Caution

Lilydale to Warburton Rail Trail

- LOCATION: Yarra Range, 4km east of Berwick
- STARTS: Lilydale Station, Maroondah Hwy (Melway 29 E4)
- FINISHES: Behind the Warburton Waterwheel, Station Rd (Melway 270 B5)
- DISTANCE: 38km one way, 76km return
- GRADIENT: Gentle slope up to and down from Mt Evelyn mostly flat
- SURFACE: Mostly hard packed gravel with bridge and road crossings. The last 3km to Warburton is sealed.
- SUITABLE FOR: All levels of fitness and families. This trail can be used by some wheelchairs. But please be conscious of the surface, gradients and road crossings.
- FOOD & DRINK: There are many eateries in the towns which the trail passes. There are also several unique cafes situated right on the trail at Mt Evelyn, Seville and Warburton.

The terrain...

ELEVATION ABOVE SEA LEVEL (metres)

The Lilydale to Warburton Rail Trail is one of Australia’s iconic Rail Trails which meanders through the Yarra Valley between the Dandenong Range and the Great Dividing Range. The 38km recreation trail for walkers, cyclists and horse riders follows the path of the historical railway line which was established in the 1900’s to service the agricultural industry of the time. Take the time to enjoy the spectacular views of the Yarra Ranges National Park, pass through beautiful bushland, wineries and farmlands.

Located only one hour from Melbourne by car or train, the Warby Trail is a great place to visit on a day trip or why not stay overnight in a bed and breakfast. Stop in any of the towns along the way to experience the local produce and discover what the Yarra Valley is all about.

Getting there...

Train

Metro Trains www.metrotains.com.au
Services run regularly between Melbourne and Lilydale. Visit the website for timetables and information about transporting bikes on trains.

Bus

Martyrs Bus Service
www.martyrs.com.au
Bus service from Lilydale to Warburton and return. Contact Martyrs about timetable and transporting bikes on buses.

Drive and Park

Drive and park at one of the many access points along the length of the Trail. Ample parking is available at Lilydale Station, Woori Yallock, Launching Point and Yarra Junction. Further parking and picnic facilities are available at Mt Evelyn, Woori Kialla, Milgrove and Warburton.

Bike Hire

Bike hire is available at
Yarra Valley Cycles (03) 9735 1483
104 Main St, Lilydale opposite the station
COG Bicycle Cafe (03) 9766 2213
On the Trail at 42 Station Rd, Warburton
http://cogbicyclecafe.com

Emergency info...

Police, Fire, Ambulance
Dial 000 or 112 from mobiles
Quote the number of the nearest Emergency Authority (as pictured)
Yarra Ranges Council
1300 368 333 (24hr number)

Other contacts...

Friends of the Lilydale to Warburton Rail Trail (03) 9766 3062
This voluntary group promotes use of the Trail. Involves the community in trail development and maintenance and advocates for the future needs of the Trail.

Upper Yarra Museum
www.upperyarramuseum.org.au
Located within the original Lilydale station house now situated on the trail in Yarra Junction, provides fantastic interactive displays of the region’s history. Open 11-4 Wed. Sun.

Rail Trails Australia www.railtrails.org.au
A non-for-profit organisation which works for the development and promotion of a rail trail network Australia-wide.

Bicycle Network Victoria
www.bicyclenetwork.com.au
A not-for-profit organisation dedicated to supporting and promoting bike riding in Victoria.

RACV Bike Assist (13 11 11)
Warburton Visitor Information Centre
3400 Warrburn Hwy, Warburton 3799
(03) 9766 7600 www.warburtoninfo.com

Secure bike parking bays at Lilydale Station. For information www.parkbikeernet.com.au or 1300 546 576

History...

Built by pick and shovel in an astonishing 18 months, the Warburton Railway was completed in 1901 to carry fruit and vegetables from the Warburton Gardens in the foothills of the Dandenongs to Melbourne.

Trains also took timber from the forests of Warburton and Powlett. It used to be claimed that Yarra Junction was second only to Seattle, USA, in the volume of timber passing along its tracks.

The 1960’s and 1970’s, due to the increased use of automobiles and fewer passenger numbers, saw the end of the railway and it was closed down and dismantled. For some time the land where the railway once stood was left vacant. During the 1980’s a group of residents identified this land would make the perfect location for a Rail Trail.

After spending some time lobbying with Local and State governments, a Committee of Management was formed and construction began in 1996. With great excitement the Lilydale to Warburton Rail Trail was officially opened in 1999 and has been used recreational trail since.

Over the years the ‘Warby Rail’ as it is affectionately known, has further developed with the ‘Yarra Ranges Council’ now the Committee of Management. In 2011 the missing link’, being the connecting bridge over the Maroondah Highway in Lilydale, was constructed and officially opened.

For more, visit the Upper Yarra Museum located on the trail at Yarra Junction.

The ‘Warby Trail’

LILYDALE TO WARBURTON RAIL TRAIL
POCKET GUIDE

THE ‘WARBY TRAIL’

YARRA RANGE TO WARBURTON RAIL TRAIL IN TOTAL LENGTH 31 KM

1 WAY

CAUTION

The Lilydale to Warburton Rail Trail is 31km in total length ONE WAY.

