

**TRACK NOTES**  
 The Old Beechy Rail Trail is challenging, with undulating terrain and exhilarating descents. This linear trail can be completed in either direction in full or in shorter sections. Different sections are suitable for different abilities. Trip metre distances are shown from start to finish in italics.

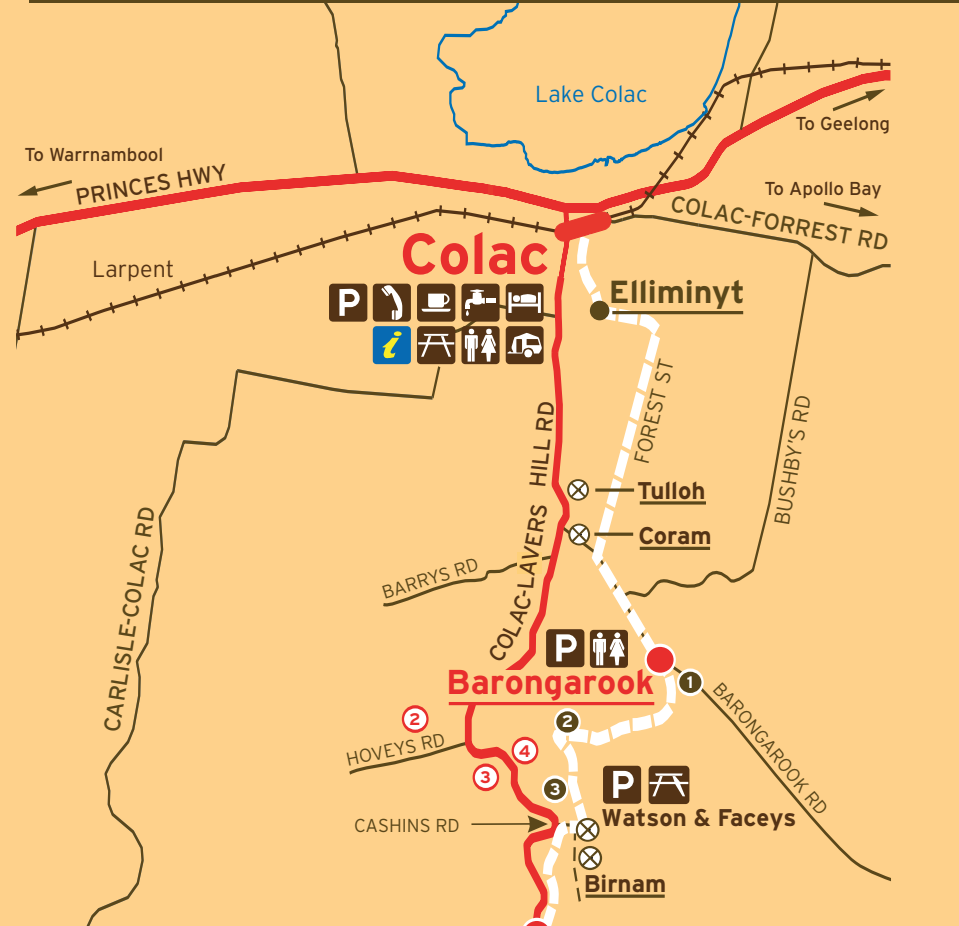
**TRACK CONDITIONS**  
 Suitable for walkers and mountain, hybrid and bmx bikes with wider tyres.

**GATES**  
 Timber chicanes are found along the trail, which may prevent bikes with trailers or three-wheelers. For keys, phone Colac Otway Shire, 03 5232 9400.

**POPULAR RIDES**

- Start at Gellibrand, heading uphill in either direction. Return downhill to Gellibrand to finish.
- Barongarook to Gellibrand (15.8km). Car shuffle required.
- Beech Forest downhill to Gellibrand (18.4km). Car shuffle required.

**Times are estimated for people of average fitness and experience. First time cyclists or walkers may need to allow longer.**



**COLAC - BARONGAROOK**  
 Distance: 10.6km one way  
 Time: Ride 45-60min, Walk 2hr 40min  
 Difficulty: Med-Difficult, steady uphill, gravel road  
 Terrain: Local roads, sealed and gravel  
 Suitable: Intermediate, good fitness  
 Start: Colac Railway Station, Gellibrand St  
 Finish: Barongarook Hall, Barongarook Rd (10.6km)

Depart Colac over the rail footbridge. Start a 2.5km climb as you leave town, offering great views over Colac. Enjoy a well-deserved downhill rest as you hit bitumen to the Barongarook Hall.

