GEELONG • THE BELLARINE • SURF COAST

GREAT OCEAN RIDES

TOURISM GREATER GEELONG & THE BELLARINE

Surf COAST SHIRE
The start of the Great Ocean Road
Welcome to Our Region’s Official Road Cycling Guide

Geelong and the Great Ocean Road offers some of Australia’s finest cycling, with world-famous coastal scenery and an ever changing hinterland providing great opportunities for all levels of cyclists, from families to seasoned professionals.

Cycling is one of the best ways to enjoy the Geelong and Great Ocean Road region and this guide will help with planning your trip. There are 10 rides with descriptions, distances, degree of difficulty and identification of hazards. Rides vary, from an easy 34km to more than 230km.

All rides have easy access to great coffee, comfortable accommodation and excellent restaurants.

Another way to safely experience cycling in our region is to participate in one or more of our cycling events. Come for a day or even better, a weekend away!

Road Safety Levels:
- Relatively safe: reasonable riding conditions
- Moderately safe: some shoulders or quieter roads
- Caution: take extra care, no shoulders, busy roads

Climb rating:
- Easy
- Medium
- Hard
- Challenging

Tour options and paths:
- Shortened tour option
- Extra tour option
- 2-way sealed bike path

Quick Reference

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<tr>
<th>Start/Finish</th>
<th>Cafés</th>
<th>Highlights</th>
<th>Visitor Information Centre</th>
<th>Roundabouts</th>
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SAFE RIDING TIPS

ENJOY THE RIDE, BUT TAKE CARE

BEST TIMES TO RIDE
The safest riding conditions in the region are early morning. Try and avoid peak traffic times during the week and from midday on weekends and public holidays. Plan your trips and avoid riding in extreme heat or wet conditions. Coastal roads are naturally busy at peak summer times. Some of the best riding on our roads is in autumn, spring and on mild winter days.

RIDE SENSIBLY TOGETHER
Legally you may ride two abreast but when traffic is congested or on undulating roads, with solid white lines at bends or hills, it can be safer and more courteous to ride single file.

TAKE EXTRA CARE AT ROUNDABOUTS AND INTERSECTIONS
Make eye contact with drivers before proceeding through the intersection. Also at roundabouts sit up, clearly indicate your intentions and occupy the lane where possible.

STAY LEFT AND ALERT
Concentrate and anticipate. Keep a lookout for obstacles, debris, potholes and traffic conditions. Try and keep to the left as much as practical and stay within the bike lanes with your handlebars within the white line.

BE PREPARED
Have plenty of spares with you and if repairs are needed, stay well off the road and find a secure spot well away from the traffic.

LOOK OUT WATCH FOR THE SIGNS

WHAT TO LOOK FOR WHEN RIDING OUR ROADS

WAYFINDING
The City of Greater Geelong, in partnership with the Department of Transport, has developed a range of “wayfinding” signage to provide directional guidance for cyclists. Wayfinding signage benefits recreational, training and commuter cyclists, as well as visitors to the City by directing cyclists on safe routes to key destinations.

CYCLIST TRAINING ROUTE SIGNAGE*
Cycling training routes are often on rural roads with high speed traffic. Cyclist Training Route Signage is installed on some training routes as a reminder for motorists to be alert for cyclists.

* Cycling training route signs are not in all areas, and cyclists should be alert of motorists.
This course takes cyclists through Geelong’s northern suburbs before cutting back along the waterfront of Corio Bay.
The Barrabool Hills Tour provides a challenging ride through the Barrabool Hills with breathtaking views across Geelong.

### Climb Details

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>RATING</th>
<th>START / END POINTS</th>
<th>LENGTH</th>
<th>START / END ELEVATION</th>
<th>AVG GRADE</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Easy</td>
<td>1.0km / 8.7km</td>
<td>8.6km</td>
<td>7.3m / 162.2m</td>
<td>1.8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Medium</td>
<td>11.8km / 16.2km</td>
<td>4.4km</td>
<td>94.2m / 172.8m</td>
<td>1.8%</td>
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</table>

Extra tour option - Bells Beach 1.5km
From Geelong this challenging ride loops around the stunning Bellarine Peninsula. The Bellarine has all the ingredients for a memorable ride including historic seaside villages, beautiful beaches, waterfront roads and postcard perfect wineries.
This course provides a scenic loop between Geelong and Swan Bay whilst incorporating beautiful scenery, vineyards, rural views and bay beaches of The Bellarine.
This course provides a scenic loop between Geelong and Barwon Heads with all the ingredients for a memorable ride including beautiful beaches, waterfront roads and postcard perfect wineries.
Starting in Torquay this tour follows the iconic Great Ocean Road to Lorne before traversing the Great Otway National Park.

**CLIMB DETAILS**

<table>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Easy</td>
<td>7.4km / 10.2km</td>
<td>2.8km</td>
<td>23.8m / 115.5m</td>
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<tr>
<td>Easy</td>
<td>34.2km / 38.6km</td>
<td>4.4km</td>
<td>4.3m / 87.5m</td>
<td>1.9%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Hard</td>
<td>47.9km / 58.5km</td>
<td>10.6km</td>
<td>5.5m / 427.9m</td>
<td>4.0%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Easy</td>
<td>77.2km / 79.9km</td>
<td>2.7km</td>
<td>159.7m / 234.4m</td>
<td>2.8%</td>
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</table>
THE GREAT OCEAN ROAD TOUR

DIFFICULT

LENGTH 144.7km
TOTAL GAIN 1,551.1m
MAX ELEVATION 118.9m
NO. OF CLIMBS 2

CLIMB DETAILS

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<th>AVG GRADE</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Medium</td>
<td>17.5km / 20.0km</td>
<td>2.5km</td>
<td>5.8m / 85.0m</td>
<td>3.2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Easy</td>
<td>117.4km / 124.7km</td>
<td>7.3km</td>
<td>5.5m / 85.6m</td>
<td>1.1%</td>
</tr>
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From Anglesea to Apollo Bay this popular cycling route takes you on one of Australia's most iconic roads - the Great Ocean Road.
This challenging tour transverses the pristine rainforests of the Great Otway National Park before following the iconic Great Ocean Road from Apollo Bay to Lorne.
This challenging tour follows the Great Ocean Road from Apollo Bay to Lavers Hill before it traverses the Great Otway National Park.
The Geelong Criterium Track provides cyclists with the perfect venue for competition and training activities.

The 2.8km track is comprised of three smaller loops of various sizes, giving the facility and flexibility to cater for a wide range of competitions and activities.
WE WOULD LIKE TO THANK THE FOLLOWING ORGANISATIONS FOR THEIR SUPPORT IN DEVELOPING THIS PUBLICATION AND CYCLING IN OUR REGION.

- Bike Barwon
- BikeSafe
- VicRoads
- Parks Victoria
- Bicycle Users Geelong
- Cycling Geelong
- Geelong Cycling Club

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DISCLAIMER:

Each rider is responsible for their own health and safety and must take care of themselves and others when cycling. Cyclists should check their health with their medical advisors before undertaking vigorous or strenuous riding. There are risks in group riding and cyclists should only attempt this when they are experienced at riding in small groups. Inexperienced riders should tell the group and seek guidance. All listed routes include risks and riders must always take care according to the conditions that present on the road.

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Be responsible

- Ride no more than two abreast, single file when traffic is busy or on hills and bends
- Keep to the left where possible
- Obey all traffic signs and lights
- Be seen. Wear bright clothes. Lights flashing and on all the time
- Take extra care at roundabouts, make eye contact
- Be vigilant, watch out for obstacles