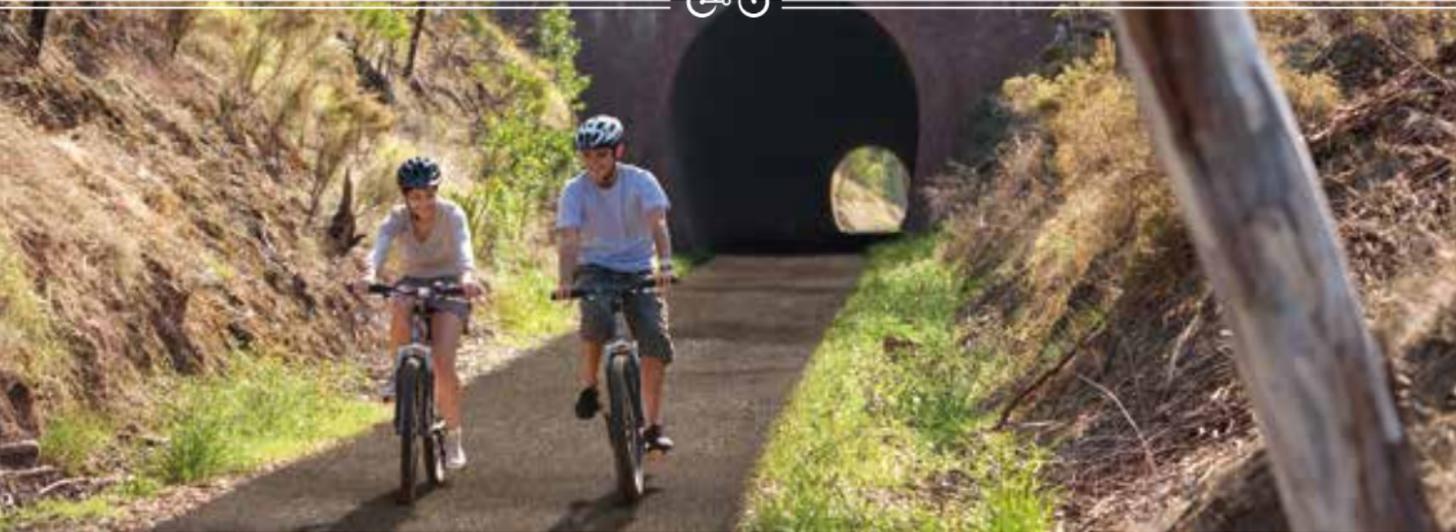


Australia's  
**LONGEST RAIL TRAIL**



**.GREAT VICTORIAN.  
RAIL TRAIL**



**CREATE**  
*your*  
**OWN**  
**STORIES**



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## BIKE TO BRIDGE

Ride the 22km from Mansfield to Bonnie Doon.  
\$55 per person, includes bike hire and transfer.

t 03 5775 2724 e [atc@allterraincycles.com.au](mailto:atc@allterraincycles.com.au) a 58 High St, Mansfield VIC 

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# The RAIL TRAIL EXPERIENCE



This easily accessible, varied and unique rail trail offers close proximity to heritage classified rivers, majestic valleys, lakes and mountains. The trail is Australia's longest continuous rail trail, with Victoria's longest rail trail tunnel at Cheviot. The trail spans 134 kilometres from Tallarook, through Yea to Mansfield, with a spur line linking Cathkin and Alexandra.



## The EXPERIENCE



Located less than one hour from Melbourne, the trail travels through beautiful countryside following the heritage classified Goulburn River at Tallarook and passes through the Trawool Valley, classified by the National Trust for its scenic beauty.



You can take a ride through the historic 201 metre long Cheviot Tunnel and explore the old Alexandra Station with its Timber Tramway and Museum.

The rail trail meanders through farmland, crossing over Lake Eildon at the Brankeet Arm, on its way to the Victorian High Country, Mt Buller and neighbouring Mt Stirling. You could choose to begin or end your journey at the Information Centre in Mansfield.

With plenty of Australian wildlife out and about it's your chance to get up close to echidnas, wallabies, kangaroos and native birds in their natural surroundings.

Towns and villages along the way offer unique experiences and places to explore, including historic landmarks and buildings, art galleries, museums, food and wine, shopping and markets.

Whether you're seeking adventure or looking to get back to nature, the Great Victorian Rail Trail is for you.



### RAIL TRAIL FACTS

|                |                        |                |                |
|----------------|------------------------|----------------|----------------|
| <b>Length:</b> | 134 km                 | <b>Grade:</b>  | Mostly flat    |
| <b>Track:</b>  | Chert or granitic sand | <b>Start:</b>  | Where you like |
|                |                        | <b>Finish:</b> | Where you like |



# The TOUR MAP



Suitable for cyclists, walkers and horse riders, the trail traverses rolling pastures, and travels along the majestic gum-lined Goulburn River, providing stunning views of the Victorian countryside and magnificent High Country.

Gentle gradients along much of the trail make it suitable for most fitness levels. You can tackle the entire trail from either direction, or pick a short section starting at one of the many towns or car parks.



# TRAIL FEATURES

There are so many reasons to explore the Great Victorian Rail Trail.



Heritage classified  
**GOULBURN RIVER**



**MAGNIFICENT HIGH COUNTRY**  
surrounding Mansfield



**AUSTRALIA'S LONGEST**  
continuous rail trail



**SHARED PATHWAY**  
for cyclists, walkers  
and horse riders



**CHEVIOT TUNNEL**  
built in 1889, the longest  
rail trail tunnel in Victoria  
stretching 201 metres in length



**39 NEW BRIDGES**  
and many original  
railway bridges repaired  
or replaced



**THE TRAWOOL VALLEY**  
classified by the  
National Trust for its  
scenic beauty



**EXCELLENT ACCESSIBILITY**  
via road and rail along  
the length of the trail, choose  
a section of trail or complete  
the full 134 kilometres



**TOWNS AND VILLAGES**  
along the way; historic  
landmarks and buildings;  
stories and myths; art  
galleries; museums; food  
and wine; shopping; markets  
and accommodation



**DIVERSE LANDSCAPES**  
and plenty of  
Australian wildlife



**MAGNIFICENT SCENERY**  
offering an amazing array  
of natural features such as  
rivers, lakes, ranges and  
mountains



**17 REST STOPS**  
with amenities and  
car parks along  
the trail

# HISTORY AT A GLANCE

**1873:**

Melbourne to Albury Line reaches Seymour (Tallarook)



**1887:**

17.2 kilometres Yea to Molesworth started, Cheviot and Balham intermediate stations. Cheviot Tunnel construction took 2 years



**1890:**

Completed to Cathkin. Yarck, Kanumbra, Merton opened. Branch Line to Alexandra Road opened (16th Sep)

