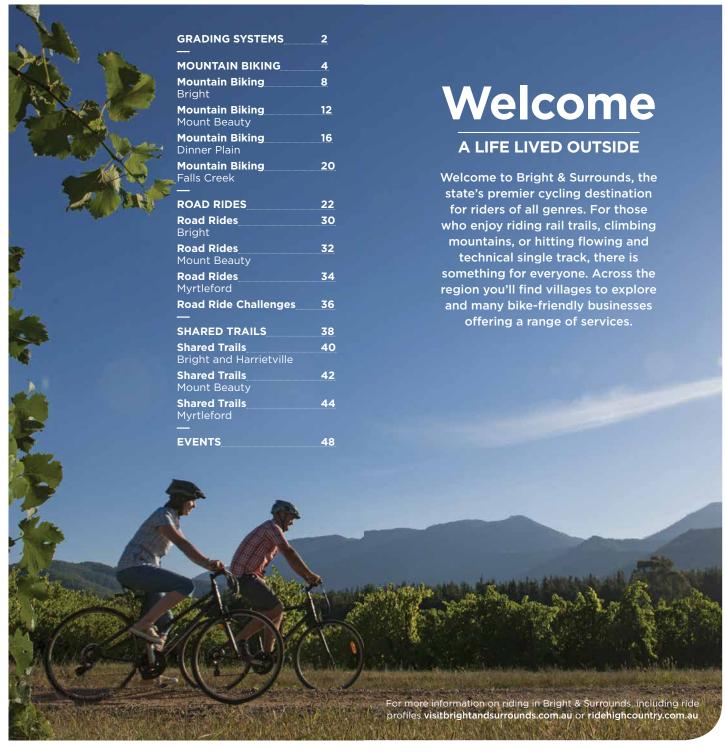
BRIGHT • DINNER PLAIN • HARRIETVILLE
MOUNT BEAUTY • MYRTLEFORD



#### **Cycle Guide**

A life lived outside

visit bright and surrounds, com. au



## Grading System (MTB and ROAD)



# Mountain Biking If you love single track, look no further than Bright & Surrounds. Fast becoming known as a major destination for keen mountain bikers, the region offers a multitude of mountain bike tracks to suit all levels of fitness and experience. Two renowned mountain bike parks, Mount Beauty's Big Hill Mountain Bike Park and

Find out more at **brightandsurrounds.com.au**, **ridehighcountry.com.au**, or drop in and have a chat to a local in a Visitor Information Centre or bike shop.

Bright's Mystic MTB Park offer an excellent range of trails and single tracks to suit all levels of ability. Falls Creek, Harrietville and Dinner Plain also have heaps to offer. Mountain bike hire and transport is available.

### Mountain Biking Code

Mountain Biking is a terrific way to explore the outdoors, but can also be a dangerous activity which may lead to injury and/or death.

- Always wear a helmet.
- Wear other protective clothing when appropriate.
- Ride with due care and within your ability.
- Anytime you ride a trail for the first time take it slow and exercise caution.
- Respect other users. Slow down, give way, say hello.
- DO NOT stop in trail blind spots or in the landing zones of jumps and drops.
- Ride on designated open trails only, respect trail closures and obey signage.
- Avoid riding severely wet trails.



#### **BRIGHT**

**MOUNTAIN BIKING** 

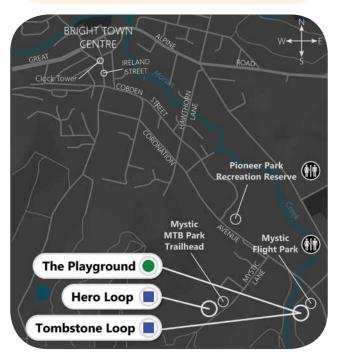
#### **Mystic MTB Park**

A nationally-regarded mountain bike riding destination, this park is renowned for its technically challenging trails through predominantly radiata pine plantation environment. Mystic MTB Park is located within easy riding distance of the centre of Bright. It currently offers a wide array of trails that feature machine and hand-built construction methods which have been developed by local volunteers. Trail experiences include traditional cross country, all mountain/gravity and downhill trails.

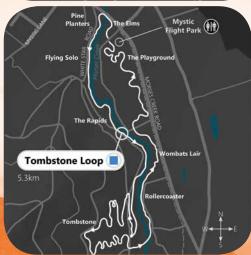
A number of trails feature gentle, sustainable gradients, while others feature steeper, more sustained gradients to cater to experienced, gravity-orientated riders. More challenging trails are generally placed in remote areas of the network, and beginner trails are located close to main trail heads.

For more information check out

alpinecommunityplantation.com.au and ridehighcountry.com.au, or drop in to one of the local bike shops or the Visitor Information Centre.









