

Great Rides in Wellington

3rd Edition



Fun



Fitness



Friends



WELLINGTON
SHIRE COUNCIL
The Heart of Gippsland

Great Rides in Wellington

We believe that physical activity is vital for a healthy, happy life so we make bike riding easy for everyone.

Regular physical activity can help protect you from serious diseases such as obesity, heart disease, cancer, mental illness, diabetes and arthritis. Riding your bicycle regularly is one of the best ways to reduce your risk of health problems.

Cycling is a healthy, low-impact exercise that can be enjoyed by people of all ages, from young children to older adults. It gives your heart, blood vessels and lungs a good workout. It is also fun, cheap and good for the environment.

Great cycling routes and destinations are a feature of Wellington. Terrain is relatively flat and Wellington hosts many cycling clubs catering for both serious and social riders. This guide outlines some of our best cycling routes and rides, designed to showcase our spectacular scenery, small towns and major attractions.

Rides are graded from easy to hard, almost all are on good sealed surfaces.

There are short rides around our towns on good sealed roads and bike paths. Perhaps you prefer a longer ride on one of our Rail Trails or through the country side that will invigorate and challenge you.

For organised rides, contact a local bike shops who will put you in contact with the organisers of many weekday and weekend rides suitable for all levels of ability.

With ever changing scenery, cycle touring is a great way to explore our region at a leisurely pace.

LEGEND

 Start

 Sealed Bike Trail

 Alternate Trail

 Unsealed Trail

 Rail Trail

 Sealed Shared Path



STRATFORD

1. Arts Trail Circuit



Distance	Surface	Grading
8km	Sealed	Easy

Start and finish at Stratford Apex Park beside the Avon River. Head underneath the railway bridge and follow the path up onto McMillan Street. Passing the ‘Court Jester’ continue on the Arts Trail to the viewing platform overlooking the Avon River.

Return to the ‘Court Jester’, turn right into Wellsford Street past the Recreation Reserve on the right. A shared pathway for cyclist and walkers takes you into Hobson Street and back towards the centre of town.

Crossing the railway line, turn right along the shared path, which takes you to the northern edge of town. Here the path curves left onto Llowalong Road passing the Tennis Courts which are on your right. After the tennis courts, turn left onto Merrick Street. Snake along Merrick, Fitzroy and Tyers Street and turn right at the Police Station. View 4 more Arts Trail Sculpture sites returning to Apex Park.

Must See:

- The sculpture of the ‘Three Witches’ at the viewing platform
- Court Jester
- Views over the Avon River & mountains beyond
- Coffee, arts & tourism information at Segue Café
- Garden for humanity
- Visit the culturally significant Knob Reserve



SALE

2. Town Ride



Distance	Surface	Grading
10km	Sealed and unsealed	Easy

Start and finish at Sale Visitor Information Centre. Travelling east along Foster St, turn left at Raymond St traffic lights and continue through Sale's Mall precinct. Turn right at Raglan St 'T' intersection. Use road bicycle lane along Raglan St until the second roundabout. Turn right just before roundabout onto shared path on right hand side of Guthridge Pde.

Travel past shops, hospital and fauna park. Turn right at Montgomery St, meet up with the shared pathway around the lakes. Continue around lakes on until you see toilets and playground at Foster St. Take care crossing Princes Highway and turn left into Raymond St. The first right hand turn will take you through the Port of Sale, follow the river and road to the right. Turn left onto Foster St / Princes Hwy and to your starting point.

Caution: Take extreme care at the roundabout as there are four lanes of traffic, also crossing the Princes Hwy.

- Must See:**
- Native wildlife around the lakes
 - Port of Sale
 - Raymond St cafes



