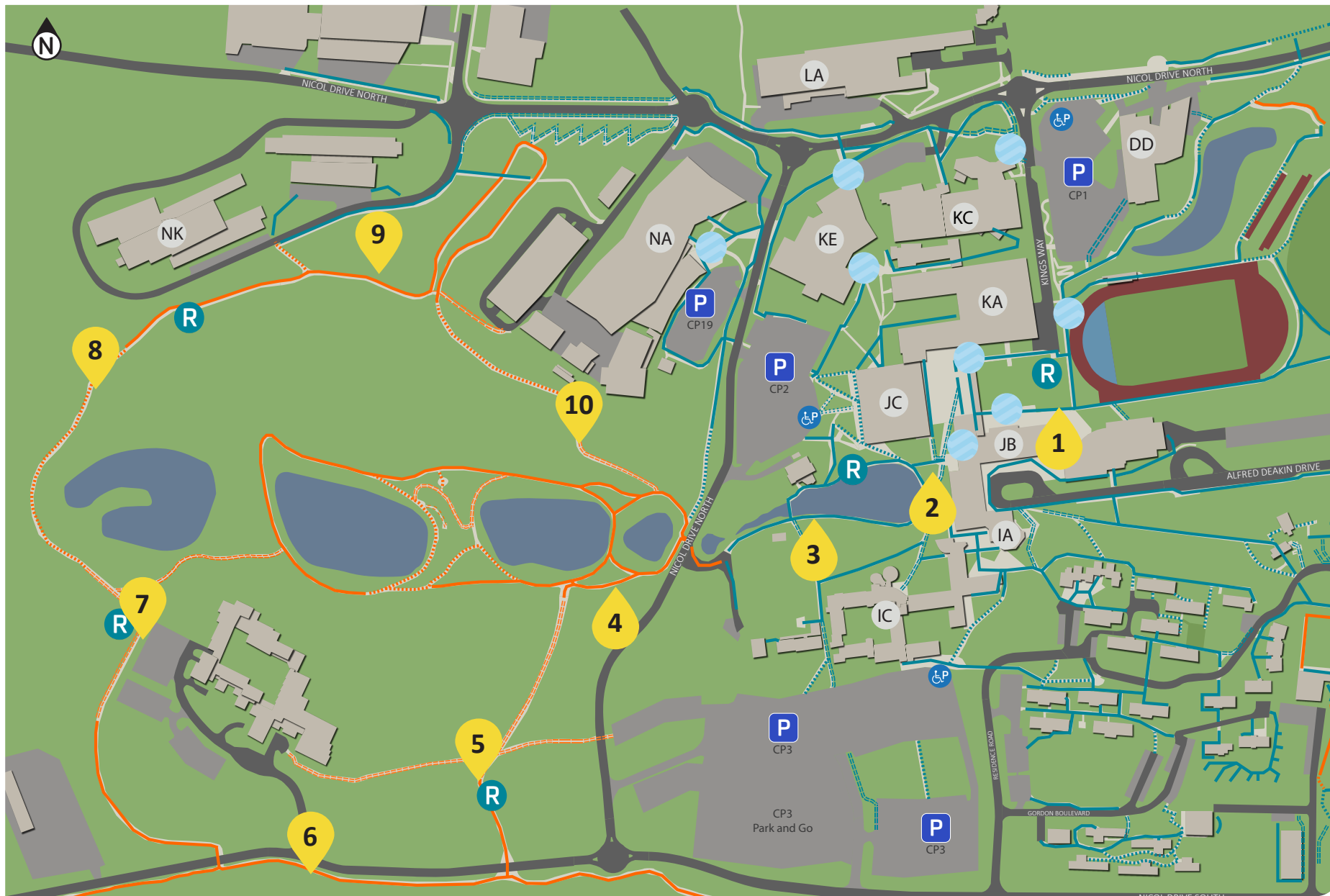




# Delama Dja Walk

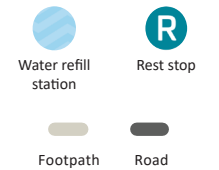
## Geelong | Waurn Ponds



### Walk information

Distance: 2.1km  
Time: 40-60 minutes

- 1 Union Green
- 2 Library Lake
- 3 Chapel
- 4 Sheoaks
- 5 Biodiversity corridor
- 6 Waurm Ponds Creek
- 7 Waurm Ponds Estate
- 8 Microgrid
- 9 Future Economy Precinct
- 10 Campus trees



### Sealed path

- Flat or near flat
- - - Gradient 1:20
- ≡≡≡ Gradient 1:14

### Unsealed path

- Flat or near flat
- - - Gradient 1:20
- ≡≡≡ Gradient 1:14

**All buildings have accessible amenities except:**

- Buildings DB, DG
- Buildings JD
- Buildings LB, LC
- Buildings NC, ND, NN, NL



# Delama Dja Walk

## Geelong | Waurin Ponds

### Stop 1 | Wadawurrung Dja

Sustainable living is integral to the cultural practice of Wadawurrung People who live by Bundjil's lore to care for Country. *Dja* (Country) is more than a place. It is a living environment with its own creation stories.

### Stop 2 | Changing landscapes

Deakin's 1987 Landscape Master Plan proposed dramatic changes to improve atmosphere and amenity on campus. More recent changes include the 2022-23 wetland conversion to increase stormwater capacity, improve water quality and support biodiversity on campus.

### Stop 3 | Yaluk (local waterways)

Many birds and other fauna live in the central chain of wetlands, including the White-faced Heron, Australasian Grebe, Dusky Moorhen, Purple Swamphen, Australian Wood Duck and New Holland Honeyeater.



### Stop 4 | Whispering she-oaks

In Wadawurrung language, the literal translation of *ngarri* is hair tree. The hard tree timber was ideal for making hunting boomerangs and digging sticks. Wadawurrung People also placed their babies in ground-beds of she-oak needles to protect them from snakes.

### Stop 5 | Wildlife crossing

Since the late 1970s, ongoing revegetation works have transformed the Waurin Ponds campus. The tree canopy you see today is the result of decades of restoration by devoted and resourceful staff as well as Tree Planting Day volunteers.



### Stop 6 | Bountiful resources

Waurin, as in Waurin Ponds, means 'place of many houses'. Wadawurrung People camped on natural rises where riparian species gave way to the dense canopy cover of acacia and eucalypt. They built *mia mia* (temporary shelters) from the bark of *kurrurr* (stringy-bark trees).

### Stop 7 | Ancient fire wisdom

Cultural burning practices help reduce fire risks, scorching of the landscape, and the destruction of seeds and soil nutrients. Cool burns rejuvenate local grasses and herbs, and protect native animals. Applied in a mosaic pattern, the burns allow time for animals and insects to move away.

### Stop 8 | Look to the skies

Deakin has committed to sourcing 100% of its electricity from renewable sources. Harnessing the power of the sun through on-site solar generation is integral to achieving this goal. More than 20,000 ground-mounted solar panels over 14.5 hectares also reduce CO<sub>2</sub>-equivalent emissions by up to 12,000 tonnes per annum.



### Stop 9 | Heirlooms and innovations

The Future Economy Precinct is a hub for global leaders working to promote a sustainable future. Its facilities are purpose-built for industry and research partners in areas such as advanced manufacturing, materials, energy and battery technology, health, the circular economy and high-value agricultural initiatives.

### Stop 10 | Climate Ready Campus

Campus trees are a great asset. They shelter people against the weather, provide shade, purify the air, help combat climate change and create a sense of place. Dense tree canopies also help reduce ambient air temperature and offset the urban heat-island effect.