#### The Playground

Distance: 600m

A terrific, bi-directional undulating loop trail that is perfect for beginners to early intermediate riders. Start and finish at the Mystic Flight Park.

#### **Tombstone Loop**

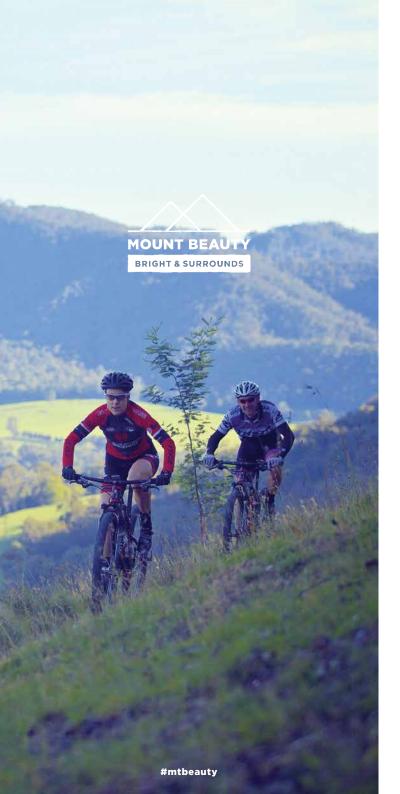
Distance: 5.31km

This loop starts at the Mystic Flight Park. Ride through The Elms, crossing over Dougherty's Bridge. Turn left onto Pine Planters and follow through to Flying Solo and The Rapids. When you reach Morses Creek Track turn left. Follow this until you turn right onto Jaynes Link, taking a hard left at the end and ascend to the start of Tombstone. Climb 50m of elevation over 800m on the machine-built flow trail until you get to the top, then take the flowing descent to the bottom. Keep descending to Morses Creek and cross via the swing bridge then turn left and follow Rollercoaster, Wombats Lair and The Playground back to Mystic Flight Park. This ride is part of a longer loop (Loop 5) in the Mystic MTB Park trail network.

#### **Hero Loop**

Distance: 8.04km

Starting opposite the Mystic MTB Park Trailhead on Mystic Lane, begin the ascent up Green Army, cross over Robinson Road and continue the climb up Grevid's way. At the top continue straight ahead and turn right onto Dam Track then left after a short distance onto Up DJ. When you reach Hazeldine Road, turn right and follow the road a short distance until you get to Hades on your left. Follow this all the way to the start of the Hero Trail. There, you will be rewarded for your efforts by the descent down the iconic Hero trail, which features numerous rollable tabletop jumps and huge berms. Classed as an intermediate flow/jump trail; the Hero trail has optional advanced trail features. This style of trail is unique to Bright and will take some adjustment for many riders. A slow speed scoping run of the trail is essential for all riders, and all riders are advised to progress your speed gradually. Given the gravity nature of the trail and potential for high speeds, the following safety equipment is the minimum recommended for all riders; full face helmet, gloves and knee pads.

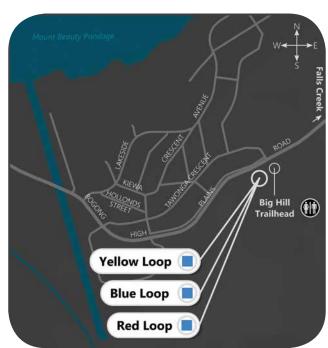


#### **MOUNT BEAUTY**

**MOUNTAIN BIKING** 

#### **Big Hill Mountain Bike Park**

The Big Hill Mountain Bike Park has over 40kms of top quality cross country and downhill trails suitable for beginner, intermediate and advanced riders. A cool off at one of the many swimming spots along the Kiewa River is a great way to end a day of riding.









#### **Yellow Loop**

Distance: 10km

Start in the Big Hill Mountain Bike Park car park and follow the yellow arrows up Survey Track, crossing Bogong High Plains Road. After the ascent, the route back to the start follows numerous tracks offering a range of styles.

#### **Blue Loop**

Distance: 7km

Start at the Big Hill Mountain Bike Park car park and follow the blue arrows around a loop of fast descents and sweeping bends.