STRATFORD

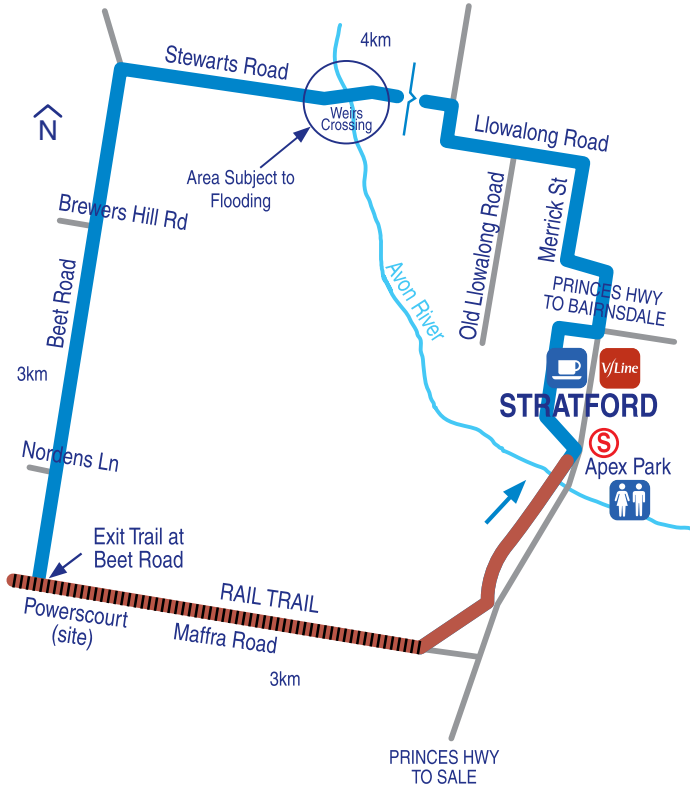
3. Weirs Crossing Circuit



Distance	Surface	Grading
14km	Sealed and unsealed	Easy

Start and finish at Stratford Apex Park beside the Avon River. Follow the map around the edge of Stratford to the left towards the Gardens for Humanity. Heading north snake along McMillian, Merrick, Dawson, Fitzroy St until Stewarts Rd. Cross Weirs Crossing. Turn left onto Beet Rd. Turn left onto the Gippsland Plains Rail Trail (There is a rest Stop 50 metres to the right at the historic Powerscourt Siding) and back to Stratford.

- Must See:**
- Views of the Avon River
 - Dairy Cows & if you're lucky baby calves
 - Railway siding at Powerscourt – Local farmers delivered sugar beet here by horse and dray. The beet was weighed and transferred by steam train to the Maffra Sugar Beet factory
 - Coffee, arts & tourism information at Segue Café



SALE

4. Herb Guyatt Sanctuary Circuit

 BE PREPARED

Distance	Surface	Grading
16km	Sealed and unsealed	Easy

Starts and ends at Sale Visitor Information Centre. Take the shared path and visit Herb Guyatt Sanctuary. When returning turn left in Cunninghame St and take Ross St, Topping St and Pettit Drive and turn left into Union St. Travelling along Union St it turns into Thompson and Simpson St. Turn left onto Pearson St and right onto Raglan St.

Take McGhee Street to Sale Showgrounds. Leave the showgrounds along Sale-Maffra Rd and cross Princes Highway into Glomar Rd. Use interconnecting shared pathways and roads through estate to Gippsland Regional Sporting Complex.

Short Option - Follow Guthridge Parade to Montgomery St
Long Option - Take shared path along Gibson St, turn left on Raglan St (on road bike lane). Right turn off Raglan St at BP Service Station to take interconnecting shared pathways and roads through Sale Velodrome to Montgomery St.

Ride through the lakes, and through the Port of Sale to return to your starting point. A lot of sections of this ride suit all abilities.

- Must See:**
- Native wildlife around the lakes
 - Port of Sale
 - Raymond St Cafes



SALE

5. Longford, Swing Bridge & Wetlands Circuit

 BE AWARE

Distance	Surface	Grading
16km	Sealed/dirt	Easy

Starts at the Port of Sale, ends at the Lake Guthridge car park on Foster St. Follow the shared path along the river to the swing bridge, cross the bridge and follow the road over the shared path at Long Waterhole.

Continue along High St (parallel to highway) up a steep pathway to Clifford St. Take the shared pathway from Longford Rd to the primary school. Return back and cross the swing bridge, take the unsealed road to the right, follow track until you reach the gate at the end and keep left. Take the pathway to the left through Sale Common Wetlands.

Turn into Maxfields Rd, cross the bridge, follow Lacey St to the end and turning left into the shared path around Lake Guyatt. Continue along the shared path returning back to the starting point.

- Must See:**
- Historic Swing Bridge
 - Wildlife in the wetlands
 - Longford Audley St Reserve lookout (corner of Audley and Madeline)
 - Longford Hall



6. Lake Glenmaggie

 BE CONFIDENT

Start and finish at the Rotary Park, corner of Heyfield Nicola Rd and Mary St. Follow the Rail Trail through Rotary Park, exit the Rail Trail left onto Weir Rd. In 7km turn left onto Tinamba Glenmaggie Rd, turn left onto Heyfield-Jamieson Rd and return to the start.

