

CLARE VALLEY RIESLING & RATTLER TRAILS



THE RIESLING TRAIL

Contours and curves of the former railway from Auburn to Clare and 10km north to Barinia Road.

THE RIESLING TRAIL

Auburn to Watervale 9km

Watervale to Sevenhill 9km

Sevenhill to Clare 7km

Clare to Barinia Road, White Hut 10km

The Riesling Trail follows the contours and curves of the former railway from Auburn to Clare and 10km north to Barinia Road, providing ever-changing views of vineyards, mixed farms, natural bushland and world-renowned wine region. A quality, compacted surface and easy gradient makes it ideal for walkers and cyclists of all levels, as well as wheelchair and pram users. There are wooded sections that feel like English laneways and embankments that give sweeping views of villages and the hills. Along the way there are picnic spots and storyboards about the history, the landscape, the Ngadjuri people, the communities and local heroes.

At 35km, the Riesling Trail can be ridden one way in about 2.5 hours and walked in about 9 hours. To do the lovely countryside justice, and enjoy the hospitality of the wineries, attractions and accommodation close by, give yourself more time and make the trail a leisurely pursuit. You can start your journey from a number of sign-posted side roads in each town (and even between towns). There are car parks close to the trail in Auburn, Watervale, Sevenhill and Clare. Water tanks are provided at the Watervale and Sevenhill shelters. For the experienced rider the Riesling Trail offers three loops so you can return to your starting point without going over the same ground and visit even more attractions of the region.



The suite of trail markers you encounter along the way feature distances, directions, services and stories.

As befits the history of the path, the beginning is at the former Auburn Railway Station, now restored and home to Mount Horrocks Wines. The trail heads north and passes through open farming country filled with vineyards and panoramic landscapes. Look out for a shelter and art installation on this leg of the trail – it's worth stopping to rest and take in the magnificent views. Seven kilometres from Auburn the trail reaches Leasingham and 2km on you reach the small town of Watervale and the very heart of Riesling country. From Watervale the trail is elevated and passes through a cutting providing shade and solitude before opening out again to views of vineyards, farmlands and a small gum plantation.

The trail rises gently as it heads towards Penwortham and passes under Main North Road. At the Pawelski Road intersection there is a storyboard about John Horrocks, the young explorer who was the region's first European settler and founder of the village.

As you cross College Road near Sevenhill, take a detour to Sevenhill Cellars. From here it is a gentle descent toward Clare by way of the striking Quarry Road Bridge. In Clare the trail pauses, as fittingly as it began, at the site of a former Clare railway station. The trailhead here provides easy access to the Clare township. From here riders can continue to follow the new extension of the Riesling Trail to the north for another 10km, over the Farrell Flat Road bridge, through White Hut and onto Barinia Road.

THE RIESLING TRAIL LOOPS

(THESE LOOPS HAVE VARYING LEVELS OF DIFFICULTY AND USE SEALED AND UNSEALED ROADS).

John Horrocks Loop 9km

This loop heads west from the trail, past St Mark's Anglican Church to the village of Penwortham and on to Skillogalee Creek. You will find several notable cellar doors and good food places. From Sawmill Road the loop shares a section of the Spring Gully Loop as it heads past the pub and meets the main trail at the site of the Sevenhill siding.

**Father Rogalski Loop 10km
(Mountain bikes recommended)**

This loop leaves the main trail just north of Penwortham, and leads to Polish Hill Valley. Because you are crossing a ridge to the next valley, this is steeper than the main trail, but the views from the three wineries and the stories told at the Polish Church Museum are fitting rewards for the extra effort.

**Spring Gully Loop 16km
(Mountain bikes recommended)**

Heading west from the Wendouree Road intersection, this loop travels a short distance along Main North Road to the Caravan Park before turning west at the Clare Valley Visitor Information Centre. It follows the major scenic drive through the Skilly Hills to Spring Gully Conservation Park. The loop then heads sharply downhill to the east, past more cellar doors, and meets the main trail at the College Road intersection.

THE RATTLER TRAIL

19km trail that runs from Riverton to Auburn, connecting Auburn with the Riesling Trail.

THE RATTLER TRAIL

Riverton to Auburn 19km

In early 2010, the Rattler Trail was officially opened, providing an extension to the Riesling Trail running south from Auburn to the town of Riverton, providing cyclists and walkers an extra 19km to get their teeth into.

Not only for cyclists, it is a beautiful walking trail with scenery to delight everyone, passing through rolling farmlands, vineyards and a dairy.

The trails run from the former Auburn railway station (now home to Mount Horrocks Wines) through to the Riverton Oval. Rhynie is the intermediate town with a rest shelter on the site of the old Rhynie railway station and the Rhynie Hotel is close by. Car parking is available at Riverton Oval, Rhynie and in Auburn by Mt Horrocks. There are public toilets at all three towns.

RIVERTON TRAILS

You will find these lovely trails in the town of Riverton.

As you walk or cycle along any of these five loop trails you'll discover some historic landmarks and the natural beauty of the Gilbert Valley.

MAWSON TRAIL

The Riesling Trail is also part of one of Australia's premier long-distance cycling trails, the 800km Mawson Trail – an epic ride that traverses the Mount Lofty and Flinders Ranges.



BEST TIMES

Both trails are open all year. Spring and autumn are the loveliest for walking and cycling. Summer can be hot and dry, but generally it is warm with wonderfully cool evenings. Vintage from February- April means seeing the wineries swing into action for harvest. In winter the country is green and lush and mists hover in the gullies.

BIKE HIRE

Cogwebs, Auburn & Clare..... 0400 290 687
 Clare Caravan Park, Clare..... [08] 8842 2724
 Clare Valley Cycle Hire, Clare ... [08] 8842 2782
 Riesling Trail Bike Hire, Clare 0418 777 318
 Sevenhill Cellars, Sevenhill..... [08] 8843 4222

EMERGENCY SERVICES

Ambulance, Police and Fire 000
 for mobile users 112

Non-Emergencies

Ambulance 1300 881 700
 Fire (08) 8842 2000
 Police (08) 8842 2711

Hospital

47 Farrell Flat Road, Clare..... (08) 8842 6500

PHYLLOXERA

South Australia is a declared phylloxera-free state. The phylloxera louse is a significant threat to the health of the valley's vineyards. Users are asked to observe signage at all times and not to enter vineyards without permission.



www.clarevalley.com.au

Whilst every effort has been made to ensure the accuracy of this brochure, neither the publishers or producers can be held responsible for errors, changes or omissions to the information included. All information contained in this publication is correct at the time of printing. © Copyright Clare Valley Tourism 2011