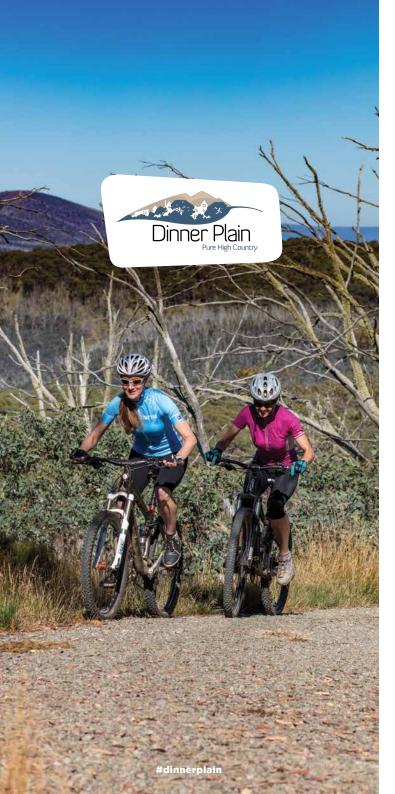


#### **Red Loop**



**Distance:** 9.3km

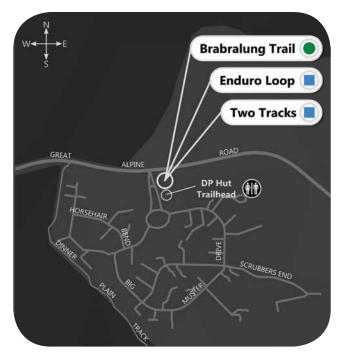
Start at the Big Hill Mountain Bike Park car park and head up the most popular entry trail into the park, the aptly named "Up Track". Follow the red marker onto Gully Track and The Labyrinth, through to Secret Track and up a nasty little pinch known as Power Up. The loop continues on along Ooh La La and Pole Track and drops riders onto the technical but fun trail The Claw. From The Claw head down Max, then up Dart Spur track and down 3rd Parrallel, one of Big Hills' all-time favourite descents. Hot Track, Harry's and the Dippers offer riders a variety of features before heading back to the car park via Rachel's Way.



#### **DINNER PLAIN**

MOUNTAIN BIKING

At an altitude of 1500m, Dinner Plain provides a unique mountain biking experience. Surrounded by the Alpine National Park, State Forests and the remnants of historic cattle stations, riders are taken through a landscape of sub-alpine forest, grassy meadows and wetlands. A number of easy crushed gravel trails weave their way around the village. However, to discover more, try one of the three popular rides below. All rides start at the DP Hut on Horseshoe Circle in the village centre. visitdinnerplain.com.au for more information.









#### **Brabralung Trail**



Distance: 12km one way

The Brabralung Trail follows an ancient pathway used by the First Peoples of the alps. This crushed gravel shared trail runs along the ridgeline with views of the ranges. Start at DP Hut, cross Horseshoe Circle and join the Brabralung, which runs to the right of the Community Centre. Follow it for 12km, then enter Hotham Heights via Davenport Drive to finish at The General, Arrange a pickup or return along the same route.

#### **Enduro Loop**



**Distance:** 7km loop

Start at DP Hut and head East on the Fitzy's Cirque shared trail. Follow Fitzy's for 300m, then exit onto a single track that forks to your left just past the water tower. Follow this track as it curves up then south through the village, crossing the car park at Scrubbers End to join the gravel shared trail on the other side. Continue on this trail for about 400m. then turn left on to Kenny's Trail. After about 50m take the right trail at the fork and descend the new switch back trail. on through the grassy plain and continue on the descending trail to the bridge crossing over the Victoria River. The trail follows the old access track until you reach the new switchback climb which then meets the Appian Way shared trail. Ride along this until you reach the Depot then re-join the gravel shared trail, turning right onto the trail that runs alongside the Great Alpine Road to return to DP Hut.

#### **Two Tracks**



**Distance:** 20km one wav

These two untamed 4WD tracks have a vertical drop of 565m through bushland down to Cobungra. Start at DP Hut and cross Horseshoe Circle to jump on the gravel Brabralung Trail that runs to the north of the Community Centre. Exit the Brabralung after about 450m and turn left onto Dinner Plain Track. Descend along Dinner Plain Track for 11km then turn left onto the Victoria River Track. Continue to drop for a further 8km until you reach the Victoria River crossing. If you're riding home, it's a tough 20km grind back the same way. Alternatively, 4WDs can access this area for pickups, or you can continue a further 2.4km out to the sealed Great Alpine Road to be picked up or ride the 19km back to Dinner Plain up the sealed highway.



#### **FALLS CREEK**

**MOUNTAIN BIKING** 

Falls Creek Mountain Bike Park boasts over 40+ km of machine-built singletrack winding through serene snowgums and brilliant alpine terrain. This is a destination for serious mountain biking but with a great all-abilities aspect. All trails start and finish in the resort and bike shuttles operate every weekend of the season. For the ultimate ride take the descent from the Summit to the Ticketbox – this is an unbroken 10km gravity trail with serious flow and finishes on the epic Flowtown.

For more information check out fallscreek.com.au





#### **SAFE TOGETHER**

As the number of bikes and cars on our roads increases, we all have a role to play when we head out on the road to be responsible every time.

We all have a responsibility to share the road. To ensure safety and maintain mutual respect, responsible cycling and driving is essential.

