The Lilydale to Warburton Rail Trail is one of Australia’s iconic Rail Trails which meanders through the Yarra Valley between the Dandenong Ranges & the Great Dividing Range. Enjoy the spectacular views of the Yarra Ranges National Park. Pass through beautiful bushland, wineries & 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 & breakfast. Stop in any of the townships along the way to experience the local produce & discover what the Yarra Valley is all about.

One of the great train journeys of the world minus the train!

Keith Dunstan OAM (Author & founder Bicycle Institute of Victoria)

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Over the years the ‘Warby Trail’ as it is affectionately known, has further developed with the Yarra Ranges Council now the Committee of Management. For more information and historic photo’s, visit the Upper Yarra Museum located on the trail at Yarra Junction.

HISTORY..

Built by pick & shovel in an astonishing 18 months, the Warburton Railway was completed in 1901 to carry fruit & vegetables from the Wandin farmlands in the foothills of the Dandenong’s to Melbourne. Trains also took timber from the forests of Warburton & Powelltown. It used to be claimed that Yarra Junction was second only to Seattle, USA, in the volume of timber passing along it’s tracks. The 1960’s & 1970’s, due to the increased use of automobiles & low passenger numbers, saw the end of the railway & it was closed down & 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 & State governments a Committee of Management was formed & construction began in 1996. With great excitement the Lilydale to Warburton Rail Trail was officially opened in 1998 as a shared use recreational trail.

The Lilydale to Warburton Rail Trail is 40kms in total length one way! Cycling this distance takes 4 hours ONE WAY for a person of good fitness. Always carry water & avoid hot periods of the day. During the fire season always visit the CFA website for current fire danger rating & bushfire warnings. Wear appropriate footwear & clothing for your chosen activity & the weather. Don’t forget your helmet if riding.

ITALIC: This Trail is shared use. Use good judgement & common sense. Respect other trail users, the environment & neighbours.

CAUTION!

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• Cycling this distance takes 4 hours ONE WAY for a person of good fitness
• Only attempt distances within your capability
• Always carry water & avoid hot periods of the day
• During the fire season always visit the CFA website for current fire danger rating & bushfire warnings
• Wear appropriate footwear & clothing for your chosen activity & the weather
• Don’t forget your helmet if riding

FOOD & DRINK

There are cafés situated on the trail at Mt Evelyn, Seville & Warburton. Alternatively find an eatery in one of the townships.

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LILYDALE TO MOUNT EVELYN 6.9KM
The trail begins on Main St Lilydale near Olinda creek through Lilydale Recreation Reserve. Follow the trail past the original turntable and around Mt Lilydale Mercy College. Cross the Maroondah Hwy overpass & up the gentle gradient. After the tunnel at Hereford Road take time to explore the historic First Aid Post Reserve before continuing on your journey to Mount Evelyn.

Connect with the Mount Evelyn Aqueduct Trail at Monbulk Road & Joy Ave. The Aqueduct was decommissioned in 1972. Follow the trail for approximately 4kms to end at Hunter Road in Silvan.

MOUNT EVELYN TO WANDIN 5.4KM
From Mount Evelyn the trail heads downhill to Wandin where thousands of people once stood to wave to the Queen on her journey in the Royal carriage to Warburton back in 1956. Cross the Warburton Hwy with care & enter the Wandin Station Site. The station provides beautiful rural views & picnic tables making it a popular rest stop.

SEVILLE TO KILLARA 3.3KM
Cruise through beautiful bushland down onto open pastures to Killara Station. The station provides beautiful picnic & under cover rest facilities. Back on the main trail you’ll find Seville Station & a small carpark.

KILLARA TO WOORI YALLOCK 4KM
The trail continues a slow descent to the Yarra Valley floodplain. Enjoy vistas of Mounts Riddell & Donna Buang. Wooyi Yallock station is a popular starting point for those not wanting to complete the whole trail. This spot provides picnic & under cover rest areas, toilets are location approx. 30mt across the road in the playground. There is ample parking for horse-floats, & the Wooyi Yallock township is located 500m up the hill.

WOORI YALLOCK TO LAUNCHING PLACE 6.4KM
Cross the Koo Wee Rup–Healesville Road & swing past rural areas along the banks of the Yarra River in an area known as Don Valley. Once over Heddles Creek, the trail hugs the valley wall, passing through a cutting to enter Launching Place.

Connect to the Don Road Trail on Don Road for a pleasant trip to the Don Valley.

YARRA JUNCTION TO MILLGROVE 5.2KM
After crossing several bridges the trail travels onto the floodplain offering magnificent views of the Yarra Ranges National Park. Further along it reaches Millgrove Station which sits close to parking, picnic facilities & toilets.

MILLGROVE TO WARBURTON 3.3KM
The last leg of the journey takes you through densely vegetated native forests along side the Yarra River. The stretch of the trail is sealed and follows a gentle gradient up into the riverside township of Warburton. Your journey concludes at the station site located behind the Warburton Visitor Information Centre & near the COG Café. Here you can access many other trails including the O’Shannassy Aqueduct Trail.

Warburton Visitor Information Centre - located at the Water Wheel 3400 Warburton Hwy