- Cycling the entire trail is 34 hours ONE WAY.
- Wear for a person of good fitness.
- Only attempt distances within your capability.
- Additional carry on your bike safety kit.
- Always carry drink, food and suitable clothing.
- Always check the OSHA website for current fire danger ratings and bushfire warnings.
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- Always check the OSHA website for current fire danger ratings and bushfire warnings.

Code of conduct...

For your safety and enjoyment whilst using the trail please observe the following:

- Always be well behaved and courteous to all times.
- PLEASE pick up after your dog.
- Cross roads with care.
- Poo motorcycles or unauthorised vehicles are allowed on the trail.
- Respect the environment, take your rubbish home & do not damage or remove vegetation.
- Always keep left and in others past.
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- Always check the OSHA website for current fire danger ratings and bushfire warnings.
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Lilydale - Mount Evelyn 6.9km
The trail begins at the rear of the Lilydale Railway Station car park with ample all day parking available. Enter the Recreation Reserve to the right and then cross Lilydale Creek bridge to start your journey. Follow the trail past the original turntable and around Mt Lilydale. Mercy College. Cross the impressive Monaroah Highway Overpass to make your way up through delightful bushland surroundings.

Mount Evelyn - Wandin 5.4km
From Mount Evelyn the trail heads downhill to Wandin, crossing the busy Monbulk Road where thousands of people once stood to wave the Queen on her journey in the Royal carriage to Warburton back in 1856. As Bailey Road and Stringers Creek you will cross the first of many restored rail bridges. Cross the Warburton Highway with care and enter the Wandin Station Site. The entrance gates, and platform have been restored and the Rotary Interpretation Shelter provides interesting information on the trails. Here is ample car parking with picnic areas. The Wandin Township shops, cafes & toilets are just a short diversion up the highway for you to refuel your energy stores.

Wandin - Seville 3.4km
The trail continues to offer views out over Wandin North whilst skirting the old railway line as it crosses Solway Avenue, Burgil Hill Road and Victoria Road. This section travels through large agricultural areas. An interesting side trip will have you down a path to the trail to the Seville Township, following the Wandin Yallock Creek. Cool off at the unique Seville Water Play Park which offers toilets, parking, barbecue, and picnic facilities. Stop to admire the old railway carriage which has been beautifully restored at the Carriage Cafe. Back on the main trail, cross Victoria Road to find Seville Station on the left with the original platform supports still remaining and a small car park.

Seville - Killara 3.3km
Cruise through beautiful bushland down onto open pastures to Killara Station. Here the landscape changes from intensive horticulture to vine and grazing country. The Station provides beautiful rural views, picnic tables and horse yards making it an popular rest stop. A small car park is located along Kyle Lane just off Sunnycoek Road.

Killara - Woori Yallock 4km
From Killara the trail continues to follow down to the Yarra River Valley floodplain. Enjoy vistas across grazing country, to the central highlands of Mount Dandenong and Divernon, and March over the Woori Yallock Creek on the old restored 173m long bridge. The Woori Yallock Station is a popular starting point for equestrian riders and those not wanting to complete the whole trail. This spot provides picnic areas and there is ample room for horse float parking, not to mention beautiful views of the valley. The Woori Yallock Township is 500m up the hill providing amenities and refreshments.

Woori Yallock - Launching Place 6.4km
Cross the Koo Wee Rup–Healesville Road and swing past rural areas along the banks of the Yarra River in an area known as The Don Valley. Continue to Hoddles Creek, the trail hugs the valley wall, passing through a cutting and over the busy Warburton Highway (C215) to enter Launching Place. A large car park sits next to the Homes Hotel and in front of the remaining station platform.

Launching Place - Yarra Junction 2.1km
The trail then hugs the southern side of the valley, crosses Warburton Highway at Condrony Road and heads into Yarra Junction. A popular rest stop at the Upper Yarra Museum, which is housed in the original Lilydale Station Building. Continuing through the township the trail travels the upper Little Yarra River and a large recreation reserve is provided with parking and public toilet facilities. Just above the trail you’ll find community markets, eateries and accommodation.

Yarra Junction - Millgrove 5.2km
Along the tracks several restored bridges; the trail travels into the floodplain offering magnificent views of the Yarra Ranges National Park. The trail then leads past the Weir, the Yarra and near to the Millgrove wetlands which attract a variety of water birds. Further along it reaches Millgrove Station which sits close to parking facilities, public toilet facilities and the Warburton Highway crossing.

Millgrove - Warburton 3.3km
The last leg of the journey takes you through densely vegetated native forests along side the Little Yarra River. This stretch of trail is sealed and follows a gentle gradient up into the Riverside township of Warburton. Your journey will conclude at the station site which sits behind the Warburton Visitor Information Centre and near the COG Cafe. Close by are many trails including the Oldham Aqueduct Trail. The picturesque township has plenty of cafes, accommodation, parking and a public bus service.