

No. 24 CYCLE: WOOLSHED VALLEY/BEECHWORTH

Saturday, Circuit. 45 km 6 hours 8% Ascent 600m *The ride is mostly gravel, Some sections are loose.*

This bike ride is circuit through historical Beechworth and Woolshed valley (Chiltern-Mt Pilot National Park) on quiet roads and laneways. A gravel bike would be ideal; a mountain bike would be fine. A sturdy hybrid-type (including electric) may also be okay. It is not suitable for road bikes.

Getting To The Start (-36.3197, 146.6683)

From Wangaratta, the carpark in Woolshed Falls Road is 45 km (45 minutes). It is off Mcfeeters Road. From Beechworth CBD, it is 10km (10 minutes) north along the Beechworth-Chiltern Road towards Wodonga then turn left at the sign to Woolshed Falls.

WALK DESCRIPTION

Head south on a very quiet farm lane, Malakoff Road, for 6km or so towards Beechworth. It is a steep ascent, much of it at 7-8% gradient. We won't rush this section.

In Beechworth we will do a small circuit within the town past historical buildings including the Ovens Goldfields hospital Façade, old Beechworth Gaol, and Courthouse.

Leaving town, we will head along quiet roads and lanes (Sheep Station Creek Road, Masons Road) before a steep descent into the valley.

The final section is 'undulating flat' along Woolshed Road. We'll pass several roadside plaques which recount the goldmining and bushranger history in the valley.

In Beechworth, it will be too early to stop for lunch, so bring lunch and snacks for the day.