**BARONGAROOK - WATSON & FACEY'S**  
 Distance: 6.3km one way  
 Time: Ride 25min, Walk 1hr 35min  
 Difficulty: Easy  
 Terrain: Local sealed & gravel road, gravel path  
 Suitable: Beginners & Families  
 Start: Barongarook Hall, Barongarook Rd  
 Finish: Birnum Station Picnic Area, Cashins Rd (16.9km)

Just past the Hall, turn right onto Alford Rd. Find the original train line for the first time. Check out 103 mile post at the chicane. From here enjoy a gently sloping 4km descent through beautiful bushland. Second chicane at Cashins Rd. Picnic area to your left.

**WATSON & FACEY'S - KAWARREN**  
 Distance: 3.5km one way  
 Time: Ride 25min, Walk 1hr  
 Difficulty: Medium, Difficult steep up and downhill  
 Terrain: Compacted gravel, heavy gravel downhill  
 Suitable: Int-Advanced  
 Start: Birnum Station Picnic Area, Cashins Rd  
 Finish: Kawarren Toilet Block (20.4km)

Here we lose the original trail. Short 1.1km steep climb (watch for those descending) and steep downhill. Take extreme care. 1.5km (19.7km) along to your right is the farmhouse Cliff Young lived in. Opposite the toilet block is Loves Creek Picnic Area and short loop path.

**KAWARREN - GELLIBRAND**  
 Distance: 6km one way  
 Time: Ride 30min Walk 1hr 30min  
 Difficulty: Easy-Medium, undulating  
 Terrain: Compacted gravel  
 Suitable: Beginners-Intermediate  
 Start: Kawarren Toilet Block  
 Finish: Rex Norman Park (26.4km)

Continue past the tennis courts. Undulating trail through

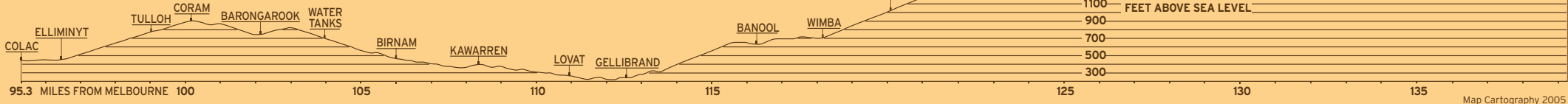


- ### FEATURES ALONG THE TRAIL
- |  |  |
|--|--|
| ① 103 mile post                          | ⑦ Remnant of old bridge                      |
| ② 6 feet diameter culvert under the path | ⑧ Original watertank                         |
| ③ Site of water tank footings            | ⑨ Steam Boiler                               |
| ④ 110 mile post                          | ⑩ Short walk towards Ferguson & scenic views |
| ⑤ Ballast Siding                         | ⑪ Balloon Loop                               |
| ⑥ 115 mile post                          | ⑫ 124 mile post                              |

- ### ROAD DISTANCES
- Colac to Barongarook Rd turn off 8 km
  - Barongarook Rd turn off to Barongarook Hall 3 km
  - Barongarook Rd turn off to Kawarren 10 km
  - Kawarren to Gellibrand 6 km
  - Gellibrand to Ferguson 15 km
  - Ferguson to Beech Forest 5 km
  - Ferguson to Lavers Hill 16 km

For information on other rail trails in Australia - [www.railtrails.org.au](http://www.railtrails.org.au)

