

NEWSTEAD TO MALDON CYCLING LOOPS



Short Loop 26 kms or Longer Loop 35 kms. Start and finish at Rotunda Park in Newstead

Enjoy the Muckleford State Forest. Features of interest include a diverse range of flora and fauna. Of particular note is the box-ironbark forest, the range of bird life and the wild flower displays in the springtime. There is also evidence of gold mining.

The routes are mainly on gravel roads with some bitumen in the townships.

Very robust wheel chairs, mountain or hybrid bikes are recommended.

There is also the option to (1) visit the Heritage Listed Red, White and Blue Mine for a picnic and/or to do the interpretive walk, (2) catch the steam train from Maldon to Castlemaine as a side trip or (3) explore the Beehive Chimney and Mine Site or (4) follow the Castlemaine to Maldon Trail to Castlemaine.

Both Newstead and Maldon offer a range of eating places.

! For your safety, please:

- Wear Hi Viz gear
- Take a repair kit
- Take water and snacks
- Take sunscreen
- Take a first aid kit
- Beware of disused mine shafts off track

Short Loop 26 kms

Please note the climb up McLarens Road is a good warm up, and the toughest hill on the ride.

- Turn L out of Rotunda Park along Clyde St
- L into Cameron Rd
- R into MacLaren Rd
- Continue to the sign post for Fence Track and Bruces Track
- Follow Bruces Track
- At the 'Y' intersection take the R fork, unsigned track (along fence line of private property)
- L onto Mia Mia Track
- After approx. 2kms turn R onto Bells Lane Track and go through the Muckleford Nature Conservation Reserve
- After approx. 2 kms turn sharp L onto Red, White and Blue Track

If you continue along Bells Lane Track for approx. 100 metres you will reach the Red, White and Blue Mine Site and Picnic Area.

- Go straight across Pullens Road to follow Nevilles Track
- L onto Baxters Track
- L onto Sandy Creek Road
- Pass property number 361 on your R
- After a short distance look for overgrown old ruins on your R
- Just past the ruins turn R onto an unnamed track across a usually dry ford
- Then turn R onto Popeks Road
- Turn R onto Newstead Maldon Road C283 and follow it into town - go across the Castlemaine turn off and up the hill, past evidence of gold mining, to the start of the shops.
- Turn R into Main St which becomes the Maldon-Bendigo Road and continues as Hornsby Street
- Maldon Railway Station will be on your L.

Long Loop 35 Kms

As for the Short Loop until you reach Pullans Road

- Cross Pullan's Road and follow Nevilles Track
- At the Castlemaine Maldon Road turn L then immediately R to follow Smiths Reef Track
- Turn L onto Tatt Town Track
- Here you will connect with Railway Track which is a part of the Castlemaine Maldon Trail
- Turn L onto Railway Track which becomes bitumen
- Cross Maldon Bendigo Road (Morris St) and follow Hornsby Street
- Turn R along the cycle/footpath to Maldon Railway Station
- To reach shops and cafes continue downhill from the railway station and turn L onto Beehive Track
- Turn L down Main Street to the town centre

Return From Maldon

- From Main Street turn L at the junction with the C283 (Maldon Newstead Road),
- Turn L into Popeks Road - bitumen will become gravel
- Turn sharp L at bottom of culvert - dip through Sandy Creek Ford
- At junction with Sandy Creek Road turn R.
- Turn L onto Mia Mia Track
- At the fork stay L
- Cross Pullans Road, after a minor ford and continue on Mia Mia Track
- Turn R at fork and cross Bells Lane Track
- Continue on Mia Mia Track (retracing our earlier route)
- Turn R into Bruces Track
- Continue past Fence Track onto MacLaren Road
- Turn L onto Cameron Road
- Turn R onto Clyde Street
- Return to Rotunda Park

Newstead Walks and Wheels would like to acknowledge the significant pro bono support of Cartography Community Mapping, Pollen Studio and Crystal Graphics. August 2025



NEWSTEAD-MALDON LOOPS

Datum, WGS84. Zone, 55H. Grid 1000 m. Scale at A4, ~1:48,000

Roads: sealed, unsealed, tracks

Take care, short route, long route



Concept and route planning by Newstead Walks and Wheels, NWW,
<https://newstead2021.org/>

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