- The shoreline of Lake Glenmaggie
- Farming and forest views
- Blores Hill mountain bike park



7. Maffra Bundalaguah Road Circuit

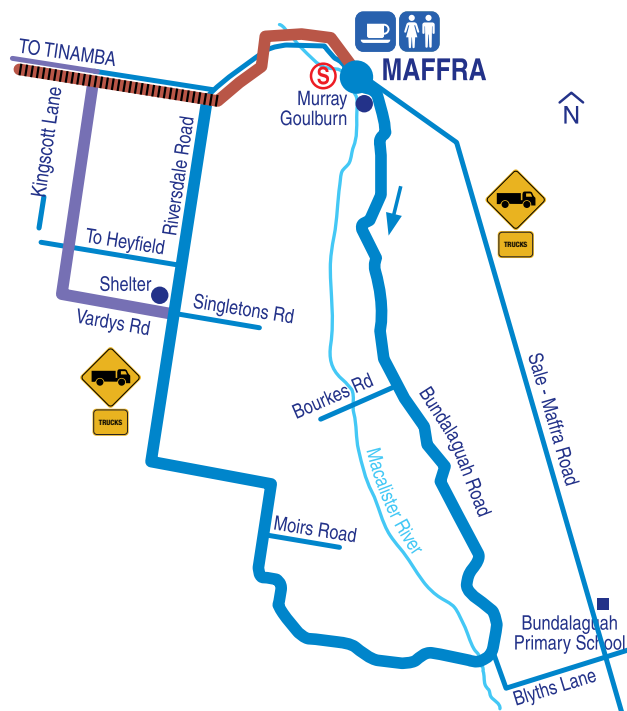
 BE PREPARED

Start and finish in Macalister River Park, Maffra. Turn right onto Foster St, which soon becomes Bundalaguah Rd. Follow for 8kms to bridge over Macalister River. Continue along Riversdale Rd.

Long Option – 12km extra. Turn Left off Riversdale Rd onto Vardy Rd, right onto Kingscott lane, left to Tinamba for refreshments. Return to Maffra on Rail Trail.

Caution: This ride is completely flat and uses quiet narrow Rds. Single file is recommended as farm vehicles and milk tankers can be encountered on bends.

- Maffra Macalister River Park and play ground
- Iconic dairy country
- Views of the Great Dividing Range



SALE

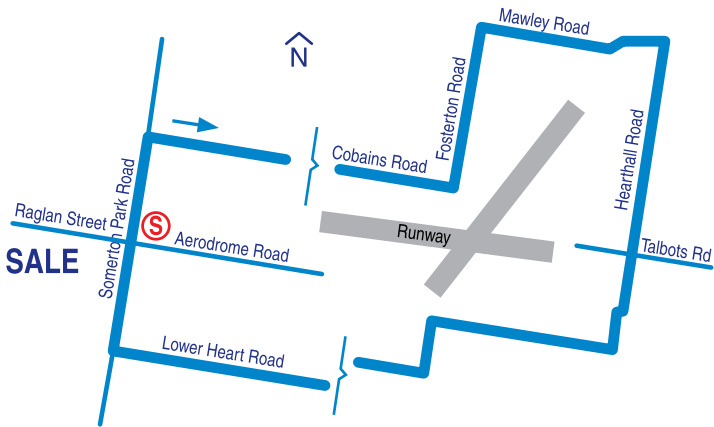
8. RAAF Base Circuit

 BE AWARE

Distance	Surface	Grading
24km	Sealed	Easy

Start and finish at the corner of Raglan St and Somerton Park Rd, Sale. Head north along Somerton Park Rd, turn right onto Cobains Rd, left Fostertern Rd, right Mawley Rd, right Heathall Rd, Right Lower Heart Rd, Right Somerton Park Rd and return to the start.

