

Central West Cycle Trail Trip Notes (clockwise) v3

9 November 2024

By Central West Cycle Trail Inc

[Central West Cycle Trail](http://centralwestcycletrail.com.au)



NOTE: Explaining directions verbally can at times be difficult, if you have corrections or improvements to the instructions, please forward to info@centralwestcycletrail.com.au. It is advised that you also have some form of maps to cross check with the notes to assist in making your way around the CWC. A double check never goes astray.



Around the trail you will see this signage – the white arrow is for following the trail in a clockwise direction, and the black for anticlockwise direction. The signs are not so closely spaced that you could do the trail without notes and/or maps but are placed at critical turning points to make navigating the trail easier and provide reassurance.

1. Mudgee to Gulgong (30 Km)

Cycle out of town in a westerly direction along the Castlereagh Highway. About 2.4 kilometres from the Post Office turn right. Cycle along the quiet Wilbetree Road with its pastoral landscape of early settlement along the Cudgegong River. You will cross the Wilbetree Bridge (9.4km) and continue straight. The sealed road will soon change to gravel.

At a T intersection turn left (18.7 km) along the Canadian Lead Road, an old gold mining landscape. This gravel road will continue right to Gulgong. At the next T intersection, with Mayne Street (28 km) turn left and cycle up to the shops of Gulgong. At Herbert Street intersection turn left and travel one block to the Post Office.

Stroll around the town centre and visit the many museums. The Holtermann Museum in Mayne Street is strongly recommended and a world class exhibition.

Mudgee and Gulgong offer a myriad of accommodation both in hotels, motels, and Bed & Breakfasts. Contact the [Mudgee Visitors Information Centre](#).

2. Gulgong to Goolma (31 km)

Continue your cycle south-west along Mayne Street past the Holtermann Museum and down the hill. You will leave the town behind you. When you reach a main intersection, a round-a-bout with Fisher Street, go straight through. You are now on Goolma Road which can be busy at times, so travel carefully. Continue about a km, past the small hospital on the right until you reach Spring Ridge Rd.

Turn right into Spring Ridge Rd. Continue straight along and this unsealed road leads you past the large solar farm. Continue straight on, mainly down-hill and you will reach the tiny settlement of Beryl.

Straight ahead you can see the lovely timber bridge over the Wialdra Creek. Cross the bridge and turn immediately left onto Mebul Road. You have now travelled about 11 km with 20 km to go to Goolma. Continue your cycle on a lovely level rural unsealed road beside the Cudgong River for a time. Check out the river for a picnic or a swim. Ignore any side roads. After 10 km you will cross a concrete culvert, then continue straight and pass by an intersection with Wrights Lane. Continue straight on. In another 7 km you reach the T intersection with Goolma Road. You are now 3 km from Goolma.

Goolma Road is a busy highway. But just before you reach this junction there is a small clearing with a small dam on your right. You can take a rough path past it, along a side-track to miss about a kilometre of the main road.

Turn right onto the Goolma Road, taking care, and cycle down to the village of Goolma.

At **Goolma** you will find a very small settlement with a public toilet, hall, a few houses, and a hotel, though presently closed. The Goolma Hall is managed by the Goolma Amenities committee. The black tank on the Goolma hall has a tap and you can get **rainwater** there to fill any water bottles. There is an **e-bike recharging** point at the Goolma Hall – cost a gold coin donation.

You can also use the hall if you make prior arrangements for a donation of \$20. The hall has a kettle and good tap water - a great place for a group to get out of the weather and have the comfort of table and chairs. Call Leslie Tink on 63740220 or mobile 0427 740 220. Best to do this at least the night before so she can arrange the key. People arrange to camp at the Hall which has kitchen and provides good shelter. Bring your own sleeping bag and mat.

Goolma At Goolma is the "Cottage at Goolma" which can be found on [AirBnB](#), or by searching under Goolma, NSW, and is listed as "Historic Cottage in the Central West" or email Louise at mitchellpether@bigpond.com The cottage accommodates 6. Meals can be supplied by Jean as a cooked meal, or a hamper. This is within 1.5km of the Goolma village and is great place to start and finish the ride.

For bush camping - When you reach Goolma, just beyond the old Goolma Hotel (presently closed) and you will see a picnic table on your left. A few more hundred metres in the same direction and you will see a driveway into the bushland camping on your right. This is a

Camping Reserve and backs onto the Goolma Creek. However, there are no facilities there except the peaceful bush setting.

