

The Tour

Participants will receive strip maps covering the tour. This is so everyone can travel at their own pace. Places of interest, suggested lunch stops etc. will be attached. Also extended routes [for those who want to put in the 'big' miles] will also be included.

Where possible, we have avoided the main highways, and all the roads are sealed. As March can be very hot, an early start is suggested if the temperature is going to be high.

AXEDALE ---- MANSFIELD (DAY 1)

Monday ---- Leave Axedale, and ride east along the McIvor Hwy towards Kilmore. Just short of Kilmore, turn off to Broadford, cross over the Hume Hwy, and head towards Strath Creek. From here, turn south to Flowerdale and stop at the pub. It is here that anyone who didn't go to Axedale can join the Tour.

From Flowerdale, we will ride to Yea for lunch. Yea has a good selection of cafes, bakeries and takeaways. We will continue on to Molesworth, where an alternative route is offered. This involves riding across to join the Maroondah Hwy, and from there, on to Alexandra, joining the main route just south of Yark. For the rest of the day we follow the main rd. [Maroondah Hwy] to Mansfield. We will cross the northern end of Lake Eildon. The tide has been out for some years now, but if you look at the old railway bridge at Bonnie Doon, you will see the high- water mark from many years ago.

Mansfield is the "Man from Snowy River Country." Apart from several festivals, the big influx of Tourists is during the Skiing season, and summer holidays. Mansfield sits at the bottom of the High Country, which we are going to ride over, on day two.

Total kms. 211
Extra loop, add 40 kms.

MANSFIELD-----HARRIETVILLE (DAY 2)

Tuesday ---- This section is one of the highlights of the tour. It has all you could ever hope for in a day's ride. There are tight corners, big sweepers, magnificent views, wineries, and for the historically minded, you are right in the middle of Kelly country.

We leave Mansfield, and ride over the Dividing Range via Tolmie, then onto Whitfield. We may have a stop at Power's Lookout. This involves 1-2 kms of gravel road, but well worth it for the view.

From Whitfield, we ride north towards Wangaratta, and turn off near Oxley. Then, continue on to Myrtleford, unless you decide to stop at Milawa and visit the wineries. Myrtleford will be our lunch stop. As in Yea, there is a wide selection of food from which to choose. On the afternoon ride to Harrietville, there are two possible routes.. For those selecting the shortest one, just follow the Oven's hwy to Bright. Then turn on to the Alpine hwy and proceed to Harrietville. For those who still haven't had

enough of the twisty stuff, turn left 5 kms out of Myrtleford and travel the Happy Valley Rd. [Hwy 180] This road ends at a 'T' intersection. Turn right on to the Kiewa Valley Hwy and ride towards Mt Beauty. At Tawonga Sth. we turn right, and head for Bright, over The Tawonga Gap. This is a great ride up and over the mountain. We meet the main rd.,(which is the Alpine Hwy) south of Bright. Turn left, and 18 kms will see you at Harrietville. Otherwise, turn right, and continue on to Bright, This is well worth a look, as it is a main Tourist destination.

Short route	200 kms
Long route	250 kms

PROPOSED RIDE/S FROM HARRIETVILLE. (DAY 3)

Wednesday morning ---- there will be a ride to the top of Mt Hotham. Approx 33 kms to the top. For those who want more, you can push on to Omeo, another 56 kms. An excellent run!

(A BBQ lunch will be provided back at the Harrietville Hotel, so get moving early if you're going to Omeo.)

Wednesday afternoon ----- there will be an organized ride to Mt. Beauty, and on to Falls Creek for those with the energy.

HARRIETVILLE-----LAKE HUME (DAY 4)

Thursday ---- Day 4, we will retrace our way over the Taronga Gap, and head north up the Kiewa Valley hwy to Kiewa .Here we turn off to Tangamballanga, and then onto the Murray Valley Hwy, turning right towards Corryong. We stay on this road, traversing the Granya Gap. At Granya, we come to a 'T' intersection where we turn left and head east to The Lake Hume Resort. If we have had a lot of rain, there may be more water under the bridge than shown in our promotional poster. This ride, being the shortest of all, means we should make it to the Resort for lunch, if we leave early.

Total kms 180 approx