- Don't Miss:**
- A coffee on Raymond St
 - Sale Wetlands
 - Lake Guthridge



MAFFRA

9. Bellbird Corner Circuit

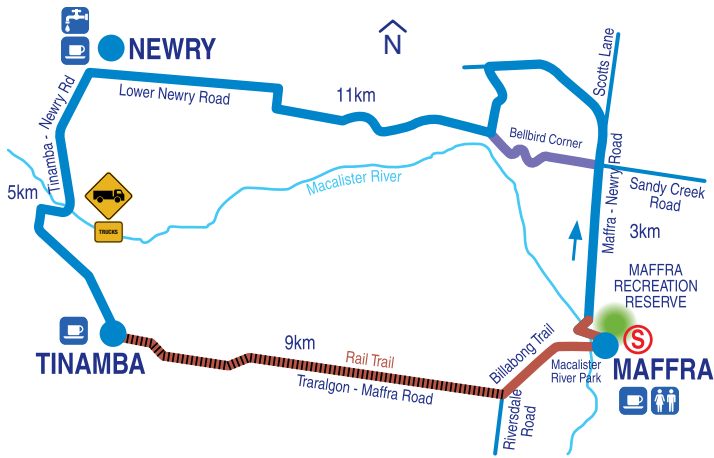
 BE CONFIDENT

Distance	Surface	Grading
25km	Sealed and unsealed	Easy

Starts and Finish at Macalister River Park. Head north out of Maffra via Gibney St towards Maffra-Newry Rd. Turn left onto lower Newry Rd. (If you have a mountain or hybrid bike, turn left at Sandy Creek Rd to take the safe and picturesque route through Bellbird Corner.) At Newry turn left onto Tinamba – Newry Rd. Continue to Tinamba. Follow Rail Trail back to Maffra.

Caution: Single file is recommended along the Newry-Tinamba Rd.

- Must See:**
- Macalister Wetlands
 - Gem Stone collection at the Maffra Visitor Information Centre
 - Gippsland Vehicle Collection in Maffra
 - Stop at Newry or Tinamba Stores for refreshments
 - Tinamba Hotel



HEYFIELD

10. Dawson Flora Reserve - Cowwarr

 BE PREPARED

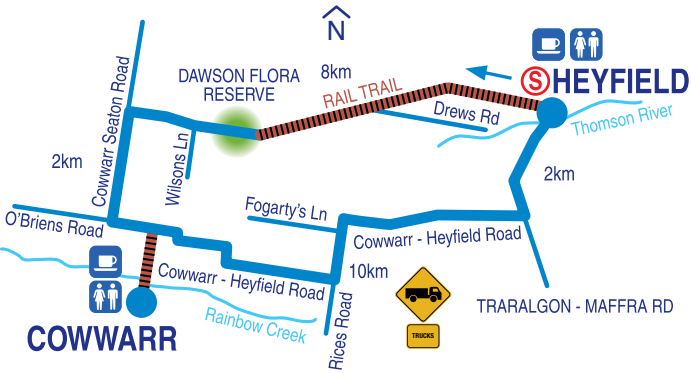
Distance	Surface	Grading
22km	Sealed and unsealed	Medium

Start and finish at Heyfield on the Rail Trail. Follow the Rail Trail west towards Cowwarr, leave the Rail Trail onto Heyfield-Dawson Rd, turn left at Cowwarr-Seaton Rd, left onto Cowwarr-Heyfield Rd.

(Alternate route right onto Rail Trail to explore Cowwarr and return back via the Rail Trail and right onto Cowwarr-Heyfield Rd). Left onto Rices Rd/ Cowwarr-Heyfield Rd. Left onto Traralgon-Maffra Rd back to the Heyfield.

Caution: TAKE CARE on this 2km section. 100km/ hour winding Rd, no sealed shoulder and broken edges. Heavy vehicles use this Rd.

- Must See:**
- Cowwarr Art Gallery
 - Heyfield Wetlands Centre



YARRAM

11. Jack River - Alberton West Ride

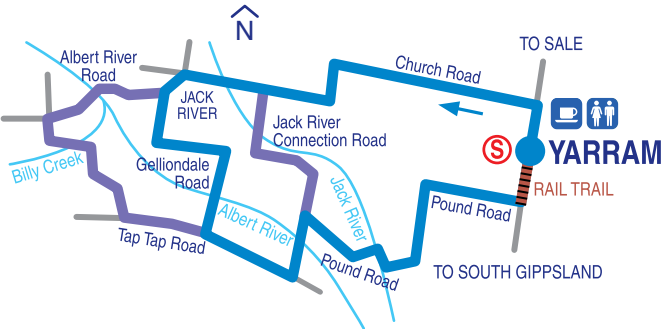
 BE AWARE

Distance	Surface	Grading
24km/33km/38km	Sealed	Easy

Medium Option 33km – From Yarram travel 13km to Jack River. Take the major road left into Albert River Rd. At the next intersection continue straight ahead into Gelliondale Rd. Stay on this road until you reach a tee with Tap Tap Rd, turn left. Follow this for 2 km turn left into Pound Road West. In 1km Pound Road veers right follow to the highway, turn left to Yarram.

