Discover Cycling
Around Wellington Shire
2nd Edition
The Heart of Gippsland

Wellington is a great place to have a cycling holiday. With ever-changing scenery, cycling is a great way to explore Wellington, especially in spring, summer and autumn.

Cycle along country roads to wineries, bakeries, craft shops and small towns, or thunder downhill on the decent from the Strezlecki's to the coast or the Great Divide, Wellington has it all. Great destinations await cycling visitors to Gippsland. Sale, Yarram, Port Albert with its historic Port precinct or the serenity of the Tarra Bulga National Park all awaits the cyclist. Distances between major centres are manageable and accommodation and camping facilities are relatively easy to find in Wellington. There is an excellent train service to Sale.

Cyclists have the opportunity to explore the famous 90-mile beach. With free serviced camping areas along the beach and communities at Seaspray and Golden Beach, the journey takes the cyclist through the Gippsland Lakes Coastal Park as well as offering views of the Sale area from the Longford hinterland.

Yarram and surrounds take the cyclist to the historic village of Port Albert. The Port precinct, with spectacular backdrop views of Wilson’s Promontory provides the rider with a taste of Gippsland history and the opportunity to visit the many historic buildings of the Yarram - Port Albert area, as well as sample delightful seafood and bakers delights at local eateries. The opportunity also exists for a visit to Tarra/Bulga National Park, located 22 kilometres from Yarram.
1. MAFFRA: Briagolong - Newry - Maffra

Distance - 70km
Surface - Sealed
Grade - Medium

Leaving Maffra, travel via Powerscourt St to Morrison St, passing the huge Maffra Sporting complex. Within a few minutes there are excellent views of the foothills of the Great Dividing Range and local farmlands. Crossing the Avon River at Weirs Crossing low level bridge see market gardens before turning left to head to Briagolong via Crooked Lane. Travelling through open farming land you will notice a raised escarpment guiding you via Lees Road to Briagolong where the local bakery, shops and hotel can provide a great meal and refreshing drink. Leaving Briagolong its on to Valencia Creek with its gentle rises and long flat straights under shady trees until you pass over the Avon River wooden bridge, **dismount for safety** then down gears for up hill and the main road to Newry, another small township. Continuing through town, approx 1km then left down Lower Newry road through open grazing country stopping at Bellbird Corner reserve to stretch your legs before the final roll home to Maffra via Pine Hill and Sandy Creek Road.
2. MAFFRA: Glenmaggie - Heyfield - Maffra

Distance - 55km
Surface - Sealed
Grading - Medium

Leaving Maffra via Powerscourt St, travel to Sandy Creek Rd and turn left, passing the picturesque Cemetery. Then right up Pine Hill for a change in scenery and around Bellbird Bridge corner to travel through quiet back roads and flat farming land, passing the old Newry Butter Factory with a great backdrop of the foothills of the Great Dividing range. After a short sharp encounter of some steep little ups and downs its over the Macaliser River at Lanigans Bridge stopping at the Glenmaggie Weir Wall. Leaving the Weir Wall through undulating iron bark country, turn right along Newry Road, following the edge of the lake for several kilometres. Passing a vintage machinery museum and some B&B accommodation and turning left on to the Licola Road will bring you to Heyfield where local shops, bakery and hotels can provide meals and accommodation. Leaving Heyfield towards Tinamba you will pass the Southern hemisphere’s largest hardwood sawmill with a good stack of freshly milled timber. Continuing east over Boggy Creek bridge through flat dairy farming country for a quiet run home to Maffra.
3. SALE: Wurruk - Pearseondale - Fulham - Myrtlebank - Cobains - Sale

Distance - 36km
Surface - Sealed
Grading - Easy/Medium

The ride starts at the Central Gippsland Visitor Information Centre located on the Western approach to Sale. West from Sale to Wurruk, take Pearseondale Rd past the entrance to historic Kilmany Park homestead. Progressing through undulating farmland another significant site is the old Pearseondale School located on a sharp left hand bend approx 10km from the start of the ride. Soon after the old school site you will turn right and head north back towards the Princes Highway. Turning right towards Sale for a short distance then left on to the Sale Heyfield Road, downhill to the Myrtlebank Road then crossing the Thomson River through manna gum and koala country arriving at the intersection of the Sale - Maffra Road. A bit of a dogleg heading slightly north will bring you on to the Bengworden Road where surrounded by dairy country and horse properties it is a pleasant ride again crossing the Princes Highway and then turning right into Somerton Park Road 6km to its end. Completing the ride there are views of the Sale Common, the Botanic Gardens and adjoining swimming complex and Lake Guthridge, then past the Sale Museum, Esso BHP Billiton Wellington Entertainment Centre, Regional Art Gallery, Shire Offices, St Mary’s Cathedral, Port of Sale and back to the information centre.
4. SALE CITY RIDE

