

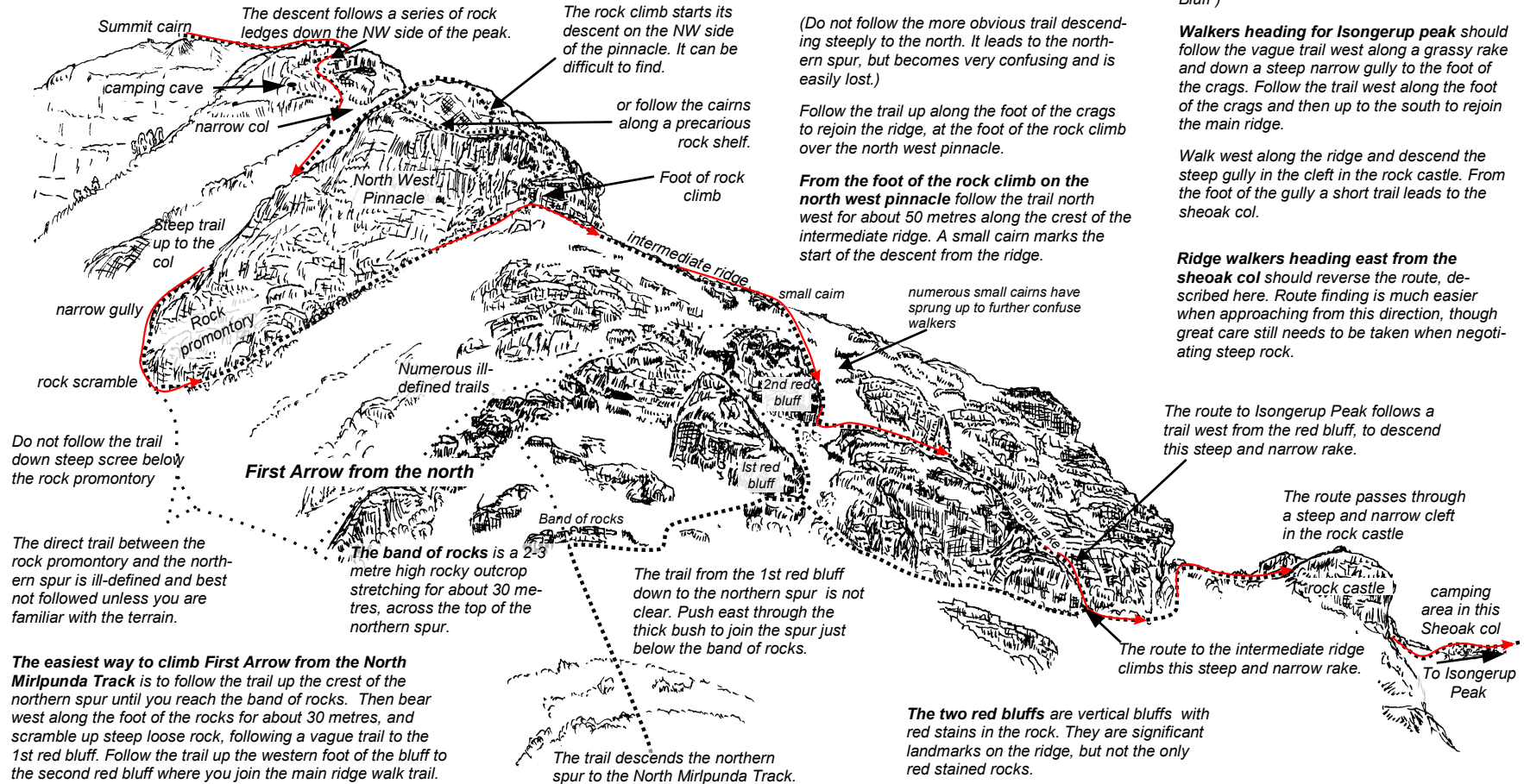
The Stirling Ridge Walk

From the summit cairn, follow the ridge west to a second summit and look for the descent on the north-west side of the peak; it starts by following a ledge down to the east.

Descend the series of rock ledges and follow the trail down past the camping cave; it leads just below the narrow col between the summit and the north west pinnacle.

The trail around the north west pinnacle drops steeply to the east.

The alternative trail, leading up and over the pinnacle, involves a rock climb and should not be attempted unless you are familiar with the terrain.



Do not follow the trail down steep scree below the rock promontory

The direct trail between the rock promontory and the northern spur is ill-defined and best not followed unless you are familiar with the terrain.

The easiest way to climb First Arrow from the North Mirlpunda Track is to follow the trail up the crest of the northern spur until you reach the band of rocks. Then bear west along the foot of the rocks for about 30 metres, and scramble up steep loose rock, following a vague trail to the 1st red bluff. Follow the trail up the western foot of the bluff to the second red bluff where you join the main ridge walk trail.

First Arrow from the north

The band of rocks is a 2-3 metre high rocky outcrop stretching for about 30 metres, across the top of the northern spur.

The trail descends the northern spur to the North Mirlpunda Track.

The rock climb starts its descent on the NW side of the pinnacle. It can be difficult to find.
or follow the cairns along a precarious rock shelf.

Foot of rock climb

The route around the north west pinnacle follows the trail dropping steeply to the east. It descends a rake between a rock wall and some stout sheoaks, and then a steep narrow gully. About 30 metres below the gully, the trail drops down a short rock scramble to the end of the rock promontory.

Look for the trail heading south west back up to the ridge.

(Do not follow the more obvious trail descending steeply to the north. It leads to the northern spur, but becomes very confusing and is easily lost.)

Follow the trail up along the foot of the crags to rejoin the ridge, at the foot of the rock climb over the north west pinnacle.

From the foot of the rock climb on the north west pinnacle follow the trail north west for about 50 metres along the crest of the intermediate ridge. A small cairn marks the start of the descent from the ridge.

numerous small cairns have sprung up to further confuse walkers

The trail from the 1st red bluff down to the northern spur is not clear. Push east through the thick bush to join the spur just below the band of rocks.

The two red bluffs are vertical bluffs with red stains in the rock. They are significant landmarks on the ridge, but not the only red stained rocks.

The trail west from First Arrow to the sheoak col

From the cairn follow the loose trail descending steeply to the north. Several cairns mark various tracks leading off in all directions, but you should follow the trail down until a short rock scramble drops you at the 2nd(upper) red bluff.

(Walkers heading for the North Mirlpunda track should continue down to the 1st red Bluff)

Walkers heading for Isongerup peak should follow the vague trail west along a grassy rake and down a steep narrow gully to the foot of the crags. Follow the trail west along the foot of the crags and then up to the south to rejoin the main ridge.

Walk west along the ridge and descend the steep gully in the cleft in the rock castle. From the foot of the gully a short trail leads to the sheoak col.

Ridge walkers heading east from the sheoak col should reverse the route, described here. Route finding is much easier when approaching from this direction, though great care still needs to be taken when negotiating steep rock.

The route to Isongerup Peak follows a trail west from the red bluff, to descend this steep and narrow rake.

The route passes through a steep and narrow cleft in the rock castle

The route to the intermediate ridge climbs this steep and narrow rake.

camping area in this Sheoak col
To Isongerup Peak