Long Option 38km – As per the medium option up until reaching Albert River Road. After Jack River follow Albert River Road by turning right at the next intersection. Continue for 3km turn left into Billy Creek Road. At the next tee intersection turn left into Tap Tap Rd. 3km later you meet up with the medium option Route.

- Don't Miss:**
- Lush dairy farming country
 - Yarram Court House and Art Gallery
 - Yarram to Alberton Rail Trail



YARRAM

12. Port Albert - Tarraville - Yarram

 BE CONFIDENT

Distance	Surface	Grading
36km	Sealed	Easy

Start at Lawler Street which is located just west of the main town centre. Ride south on the Tarra Trail Rail Trail to Alberton. The other option is to take the highway instead. Once through Alberton turn left and follow the signs to Port Albert. Once you are ready to leave the port ride back out of town until you reach the roundabout. Make a right turn for Tarraville. Follow the road north through Tarraville, turn left onto Pound Rd back to the Rail Trail and back to Yarram .

- Must See:**
- Historic Cemetery at the Start of Port Albert Rd
 - Historic village of Port Albert, Gippsland's oldest Port used during the 1850s gold rush
 - Port Albert Maritime Museum
 - Gippsland's oldest church at Tarraville



ROSEDALE

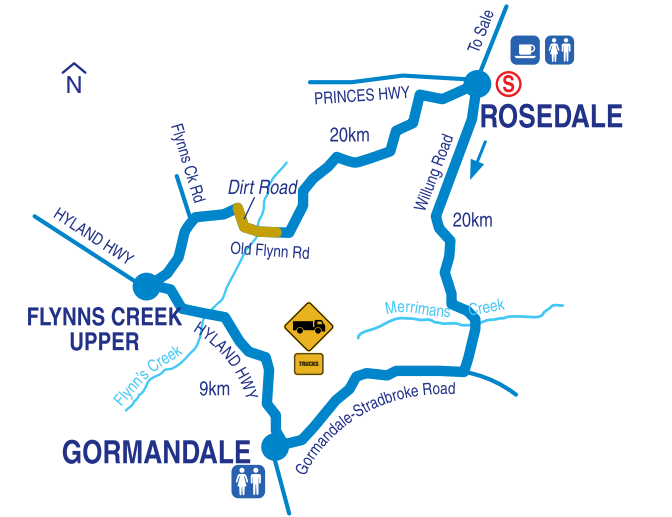
13. Willung - Gormandale - Rosedale

 BE PREPARED

Distance	Surface	Grading
49km	Sealed	Easy/Medium

Start and finish at the roundabout at Rosedale. Head south along Willung Rd turn right onto Gormandale-Stradbroke Road. At Gormandale turn right onto Hyland Hwy. In 9km at Flynns Creek turn right onto Flynns Creek Rd. In 5.2km turn Right onto Rathjens Rd/Rosedale-Flynns Creek Rd and follow back to Rosedale.

- Don't Miss:**
- Pretty little township of Gormandale, explore the school which opened in 1882 and visit the butter factory which opened in 1894
 - Enjoy the landscape along the ride
 - The monument to Melbourne Cup Winner Patrobus



MAFFRA

14. Glenmaggie - Heyfield - Maffra

 BE PREPARED

Distance	Surface	Grading
55km	Sealed and unsealed	Medium

Start and finish in Maffra. Leave Maffra via Powerscourt St/ Maffra-Briagolong Rd heading north. Turn left onto Sandy Creek Rd. Right onto Maffra Newry Rd. (alternative route Straight ahead through Bellbird Corner). Turn left Lower-Newry Rd and follow to Newry. At Newry continue Straight through the intersection (north/west) onto Upper Maffra Rd (Coongulla), follow the Rd Straight through at the T-intersection near Lake Glenmaggie.