Distance - 10km  
Surface - Sealed  
Grading - Easy

Leaving the Sale Information Centre on Foster Street (Princes Highway) Sale ride east along Foster Street towards the CBD, turn left at the traffic lights into Raymond Street. Continuing north along Raymond Street until the “T” intersection, turn right into Raglan Street, head east along Raglan Street in the Bicycle Lane, through the large roundabout. Extreme care is required here as you are crossing four lanes of traffic across the Princes Highway. Continue east along Raglan Street using the Bicycle Lane until the second large roundabout. This is Guthridge Parade. Turn right just before the roundabout which will give you access to a bike path on the right hand side of Guthridge Parade. Riding along the bike path, you will cross Macarthur Street, also cross over Foster Street, just past the Fauna Park is Montgomery St. Turn right into the unsealed road and about 500 metres along you will come to the junction of Lake Guthridge and Lake Guyatt. Here you have the opportunity to ride around either or both of the Lake’s via very well maintained walking/bike paths. Alternatively taking the bike path between the Lakes heading in a westerly direction you may follow the edge of Lake Guthridge riding behind the police station. This path will then bring you to the Foster Street entrance to the Lake. Dismounting, turn left and walk the bikes up the short hill to the large roundabout. Cross the junction of Foster Street and Princes Highway using the footpath. Caution is again required as you cross the four lanes of the Highway. Continue along Foster Street turn left at the traffic light into Raymond Street. Approx 500 metres along Raymond Street turn right into McMillan Street, and this will bring you into the Port of Sale. Turn right into Park Street, which will bring you back onto Foster Street, (Princes Highway). Turning left with caution proceed along to the Information Centre.
5. SALE: Golden Beach - Seaspray

Distance - 102km
Surface - Sealed
Grading - Medium/Easy

Starting from the Sale Information Centre on Foster Street (Princes Highway) we travel to Longford via the South Gippsland Highway. Visit the historic Swing Bridge (just 8km into our journey). Turn left at the Longford Hall and travel to the picturesque seaside township of Golden Beach (30km). This is good place to rest and refresh; taking in the views of the breathtaking Ninety Mile Beach. Heading south (turn right at the roundabout) along Beach Road to Seaspray, take the time to enjoy the ride (28km). Along this stretch of road there are 20 free National Park campsites to use for overnight stops and also access to the shipwreck “Trinculo”. Once at Seaspray rest and refresh again, with food water and toilets here for your convenience. It’s been all flat riding so far; the journey back to Sale (35km) has some easy rolling hills. This is a very nice ride through farmland, bushland, and plantation vegetation. Relax and enjoy the ride.
6. HEYFIELD: Cowwarr - Heyfield