3. Goolma to Wellington (49km)

Leave Goolma cycling down (south) Gorries lane. It is a quiet unsealed road. After 5 km turn right onto the Uamby Road. The road makes a slow descent towards the Cudgegong River. On reaching the property Uamby you will begin a gentle ascent to Twelve Mile Rd following Uamby Ck. You should be able to find an occasional picnic spot.

There are many cattle grids along the way – so take care! Follow this road ignoring any side-tracks for around 12 km until you come again to a 'T' intersection; turn right onto the Twelve Mile Road. Follow this road, ignoring any side-tracks. Just as the sealed road starts there is a road heading north (Gunagalderie Rd) which leads to high-end glamping at the property **Budgalong, Spicers Creek**, contact Nick Sutherland on (+61) 437 866 285 or go to the Budgalong [website](#). Continuing on the now sealed Twelve Mile Road you will come to a 'Y' intersection with the Mudgee-Goolma Road. Keep left onto this road, taking care as it can be quite busy, and cycle about 3 km down the hill. You will soon reach the Mitchell Highway. Turn left and you have arrived in the main street of Wellington, Lee Street (which is part of the Highway).

You will cross over the Macquarie River Bridge and you are now in the main shopping street of Wellington. To your right you will pass a lovely Cameron Park beside the Bell River. At the round-about at the intersection with Maughan Street you turn right across the Bell River and past the beautiful large Pioneer Park. You are now on the Wellington-Geurie leg described below.

Wellington: offers a myriad of accommodation both in hotels, motels, camping and Bed & Breakfasts. *Wellington Visitor's centre*. Some favourites include the Bridge Motel, the Lion of Waterloo hotel, and the Cow and Calf Hotel.

4. Wellington to Geurie (30km)

This journey has an easy section at the end but starts with a challenging hill. Leave Wellington by turning west out of Percy Street (its name in that section of the main street) into Showground Road, crossing the Bell River. This road soon becomes Bushrangers Creek Road at a T intersection with Renshaw-McGirr Way.

Go straight and follow Bushrangers Creek Road will soon start to ride over Mount Arthur and down onto the river plain beyond. At the beginning of the rise, if you have some energy to spare, there is a nature trail on your right: The Mount Arthur Nature Trail. Cycle along Bushrangers Creek Road up and over Mount Arthur, and onto the end. When you pass a 'T' intersection with Zaia's Lane, go straight on, but the road's name now changes to be called River Road. Now it wends its way along the Macquarie River.

After many bends in the road, you arrive at another 'T' intersection with Arthurville Road. Turn right onto Arthurville Road. You will cross the Macquarie River on another picturesque old timber truss bridge, and you are now just 4 km from Geurie.

Continue straight and the road becomes Mitchell Street at the town limits, pass the Bald Hill Reserve then downhill into the village of Geurie. Here you will be greeted by the sight of the old town and its wheat silos.

5. Geurie to Dubbo (28 km). (If you are not travelling into Dubbo, go to 7 below)

The easiest route from Geurie to Dubbo is via the 'Old Dubbo Road'.

After a coffee, cycle back up Chambers or Douglas Street and turn right into Wellington Street. Cycle along Wellington Street until you reach the 'T' intersection with Old Dubbo Road.

Turn left into the Old Dubbo Road and travel approx. 29 km to the 'Tracker Riley Cycleway' where Margaret Crescent meets Old Dubbo Road. About 9 km of this road is a good gravel road, then it is sealed.

This road is an old Cobb & Co route through Eschol and Butlers Falls. Look out for the pioneer's cemetery to your left on Angle Road. Take care as there will be more traffic as you approach Dubbo.

From there travel to your accommodation.

Dubbo: offers a myriad of accommodation both in hotels, motels, and Bed & Breakfasts. Contact the [Dubbo Visitors Information Centre](#).

6. Dubbo to Wongarbron approx. 20km

Depending on where your accommodation is, find your way to Myall Street and cycle east away from the city centre. This road morphs into Whitewood Road, and you continue along this way until you reach an intersection with Peachville Rd, turn right.

Cycle along Peachville Rd until you reach the next road, Pinedale Street, and turn left. Cycle along Pinedale until you reach Torwood Road. Turn right into Torwood. (You are now about 9.1 Km from Wongarbron).

