

**RUTHERGLEN ELDORADO LOOP (Approx 85 kms)**  
**RUTHERGLEN / ELDORADO / BEECHWORTH (Approx 70 kms one way)**  
**RUTHERGLEN / ELDORADO / BEECHWORTH / RUTHERGLEN (Approx 115 kms)**  
**BEECHWORTH / STANLEY LOOP (Approx 28 kms)**

A longer ride along relatively flat roads to the historic gold-mining town of Eldorado, down some lovely country back roads.

[Click here to view the details and terrain of the route.](#)

LHS = Left Hand Side          RHS = Right Hand Side

<b>Kms</b>	<b>Comments</b>
0	Commence the ride from the Rutherglen Wine Experience car park. Turn left from the car park and then turn right towards Springhurst.
3.3	Two storey old brick barn on the RHS.
6.0	Baker Seeds on the RHS. They produce a range of cereals, oil seeds, grasses, annual and perennial clovers and pulses.
8.2	Old shearing shed on the RHS.
8.6	Historic sign and former site of the Lilliput State School.
9.1	Lilliput Wines a short distance down Withers Rd. The smallest working winery in Rutherglen. Open Fri – Sun and public holidays.
14.5	Turnoff to Springhurst township, population 474.
15.0	Cross over the railway line, proceed through the roundabout and across the bridge over the Hume Fwy to the Gayfer Rd 'T' intersection. Turn right.
16.2	Old stone cottage on the LHS.
16.3	Turn Right just past the stone cottage down Sanderson Rd which turns into Benton Rd. Proceed along Benton Rd which runs parallel to the Hume Fwy.
19.7	'T' intersection at Cemetery Rd (Sign saying 'Leighlands Stud'). Veer slightly right at the intersection and continue along Benton Rd.
27.2	Intersection with Carrargarmungee Estate Rd. Turn Left and proceed down this quiet country road, surrounded by a quintessential Australian rural landscape.
35.4	Intersection of Eldorado Rd. Turn left.
39.7	The Eldorado Gold Dredge was the largest in the Southern Hemisphere and commenced operations in 1936 and ceased in 1954. In total it produced 70,664 ounces of gold and 1,383 tons of tin concentrate. The dredge has remained tied up at Eldorado since it closed.
42	Eldorado township, nestled in its own little valley.

**Option A** – If it's a hot day and you feel like a swim, keep on heading along Main Street out of town for about 1.7km, where you'll see a lake on the LHS. Access to the lake is via the dirt tracks before the lake becomes visible from the road. You'll have to 'walk' road bikes along these tracks.

**Option B** – Grab a drink / food at the Eldorado General Store before heading back to Rutherglen, the way you came. (Toilets across the road from the store.)

**Option C – Beechworth Option:** Return to Rutherglen through Beechworth via either the Murray to Mountains Rail Trail or the Beechworth Wangaratta Rd. Reset your bike 'computer' to zero at the Eldorado General Store if taking this option. A very challenging ride.

- 0 Eldorado General Store. Continue on (past the General Store) along the Eldorado Tarrawingee Rd towards Beechworth and the Murray to Mountains Rail Trail. This is a fantastic undulating cycling road with great views, good surface and little traffic.
- 8.5 Murray to Mountains Rail Trail. 100m from the crossing on the RHS is the old Tarrawingee Station, which is now a rest area with toilets and water. Decide here whether you wish to take the Rail Trail to Beechworth (approx 21 kms) or the road (approx 19kms). The Rail Trail surface is suitable for road bikes.
- Road Route**
- 9.4 Turn left at the Beechworth Wangaratta Rd towards Beechworth. The road is undulating and is generally uphill all the way, which can be tough in sections. The first section is a slow steady climb with predominantly a good road shoulder.
- 16 You'll start to see vineyards appearing on both sides of the road. The Beechworth region is renowned for its high quality, cool climate wines with Chardonnay, Pinot Noir and Shiraz being stand outs.
- When you pass the **B10km** sign, it's basically all up hill from here into Beechworth but the shoulder is quite wide and well maintained.
- 26.5 The outskirts of Beechworth with a long descent into town.
- 28.4 Wardens Café on the RHS. Good spot for coffee.

**Total Ride Distance from Rutherglen via Eldorado to Beechworth = Approx 70 kms**

(N.B. If you do not wish to ride back to Rutherglen, you could consider meeting up with friends or members of your party for lunch / coffee etc in Beechworth. Just make sure they bring the bike rack! There's plenty to see and do in Beechworth.)

**Rail Trail Route**

- 8.5 Turn left onto the Rail Trail and head towards Everton. This section of the trail is relatively flat.
- 14.5 Everton Station. Continue along the trail until you see the Beechworth turn off, where you'll veer left. The trail from here is a steady climb all the way to Beechworth.
- 24.5 Baarmutha Station (site). Former site of the Baarmutha railway station. It's still uphill all the way to Beechworth but at least you've only got 6kms left to ride!
- 30.5 Beechworth – end of the line!

## **Beechworth to Stanley Return = 28 kms**

For those cyclists who continually wish to challenge themselves whilst riding along some magic country roads, then this is the option for you. If you've already ridden up the Rail Trail from Everton to Beechworth, then head in to town and grab a coffee and a bite to eat before you tackle the Stanley loop.

0 Turn right at the end of the Rail Trail and head up the hill. Take the left turn towards Stanley. The route is generally uphill most of the way to Stanley with some beautiful scenery enroute.

Stanley is a renowned fruit growing area and about halfway along the route, you'll start to see chestnut orchards, apples and cherries.

9 As you come into Stanley, you'll see the general store on your LHS. Turn right just past the general store and you'll see the Stanley Pub, with its fabulous beer garden. This is a great place for a cold, cleansing ale in summer or a warming bowl of soup in the winter.

Continue along past the pub in the Myrtleford direction. The road becomes more undulating and winding with some good hills. It passes through some lovely forested areas before you come to some extensive fruit orchards on both sides of the road.

14 Snowline Fruits. The very affable Henry Hilton runs Snowline Fruits and you can pick up all manner of delicious fresh fruits, depending what's in season. Make sure you bring a back pack to load up with apples, stone fruit, berries, walnuts, honey and fresh juices.

28 Return to Beechworth.

## **Beechworth to Rutherglen = 44kms**

0 Set computer to zero at the Roundabout opposite the Post Office in Beechworth. Head out along the Beechworth Wodonga Rd.

2.8 Take the left turn towards Chiltern. This is a steep and winding section of road, known locally as the Laserina. It's obviously a lot easier going down than coming up.

11.5 After passing through a series of smaller hills, you will commence the last major climb which will take you up and over Mt Pilot. It's now all downhill from here as the road passes through some lovely rural countryside.

26 Chiltern. You can grab a coffee at the coffee shop on the corner or turn left down the Main Street and visit the bakery on the RHS. Head back towards Rutherglen.

44 Rutherglen

