



Australian Cycling Holidays

Itinerary

South Gippsland Rail Trails

Cycle Tour 4 days

Day 1: Cowes to San Remo 24 km cycle.

Route Overview On cycle paths for most of the day. Some quiet roads along the beach front where you will find many hidden bays and beaches. In the afternoon, you cross over the Phillip Island bridge to San Remo.

Meet the Australian Cycling Holidays team at Cowes Waterfront Jetty, right in the middle of Cowes, at 10:30 am. Bikes are fitted, maps provided, routes explained, your luggage is collected for delivery to the hotel, and then you're off!

This morning's cycle takes you through the original bushland of Roberts Reserve where there are many wallabies, birds and even koalas. See the old Oast Houses where chicory was dried before we had coffee in the colony. Have some fun at Amaze'n'Things and check out the Koalas at the Koala Park.

Continue along the quiet roads with beach and headland views to cross the bridge at Newhaven. Take a walk along the beach at Woolamai where millions of shearwaters nest each year.

At San Remo take a walk or a cycle to the back beach to see the entrance to Westernport or just enjoy some Fish and Chips!



Day 2: San Remo to Wonthaggi, 27km + opt 12km side trip to Woolamai on Rail Trail.

Route Overview Today is all on bicycle paths. Cycle with spectacular views to Westernport Bay join the Bass Coast Rail Trail and cycle right to Woolamai. Retrace your path and enjoy the cycle over the century old trestle bridge at Kilcunda and through the wetlands to Wonthaggi and the State Coal Mine.

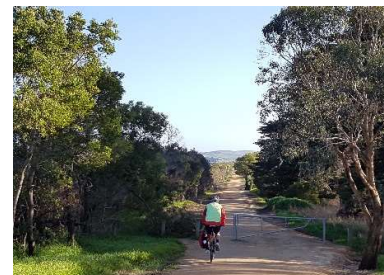
After breakfast, you cycle out of San Remo towards Anderson on the cycle path. You have views of the beautiful Westernport Bay all the way along. There are quite a few vista points! Take care on the steep parts of this path which may require a short walk at times.

At Anderson, there is a picnic table where you can stop for a break. From here you can turn left and head downhill to Woolamai. It is 6kms to the end of the Rail Trail and the Woolamai country race course. Return to Anderson. Or you can simply turn right and cycle towards Wonthaggi. You will have stunning beach and country scenes as you ride along.

At Kilcunda there is the wonderful George Bass Coastal walk which wanders along the headlands. The walk is 7km long (14km return). The first part is rideable and its really worth doing just the start on your bikes. There are many headlands and beaches to see along the way. You can walk as little or as much as you like.



Have some lunch in Kilcunda at the General Store where they specialise in local produce. Then head across the stunning century old Bourne Trestle bridge and through the wetlands to Wonthaggi. Take a tour of the State Coal Mine where you can go under ground. Meet us at Taberner's Whalebone Pub for your transfer to Leongatha.



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Day 3: Leongatha to Fish Creek, 35km

Route Overview A lovely ride on the Great Southern Rail Trail. Today you cycle through the rolling dairy farms and past wetlands with many birds. Take time to explore Koonwarra. Have a picnic at Buffalo

On Day 3 you take off on the Great Southern Rail Trail. This wonderful journey on the old railway line, built in 18890, takes you through farmlands, bush and arty country towns – all well away from the roads!

Koonwarra is a lovely spot to stop and explore the shops. It is the home of the slow food movement and a favorite amongst cyclists on the trail. Then you cycle through the beautiful Black Spur over the trestle bridges. Listen for the frogs.



Meeniyan has just been named small town of the year with its craft shops and Cafes. It is good spot to stop for lunch. You now cycle through the tee trees, past the lakes and dams and Stony Creek racecourse to Buffalo which has a playground and a nearby Emporium full of local history and an icecream!

Fish Creek is home to the Fishy Pub a 1930's Art Deco building, many art galleries and a well-loved playground.

Day 4: Fish Creek to Port Welshpool rtn Welshpool, 42km

Route Overview Today its over the Hoddle Range and down the hill with sweeping views of Wilsons Prom and Corner Inlet. Then you cycle through flat dairy country with views of the southern Strzelecki's through the old towns of Toora and Welshpool to Port Welshpool home to long jetty and a thriving fishing industry.

This morning it's up the hill and over the Hoddle Range. You will have sweeping vews across to Wilsons Promontory and Quiet Corner as you drop down the range to Foster. There are trees and ferns to enjoy along the way.

You are now onto the flats and the riding is fast especially if you have a tailwind! You quickly reach Toora, a great little town with lots of historic buildings. It is the town that time forgot. It has a park, cafes and is a good spot to stop for lunch or a drink.

Then its across the dairy farms with the space age windmills towering above you on the bald hills. These cows have the best view in the world. Welshpool is a laid back little place and here you start final ride to Port Welshpool. Port Welshpool is home to the Long Jetty, great views to Snake Island, Corner Inlet and Wilsons Prom.



Port Welspool is very popular with the boaties who go out fishing all year but especially during the summer months. I am told it has the best Fish and Chips in the world! Enjoy them. Return to Welshpool for a final coffee or a milkshake with us before you head home on the bus.



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