**1863:**

First bridge across Goulburn River

**1882:**

Line surveyed Tallarook to Yea

**1883 :**

Completed Tallarook to Yea

**1889:**

Yea to Molesworth opened (12th Nov); contract for Cathkin to Mansfield £122,325

**1891:**

Merton to Maindample opened (7th May). Maindample to Mansfield opened (6th Oct)



**1909:**

Alexandra Branch Line opened from Alexandra Road to Alexandra Township

**1978:**

Last goods train to Alexandra (1st Feb) & to Mansfield (3rd Feb)

**1978:**

Last loco 131 Cathkin to Alexandra (2nd Aug); last loco Y158 leaves Mansfield (6th Nov)

**1978:**

Tallarook to Mansfield Line and Alexandra Line close formally (8th Nov)

**2004-2006:**

Project work commenced on the Goulburn River High Country Rail Trail (a working title)



**2012:**

Official Opening of the Great Victorian Rail Trail (Jun)

**1977:**

Tallarook to Mansfield (via Yea) passenger rail motor service terminated (28th May)



**1997:**

Authorised surrender of railway land from Tallarook to Mansfield



**2011:**

Final sections of the trail completed on time and on budget, managed by a project committee from Mansfield, Murrindindi and Mitchell Shire Councils and community



# The TRIP PLANNER



Start planning your trip today and join all those who have already enjoyed this new trail. Now is the perfect time for you to explore and create your own stories, discovering the many towns, villages and attractions along the way.



Yea Township



Driving to Mansfield, Mount Buller in the distance

## GETTING THERE

The trail can be accessed from many points. Several towns provide easy access with car parks, picnic facilities and toilets available.

### By car

The trail runs east from Tallarook, through the township of Yea to Mansfield. Tallarook is only 100 kilometres from Melbourne, just off the Hume Freeway.

### By train

The V-Line Seymour Line train

stops at Tallarook Station.

### By air

Melbourne Airport is an hour's drive from the Tallarook trail head. To the north, Albury Airport is 2.5 hours drive from Mansfield.

Alexandra, at the junction of the Goulburn Valley and Maroondah Highways is 138 kilometres from Melbourne.

The Alexandra spur line is 13 kilometres long and joins the main trail at Cathkin.

Mansfield is approximately 192 kilometres from Melbourne at the eastern end of the trail. It is a popular starting point for both single and multi-day trips.

Return transport, bike hire and tours are available through private operators for one-way or return trips.

### All Terrain Cycles

(03) 5775 2724  
[www.allterraincycles.com.au](http://www.allterraincycles.com.au)

### Rail Trail Bike Tours

0417 594 998  
[www.railtrailbiketours.com.au](http://www.railtrailbiketours.com.au)

## TRAIL GRADIENT

### Tallarook to Mansfield



### Cathkin to Alexandra



## TRAIL DISTANCES

### TALLAROOK

|      |                |                |                   |                 |            |                |                       |                   |                |
|------|----------------|----------------|-------------------|-----------------|------------|----------------|-----------------------|-------------------|----------------|
| 11   | <b>TRAWOOL</b> |                |                   |                 |            |                |                       |                   |                |
| 14   | 3              | <b>GRANITE</b> |                   |                 |            |                |                       |                   |                |
| 19.5 | 8.5            | 5.5            | <b>KERRISDALE</b> |                 |            |                |                       |                   |                |
| 29.5 | 18.5           | 15.5           | 10                | <b>HOMEWOOD</b> |            |                |                       |                   |                |
| 38.5 | 27.5           | 24.5           | 19                | 9               | <b>YEA</b> |                |                       |                   |                |
| 43.5 | 32.5           | 29.5           | 24                | 14              | 5          | <b>CHEVIOT</b> |                       |                   |                |
| 47   | 36             | 33             | 27.5              | 17.5            | 8.5        | 3.5            | <b>CHEVIOT TUNNEL</b> |                   |                |
| 55   | 44             | 41             | 35.5              | 25.5            | 16.5       | 11.5           | 8                     | <b>MOLESWORTH</b> |                |
| 59.5 | 48.5           | 45.5           | 40                | 30              | 21         | 16             | 12.5                  | 4.5               | <b>CATHKIN</b> |
| 68.5 | 57.5           | 54.5           | 49                | 39              | 30         | 25             | 21.5                  | 13.5              | 9              |
| 72.5 | 61.5           | 58.5           | 53                | 43              | 34         | 29             | 25.5                  | 17.5              | 13             |
| 65.5 | 54.5           | 51.5           | 46                | 36              | 27         | 22             | 18.5                  | 10.5              | 6              |
| 73.5 | 62.5           | 59.5           | 54                | 44              | 35         | 30             | 26.5                  | 18.5              | 14             |
| 85   | 74             | 71             | 65.5              | 55.5            | 46.5       | 41.5           | 38                    | 30                | 25.5           |
| 94   | 83             | 80             | 74.5              | 64.5            | 55.5       | 50.5           | 47                    | 39                | 34.5           |
| 99   | 88             | 85             | 79.5              | 69.5            | 60.5       | 55.5           | 52                    | 44                | 39.5           |
| 107  | 96             | 93             | 87.5              | 77.5            | 68.5       | 63.5           | 60                    | 52                | 47.5           |
| 121  | 110            | 107            | 101.5             | 91.5            | 82.5       | 77.5           | 74                    | 66                | 61.5           |



Find us on Strava.  
Search **Great Victorian Rail Trail** to locate key segments and start riding!



Please carry food and water while on the trail.

## THE ESSENTIALS

There are 12 toilets on the trail and several shelters with tables and seats. Public toilets are also available in the local towns.

The Eglinton Cutting shelter has the most magnificent view of the Cathedral Range. Stop beside the Goulburn River 6 kilometres from Tallarook, or catch your breath approaching Mansfield and take in the views of the High Country. The approach to Mansfield with the spectacular mountains ahead is a perfect place to stop for refreshments.

BBQs are available at Tallarook, Yea, Alexandra, Bonnie Doon and Mansfield.

See maps for facility locations.

