



ON YOUR BIKE AROUND BEAUFORT



See the countryside from two wheels and enjoy the freedom and freshness of our patch. Whether you're a family looking for some fun, a serious road cyclist or somewhere in between, there's an option to suit.

Remember that Beaufort is serviced by VLine trains from Ballarat, Melbourne and Ararat, so you can always jump on board with your bike and take the hassle out of driving altogether.

Do call in to the Beaufort Visitor Information Centre in the town centre before you set out and see our friendly staff, which can help with maps, weather condition updates and warnings, and details of known road or track closures.

Family fun

Beaufort Lake and surrounds

A dirt / gravel track extends around Beaufort Lake and is suitable for hybrids, mountain bikes and kiddies' bikes – and all off roads so no need to worry about the traffic. There's a choice of distances with the shortest being about 3km and the longest closer to 4km. There are also walkers using the track, so take care and be courteous – use your bell if you're coming up behind someone so they know you're there!

Bike and Skate Park

On Beggs Street, next to the new kids' playground you'll find a much loved and well used bike and skate park. Suitable for young kids as well as teens, it's a different way to get on your bike around town.

Skipton – Ballarat Rail Trail

If you've got bike transportation options, a short drive to Skipton will take you to the rail trail that continues all the way to Ballarat. Just cycle as far as you like, remembering of course that you'll have to turn around and do the same distance back! At Linton, to the east of Skipton on the main highway, you'll find a gorgeous rail trail station, with parking, landscaping, BBQs, Skate Park and playground – a perfect base for some cycling, lunch and whiling away the afternoon.

Mountain biking and dirt road routes

Mount Cole State Forest

Pick up the Forest Notes brochure / map from the visitor centre and go exploring in this fabulous state forest. Whilst the walking tracks featured in DEPI's brochure, including the Beeripmo Walk, really aren't suitable for bikes, there's plenty of road and 4WD tracks to test you out. Remember there are plenty of other forest users too, including walkers, campers, horses, 4WDs and trail bikes, so stay alert and keep safe.



Old Shirley Road

Just as you leave town on the main highway, you'll find Old Shirley Road branching off to your left. After a short distance it becomes a dirt road servicing many semi-rural properties, and when you get to the top of the hill there's a fair view of Mt Buangor / Mt Cole and the Grampians. Turn right into Grampians View Road, which will take you to the Western Highway, where you should turn right back towards Beaufort. After a short distance on the Highway (take care – lots of big trucks!) you can turn left into Martins Lane, which runs into Back Raglan Road and will deliver you safely back to the town centre.

11.5 km, some sealed road but mostly dirt roads, some corrugation, and small section of highway cycling.

Road cycling

Lexton Road / Racecourse Road loop

Leave Beaufort town centre on the Lexton Road, continue on until you find Trawalla Road on your right and turn into it. A relatively short distance will bring you to a crossroads, where you should take Racecourse Road to the right, past the gold mining remains and back to Beaufort town centre.

14 km, all sealed road, roads are narrow and there are occasional trucks using them.

Chute / Amphitheatre / Elmhurst / Raglan loop

This is a bigger challenge for the serious cyclist, but includes some stunning scenery along the way. Head out of Beaufort on the Raglan Road, after about 7km turn right towards Chute. Follow the sharp bend in the road at Chute, continue on through Mount Lonarch, take care on the steep descent, enjoy the beautiful valley scenery and follow the signs to Amphitheatre where you can take a rest break if you need. Turning left onto the Pyrenees Highway here, you'll continue on to just before Elmhurst village where you then take the Raglan-Elmhurst Road to your left (signposted for the Beeripmo Walk). Just follow this road all the way back to Beaufort. Along some parts of this road, particularly the newly sealed and widened road between Mount Cole and Mount Lonarch forests, you could just about picture yourself being in France, doing the big road race itself.

69 km, all sealed roads, but some are quite narrow, minimal traffic.