Distance - 35km
Surface - Sealed
Grading - Medium

Leave your vehicle at Rotary Park in Heyfield and cycle north on Licola Rd, turning left in to Firebrace Rd. Passing several of the timber mills that make Heyfield a timber town, turn left at the next roundabout and a big Dutch windmill. Turn right into Seaton Rd and at about 3.6km turn left on to the Cowwarr - Seaton Rd following this to the small village of Cowwarr. A coffee at the Art Space or a meal and drink at the shop or hotel will refresh you before leaving town to the West on the Traralgon Rd and travelling the 10km to the Cowwarr Weir. Return via Cowwarr turning left in to Rices Lane, travelling through dairy farms and grazing country, following this road to the outskirts of Heyfield to end your journey.
Starting your ride at Rosedale you cycle south towards Willung. After passing over Merrimans Creek turn right and head towards the pretty little township of Gormandale, take the time to enjoy the landscape which consists mainly of grazing, dairying and tree plantations. Enjoy looking around Gormandale; explore the school which opened in 1882 and visit the butter factory which opened in 1894. Back on the bike and after a few undulations a 9km down hill trip to Flynn Upper. Turn right to Flynn and then cycle back to Rosedale taking care when crossing the bridge over Blind Joes Creek. Several wineries offer cellar door tastings in the area and are easily accessed from this ride.
Riding north from Stratford towards Briagolong, pass through sheep grazing land and skirt red gum forests. Briagolong offers the last opportunity for refreshment for some time and can provide supplies for your trip. The road north follows the picturesque Freestone Creek, along which you can find some nice picnic and camping areas at the Quarries and Blue Pools. When 48km from Stratford the small settlement of Cobbanah is encountered and you join the bitumen surface of the Dargo Rd. Along the way to Dargo you will pass through both forest and grazing land and at one stage follow the beautiful Wonnangatta River. The route also has relics from the 1850s gold rush period with historic roadside markers giving direction to derelict mining equipment and sites adjacent to the road. Dargo has well stocked store and a variety of accommodation available. There are numerous activities to offer the cycling visitor. The area has a rich gold mining history showcased at the museum, as well as a Walnut industry and a winery. On the return trip, travelling via Fernbank and along the princes Highway to Stratford provides an alternative trip, passing several B&B’s and galleries on route.
9. YARRAM: Balook - Tarra Valley - Yarram

Distance - 58km
Surface - Some unsealed roads
Grading - Difficult

After leaving Yarram on the Tarra Valley Road (C484) which turns right about 1km out of Yarram, you pass through some undulating farming country. Near Devon North you leave the C484 by proceeding straight on through the intersection where C484 turns left. After another 3km you turn left on to Bulga Park Road which takes you to Balook. On the way to Balook you pass through the locality of Mack’s Creek and climb steadily through giant eucalypt and pine forests and also some massive tree ferns as you enter the Tarra Bulga National Park. By the time you reach Balook you are back on the bitumen and deserve a well earned rest. You can visit the Tarra Bulga visitor centre and/or stay overnight at the local guest house & tearooms, before starting on the descent along the Grand Ridge Road. After 4km you turn left onto Tarra Valley Road (C484 again) which descends quite quickly through rather narrow winding road until Tarra Valley Park appears. Lyerbirds, yellow tailed cockatoos and wallabies are frequently encountered on this ride. Be careful of cars when descending narrow winding roads. Pay a visit and then continue down 1km to Tarra Falls and another 9km to the beautiful Eilean Donan Gardens, well worth a visit. The return trip is completed by passing through the settlement of Devon North and onto Yarram.
10. YARRAM: Port Albert - Tarraville - Yarram

Distance - 36km
Surface - Sealed
Grading - Easy

Ride south from Yarram on the South Gippsland Highway through the township of Alberton, where you will pass Victorian State School No.1 and after turning left on the the Port Albert Road you can visit the historic cemetery. Continuing through Langsborough to the historic village of Port Albert, Gippsland's oldest Port and gateway for ships carrying mining supplies and equipment to the region during the 1850s gold rush. A visit to the Maritime Museum is a must, so is some fish and chips from one of the local vendors. Quality B&B’s, the hotel and two caravan parks provide accommodation should you wish to have an overnight stay in the township. On the return trip, turn right at the roundabout, then right again towards Tarraville at the end of this road. Tarraville has a quaint little cricket ground and the well preserved church is the oldest in Gippsland. Turning on to the Old Sale Road and heading north, then turning left in to Pound Rd and right on to the South Gippsland Highway you will return to Yarram.
11. **YARRAM: Jack River - Alberton West Ride**

**Distance**: 35.5km  
**Surface**: Sealed  
**Grading**: Easy

An easy ride on good bitumen surfaced country roads through generally flat lush dairy farming country with a gradual one kilometre long climb at 18kms. Features include passing one of the district’s large sawmills, as well as remnant forest and dairy properties including the grand homes and gardens of the historic Tooloonook property.

A number of dairy farms employing centre pivot irrigation and recent Landcare rehabilitation plantings are passed. The small townships of Jack River and Alberton West once had their own post offices and in Alberton West a school, general store, church and public hall. They have now become locations with their own community identities but enjoy none of their past facilities. There are no refreshment or toilet facilities on this ride. Shorter or longer options are available by taking alternative routes.