### KORIELLA

|      |                  |              |                 |               |                  |                    |                   |                  |  |
|------|------------------|--------------|-----------------|---------------|------------------|--------------------|-------------------|------------------|--|
| 4    | <b>ALEXANDRA</b> |              |                 |               |                  |                    |                   |                  |  |
| 15   | 19               | <b>YARCK</b> |                 |               |                  |                    |                   |                  |  |
| 23   | 27               | 8            | <b>KANUMBRA</b> |               |                  |                    |                   |                  |  |
| 34.5 | 38.5             | 19.5         | 11.5            | <b>MERTON</b> |                  |                    |                   |                  |  |
| 43.5 | 47.5             | 28.5         | 20.5            | 9             | <b>WOODFIELD</b> |                    |                   |                  |  |
| 48.5 | 52.5             | 33.5         | 25.5            | 14            | 5                | <b>BONNIE DOON</b> |                   |                  |  |
| 56.5 | 60.5             | 41.5         | 33.5            | 22            | 13               | 8                  | <b>MAINDAMPLE</b> |                  |  |
| 70.5 | 74.5             | 55.5         | 47.5            | 36            | 27               | 22                 | 14                | <b>MANSFIELD</b> |  |



## DEAD LOCO

He's a statue now in some playground,  
For all the kids to see,  
A Goliath of power and beauty,  
Whose wheels were once so free.  
They have painted him up to catch the eye  
With a green and gold that gleam;  
But there's no sadder sight to a driver  
Than an engine that's got no steam

*Poem by James Dunn,  
Station master at Cathkin*



Ride the trail



Yea Station Precinct



Lunch stop



Family walk

## WALK, RIDE OR CYCLE

### A trail for everyone

The Great Victorian Rail Trail is a multi-use trail and can be explored on foot, bike or horse.

Experience the trail from a different perspective as you walk, cycle or ride your way through the Victorian countryside.

The trail is suitable for riders of all fitness levels and is the perfect way to enjoy the great outdoors with the kids. Gradients are mostly gentle with a few longer climbs to keep things interesting. The highest point along the trail is 397 metres at Merton Gap and the steepest climb is from Alexandra to Eglinton Cutting, though the view from the top is well worth the effort.

### Trail surface

The trail surface varies along the 134 kilometres journey and is made up of either compacted gravel (chert) or granitic sand.

The granitic sand is used in sections that are shared use between walkers, cyclists and horses. Signs mark the way for horses where a dedicated bridle path follows beside the gravel (chert) sections.

Mountain, hybrid or touring bikes are best suited for the trail surface.

Over the page is a list of popular rides however if a shorter trip is more your style, there are many sections accessible from car parks and villages dotted along the rail trail.

**Refer to the central map to locate toilets, bike repairs and other essentials.**

**Whether you have one hour, one day or a full week to spare you can enjoy the trail; wheel, shoe or hoof . . . you choose.**

## MUST DO

- The 201 metre long Cheviot Tunnel
  - Alexandra Timber Tramway and Museum and Yea Railway Park
  - Yea Wetlands and Mullum Wetlands in Mansfield
  - Country markets in Yea, Tallarook, Alexandra, Yarck and Mansfield (monthly or bi-monthly)
    - Heritage classified Trawool Valley
- Check out many of our local businesses and recommended attractions in the second half of this guide



## Popular rides

### Tallarook – Trawool:

11 kilometres – beginners and families

The trail follows the heritage-classified Goulburn River at Tallarook and passes through the Trawool Valley. Classified by the National Trust for its scenic beauty, the region was once frequented by famous artists including Tom Roberts, Frederick McCubbin and Arthur Streeton.

### Yea – Cheviot Tunnel:

9 kilometres – beginners and families (mainly uphill to the tunnel)

In Yea you'll pass the Gothic-styled Yea Railway Station (1889), where you can make use of the playground, skate park, toilets, picnic tables and BBQs. From Yea, the trail passes directly through Cheviot Tunnel – the longest rail trail tunnel in Victoria. Made in 1889 from bricks handcrafted on site, the tunnel is accessible from a nearby carpark.

### Cathkin – Alexandra:

13 kilometres – riders with some competency

The Cathkin Station platform still stands and the Alexandra Timber Tramway and Museum operates at the old Alexandra Station. Coming out of Alexandra you'll head up to Eglinton Cutting, which can be a challenge. From the top enjoy the stunning view of Cathedral Range.

### Yarck – Merton:

19 kilometres – riders with some competency (hilly)

The trail runs behind Yarck township, but it's worth riding the 100 metres into town to stop for refreshments. From Yarck travel through scenic farms to Merton Gap – the trail's highest point at 397 metres. At Merton, wander through the area managed by Merton Landcare or stroll through the historic cemetery.

### Bonnie Doon – Mansfield:

22 kilometres – families and beginners (some uphill gradients)

Heading east the trail crosses Lake Eildon over the 385 metre Bonnie Doon Bridge, passing through stunning farming country with a backdrop of magnificent high country vistas. Entering Mansfield the trail passes through the Mullum Wetlands before it ends (or begins) at the Mansfield Railway Station and Visitor Information Centre.

## LONGER Trips

|                       |        |
|-----------------------|--------|
| Tallarook – Yea       | 38 km  |
| Yea – Alexandra       | 34 km  |
| Yea – Mansfield       | 83 km  |
| Alexandra – Mansfield | 75 km  |
| Tallarook – Mansfield | 121 km |



Enjoy local produce and wines along the trail



Alfresco dining in Seymour

## STAY • EAT • DO

 The Great Victorian Rail Trail is supported by a variety of accommodation options including hotels, motels, resorts, B&B's, caravan parks and farm stays. There are also cafés, restaurants and bakeries to cater for all tastes and budgets.

 Stop at the markets to stock up on local goodies, finish your ride with a beer and a counter

meal at a country pub, or get a taste of the good life at local wineries along the way.

 There are also plenty of historic sites, parks and other local attractions to keep the whole family entertained.

To find out more about festivals and events contact the local Visitor Information Centres or visit the Great Victorian Rail Trail website for more information.

## LOCAL EVENTS

Time your rail trail visit to coincide with a local event or festival from our vibrant calendar of events.

A taste of what's on:

### Tallarook

**Tallarook Farmers' Market**

- monthly

**Art @ Old Post Office Seymour**

- seasonal exhibitions

### Yea

**Yea Country Market** - monthly

**Kerrisdale Mountain Railway Cup**

**Steamfest** - November

### Alexandra

**Rotary Art Show** - Easter

**Alexandra Markets at the Timber**

**Tramway** - monthly

September-May

### Mansfield

**High Country Festival** - October

**Mansfield Farmers' Markets**

- monthly

# CONNECT *with* THE TRAIL

Need to book accommodation, find a place to eat or fun things to do? Jump online to connect with local businesses and local people.

You will also find interesting facts and historic gems to enhance your knowledge and add to your storytelling.

Maps, images and essential travel information are all found in the one place at

[www.greatvictorianrailtrail.com.au](http://www.greatvictorianrailtrail.com.au)

You can also talk directly with a member of our customer service team on

**1800 RTRAIL**

**We are here to help plan your cycling, riding or walking adventure!**

## SHARE YOUR STORIES

We would love to hear from you on the trail or when you get home.

Stay connected with the Great Victorian Rail Trail on Facebook or by subscribing to our newsletter on the website homepage.