#### **SAFE CYCLING**

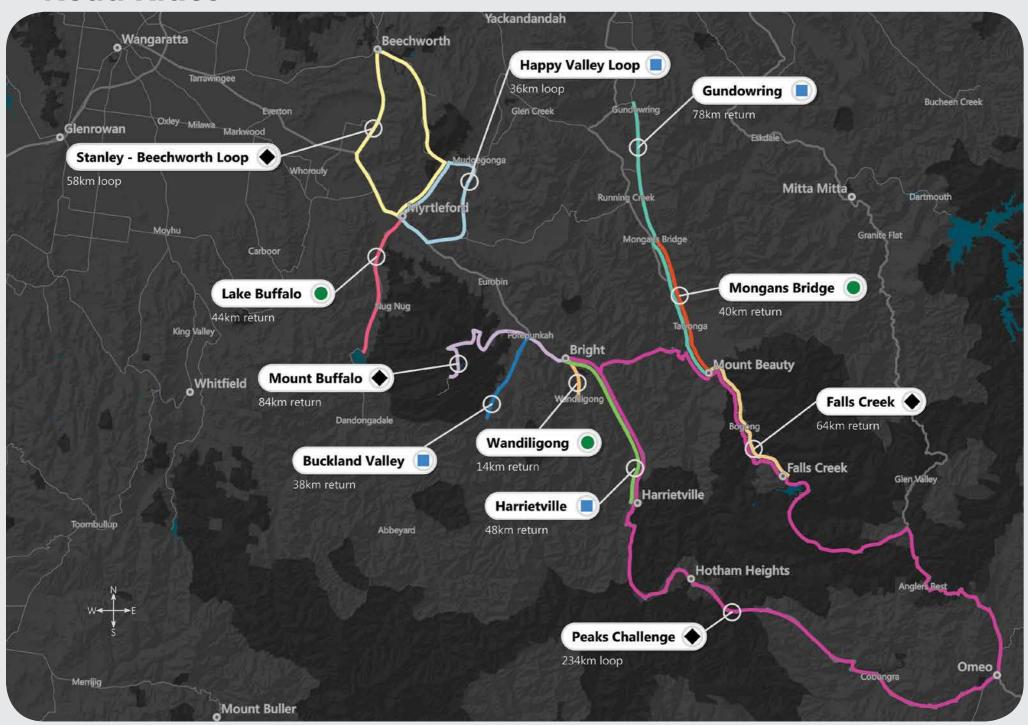
- Keep to the left of the road and allow clear passage for passing traffic.
- Wear a helmet, brightly coloured clothing and have lights on your bike.
- Be predictable and always indicate your intentions.
- Ride no more than two abreast and not more than 1.5 metres apart, be courteous if the road narrows and allow traffic to pass safely.
- Communication is the key signal or call your intentions and hazards to ensure your safety and the safety of those near you.

#### SAFE DRIVING

Just like motorists, cyclists are permitted to ride on the road. Here are some useful points to remember when driving:

- Be patient and cautious when driving near cyclists.
- Allow at least one metre clearance when passing cyclists.
- Check your mirrors before opening the car door.

#### **Road Rides**



### Road Rides

Bright & Surrounds offers some of the most challenging and stunning road riding in Australia. Riders come to conquer some of the biggest, longest and steepest mountain climbs in the country. Cyclists have several mountain summits to aim for including Mount Buffalo and Mount Hotham, which are generally tackled starting from Bright. Falls Creek is another challenge with Mount Beauty at the base as a popular departure point. The Omeo side of Falls Creek is ranked one of the hardest rides in the country. Omeo is also the starting point for the scenic ride up the back of Mount Hotham via Dinner Plain. Cyclists have several mountain summits to aim for including Mount Buffalo, Falls Creek, Mount Hotham and Dinner Plain. Each ride provides its own rewards and difficulty with popular departure points being Mount Beauty, Bright and Harrietville. See page 25 for road riding map or visit ridehighcountry.com.au for individual ride profiles.





#### **BRIGHT**

**ROAD RIDES** 

#### Wandiligong



Distance: 14km return

Starting at the clocktower in the centre of Bright, ride up to the top roundabout and turn left into Cobden Street, Follow Cobden Street, then take the right fork onto Coronation Avenue. Stay on Coronation Avenue as it veers left past the cemetery. Follow this south and out of town and onto Morses Creek Road and head out to heritage-listed Wandiligong. Ride on out to the end of the sealed section on Morses Creek Road, then turn around and ride back the way you came.

#### **Buckland Valley**

Distance: 38km return

Head out of Bright on Gavan Street/Great Alpine Road towards Porepunkah. Turn left at the big roundabout and follow the Buckland Valley Road through vineyards, orchards with views of Mount Buffalo. Ride to the end of the sealed section, or turn back at the Buckland Junction Bridge. This ride is suitable for beginners when started in Porepunkah.