At the lake turn left onto Weir/Ryans Rd. Follow the Rd south/east around the lake on Weir/Ryans Rd. Turn right onto Tinamba-Glenmaggie Rd. Turn left (south) onto Heyfield-Jamieson Rd and follow all the way to the roundabout at Heyfield. Turn left onto the Rail Trail and follow all the way back to Maffra.

- Must See:
- Lake Glenmaggie Dam picnic ground and weir wall
 - Heyfield Wetland Centre
 - Historic Tinamba Hotel



YARRAM

15. Balook - Tarra Valley - Yarram

 BE AWARE

Distance	Surface	Grading
66km	Sealed	Difficult

Starts at Yarram. From the Yarram Town Centre head north for around 1 km before turning left into Church St. From here follow the signs to Tarra-Bulga National Park. At the 25km mark you reach the Tarra Valley carpark. You may choose to make this your turnaround for a 50 km ride. If you wish to push on the road steepens for the next 3km until reaching the Grand Ridge Road. Turn right here for the 5km run to Balook. Return via the reverse route.

You can stay overnight at the Balook Guesthouse and Tea Rooms and return to Yarram the next day.

- Must See:
- Tarra-Bulga National Park
 - Giant eucalypts, tree ferns, Lyrebirds, yellow tail cockatoos.
 - Tarra waterfalls
 - Tarra-Bulga visitor's centre
 - Historic Yarram buildings

Caution: Be careful of cars on the narrow and winding roads.



YARRAM

16. Woodside Beach - Woodside

 BE CONFIDENT

Distance	Surface	Grading
62km	Sealed	Easy

Leave Yarram to the south via Rail Trail or the highway. At Pound Road turn left, left onto Old Sale Road. Right onto Balloong Road and follow to Woodside Beach Road, turn right to the beach. The return is via Woodside and the highway. For a more pleasant option retrace your steps although this would be slightly longer.

Shorter ride options – via Old Sale Rd or Cherry Tree Lane.

- Don't Miss:**
- 90 Mile Beach
 - Jack Smith Lake Waterbirds Reserve
 - Won Wron State Forest



MAFFRA

17. Briagolong - Newry - Maffra

 BE PREPARED

Distance	Surface	Grading
70km	Sealed	Medium

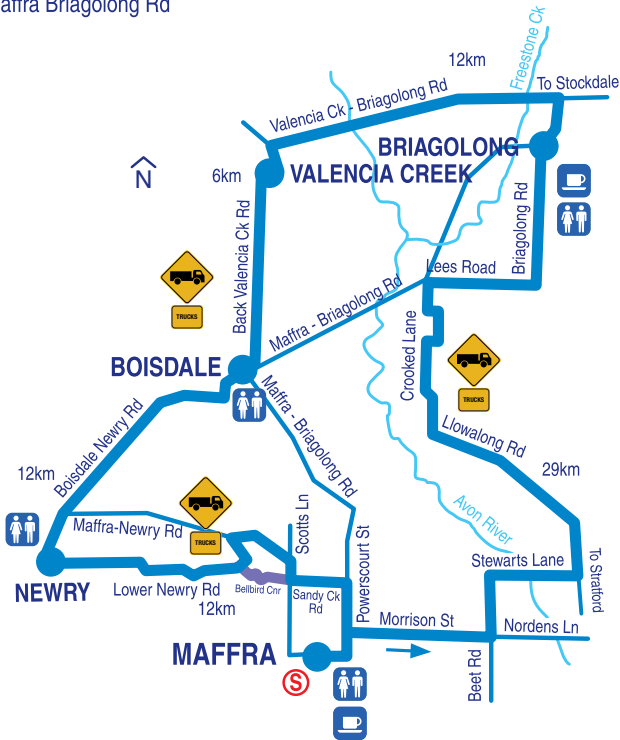
Start and finish at Maffra. Leave Maffra via Powerscourt St, and head north towards Boisdale. Turn right into Morrison St, left Beet Rd, right Stewarts Lane over Avon River. Turn left onto Llowalong Rd which turns into Crooked Lane, turn right onto Lees Rd, left Briagolong Rd continue to Briagolong.

2km after the Briagolong shops turn left onto Valencia Creek-Briagolong Rd. Follow 9km to the intersection, turn left onto Boisdale-Valencia Rd. (NB there is a Boisdale-Valencia Rd and parallel there is a Back Boisdale-Valencia Rd. The Back Rd is much quieter and safer.)