Please help us to maintain and improve our trail by reporting issues or concerns via

**1800 RTRAIL** or

[www.greatvictorianrailtrail.com.au](http://www.greatvictorianrailtrail.com.au)

 Great Victorian Rail Trail Official



**Scan me to find out more.**

Download a "Free QR Barcode Scanner" from your App Store.



# TOWNS *and* VILLAGES



Create your own stories as you take a beautiful journey through the unique communities of North Central and North East Victoria. Experience the food, wine, people, galleries, markets and festivals of Tallarook, Trawool, Yea, Cheviot, Molesworth, Cathkin, Alexandra, Yarck, Merton, Bonnie Doon, Maidmample and Mansfield.

# TALLAROOK



# YEA





# GREAT VICTORIAN RAIL TRAIL

## KEY

- Rail trail
- Major Hubs
- Historic station sites
- Businesses\*
- Car parks
- Rivers & lakes
- Roads
- Railway line
- Toilets on rail trail
- Public toilets
- Stay
- Eat
- Picnic Shelters

\*See business listings in each of the four towns and villages sections





# TALLAROOK

## *and surrounds*

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*Trawool, Granite, Kerrisdale,  
Homewood, Seymour*

---

---

The development of colonial Australia can be traced through the development of its rail system. Railways influenced the fortunes of towns and regions; became the colony's largest employer; transformed the relationship between town and country; and introduced new concepts of distance, time and comfort.

*(Davison, 1998:547).*



Tallarook State Forest

## TALLAROOK

Nestled at the foot of the magnificent Tallarook Ranges, the quiet township of Tallarook has its history linked with the expanding railway network.

The town is on the northern slopes of the Great Dividing Range, on land that was once central to the territories of the Goulburn Aboriginal tribes, in whose language, Tallarook means 'call of the wattle birds'.



Tallarook State Forest

Today Tallarook supports abundant wildlife and farming properties. The local vineyards are gaining an international reputation and provide the perfect place to unwind and explore.

The town is known in Australia for the colloquialism, "Things are crook in Tallarook", believed to date to the Great Depression and unemployed travellers seeking work.

## TRAWOOL

Originally named 'Traawool', the indigenous word for 'wild water', the district is dominated by agriculture and memorable scenery. First explored by Hume and Hovell in 1824; it was later settled as a large sheep station. Development of the area improved with the building of the Trawool Railway Line to Yea in 1883.

In 1983, the National Trust awarded the area a Scenic Classification, recognising its



Horse Shoe Lagoon - Trawool Valley

importance as a scenic, geological and cultural site, including the diversity of flora and fauna. Bushwalking, sight-seeing, hang-gliding and rafting are all popular outdoor activities.

Ever since the early 1900's Trawool has also been a destination for holiday makers from Melbourne enjoying its country charm and magnificent scenery. Nearby attractions include art galleries, wineries, national and state forests, historic buildings and restaurants.



Old Post Office Seymour



Goulburn River Park

## SEYMOUR

Seymour provides facilities and accommodation for visitors and lies approximately 13 kilometres from the start of the Tallarook end of the Great Victorian Rail Trail.

The town sits on the banks of the Goulburn River with the Tallarook Ranges as its backdrop. It is located at the junction of the Hume Freeway and Goulburn Valley Highway and is an important rural centre, servicing local farmers and the army town

of Puckapunyal, where the Royal Australian Armoured Corps Memorial and Army Tank Museum is based.

Seymour has an abundance of historic buildings and attractions. With its history married to that of the railway lines, Seymour boasts an impressive collection of heritage trains at the Railway Heritage Centre.



## PIECE of HISTORY

Granite from the nearby hills was used in the building of Flinders Street Station.



## TALLAROOK HOTEL



4 Star Accommodation. Bed and Breakfast. Bookings essential. We have five double rooms. Air conditioning. WiFi. TV. Early breakfast or late checkout. Secure lockup for bicycles or vehicles provided. Bistro and Restaurant offers superb meals at reasonable prices.

15 Main Street, Tallarook 3659  
**Ph:** (03) 5792 1743  
**E:** willpower5@bigpond.com  
**Facebook:** Tallarook Hotel



## TALLAROOK GENERAL STORE AND POST OFFICE



The perfect spot for a quiet break or meal for anyone wishing to escape the fast pace of modern life. Stop in, relax and enjoy a coffee or snack. Allow us to pack you freshly made sandwiches and snacks for your travels or just come and enjoy our country hospitality.

36 Main Street,  
Tallarook 3659  
**Ph:** (03) 5792 2228

# Tallarook and surrounds

 STAY  EAT  DO



 **1. BANK ON THE GOULBURN**  
32 Emily Street, Seymour 3660  
**Ph:** (03) 9826 9889 or 0416 020 838  
**E:** [bookings@bankonthegoulburn.com.au](mailto:bookings@bankonthegoulburn.com.au)  
**www.bankonthegoulburn.com.au**

 **2. CLYDE COTTAGE**  
8340 Goulburn Valley Highway,  
Trawool 3660  
**Ph:** (03) 5799 2302 or 0400 981 581  
**E:** [clydecottage@bigpond.com](mailto:clydecottage@bigpond.com)  
**www.clydecottage.com**

  **3. COMFORT INN TRAWOOL**  
8150 Goulburn Valley Highway,  
Trawool 3660  
**Ph:** (03) 5792 1444  
**E:** [enquiries@trawoolresort.com.au](mailto:enquiries@trawoolresort.com.au)  
**www.trawoolresort.com.au**

 **4. ROCKY PASSES WINERY**  
1590 Highlands Road,  
Whiteheads Creek 3660  
**Ph:** (03) 5796 9366  
**E:** [contact@rockypasses.com.au](mailto:contact@rockypasses.com.au)  
**www.rockypasses.com.au**

 **5. SEVEN HILLS TALLAROOK**  
160 Scotts Road, Tallarook 3659  
**Ph:** 1300 7 HILLS or 0411 110 107  
**E:** [enquiry@sevenhillstallarook.com.au](mailto:enquiry@sevenhillstallarook.com.au)  
**www.sevenhillstallarook.com.au**

 **6. STRATH VALLEY VIEW  
BED & BREAKFAST**  
1204 King Parrot Creek Road,  
Strath Creek 3658  
**Ph:** (03) 5784 9209  
**E:** [strathvalleyview@bigpond.com](mailto:strathvalleyview@bigpond.com)  
**www.strathvalleyview.com.au**

# Tallarook and surrounds

 -  See business locations  
on the centrefold maps

 STAY  EAT  DO

 **7. TALLAROOK COTTAGE**  
35 Ennis Road, Tallarook 3659  
**Ph:** (03) 5793 8427 or 0409 057 979  
**E:** [normajw@bigpond.net.au](mailto:normajw@bigpond.net.au)  
**www.tallarookcottage.com**