#### **Mount Buffalo**



Distance: 84km return

This classic ride starts at the roundabout in Bright and heads along Gavan Street/Great Alpine Road towards Porepunkah. Go straight at the big roundabout onto Mount Buffalo Road to start the climb. 7 Peaks Passports can be stamped at the café or ranger station.

#### Harrietville

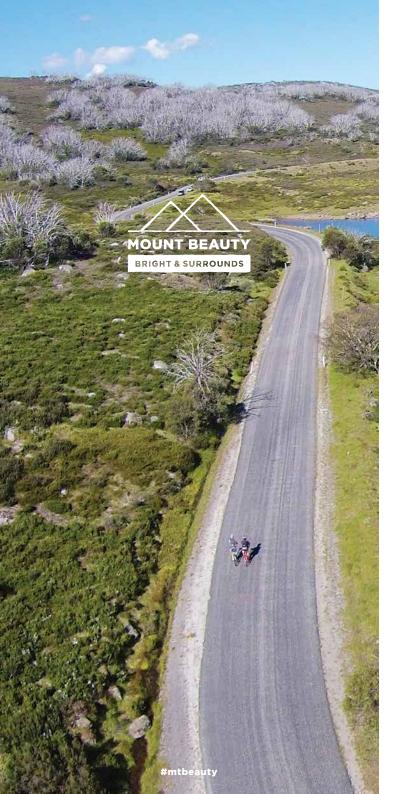


**Distance:** 48km return

Starting in Bright, this ride follows the Great Alpine Road gradually uphill to Harrietville.

If you are looking for a challenge and want to tick off another 7 Peaks ride, continue your ride from Harrietville to Mount Hotham. With an elevation gain of 1300m over 30kms and an average gradient of 4.2%, this ride is classed as double black.

Road Rides / 33



#### **MOUNT BEAUTY**

**ROAD RIDES** 

#### **Mongans Bridge**



Distance: 40km return

Starting in Mount Beauty this ride follows the Kiewa Valley Highway through Tawonga South towards Tawonga. Take the first right onto Redbank-Mongan's Road (about 7km from Mount Beauty) and continue through to Mongan's Bridge. Turn around and head back to town along the same route, or alternatively take the backroad into Mount Beauty. This is a good beginner's ride with minimal highway riding.

#### **Gundowring**



Distance: 78km return

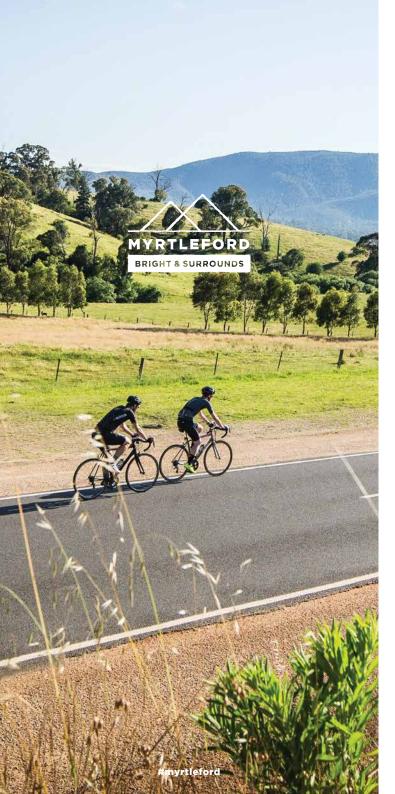
Head west out of Mount Beauty along the Kiewa Valley Highway toward Tawonga. Ride on through Tawonga South, then turn right at Redbank-Mongan's Road and follow it north through Coral Bank. This road becomes Mullagong Road and eventually Gundowring Road. Ride out to Gundowring and Arundel Lane, where you turn around and head back to Mount Beauty. If you are feeling fit and strong you might like to ride an extra 15kms north to the Hume Weir. The Hume Weir Ride is 110kms and features a few hills.

#### **Falls Creek**



Distance: 64km return

This classic road ride is one of Victoria's '7 Peaks' climbs. Leave Mount Beauty and immediately begin climbing towards Falls Creek along Bogong High Plains Road. Pass by Bogong Village, which was originally built to house workers for the Kiewa Hydroelectric Scheme. Continue climbing and you will pass Howman's Gap Alpine Centre. Upon reaching Falls Creek Village, be sure to get your 7 Peaks passport stamped at the Visitor Information Centre and then enjoy your ride back down the mountain.



#### **MYRTLEFORD**

**ROAD RIDES** 

#### Lake Buffalo Road Ride

Distance: 44km return

To start, leave the Myrtleford Visitor Information Centre and ride south along Buffalo River Road beside the western slopes of Mount Buffalo. Ride as far as you like, or all the way out to the lake before turning around and heading back into town. PLEASE NOTE: As some log haulage activity operates on the Buffalo River Road at various times through the year, please single up wherever possible and avoid stopping on bridges.