00.00km Post Office, Commercial Road Yarram, head north.  
00.07km turn left down Church Rd (Yarram-Morwell Road).  
13.2km turn left still on Yarram-Morwell Road, which veers south then east.  
17.0km turn right onto Millers Hill Road.  
19.8km turn left along Tap Tap Road (Gelliondale Road).  
22.6km turn left onto Pound Road West across Albert River.  
24.4km veer right on Pound Road West to head east.  
33.5km turn left onto South Gippsland Highway heading north back to Yarram.  
35.5km Yarram Post Office.

Alternative Routes:  
25km ride turn left off Church Road at Jack River-Gelliondale Road at 10km, turn left, than after 0.8km crossing Jack River at about 1.2km to rejoin Pound Road West at Alberton West to head back to Yarram.  
45km ride, turn right at 13.2kms taking Stacey’s Bridge Road, past Stacey’s Bridge hall and across Stacey’s Bridge, historic marker on right, continuing to turn left onto Billy Creek Road, crossing the Albert River then turning left onto Tap Tap Road to head south to Alberton West.
12. WOODSIDE: Woodside Beach - Woodside

**Distance** - 65.60km  
**Surface** - Sealed  
**Grading** - Easy

Ride south then east from Yarram to the magnificent Ninety Mile Beach at Woodside Beach. The ride takes you along quiet, well maintained bitumen roads through flat agricultural land, mainly dairy farming near Yarram giving way to fine wool production towards Woodside Beach. There are views across to St. Margaret’s Island to the south and a diversion to popular boat launching ramp and holiday village McLoughlins Beach on the way. Woodside Beach has public toilets and barbecue facilities, a caravan park with kiosk and surf life saving club. The beach is patrolled on weekends and public holidays and is popular with swimmers and surf fishers. Return to Yarram via Woodside, where a caravan park, motel, hotel, general store and service station offer refreshments. The final 19kms are south and west along the South Gippsland Highway taking you back to Yarram.

00.00km Depart Yarram Post Office heading south on South Gippsland Highway.  
2.00km turn left onto Pound Road East.  
10.50km veer left along Old Sale Road.  
12.00km veer right along Balloong Road.  
30.02km turn right on Woodside Beach Road.  
36.10km Woodside Beach, kiosk, toilets and barbecue facilities.  
36.10km head west on Woodside Beach Road to Woodside.  
46.7km Turn left at Woodside onto South Gippsland Highway hotel, general store and service station.  
65.6km Yarram.

Alternative Route:
A dedicated group of local residents has been working for a number of years to convert the old railway line that ran from Traralgon, Glengarry, Heyfield, Maffra and Stratford in Gippsland. The trail will stretch 67km from Traralgon to Stratford when completed.

At present, three sections of this trail are open. The 19 km section from the Glengarry Historic Railway Station to Cowwarr has not been fully developed but has had the rocky ballast removed in the rough section between Glengarry and Toongabbie. This section has two creek crossings that can be walked through. The trail reserve has significant remnant stands of native trees, shrubs and grasses. The Dawson Station flora and fauna reserve, between Cowwarr and Heyfield, has rare native grasses.

A section of trail has been completed centred on the township of Heyfield, providing accessible trail to the West and East of the town.

A 6.5km section, from near Stratford to Maffra is accessible and was opened in 2005. From Stratford the trail begins 2km to the south, off the Stratford – Maffra Rd 200m west of the Princes Hwy. The bridge over the Maffra Rd has been removed and there is a steep embankment. Currently the final connection of the trail in to the Stratford township is being designed and construction of this section is planned for Summer 2007. When completed the townships of Maffra and Stratford will finally be joined by the rail trail.

The Gippsland Plains Rail Trail Committee of Management hope to have all of the potential 65km trail from Stratford to Traralgon open in the next few years. For further information contact the Chairperson, Helen Hoppner on 03 5148 9233.
Get the **OFFICIAL VISITORS GUIDE** and discover more about the Gippsland region.

The Wellington Shire is full of things to see and do and great places to stay. From cosy seaside B&Bs, Motels and family accommodation through to Camping and Caravan parks.

Wellington is a great place to base your holiday in Gippsland.

**Call the Wellington Visitor Information Centre - Sale**

1800 677 520

www.tourismwellington.com.au

and discover Wellington

“**The Heart of Gippsland**”

Discover Cycling around Wellington is a joint project of the Wellington Shire, Sale & District Sunday Afternoon Cyclists, Sale Central Rotary Club and Yarram Cyclists.