At Boisdale turn right onto Boisdale-Newry Rd, continue to Newry. Just past Newry turn left onto Lower Newry Rd, right onto Maffra-Newry Rd and back to Maffra.

Caution: Be careful of cars on the narrow and winding roads.

- Short Options:**
- Maffra Newry Rd
 - Maffra Briagolong Rd



HEYFIELD

18. Cheynes Bridge

 BE AWARE

Distance	Surface	Grading
67km	Sealed	Difficult

Start Heyfield. Leave Heyfield north via Heyfield-Jamieson Rd (C486) follow the road over the Lake Glenmaggie Bridge in 10km. In another 5km you will connect back up to the official Heyfield-Jamieson Rd and continue north for 20km towards Licola to Cheynes Bridge.

On the return trip if you miss the turn to the Glenmaggie Bridge you will encounter a steep descent. You can continue on this road until the T-intersection and turn left and connect back up to Heyfield-Jamieson Rd.

Longer Option: Continue past Cheynes Bridge for 20km to Licola, making the return trip 108km.

Caution: Trucks use this road, caution on narrow and winding roads, road surface can have tree debris.

- Must See:**
- One of the most scenic rides in Gippsland
 - Stunning valley views
 - Lake Glenmaggie
 - Woodland and stunning views



19. RAIL TRAILS

 BE CONFIDENT

Cycle your way across Central Gippsland on our Rail Trails - a network of former railways transformed into gently graded paths. Discover sites unseen from the highways and enjoy our small towns along the routes.

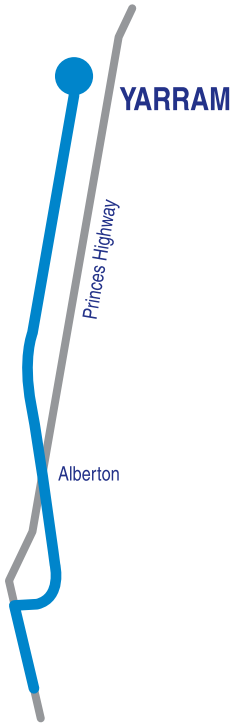
Gippsland Plains Rail Trail - 67km
The Gippsland Plains Rail Trail is a 67km recreational trail between Stratford and Traralgon following the former Traralgon to Stratford Railway Line. Mostly flat with gentle inclines, suitable for mountain or hybrid bikes, prams, mobility scooters and people of all ages and abilities. The six historic railway towns along the route all have shops that provide food.

www.gippslandplainsrailtrail.com.au

The only Rail Trail in Victoria that has a V-Line service at each end, enabling trail users to enjoy the trail then return home in comfort.
www.vline.com.au



Tarra Trail - Yarram - 13km
The Tarra Trail follows the historic route of the great southern railway between Yarram and Alberton. Passing through open farmland with lovely views across to the Strzelecki Ranges and Wilson's Promontory, this trail is a perfect outing with young children. The trail ends at Victoria's Primary School No.1 at Alberton. The nearby seaside village of Port Albert offers a great place for lunch or snack after your ride.
www.railtrails.org.au



