

South Australian Recreational Cycling Club Central Victorian and Goldfields Bicycle Tour

Depart Sunday 17th October 2021 for Castlemaine
Arrive back in Adelaide on Sunday 31st October with lots of happy memories.

Your committee has been working hard to design our annual October adventure. We hope you have a look through and if you want to come please book early. We had to change our plans due to the Melbourne Cup long weekend for Victorians, many of whom want to have a getaway. Also one of the caravan parks was being sold possibly due to the Covid lock-downs.

When you book, can you also please email to SARCCexec@gmail.com so we can have an idea of numbers. Numbers are not restricted on this trip.

You will need to book your own accommodation in one of the following caravan parks or something more up market if you prefer, in the following towns. Remember that the average minimum temperature at this time of the year is about 8° C. We got caught out on a Geelong trip in October with not bringing warm enough clothes.

We have members who stay in cabins, camp in a tent or bring their own caravan or camper trailer, the choice is yours. We try to gather every afternoon at about 5pm for a Happy Hour of chatting a drink or two and snacking as well as to hear instructions or ask questions about the following day's ride. We often do this in the BBQ area or camp kitchen or if the weather is fine and warm in the outdoors, where it is so much easier to hear the conversations. Please bring an outdoor chair.

Arrive 17th October depart Friday 22nd October (five nights)

BIG4 Castlemaine Gardens Holiday Park

1 Doran Ave (off Walker St), Castlemaine, Victoria

Phone 1300 472 762 or 03 5472 1125

<https://www.big4.com.au/caravan-parks/vic/goldfields/castlemaine-gardens-holiday-park>



Castlemaine to Maldon Rail Trail and Steam Engine

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We have planned four rides including the Maldon Rail Trail and choice of a return train ride hopefully steam engine. A ride out to Harcourt and to the Mt Alexander picnic area, a ride to the historic Fryerstown and Vaughan Springs and one out to Maldon and Mt Tarrangower via Newstead.

Some rides are long and some short. Plenty of MTB trails in the locality as well if you prefer to explore them unguided. There is also an historic house called Buda which is open 12 till 4 seven days a week and well worth a visit as well as goldfields walks if you want to do something not related to a bike.

Arrive Friday 22nd October depart Tuesday 26th October (four nights)

BIG4 Park Lane Bendigo

761 McIvor Highway, Junortoun, Bendigo 3551 Victoria

Phone: (03) 5449 3335

<https://www.parklaneholidayparks.com.au/bendigo/>



Typical happy hour



O'Keefe Rail Trail

We are planning a short road ride in the afternoon of our day of arrival. Other rides include the O'Keefe Rail trail in two parts (one requiring a drive to the start) and the Bendigo Creek trail out to the Crusoe Reservoir and the Botanic Gardens. There are also a lot of challenging MTB trails amongst the diggings here if anyone wants a challenge.

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Arrive Tuesday 26th October, depart Sunday 31st October (five nights)

Colac and Otway Ranges Caravan Park

490 Princes Hwy, Colac West 3250 VIC

phone: (03) 5231 5337

<https://www.colacotwaycaravan.com.au/>



Ride from Beech Forest down hill to Barongarook Hall



Ride a portion of this trail from Cobden to Naroghid

There will not be ride on the day we travel. Our first ride will be around Lake Colac and Lake Beeac visiting the town of Beeac for lunch.

Another ride will be on the Old Beechy Rail Trail from Beech Forest back toward Colac in a downhill direction This ride requires a car shuffle. An opportunity to ride around Lake Colac on the day we arrive as well. There are also two rides on the Timboon Rail Trail one starting from Lake Purrumbete and the other from Cobden. These two rides require a driving to the start. Once again there are MTB trails in the nearby Otway forest if anyone would prefer to ride them.



Lower part of the Timboon Railway from Cobden to Timboon

Sunday 31st October

Drive back home to Adelaide with many fond memories.