 **8. TALLAROOK GENERAL STORE  
AND POST OFFICE**  
36 Main Street, Tallarook 3659  
**Ph:** (03) 5792 2228

  **9. TALLAROOK HOTEL**  
15 Main Street, Tallarook 3659  
**Ph:** (03) 5792 1743  
**E:** [willpower5@bigpond.com](mailto:willpower5@bigpond.com)  
**Facebook: Tallarook Hotel**

 **10. THE SHED CAFE AND COTTAGES  
@ TRAWOOL**  
8447 Goulburn Valley Highway,  
Trawool 3660  
**Ph:** (03) 5799 1595  
**E:** [lindy@trawoolshed.com.au](mailto:lindy@trawoolshed.com.au)  
**www.trawoolshed.com.au**

# YEA and surrounds

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Cheviot, Molesworth,  
Cathkin, Yarck, Kanumbra

---

---

Our History.....  
‘The longest journey begins  
with the first step’.

Located midway between Yea and Molesworth, the Cheviot Tunnel is the longest rail trail tunnel in Victoria and a key feature of the original Tallarook to Mansfield Railway Line.



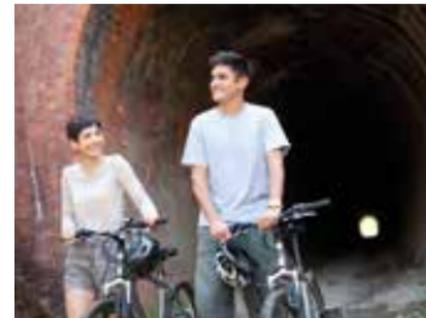
## YEA

North of the Great Divide, the township of Yea is nestled in a beautiful valley at the meeting of the Yea and Goulburn Rivers, just one and a half hour's drive from Melbourne.

Yea boasts historic buildings and a thriving main street with many pubs, restaurants and cafés. Take a stroll in Melbourne's closest classified wetlands and learn about the unique flora and fauna.



Yea Wetlands swing bridge



The nearby Cheviot Tunnel, together with the heritage-listed Yea Railway Station, are timely reminders of the important role rail transport played in early settlement.

The historic Railway Station built in 1889 is the most intact example of a small group of standard Gothic-styled railway station buildings. In the station precinct you will also find a playground, skate park, toilet facilities, picnic tables and BBQs.

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### PIECE of HISTORY

Yea was originally known as ‘Muddy Creek’. In 1855 its official name was changed to honour Colonel Lacy Walter Giles Yea, a British Army Colonel known for his role in the Crimean War, where he was killed in action.

## CHEVIOT

Cheviot Station opened with the rail line in 1889 and was an important station to serve the local logging industry.

Between Cheviot Station and Cheviot Tunnel, the line runs through four large cuttings. These are testament to the natural obstacles posed by this landscape.



== 🌀 ==  
**DID YOU KNOW?**  
*Cheviot Tunnel*

The tunnel was constructed in 1889 from an estimated 675,000 handmade bricks using local clay. These clay bricks were sourced from Quinlan's Pit in a nearby paddock just west of the tunnel.

### Triumph and tragedy: The human cost of progress

The 201 metre (660') long Cheviot Tunnel was constructed to pass trains across the Black Range at McLoughlin's Gap roughly half way between Yea and Molesworth. Built under tender by Kenny Bros. as part of the Yea to Cathkin section at a cost of £88,661/2/11, the work was delayed by accidents, floods and several industrial disputes.

Some steel hooks, that held lanterns in emergencies, still exist near the four indented safety alcoves. These safety alcoves are located at regular intervals along the eastern wall of the tunnel.



### MOLESWORTH

Molesworth is located approximately 4.5 kilometres away from the Alexandra turnoff at Cathkin. Molesworth is a small town with a general store and country pub, with a large relaxing beer garden. It is also home to the Molesworth Wetlands.



### CATHKIN

Cathkin is the former junction station which linked the Mansfield Line with the Alexandra Line. The Cathkin platform still remains and the local Landcare Group have created a charming reserve providing a peaceful rest spot for rail trail users. Cathkin was home to the Railway Poet, James Dunn.



### YARCK

The trail runs behind the village of Yarck but it is worth riding the extra 100 metres to stop in the small village for a hot or cold beverage. Time your visit well and you could visit the monthly country market. Held on the 3rd Saturday of the month, the market provides an outlet for local produce, jams, craft, plants and wines, it also helps to fund maintenance of the town hall.

# Yea and surrounds

 STAY  EAT  DO



## 11. ANJAKAMA HOUSE STAYS

7 The Crescent, Yea 3717  
Ph: 0407 331 150  
E: jacqui@anjakamayea.com.au  
[www.anjakamayea.com.au](http://www.anjakamayea.com.au)

## 12. BONNIE BRAE FARM STAY

152 Molesworth/Dropmore Road,  
Molesworth 3718  
Ph: (03) 5797 6398 or 0439 610 867  
E: wsma222@gmail.com  
Facebook: Molesworth Bonnie Brae Farm Stay

## 13. GALLERY 34

34 High Street, Yea 3717  
Ph: (03) 5797 3222 or 0400 568 598  
E: info@gallery34.com.au  
[www.gallery34.com.au](http://www.gallery34.com.au)

## 14. GIDDY GOAT CAFE & YARCK COTTAGE ACCOMMODATION

 6606 Maroondah Highway, Yarck 3719  
Ph: (03) 5773 4223  
E: giddygoat@y7mail.com  
[www.yarckcottage.com](http://www.yarckcottage.com)

## 15. MOLESWORTH HOTEL MOTEL

 4364 Goulburn Valley Highway,  
Molesworth 3718  
Ph: (03) 5797 6266  
Facebook: Molesworth Hotel Motel

## 16. MOLESWORTH STORE

4353 Goulburn Valley Highway,  
Molesworth 3718  
Ph: (03) 5797 6201

## 17. MUDDY CREEK FISHING & OUTDOORS

Shop 1/10 High Street, Yea 3717  
Ph: (03) 5797 2789  
E: muddycreekfishingoutdoors@gmail.com  
[www.muddycreekfishingoutdoors.com.au](http://www.muddycreekfishingoutdoors.com.au)

# Yea and surrounds

 -  See business locations on the centrefold maps

 STAY  EAT  DO

## 18. STATION 7 ICE-CREAM PARLOUR & CAFE

7 Station Street, Yea 3717  
Ph: (03) 5797 2270  
Facebook: Station 7 Cafe

## 19. TARTAN MOTEL YEA

17 High Street, Yea 3717  
Ph: (03) 5797 2202  
E: reservationtartanmotel@bigpond.com  
[www.tartanmotelyea.com](http://www.tartanmotelyea.com)

