

Discovering Melbourne, Warburton and Leongatha by Bicycle

October 11th to October 23rd inclusive 12 nights accommodation in all.

Accommodation in Melbourne is for six nights arriving Friday October 11th departing Thursday 17th October at the Ashley Gardens Discovery Park
129 Ashley Street, Braybrook Victoria 3019
1800-061444 (03) 9318 6866

www.discoveryholidayparks.com.au/caravan-parks/victoria/melbourne-melbourne

There is a 10% discount for Seniors up to a maximum of \$50 and the standard 2BR Cabin costs approximately \$140.



Accommodation in Warburton is for two nights arriving Thursday 17th October and departing Saturday 19th October at the Warburton Holiday Park
30 Woods Point Road
Warburton, Victoria 3799
(03) 5966 2277
<https://warburtonholidaypark.com.au/>

If we have eight or more bookings there will be a 10% discount.



Accommodation for Leongatha is for four nights arriving Sat 19th October, departing Wed 23rd October.

Leongatha Caravan Park
14 Turner Street
Leongatha, Victoria 3953
(03) 5662 2753 0431 044 972

<http://www.leongathacaravanpark.com.au/>

Cost is \$80 per cabin with bathroom with an extra \$12 per extra person. Linen is a \$10 cost per bed. A powered site costs \$36 per night.



The Discovering Melbourne Warburton and Leongatha by Bicycle Trip will be as follows.

Day 1 Friday 11th October Arrive at Ashley Gardens Discovery Park, 129 Ashley Street. Braybrook, Melbourne. This is a great location for inner suburban Melbourne and has a shopping centre including a Woolworths right next door. Meet at 6pm in the camp kitchen to welcome everyone and receive information about the next day's ride.

Day 2 Saturday 12th October Today we are riding about 40kms out along the

M to tive coffee.

T o v is t over the Yarra River under the WestGate Bridge. Cost though this may be a bit expensive we think it is a novelty is to give us a more interesting ride and not duplicate too much of the paths.

We now head towards Port Melbourne where the Spirit of Tasmania departs. This will probably be the lunch spot.



We now head along the Sandridge Rail Trail

<http://blokeonbike.com/bloke1/the-sandridge-railway-trail/>

into Melbourne city where we make a left turn and ride out along the Capital City trail back to the Maribyrnong River Trail and home.



Day 3 Sunday 13th October

Today we will be catching a train from Tottenham Station into the Flinders Station. **This will require a MYKI card.**

<https://www.ptv.vic.gov.au/tickets/myki>.

We will ride to Tottenham Station at the end of Ashley Street and this should only take about 10 mins. Trains leave as follows

dep 8.45am arriv 9.05am at Flinders Street Station
dep 9.25 arriv 9.45am
dep 10.05am arriv 10.25am

We would aim to be on the same train, ideally the 9.25am but this may be difficult hence the options.

At Flinders St Station we meet outside on the footpath opposite Federation Square where we begin the ride which is 43kms but very flat mainly on the Bayside Trail.

We will be riding along the suburban beaches past St Kilda where we will have coffee.



We head South passing the colourful Brighton Bathing Huts reaching Beaumaris for lunch where we go inland and discover a bit about the older affluent beachside suburbs including past the grounds of two historic houses Billilla Mansion and Kamesburgh.

There seems to be quite a few golf courses in this region too which we ride past.

We will catch the train at GardenVale Station back to Flinders station where we need to change trains and continue on to Tottenham station.



This ride could be extended by keen riders to ride further along the beach as far as Mordialloc where they could catch the train and return that way. It is a different train line and slightly more expensive.



Day 4 Monday 14th October

Yarra River to Templestowe ride of 41kms. **For this ride we must drive to Dights Falls carpark at Trennery Crescent Abbotsford.** Google says this is a 14km drive without tolls and would take 37minutes.

We are riding up the river following the Main Yarra Trail to Heide Museum of Modern Art at Heideberg for morning tea. There is a free sculpture garden we can have a walk through as well.



We ride on alongside the river until we reach Wombat Bend at Templestowe, our lunch spot and turn around point. We will probably ride into the commercial strip for those who need to buy lunch.

Retrace our ride until we deviate through the Ivanhoe Golf course and back along the Yarra River including across the iconic Kanes Bridge at the Boathouse in Studley Park at Yarra Bend. Before we know it we are back at the cars.



Day 5 Tuesday 15th October

37km ride through Sunshine along the Koroit Creek Trail then joining the Western Ring Trail turning off to Brimbank Park. This park appears to be a bit like our Belair Park.

There is a cafe re-opening here early 2019 so hopefully we will be able to get a coffee and maybe lunch. This will be checked closer to the date. We ride back along the Maribyrnong Creek Trails.



Brimbank Park

Day 6 Wednesday 16th October

38.km Capital City Loop in an Anti clockwise direction.

Once again we drive to Dights Falls carpark, in Trenerry Crescent Abbotsford a drive of 14kms taking about 37mins according to Google.

This ride is almost all on bike paths making it very pleasant, however the bike paths near the city can be very busy with fast moving commuters at any hour so we must be alert at all times.

Initially we ride to the CERES

(Centre for Education and Research into Environmental

Strategies) on the Merri Creek for a coffee.



Coffee at Merri Creek

Now we retrace our steps a bit then join the Capital City Trail to ride through Princes Park and the new Nature playground in Royal Park and the back of the zoo. From there we ride beside Moonee Ponds Creek where we find ourselves alongside the freeways but still on bike paths. After crossing Footscray Road we are on familiar territory heading into Docklands.