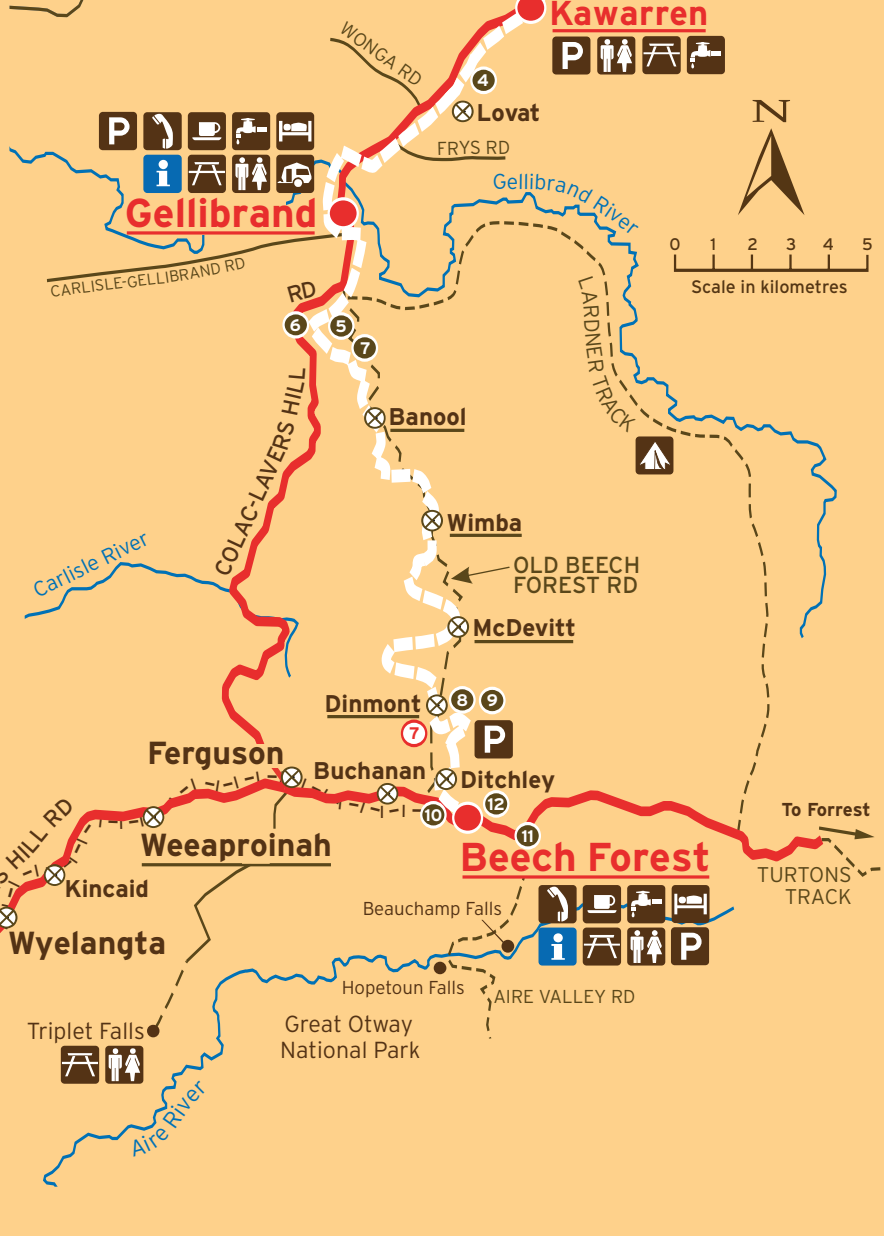
#### ELEVATION MAP - FORMER RAILWAY



- |             |               |
|-------------|---------------|
| Information | Toilets       |
| Phone       | Camping       |
| Dining/Food | Accommodation |
| Water       | Caravan Park  |
| Picnic Area | Parking       |
- Trail suitable for

- Rail Trail
- Former Beech Forest - to Crowes Railway Line
- Railway line
- Main Road
- Minor Road
- Unsealed Road
- Former Rail Infrastructure
- Former Station/Stopping Place (those underlined have station name boards erected)

Attractions, accommodation and services - see overleaf



Continue past the tennis courts. Gradually the trail through bushland with road crossings and small bridges. Take care at the main road crossing. Head past the pub to Rex Norman Park. In the station building, find out more about the trail and its history.

**GELLIBRAND - BANOOL**  
 Distance: 6.3km one way  
 Time: Ride 35 min Walk 1 hr 30min  
 Difficulty: Medium, steady uphill  
 Terrain: Gravel path, some heavy stones  
 Suitable: Intermediate (uphill), Beginners (downhill)  
 Start: Rex Norman Park  
 Finish: Banool Chicane (Old Beech Forest Rd) (32.7km)

This is where the challenge begins if heading uphill. Head past the store and caravan park. Climb steadily on the original line, through farms and picturesque bushland. Old bridge at 2.5km (28.9km). Just past Banool station turn onto the Old Beech Forest Road (gravel).

**BANOOL - DINMONT**  
 Distance: 7.6km one way  
 Time: Ride 1 hr Walk 2hr  
 Difficulty: Med-Difficult, steady uphill  
 Terrain: Local gravel road & gravel path  
 Suitable: Int-Advanced (uphill). Beginners, moderate fitness (downhill)  
 Start: Banool Chicane (Old Beech Forest Rd)  
 Finish: Dinmont Station (40.3km)

2km on steep uphill gravel road. Watch for cars and trucks. Back onto the trail. Temporary trail closures may occur due to plantation harvesting - use Old Beech Forest Rd in this case. Enjoy great views, overhead bridge remains, and ferny forest. Left at farmhouse to Dinmont station.

**DINMONT - BEECH FOREST**  
 Distance: 4.5km one way  
 Time: Ride 35 min, Walk 1hr 15min  
 Difficulty: Med-Difficult, steady uphill  
 Terrain: Local gravel road  
 Suitable: Int-Advanced (uphill). Confident Intermediate (downhill)  
 Start: Dinmont Station  
 Finish: Beech Forest toilet block (44.8km)

Follow the main gravel road to Beech Forest toilet block (trail to be completed 2008). Discover a fascinating range of historic photos inside. Head past the pub to find the original 'Balloon Loop' turning circle and the end of the line in Beech Forest.

**The old train made it uphill from Gellibrand to Beech Forest in about 1 1/2 hours. How did you go?**