## 20. THE CHURCHES AT YARCK

6592 Maroondah Highway, Yarck 3719  
Ph: (03) 5773 4233  
E: vanattearooms@gmail.com  
[www.thetearoomsofyarck.com.au](http://www.thetearoomsofyarck.com.au)

## 21. WOODLEA COTTAGE

3731 Goulburn Valley Highway, Cathkin 3714  
Ph: (03) 5797 6368 or 0418 318 783  
E: cheryl@woodleacottage.com.au  
[www.woodleacottage.com.au](http://www.woodleacottage.com.au)

## 22. YARCK GENERAL STORE & TWO EAGLES COTTAGE

 6595 Maroondah Highway, Yarck 3719  
Ph: (03) 5773 4204 or 0428 030 678  
E: yarckgeneralstore@hotmail.com

## 23. YEA COUNTRY MARKET

 Station Street, Yea 3717  
Ph: 0411 433 702  
E: yeamarket@gmail.com  
Facebook: Yea Country Market

## 24. YEA MOTEL

8 Miller Street, Yea 3717  
Ph: (03) 5797 2660  
E: info@yeamotel.com.au  
[www.yeamotel.com.au](http://www.yeamotel.com.au)

## 25. YEA WETLANDS / Y WATER CENTRE

Cnr Hood & High Street, Yea 3717  
Ph: (03) 5797 2667  
E: yeawetlands@gmail.com

# ALEXANDRA

*and surrounds*

Koriella, Eildon

The locals lobbied hard in the 1880's for the Alexandra Branch Line but were beaten by nature and the engineering realities of the hilly terrain and steep gradients that surround their township. It was not until September 1909 that the Alexandra Township Railway Extension was complete.



Stonelea Country Estate

## ALEXANDRA

Alexandra is a neat country town located in the foothills of the Great Dividing Range, 130 kilometres north east of Melbourne. The town's history dates back to 1824, the same year Hume and Hovell crossed the Goulburn River.

The township of Alexandra began as a mining camp when gold was discovered in 1866 and 1867. Over time the emphasis changed to timber and agriculture and today



Stonelea Country Estate

tourism is a key contributor to the township's economy.

Base yourself in Alexandra to explore nearby mountain ranges and waterways, but save time for discovering this quaint historic village.

Stroll along the wide tree-lined streets past the National Trust classified post office, national bank and law courts, and discover arts and crafts such as pottery and glassware in gift shops and galleries.

The former Alexandra Station is currently the home of the Alexandra Timber Tramway Museum and Historic Park. Revisit the past and discover artefact displays from the timber industry of the last century. Plan ahead by visiting their website [www.alexandratramway.org.au](http://www.alexandratramway.org.au).



## ALEXANDRA MARKET

The market caters for all tastes and interests featuring local produce, unique handicrafts, bric-a-brac, collectables and auto parts. Enjoy a train ride around the historic Alexandra Tramway. Markets run from September to May on the second Saturday of each month.



## Trains, trunks and elephants

Jim Rae, Train Driver, drove the last Circus train to Alexandra in 1968.

Wirth's Circus had a 75 vehicle train which contained performer's carriages and 5 elephant trucks. Twenty trucks were specially designed by Victorian Railways with a high roof. The elephants got into the trucks backwards so they would not take the roof off!

When the performances were finished the elephants pulled down the tent poles.

“  
**Each animal had to have a handler, so the likes of the giraffes didn't stick their heads out of the carriage truck and munch on leaves as the train sped past,**

*Harry Close, Assist. Guardsman.*

”



## PIECE of HISTORY

The township of Alexandra began as a mining camp when gold was discovered in 1866 and 1867. The settlement that sprang up nearby was first known as the Red Gate Diggings.



Lake Eildon

## EILDON

Eildon is located approximately 24 kilometres from Alexandra (and the Great Victorian Rail Trail) and is a popular destination with water lovers. With numerous rivers and Lake Eildon on its doorstep, water-skiers, wake boarders, pleasure boaters and anglers share holidays with over 600 luxury 'home away from home' houseboats.

Lake Eildon has a shoreline of almost 600 kilometres, is one of the five premier lakes in Victoria and the Eildon Pondage is a prime fishing location. Lake Eildon National Park also offers great bushwalking, gold mining relics, lots of wildlife and pretty wild flowers, particularly in spring and early summer.



## ON THE WATER

Swimming, boating, houseboats, fishing, kayaking, water skiing, wake boarding and more. On the water or in the water, Eildon offers fun for everyone.



## THE TOWER MOTEL MARYSVILLE



Looking to put your feet up after enjoying your ride along the Rail Trail? We have brand new king rooms with baths, twin rooms and family rooms to accommodate you, your friends and family. Also relax in our courtyard with a cheese or ploughman's platter and local wines.

33 Murchison Street, Marysville 3779

Ph: (03) 5963 3225

E: info@towermotel.com.au

www.towermotel.com.au

**the tower.**  
HOTEL Marysville

“

This Rail Trail may be the longest in Victoria, but what sets it apart is diversity.

The landscape constantly changes; woodland, rivers, lakes, open farmland, ranges, mountains, wetlands, towns and villages. You breathe it all in - the slower you travel the better!

”

# Alexandra and surrounds

26

31

See business locations on the centrefold maps



STAY



EAT



DO



## 26. ALEXANDRA TIMBER TRAMWAY AND MUSEUM

Station Steet, Alexandra 3714

Ph: 0427 509 988

E: info@alexandratramway.org.au

www.alexandratramway.org.au



## 27. ALEXANDRA TOURIST PARK

5016 Maroondah Highway,  
Alexandra 3714

Ph: (03) 5772 1222

E: alexandratouristpark@bigpond.com

www.alexandratouristpark.com



## 28. ATHLONE COUNTRY COTTAGES

266 UT Creek Road, Alexandra 3714

Ph: (03) 5772 2992

E: bookings@athlonepark.com.au

www.athlonecountrycottages.com.au



## 29. RUSTIC SIMPLICITY @ THE SHEAR 'N' SHEDS

74 Grant Street, Alexandra 3714

Ph: 0419 517 045

E: rusticsimplicity@hotmail.com

www.rusticsimplicityblog.wordpress.com



## 30. THE DAIRY CAFE ALEXANDRA

35 Grant Street, Alexandra 3714

Ph: (03) 5725 4118

E: thedairycafe@gmail.com

Facebook: The Dairy Cafe Alexandra



## 31. THE TOWER MOTEL MARYSVILLE

33 Murchison Street, Marysville 3779

Ph: (03) 5963 3225

E: info@towermotel.com.au

www.towermotel.com.au

# MANSFIELD and surrounds

Merton, Woodfield,  
Bonnie Doon, Maindample

The Great Victorian Rail Trail begins or ends at the old Mansfield Railway Station near the Visitor Information Centre. When departing from the station the first kilometre passes through the Mullum Wetlands, a habitat for local fauna and flora. This area includes raised walkways, a lookout and a bird hide.