Cycle south along Torwood Road until you reach a 'T' intersection with Eulomogo Road and turn left into it. With a few twists you follow Eulomogo Road all the way until you almost reach the rail line, then turn left into Railway Lane that takes you into Wongarbron.

See below for notes on Wongarbon refreshments.

7. Geurie to Wongarbon 12 km (if not going to Dubbo)

There is a very quiet unsealed road close by the railway from Geurie to Wongarbon.

From Geurie cross over the highway to the north-east side. Cycle NW out of town towards Dubbo along Narragal Street beside the rail line, which becomes Deep Creek Road at the edge of town. Follow this road until you turn right into Albion Hills Road. (Don't go left under the railway pass).

Albion Road then turns up a hill and, while a little steep, provides excellent long-distance views of the countryside. At the top turn left into Red Hill Road and follow it back down the hill and along the Railway Street into Wongarbon.

There is Ploughman's Rest Tavern in the centre of the Wongarbon for refreshments but check hours. Also, Suzie's café adjacent the Wongarbon Post Office/Gratton Gallery (0422615945) makes cyclists a great morning tea or coffee, with scones, prior booking essential! Suzie also has a small B&B, suitable for 4, the 'Peppertree Cottage', and there is more accommodation nearby on Barbigal Road at Billy O' Bush Retreat.

8. Wongarbon to Ballimore (35 km)

The roads are generally easy level cycling to Ballimore along quiet roads. Cycle to the back to Wongarbon via Barbigal Street until you reach Westella Road. Turn right. Cycle along Westella until you reach Firbank Road, a right-hand fork, and then follow this road until you reach Geurie Road.

Turn left into Geurie Road. Follow this road until you again reach Westella Road. Turn right into Westella Road, a sealed road and cycle along this road until you reach Ballimore Road at a 'T' intersection. Turn left into Ballimore Road and cycle to the end of this road.

There you will intersect with the Golden Highway. Carefully cross straight over the Highway and railway line and almost straight away, turn left into Federation Street. The Ballimore pub is about 400 m down Federation Street on your right.

Ballimore offers camping and hotel room accommodation at their pub 'The Hair of the Dog'. For accommodation also contact the [Dubbo Visitors Information Centre](#).

9. Ballimore to Mendooran (54 km)

You probably stopped at the pub for the night or just refreshments, so cycle back along Federation Street and turn left into Goan Creek Road. Follow this road and after about 17 km it changes its name into Brennan's Trail as it enters the Goonoo Forest.

This is a National Park reserve and is lightly forested with Eucalyptus, Cypress and Casuarinas. You should see plenty of birds such as Glossy Black Cockatoos, Speckled Warbler and possibly lizards such as dragon lizards. But the Goonoo has patches of loose sand and stony outcrops. It can also be very muddy after rain. A mountain bike is ideal, or a hybrid with wider tyres.

Continue along Brennan's Trail until you reach an intersection, then turn right into Frost Trail. Follow this till you reach Mount Carl Trail then turn left. Then cycle north along Mount Carl Trail going past Starkey's, Withers and Garling Trail on your left and past Spring Creek on your right. Eventually after 38 km in total you reach the intersection with Forest Road. Forest Road is a sealed road with light traffic: take care and turn right. Cycle approx. 16.5 km into Mendooran.

You will meet the intersection with the main street of Mendooran, Bandulla Street, with the Royal Hotel on the north-east corner of the intersection. Just west of the hotel is the Castlereagh River.

Mendooran accommodation includes the Royal Hotel plus free Caravan and Camping on the Castlereagh Riverbanks. There is also Ana's B&B. For a good breakfast, and a packed lunch to take on your way, go to Crackez Bakery in Mendooran.

10. Mendooran to Dunedoo 53 km (via Digilah).

Cycle out of town east along the main street, Bandulla Street. Take great care as this road is also the Castlereagh Highway and can have fast traffic. Cycle 18 km on this the highway until you reach Wongoni Road and turn left into it, across the railway line.

You will now cycle through an open rural landscape, with spaced eucalyptus trees, and some modest climbs. Wongoni Road then where Digilah Road enters at a T intersection some 5.7 km further on. Going straight ahead follow Digilah Road passing some small settlement house and a low-level crossing. This pleasant route has rocky outcrops, cypress trees and long pastoral views, moving into denser bushland.

