

Wangaratta to Everton Trail Description

Trail Stages

- *Wangaratta to Bowser - 8 kilometres*
- *Bowser to Londrigan - 3 kilometres*
- *Londrigan to Tarrawingee- 8 kilometres*
- *Tarrawingee to Everton - 7 kilometres*
- *Wangaratta to Bowser - 8 kilometres*

Trail Description

The Trails start point in Wangaratta is at Apex Park, which is located across the Ovens River on the northern side of the Central Business District. An access route extends from the Wangaratta Railway Station along a street cycleway to the Apex Park for users coming into the region by train.

From Apex Park the trail passes under Ovens River Bridge and then proceeds along the levee bank to the outskirts of town. From the end of the levee bank the trail essentially parallels the Wangaratta Main Road (both old and new) to Bowser, crossing the Reedy Creek Bridge (canter lever bridge), passing the Vine Hotel and sportsground along the way. Trail is now quite visible as you travel along the Wangaratta Main Road towards Albury/Wodonga.

Bowser is not easily recognised and users will identify this locality by the two Radio Masts on the landscape located between Wangaratta Main Road and the Hume Freeway. The Hume Freeway (Rail Trail) underpass is located in Morrisons Road and once under the freeway users need to veer right into the rail reserve proper and the former Ovens Valley Railway Line.

Going

Trail is across flat ground in the main. Care should be taken when crossing roads.

Status

This section of trail requires some minor development from the Levee Bank, which will be completed in early 2003, a temporary route has established and is sign posted. Delay in completion this section of trail is due to funding not being part of the Murray to the Mountains Project; and due to the engineering effort required constructing canter lever bridges to cross the many water systems in and around Wangaratta; plus the need to construct a new trail to Bowser from scratch.

Amenities

Key amenities are as follows:

Toilets and shelter are located at Apex Park located near the Ovens River Bridge. Users should note these are the last public toilets between Wangaratta and Tarrawingee (17km) without riding to a nearby town.

The tourist information centre in Wangaratta is located at the corner of Tone and Handley Streets (See map) and is open seven days a week between 9am and 5pm. (03) 5752 1727.

Bicycle repairs and services are located in Wangaratta's CBD. Information about these is available in yellow pages, or from Wangaratta Visitor Information Centre. (03) 5752 1727.

Bowser to Londrigan – 3 kilometres Top

Trail Description

This short section of trail travels through flat tranquil open farmlands. Fleeting views of the Everton Hills and Alpine High Country may be had, and for the attentive, native wildlife, flowers and birds of the district may be seen. Of particular note is the Reedy Creek Bridge crossing, which is worthy of a stop and a photo. This 83-metre bridge has been re-decked in concrete and has handrails fitted. As a point of interest, this bridge has been engineered to be load bearing to allow fire-truck access should the need arise.

Londrigan Railway Station Site (or siding) no longer exists. It will only be recognised by a Station Sign, which has been erected to identify its true location. For those users wanting to explore the station site, it is located adjacent to the Wangaratta -Eldorado Road, which is the first bitumen road crossing past the Reedy Creek Bridge. A disused brick well is located nearby. The committee does intend to reinstate the siding as part of a community development program.

Going

Easy.

Status

Trail is sealed throughout.

Amenities

There are no amenities along this section of trail and users will need to ride to Eldorado or Tarrawingee for toilets, refreshments, or assistance.

Other Attractions

Eldorado

As the trail crosses the Wangaratta - Eldorado road some users may like to ride/walk to Eldorado and return along the Eldorado -Tarrawingee Road. This detour is about 14 kilometres (round trip) and is only recommended for more accomplished or more serious and experienced road riders only.

Londrigan to Tarrawingee – 8 kilometres Top

Trail Description

The trail travels through flat open farmlands and again is away from major roads. Trail crosses a couple of minor and dirt roads and care should be taken when crossing these. At the Tarrawingee Station site a Rail Trail Shelter has been erected and toilets, water and shade is available.

The location of the former platform is distinguishable by a number of small earth embankments on each side of the trail, one side for passengers and one side for goods to be off loaded. Located approximately 20 metres from the new shelter is a magnificent example of a lemon scented gum tree, definitely worthy of a photo and a smell. A small brick well can also be found on the southern side of the trail.

The committee are presently dealing with some fairly unfriendly weeds, Chilean needle grass, St Johns Wort in this location. Although in spring the reserve has some brilliant wildflowers, including some rare wild orchids.

Going

Easy

Status

Trail is now fully sealed. Until the trail is swept bicycle riders should take care.

Amenities

At the Tarrawingee Station site a Rail Trail Shelter has been erected and toilets, water and shade is available.

Tarrawingee to Everton – 7 kilometres Top

Trail Description

The trail is flat for the first part of the ride then users will see the ground rising to the Everton Hills and this should provide only a small challenge. As the Everton Station Site is reached the bush will start to close.