#### **Happy Valley Loop**

**Distance:** 36km

While involving more climbing than valley rolling, this is one of the most beautiful rides in the Ovens Valley. Leave the Myrtleford Visitor Information Centre and ride east along the Great Alpine Road for 5km to Ovens. After 5km turn left onto Happy Valley Road. After a kilometre of mostly flat warm up, there is 4km of gentle climbing to Carrolls Road. Turn left at Carrolls Road and climb for 1km. Then it is 10km of undulating road, past pine tree plantations and farmlands. When Carrolls Road ends at the Myrtleford-Yackandandah Road, turn left to take the 15km trip back to Myrtleford.

#### **Stanley - Beechworth Loop**



Distance: 58km

It is recommended to complete this loop anti-clockwise so that the climb is on the less-trafficked Stanley Road. Leave the Myrtleford Visitor Information Centre and ride north up the Myrtleford-Yackandandah Road. After about 10kms, turn left at Stanley Road. Continue through to Stanley and then on towards Beechworth, turning right towards the town centre, then left at Kerford Road to return to Myrtleford via Buckland Gap. The exhilarating descent begins 5.5kms later. Remember to use caution here as there are soft edges and often debris on the road. Roll down to the end of Buckland Road, then left at Great Alpine Road. It's a short climb over Taylor's Gap to enjoy the final 11kms back to Myrtleford.

# Road Ride Challenges ridehighcounrty.com.au

#### **Peaks Challenge**

◆◆ Distance: 234km

The Peaks Challenge provides cyclists with one of the world's toughest and most picturesque cycling challenges. Allow a full day to complete this ride. The 234km course is so epic it bears comparison to the most difficult stages in the Tour de France. It has three major climbs: Tawonga Gap, Mount Hotham and the beast that is the back of Falls Creek. Carefully assess the weather forecasts and carry any gear you may need. Much of the riding is very remote but there are some great places to stop in at Mount Hotham, Dinner Plain. Omeo and Falls Creek.



#### 7 Peaks

Victoria's 7 Peaks Ride is the ultimate Australian alpine ascent challenge. It's an at-your-own pace cycling experience which takes you up winding mountain roads, around steep turns and past incredible views right to the top of Victoria's Alpine Resorts.

Your challenge is to take on the most demanding road climbs in Australia which rival some of the famous Tour de France peaks. The 7 Peak are:

- 1. MOUNT HOTHAM
- 2. MOUNT BUFFALO
- 3. MOUNT BAW BAW
- 4. MOUNT BULLER
- 5. DINNER PLAIN
- 6. FALLS CREEK
- 7. LAKE MOUNTAIN

The 7 Peaks passport will be proof of your cycling prowess. if you stamp it along the way for every summit you successfully ride. You can tackle the 7 Peaks anytime from October until the end of March. 7peaks.com.au



#### **Murray to Mountains Rail Trail**

The Murray to Mountains Rail Trail is the perfect way to discover the diverse and ever-changing landscape of North East Victoria. Over 100kms of sealed off-road trails provides you with the perfect link between the tourist centres of Bright, Myrtleford, Wangaratta, and Beechworth. For more information

ridehighcountry.com.au

#### **Murray to Mountains Rail Trail**

- Myrtleford to Porepunkah

Distance: 24km

Starting in the centre of Myrtleford this section of the trail follows along the Great Alpine Road, passing by farmland and vineyards with views across to Mount Buffalo. End the ride in Porepunkah or continue another 6kms to Bright.

#### **Murray to Mountains Rail Trail**

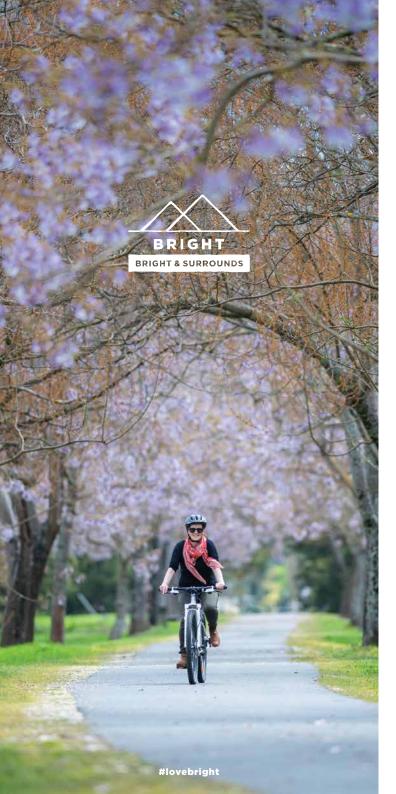
- Bright to Porepunkah

Distance: 6km

This portion of the Murray to Mountains Rail Trail is very child-friendly as it includes cafes and playgrounds along the way. Crossing the Ovens River over a 40m former railway bridge also makes for a highlight. Follow the trail from the rotunda in the centre of Bright out to Riverside Park in Porepunkah. An alternative route home is to turn left before crossing Prices Road in Bright and head down to a sealed path along the Ovens River. Turn right when you reach the river to end up at Howitt Park.