Continue and eventually you reach a T intersection with Bullinda Rd on the left; turn right and continue on Digilah Rd. After 33 km from Mendooran you reach the historic property of Digilah. You will have a good view of the historic woolshed. Crossing the creek keep straight on and pass by Lockerbie Road and later Keswick Road on your left. Finally, the road turns back southwest, and you reach Sullivan Street on the outskirts of Dunedoo. Cycle along Sullivan Street (which runs parallel to the highway) and after 1.2 km and a few town blocks you reach the main street of Bolaro Street. Turn right and cycle into Dunedoo.

Dunedoo accommodation includes Hotel Dunedoo and there is a motel and a Caravan Park. Also, there is several B&B's including Sharon Nott's Caddy Shack, The Rose Cottage and farm stays in the district. Contact the Warrumbungle Visitor's centre.

10.a Mendooran to Dunedoo via Cobbora (alternate route) 63km

Cycle out of town east along the main street, Bandulla Street. Take great care as this road is also Castlereagh Highway and can have fast traffic. Cycle 11 km on the highway until you reach Merrygoen and turn right into Cobbora Road. Follow Cobbora Rd for 27km to Cobbora Station, located at the edge of town. At Cobbora groups wanting morning tea, lunch or afternoon tea should prebook with Sally Dent (mobile 0498 542 689) of Cobbora Station. Continue through the township of Cobbora and turn right onto the Golden Highway. Follow the highway for 700m and turn left into Avonside West Rd. Avonside West Rd in wet weather can have road closed sign for vehicular traffic due to an area of bogging. Follow Avonside West Rd for 10km and turn left into Avonside Rd. Follow Avonside Rd for 12km and turn right into Rhodes St, a delightful, treed street. Turn left into Caigan St and then right into Bolaro St (main street of Dunedoo) and proceed east into town.

For those you want to avoid any highway there is the private road just south of Mendooran that provides that facility. Permission for its use can be arranged, and a detailed map provided by David Allworth (mobile: 0408 726 038 or email: djallworth@gmail.com) or Mick Cooper.

11 Dunedoo to Gulgong (50-60 km)

Cycle east along the main street, Bolero Street, of Dunedoo. As the main road turns left, you turn right into Wargundy Street. This road leads you south out of town and after just a few kilometres morphs into Tucklan Road. This can have fast traffic from time to time so take care. This is an undulating road with some stiffer climbs, light traffic and good rural views.

You meet the Birriwa Road on your left (about 13 km). Turn left into Birriwa Road and follow this quieter road for about 6 km to the very small village of Birriwa, situated on the Castlereagh Highway.

From Birriwa: when you reach the highway turn left and travel only about 200 m north. Take care as you cross over the highway and turn right into Birriwa Bus Route South Road.

Travel along this unsealed road a short distance and you come to a rough junction with a rubbish tip on your right, continue straight ahead.

If you would like a lovely break on a farm for morning or afternoon tea, lunch or just for fresh water and a farm tour, you can stop off at 'Mayfield' at 591 Bus Route South. It is just a few kilometres along the Bus Route South Road from Birriwa. Call Sue or Geoff before you set out to make arrangements on 63758291!!

Leave Mayfield and continue along Bus Route South Road. The road here can be sandy but is generally well graded with some excellent distance rural views, good shade and bird life

such as groups of Galahs, Choughs, Magpies. Cycle on and you will reach a 'T' intersection, turn right onto the Merotherie Road. After 2 km you will pass a motor cross park called Free Flight Moto. Birrakalla Road will enter Merotherie Road from the left 1.4 km further on.

Continue straight on towards Gulgong and the road becomes Barneys Reef Road where Merotherie Road and Barneys Reef Road merge at a Y junction. Barney's Reef Road to Gulgong is a quiet sealed road and an old Gold Mining area. Continue straight on and you will enter the town on Medley Street. Cycle a few blocks to Mayne Street then turn left. This is the main street of Gulgong.

Alternative route: backtrack to the 'rubbish tip' and take the more challenging route via Slap Dash Creek. Cycle south past the rubbish tip (on your left) and continue on back road along the course of the Slap Dash Creek, which is not trafficable in parts. For the next 14 km you will cross the creek several times and hopefully spot many birds, kangaroos, wallabies, stray sheep or even a goanna. Yucca Plants near the road are remnants of the old coaching days. The bushland is thick with cypress pines as you cross over the hill that was Barney's Reef. You reach the end of the nature trail and the sealed Barney's Reef Road. Turn right and continue for 15 km into Gulgong.