Horse riding in the Mansfield High Country

## MANSFIELD

A 2.5 hour drive from Melbourne, Mansfield is situated in Victoria's breathtaking High Country.

Encompassing mountains, rivers and lakes, the shire has a population of 7,527 and attracts approximately 1.2 million visitors each year – many of them visiting Mt Buller and Mt Stirling Resorts, Lake Eildon and the Alpine National Park.



Delatite Winery

The region developed quickly from the 1860's, based largely on gold, timber harvesting and farming. Today, tourism, agriculture, light industrial and forestry related activities are the shire's key industries, and the area is in high demand for recreation and lifestyle activities.

Home to Victoria's traditional cattlemen and as an adventure sports haven, Mansfield combines the best of both world's and will

reward your efforts with either a fine local wine or an all-season adrenalin kick.

## MERTON

Merton is a small town. Stretch your legs and wander through the area that is managed by Merton Landcare or continue along the trail to the historic Merton Cemetery.



## PIECE of HISTORY

The 'Better Farming Train' circa 1924, brought experts to help the farmer and 'lady demonstrators' to assist the farmer's wife in household affairs!



Mullum Wetlands at Mansfield



Houseboats on Lake Eildon

## BONNIE DOON

Heading east the trail runs between Lake Eildon and the Maroondah Highway and passes through the small village of Bonnie Doon.

Bonnie Doon is a small town situated on the edge of Lake Eildon and is the gateway to the High Country. It is most well known these days as a holiday and weekend destination for bushwalkers, trail bike riders, off-road 4WD enthusiasts and fishermen.

The town centre has a collection of motels, hotel, caravan park, service station and cafes, providing the perfect opportunity to stay, refuel or stock up on supplies.

Having travelled through the township, the trail passes over the Bonnie Doon Bridge which is 385 metres long and provides a great vantage spot to stop and watch the activity on the lake.

## MAINDAMPLE

The 14 kilometre section from Maindample to Mansfield takes in the magnificent scenery of the high country with Mt Buller, Mt Stirling and Timbertop clearly in sight as you head towards Mansfield.

Those in need of a refreshment can enjoy the country hospitality of the Maindample Whistle Stop, located right on the trail.



## MANSFIELD ZOO



Home to Victoria's only white lions, visitors can feed the monkeys, deer, kangaroos and many other animals. Guided Tours on weekends and holidays feature the feeding of our two magnificent lions. Open daily from 10am - 5.30/6pm. Closed Christmas Day.

1064 Mansfield Woods,  
Point Road, Mansfield  
**Ph:** (03) 5777 3576  
**E:** info@mansfieldzoo.com.au  
**www.mansfieldzoo.com.au**



## THE DELATITE HOTEL



- Family Bistro – lunch and dinner 7 days a week
- Settler's Sidewalk Bar with coffee and cake too
- Leafy courtyard with bocce and playground
- Single, double and family pub accommodation
- Perfect for groups – secure o/night bike storage
- Re-energised by new owners since Nov 2013

95 High Street, Mansfield 3722  
**Ph:** (03) 5775 2004  
**E:** hoteldelatite@gmail.com  
**www.delatitehotel.com.au**





### STUDIO SEVEN - WE LOOK FORWARD TO SPOILING YOU!



Totally private, fully self contained and luxuriously appointed, the Studio offers guests two bedrooms and bathrooms. Guests are spoilt with a sunken spa, plasma TV/DVD, spacious kitchen and walled courtyard.

7 The Parade, Mansfield 3722

Ph: 0417 514 306

E: catwil@bigpond.net.au

www.alpincountrycottages.com.au

“

**Christmas Holidays brought great excitement to the families and children of Mansfield, with the departure of the Seaside Excursion Train to St Kilda Beach. Armed with buckets and spades, parasols and ‘neck-to-knees’, it was for many passengers their first glimpse of the ocean.**

”

## Mansfield and surrounds



See business locations  
on the centrefold maps



STAY EAT DO



### 32. ALL TERRAIN CYCLES

58 High Street, Mansfield 3722

Ph: (03) 5775 2724

E: atc@allterraincycles.com.au

www.allterraincycles.com.au



### 33. ALPINE HELICOPTER CHARTER

325 Mount Buller Road, Mansfield 3722

Ph: 0428 376 619

E: blunden@mansfield.net.au

www.alpineheli.com.au



### 34. BANJO'S ALL SEASONS ACCOMMODATION

2-4 Greenvale Lane, Mansfield 3722

Ph: (03) 5775 2335

E: banjos@banjosmansfield.com.au

www.banjosmansfield.com.au



### 35. BONNIE BAR

2 Phillip Street, Bonnie Doon 3720

Ph: (03) 5778 7774

E: bonniebarbeerkitchen@gmail.com

www.bonniebar.com



### 36. BONNIE DOON CARAVAN PARK

Arnot Street, Bonnie Doon 3720

Ph: (03) 5778 7254

E: info@bonniedooncaravanpark.com.au

www.bonniedooncaravanpark.com.au



### 37. BONNIE DOON CENTRAL ROADHOUSE

10 Bon Crescent, Bonnie Doon 3720

Ph: (03) 5778 7236 or 0413 083 629

E: bonniedoonroadhouse@bigpond.com

Facebook: Bonnie Doon Central RoadHouse



### 38. BONNIE DOON MOTOR INN

Cnr Jones Street & Bon Crescent,

Bonnie Doon 3720

Ph: (03) 5778 7390

# Mansfield and surrounds

 STAY  EAT  DO

 **39. BURNT CREEK COTTAGES**  
68 O'Hanlon Road, Mansfield 3722  
**Ph:** (03) 5775 3067  
**E:** burntcreek@bigpond.com  
**www.burntcreekcottages.com.au**

 **40. DELATITE WINES**  
26 High Street, Mansfield 3722  
**Ph:** (03) 5775 2922  
**E:** info@delatitewinery.com.au  
**www.delatitewinery.com.au**

 **41. MAINDAMPLE WHISTLE STOP**  
15 Main Street, Maindample 3723  
**Ph:** 0421 659 734  
**E:** pandpmahoney@skymesh.com.au

 **42. MANSFIELD ARMCHAIR CINEMA**  
1 Chenery Street, Mansfield 3722  
**Ph:** (03) 5775 2049  
**E:** the-mac@bigpond.com  
**www.the-mac.com.au**