Shared Trails / 41



#### **BRIGHT**

SHARED TRAILS

#### Bennetts Trail - Bright to Wandiligong

Distance: 5.5km

Start at the rotunda near the clock tower in the centre of Bright and follow the signs to the Murray to Mountains Rail Trail. Upon reaching Railway Avenue, turn left and then right up Bakers Gully Road. Turn left onto Park Street and then follow Park Street as it turns into Coronation Avenue and Morses Creek Road before the trail leaves the road and follows Morses Creek to the playground at Alpine Park, Wandiligong.

#### **Bright - Harrietville Shared Trail**

(Stage 1: Bright to Germantown)

Distance: 5kms (one way)

Start at Howitt Park, following the west bank of Morses Creek past the Bright Splash Park and under Quinns Bridge. Turn right onto the sealed trail and cross over Morses Creek using the path on the south side of Quinns Bridge. Head along the south side of Great Alpine Road towards Harrietville until you get to the Germantown Bridge.

#### HARRIETVILLE

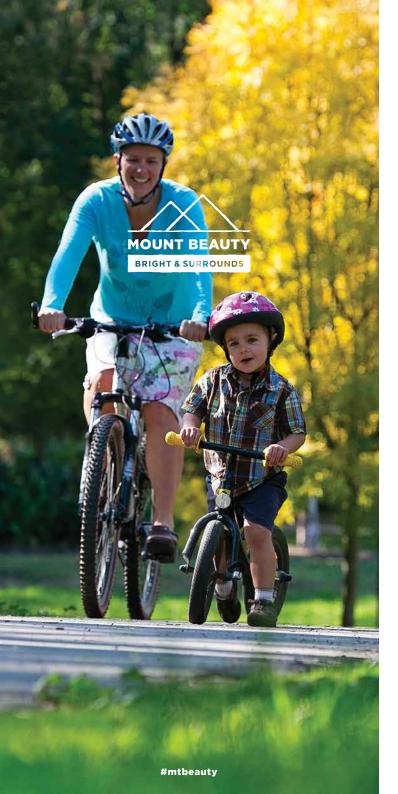
SHARED TRAILS

#### **Bright - Harrietville Shared Trail**(Stage 1: Harrietville to Stoney Creek Road)

**Distance:** 5kms (one way)

Start at Pioneer Park in the centre of Harrietville, cross over the river into Tavare Park and follow the trail towards Bright. Trail follows along the east side of the Great Alpine Road until you reach the mountain Fresh Trout & Salmon Farm, 5km out of Harrietville.

Shared Trails / 43



#### **MOUNT BEAUTY**

SHARED TRAILS

#### **Pebble Beach Trail**

Distance: 4km

The track starts at the commencement of Embankment Drive off the Bogong High Plains Road at the entrance to Mount Beauty. This sealed track crosses the Pondage spillway and then meanders along the west branch of the Kiewa River all the way to Pebble Beach. Enjoy lovely views towards Mount Bogong.

#### **Mount Beauty Pondage Trail**

Distance: 3km

Start from the Lakeside picnic and playground area and ride anti-clockwise following the path around the pondage wall. Follow the track over the spillway and continue along over the Tail Race Channel bridge, behind the Secondary College, the tennis courts, the Primary School, past the oval and back where you started.

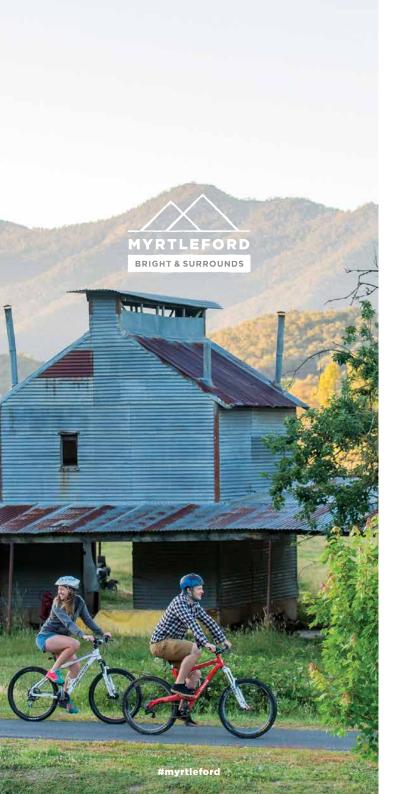
#### **Mount Beauty to Tawonga Trail**

Distance: 13.4km

This trail connects Mount Beauty, Tawonga South and Tawonga, passing a lookout which provides impressive views across the Kiewa River valley to Victoria's highest peak, Mount Bogong (1986m). This trail can be started at any point between Mount Beauty and Tawonga.