HEYFIELD

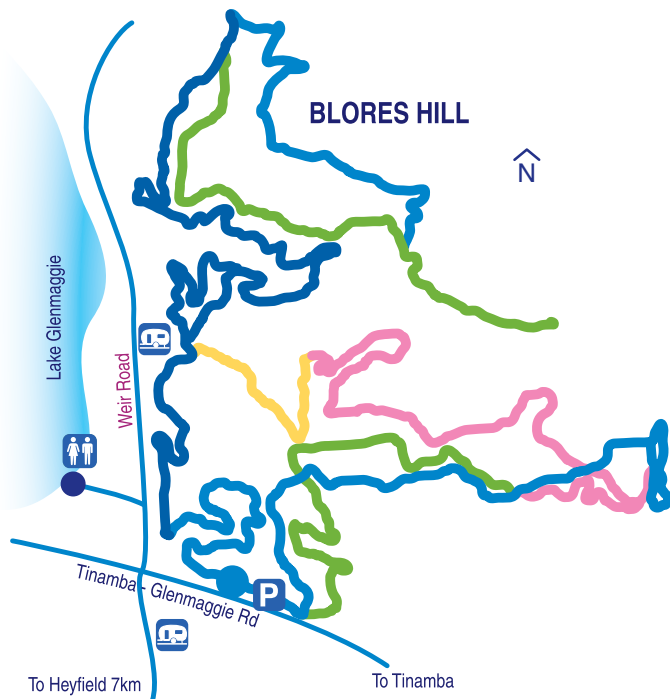
20. Blores Hill Mountain Bike Park



Distance	Surface	Grading
30km	Gravel/sand/rocky/MTB only	Easy - Difficult

Located only a few kilometers north of Heyfield, the Blores Hill Mountain Bike Park winds its way through Blores Hill near Lake Glenmaggie. Set on approximately 50 acres of bush land, the park features 30km of trails which have been specifically designed for serious bikers! There are tracks suited to all levels of fitness and experience which, in places, feature good rocky outcrops. It could be argued that Blores Hill is one of the best mountain bike areas in Victoria, with many riders coming from all over Victoria, and indeed, interstate, just to ride here.

For accommodation, there is a caravan park situated adjacent to the MTB park.



IMPORTANT - PLEASE READ

This is a mountain bike facility, please get a detailed Parks map from the website: www.gippslandmtb.com.au



CYCLING PROTOCOLS



Sharing the road means obeying the road rules, being predictable and respecting the rights of others who use the road.

When cycling on bicycle paths and footpaths:

- You must keep to the left of any oncoming bicycle rider.
- You can ride on shared paths (unless prohibited by a 'No Bicycle' sign), but you must keep left and give way to pedestrians.
- Use your bell or horn to warn others, especially when riding up behind them.

Helmets

- An approved helmet must be worn at all times while riding, correctly fitted and fastened.

You must always have:

- Working brakes on your bike.
- A bell, horn or similar warning device in working order.

Portable Audio devices and mobile phones:

- Do not use when riding. You need to be aware of your environment.

Cycling in the Heat

Plan your day around exercising when it's cooler. Stay well hydrated, and continually monitor for signs of heat exhaustion such as confusion, dizziness, fatigue, headache, cramps and nausea. Bushfires can be prevalent during the summer months:

Make sure motorists can see you:

- Ride in a position where you can see and be seen.
- Use lights and wear bright or reflective clothing, especially in towns, at night and in bad weather.
- Make eye contact with other road users, especially at intersections, then you know they've seen you
- Signal clearly at all times.
- Use your bell - not all pedestrians can see you.
- Be alert for vehicles approaching from behind or pulling out in front of you.
- Be aware of car doors opening by looking out for occupants inside stopped vehicles.
- You must obey all road rules including traffic signs, lights and road markings.
- You must ride as near as practicable to the far left side of the road.
- You must not ride past, or overtake, to the left of a vehicle that is turning left.

When cycling on the road:

- Cyclists cannot ride more than two abreast unless overtaking. When riding two abreast riders should not be more than 1.5m apart. This rule also applies on bike paths, shared paths and shoulder of the road

Local Cycling Clubs and Organisations

There are a number of local cycling clubs and organisations in Wellington Shire.

They include:

- Sale and District Sunday Afternoon Cyclists (SADSACs). Visit their website for more information:
www.sadsacs.wordpress.com
- Wellington Cycling Group. Visit their website for more information:
www.wellingtoncyclingclub.com
- Cycling groups meet together for the enjoyment, exercise and adventure of regular, friendly organised recreational bicycle rides.
- Gippsland Plains Rail Trail.
www.gippslandplainsrailtrail.com.au

The objectives of the cycling groups;

- To plan and actively participate in a range of organised bicycle rides.
- To provide a forum for cyclists to meet and discuss cycling matters in a friendly and supportive manner.
- To work closely with local authorities within the municipality to establish and/or improve safe cycling conditions.
- To promote the benefits of all types of cycling throughout the region.

For further information on cycling clubs and organisations please contact any of our bike shops who can put you in contact with the organisers of many weekday and weekend rides suitable for all levels of ability.

Emergency Information

- Victorian Bushfire Information line Call: 1800 240 667
- ABC Radio Station - 828AM and 100.7FM
- Fire, Police and Ambulance - Dial 000

This booklet is a project within Healthy Wellington

www.wellington.vic.gov.au/Living-in-Wellington/Public-Health/Healthy-Wellington-Plan

Call the
Wellington Visitor Information Centre - Sale

1800 677 520

www.tourismwellington.com.au

[instagram.com/centralgippsland](https://www.instagram.com/centralgippsland)

www.facebook.com/DiscoverWellingtonGippsland