Once we get to the Yarra River we follow along its city banks and will stop somewhere to have lunch, there are lots of options to buy. We ride past the MCC and the National Tennis Centre on our way up the river until we get to Abbotsford Convent and the Collingwood Childrens Farm. This historic precinct is now an arts and innovation site. Once it was a home for destitute women run by the church who worked in a big laundry which serviced the Melbourne hotels. We can stop for a coffee here before riding back to the cars. The distance in this ride is short but we think it is a very interesting route and more of sight seeing journey to be enjoyed without rushing.

Day 7 Thursday 17th October



Time to move on so we drive about 60kms along the M3 as per Google and without toll roads to the Seville Water Play Park where it will be easy to park the vehicles including caravans and trailers.

The ride is 40 kms along the

trail towards the outskirts of Lilydale.

We could have coffee at Mt Evelyn if we haven't had one earlier on. We head north and return along country roads which are fairly quiet, rejoining the rail trail at Seville again. Lunch could be here at the



Carriage Cafe if we hadn't already begun the ride with a coffee here or we ride a little further on. There are many options.



After Woori Yallock we leave the trail for more country roads completing the loop back at Seville. Drive on to Warburton Caravan Park in Woods Point Road.

Day 8 Friday 18th October



A 31km ride from the caravan park along the picturesque and heavily forested O'Shannassy Aqueduct for 15km returning back along the Lilydale Trail from LaunchingPlace.

<https://parkweb.vic.gov.au/explore/parks/yarra-ranges-national-park/things-to-do/oshannessy-aqueduct-trail>

This ride begins with a short, (1.5km)steep climb which will probably have us all walking. This could be avoided by driving to the trail head car park and getting a lift back at the end to collect the car. Once on the Aqueduct the gradient is

very flat dropping back steeply as we leave it to return to the Lilydale trail.

Warburton is a very scenic little place right on the beautiful Yarra River which at this point has platypus in it. There is lots to do so the afternoon is free for you to do some walks or drives in the nearby area or investigate the local eateries or just chill out.

<https://www.visitwarburton.com.au/>

You can drive to La La Falls or up to the summit of Mt Donna Buang or stop off at the free Warburton Rainforest Gallery a tree top walking experience.

If you still wish to ride and have the energy there is a ride on the Eastern side of the Aqueduct out as far as the Redwood Forest returning along Woods Point Road available.

This forest was planted in 1930 and can be reached by car then foot by driving up Woods Point Road and turning left into Cement Track and driving up the gravel road (which may be rough) as far as the car park then walking past the gates into the forest.

Day 9 Saturday 19th October

We move on again to Leongatha via the Noojee Trestle Bridge Rail Trail at Noojee.

<https://www.railtrails.org.au/trail?view=trail&id=204>



It is a 50km drive on the C425 from Yarra Junction. Park on School Road Noojee so we can ride the short but hopefully interesting rail trail to the trestle bridge and return. Then we can have lunch and resume the drive to Leongatha. Google suggests the 97km route via Drouin, Poowong, and Korumburra.

Day 10 Sunday 20th

October 37.5km ride from Anderson to Inverloch on the Bass Coast Rail Trail and quiet country roads. **This ride requires a car shuffle of 30kms each way so we need to leave a**



car at Inverloch as part of the 56km drive to the car park at the intersection of Bass Hwy and Phillip Island Road which is our start point. Google suggests the drive to the start will take about 42 minutes.

http://www.basscoast.vic.gov.au/Leisure/Bicycle_Walking_Tracks/Bass_Coast_Rail

Ride along the Bass Coast Trail across the Bourne Creek Trestle Bridge right on the coast into Wonthaggi, originally a coal mining town for coffee. Ride along quiet roads past Cape Paterson admiring stunning coastal views from the cliff tops until we arrive at Inverloch. This is a picturesque small seaside town on the Anderson's inlet. Some cyclists can wait there while a car load of drivers return to our start point to collect the vehicles. Some cyclists may begin to ride back and get collected en route or some may even ride the whole distance. Maybe the trailer could be used but we will work out the logistics on this ride later.

Day 11 Monday 21st October

Island from where we begin and end the ride, a distance of 74kms taking about 1hour to drive.

The ride is a clockwise loop of 45.7kms around Phillip Island on the quieter roads including Nobbies Centre for coffee after 12kms. This is where the penguin parades takes place at night. We go into the cafe strip at Cowes for a late lunch at the 29km mark(this could be done visa versa). Completing the circuit back to the cars past some world famous wetlands where tiny birds from Siberia fly each year to spend the summer.



Day 12 Tuesday 22nd October

49km ride from the caravan park to Foster along the beautiful Great Southern Rail Trail. **We will have to arrange a car shuffle of 39 km either way or perhaps have half the group going either way and swap keys in the middle.** From this trail there is a high point where you can see Wilson Promontory on a clear day and we ride through some delightful small towns including Fish Creek so food and coffee can easily be managed.



<https://www.gsrt.com.au/choose-your-adventure>

Day 13 Wed 23rd October break camp and drive home. Hopefully after a great time together and no falls.

Leongatha to Adelaide is 858kms.

For those wishing to break the journey, Leongatha to Ballarat is 300kms and Ballarat to Adelaide is 614kms.