Shared Trails / 45



#### **MYRTLEFORD**

**SHARED TRAILS** 

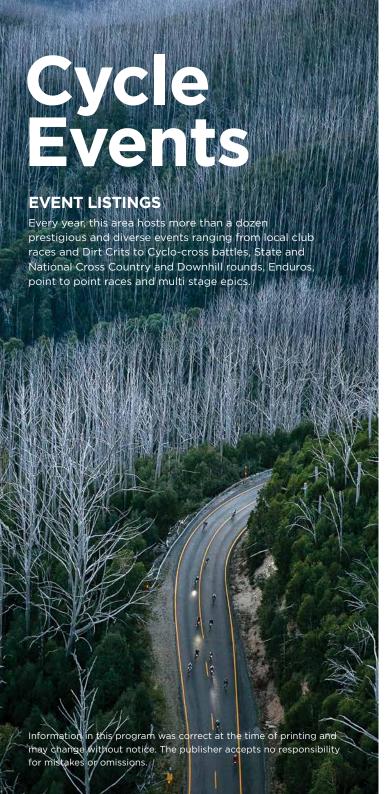
#### **Ovens River Trail**

Distance: 5.6km

This scenic loop can be started from within the Myrtleford township or be included as an addition to the Murray to Mountains Rail Trail. The main portion of the loop runs from Rotary Park and follows the Ovens River closely as it passes through native bush and crosses the river twice.







#### **JANUARY**

Audax Alpine Classic and Bonjour Bright Festival

#### **Bright**

alpineclassic.com.au

Dinner Plain Alpine

Enduro + Funduro

Dinner Plain

visitdinnerplain.com

MTB DeFemme

Falls Creek

fallscreek.com.au

#### **MARCH**

Peaks Challenge

Falls Creek

bicyclenetwork.com.au /peaks-challenge

High Country Charity Ride

**Bright** bdaracing.com

#### **APRIL**

Junior Mountain Climb Alpe d'Buffalo

#### **Mount Buffalo**

alpinecyclingclub.com.au /junior-mountain-champsalpe-d-buffalo



#### **JUNE**

Victorian Cyclocross Series Round 2

**Mount Beauty** 

tmb.org.au

Victorian Cyclocross Series Round 3

Bright

baseinbright.com.au

– RAMBO Mountain Bike

Race 5

**Bright** 

alpinecyclingclub.com.au

#### **SEPTEMBER**

Alfred 6 Hour Charity Mountain Bike Race

**Bright** 

alfred6hour.org.au

#### **OCTOBER**

Mitta to Mount Beauty Mountain Bike Challenge

> Mount Beauty tmb.org.au

McKayos Mountain Bike Gravity Enduro mckayos.com.au

#### **NOVEMBER**

Ignition MTB Event bluedirt.com.au

#### **DECEMBER**

Bright Brewery Tour of Bright

Bright

tourofbright.com.au

#### **EMERGENCY**

Police, Ambulance, Fire	000
SES	132 500

#### **HEATH SERVICES**

#### **Medical Centres**

با ما بم زير ت

Bright	03 5/50 1000
Mount Beauty	03 5754 3400
Myrtleford	03 5751 9900
Hospitals	
Bright	03 5755 0100
Mount Beauty	03 5754 3500

7 5750 1000

03 5751 9300

#### **INFORMATION**

Myrtleford

VicRoads - Road Closures	131 170
VicEmergency Hotline	1800 226 226
Parks Victoria	131 963

#### VISITOR INFORMATION CENTRES

Alpine (Bright) - Visitor Information Centre

A 119 Gavan Street, Bright.

T 1800 111 885

W visitbrightandsurrounds.com.au

#### **Myrtleford - Visitor Information Centre**

A Post Office Complex, Great Alpine Road, Myrtleford.

T O3 5755 O514

W visitbrightandsurrounds.com.au

#### **Mount Beauty - Visitor Information Centre**

A 31 Bogong High Plains Road, Mount Beauty.

T 1800 111 885

W visitbrightandsurrounds.com.au

#### **DAYS OF CODE RED FIRE DANGER**

Please note on days of forecast Code Red Fire Danger Rating, the Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning (DELWP) and Parks Victoria will close parks and forests (including state forests and National Parks) in the relevant weather district for public safety. For bushfire information please call the VicEmergency Hotline on 1800 226 226.



#### **Shared Trails**