 **43. MANSFIELD HOLIDAY PARK**  
Mt Buller Road, Mansfield 3722  
**Ph:** (03) 5775 1383  
**E:** info@mansfieldholidaypark.com.au  
**www.mansfieldholidaypark.com.au**

 **44. MANSFIELD ZOO**  
1064 Mansfield Woods Point Road,  
Mansfield 3722  
**Ph:** (03) 5777 3576  
**E:** info@mansfieldzoo.com.au  
**www.mansfieldzoo.com.au**

 **45. RAIL TRAIL BIKE TOURS**  
PO Box 335, Mansfield 3722  
**Ph:** 0417 594 998  
**E:** markspencer07@bigpond.com  
**www.railtrailbiketours.com.au**

# Mansfield and surrounds

 STAY  EAT  DO

 **46. RIGA COUNTRY RETREAT**  
5291 Midland Highway, Mansfield 3722  
**Ph:** (03) 5775 2140  
**E:** info@rigaangus.com.au  
**www.rigacountryretreat.com.au**

 **47. ROBYN'S NEST COUNTRY COTTAGES**  
69 Highton Lane, Mansfield 3722  
**Ph:** 0427 030 957  
**E:** robyn@robys-nest.com.au  
**www.robys-nest.com.au**

 **48. ROSEDALE HOUSE MANSFIELD**  
146 Mt Battery Road, Mansfield 3722  
**Ph:** 0429 328 556  
**E:** steveplummer@bigpond.com  
**www.rosedalehouse.net.au**

 **49. STUDIO SEVEN**  
7 The Parade, Mansfield 3722  
**Ph:** 0417 514 306  
**E:** catwil@bigpond.net.au  
**www.alpinecountrycottages.com.au**

 **50. STUDIO THREE**  
7 The Parade, Mansfield 3722  
**Ph:** 0417 514 306  
**E:** catwil@bigpond.net.au  
**www.alpinecountrycottages.com.au**

 **51. THE DELATITE HOTEL**  
95 High Street, Mansfield 3722  
 **Ph:** (03) 5775 2004  
**E:** hoteldelatite@gmail.com  
**www.delatitehotel.com.au**

 **52. THE PRODUCE STORE**  
68 High Street, Mansfield 3722  
**Ph:** (03) 5779 1404  
**E:** info@theproducestore.com.au  
**www.theproducestore.com.au**



## A SHARED USE TRAIL

The Great Victorian Rail Trail is a multi-use recreational pathway for cyclists, walkers and horse riders. Please respect each other's right to enjoy a safe and pleasant journey.

For your safety and enjoyment please observe the following:

### Cyclists

- Keep left and give way to walkers and horses

- Approach horses with care and notify in advance of your approach
- Warn others when approaching from behind and passing
- Keep left and don't obstruct the Rail Trail

### Horses

- Ride horses off the bike/walking track unless signage indicates otherwise

- Horses must be ridden at a walking pace when on the track formed for cycling and walking
- Remove horse manure from the bike/walking track
- Horses must not be tied within a 10 metre radius of signage or seat structures

### Walkers

- Keep left and give way to horses on bridges and squeeze points

## ALL TRAIL USERS

### Please respect the rights of landholders:

- Stay within the rail reserve
- Give way to stock at crossing points
- Move quietly near stock
- Leave gates as you find them
- Report any wandering stock within the reserve to your local Council

### Leave no trace

- Leave all flora and fauna undisturbed
- Take your rubbish home
- Camp in designated areas only
- Fires are prohibited in the reserve
- No firewood collection

### Dogs

- Keep dogs on a leash and under control at all times
- Remove dog droppings from the reserve

### For your safety

- Wear approved helmets
- Be careful at road crossings; young and inexperienced riders should dismount
- Observe all signs and local regulations
- Be prepared for changes in weather and trail conditions
- Motor vehicles including motor bikes are not permitted within the reserve
- Plan your journey
- On Total Fire Ban days, days of high fire danger and Code Red days check Emergency Services' broadcasts and websites. Stay informed!

### Carry

- Water and food (the availability of drinking water along the Rail Trail is limited)
- Bicycle repair kit and a good pump
- Mobile phone (there are some blackspots)
- Sunscreen and insect repellent

### Regulations

- Crown Land Reserves (Great Victorian Rail Trail Reserve) Regulations 2010 apply to this reserve
- Permits may be required for some events or activities. For more information visit the Rail Trail website.

## STAY SAFE

### Saving time, saving lives

Emergency Markers are located at 1 kilometre intervals along the trail and at each station.

In an Emergency dial 000 and quote the Emergency Marker code where you are located.



### Stay informed

Radio Stations for regional/local information and emergency broadcasts:

#### Tallarook/Seymour

ABC 774 AM  
96.9 STAR FM

#### Yea

UGFM Radio Murrindindi 88.9  
ABC 774 AM  
93.7 STAR FM

#### Alexandra

UGFM Radio Murrindindi 106.9  
ABC 102.9 FM  
93.7 STAR FM

#### Mansfield

Radio Mansfield 99.7 FM  
ABC 103.7 FM  
93.7 STAR FM

### Fire danger information

Be fire ready, stay safe

**DIAL 000** for police, fire and ambulance.

Be aware of the Fire Danger Rating for the day you are on the trail, as you are in a high fire risk area.

If the day is declared a day of Code Red fire danger, we advise you not to use the Rail Trail.

For updated information on Fire Danger Ratings in Victoria or general safety advice contact

**1800 240 667**  
**[www.cfa.vic.gov.au](http://www.cfa.vic.gov.au)**



# Bonnie Doon Central RoadHouse

## The One Stop Shop



- **Fuel** - including Alpine Diesel
- **Fast Food Meals** - Takeaways & Family Friendly
- **Great LOCAL Wine Selections**
- **Clean Toilets**
- **ATM & EFTPOS AVAILABLE**
- **Facebook** | Bonnie Doon Central RoadHouse
- **Facebook** | The Castle Ski & Board Hire

**If you think you can go past without stopping, you're dreaming!**

Saturday - Thursday 7am-7pm,  
Friday - 7am-9pm  
Maroondah Hwy,  
Bonnie Doon, Vic. 3720  
**Tel:** (03) 5778 7236



Licensed  
Convenience  
Supermarkets

[www.realestateguide.com.au/bonnieoon](http://www.realestateguide.com.au/bonnieoon)

**Mansfield Visitor Information Centre** 1800 039 049

**Alexandra Visitor Information Centre** 1800 652 2698

**Yea Visitor Information** 0408 246 308

**Seymour Visitor Information** (03) 5799 0233

[www.greatvictorianrailtrail.com.au](http://www.greatvictorianrailtrail.com.au)

**1800 RTRAIL**

