



TASMANIA

RIDE GUIDE

MARCH 8 - 10, 2024

**WILD MERSEY WARRAWEE &
SHEFFIELD, DIAL RANGE & PENGUIN**



GINELI



NAVIGATING THIS GUIDE

The event information in this guide is organised to assist you with planning your Quad Crown MTB 'The Wild Penguin' experience and ensuring a pleasurable time in the North West of Tasmania.

Our stages are detailed as accurately as possible, however last-minute course changes do occur for a variety of reasons. Please check our Facebook page for late changes and updates to course alignments.

Toward the back of this Guide, we outline everything you need to know in anticipation of your ride, including timing, awards, accreditation and safety. Please take some time to familiarise yourself, particularly with our start line systems and etiquette.

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DIRECTOR'S WELCOME

We are pumped to welcome everyone back to Tasmania for our second edition of The Wild Penguin and the first event in our Quad Crown MTB Series of events for 2024. Our return to the Cradle Coast and amazing trails around Wild Mersey and Penguin is highly anticipated as we look to build on what was a fantastic inaugural event last year.

As with all events that are run, there are plenty of learning experiences that we will bring to The Wild Penguin the second time around. There are also a heap of things that we learned off running the first series in 2023 across all four events and we are keen to implement some small changes to make this event and all the others in our 2024 series even better again!

The one big change going into this year is the refinement of our unique handicap system which makes the podiums at our events different as we look to crown the best of our Weekend Warriors! The system we use to handicap everyone in our field (outside of the elite riders) took a bit of experimenting and refinement over the four events we ran last year but we now feel like we have got it down pat and working beautifully.

You can find out more info on this handicap system in this Ride Guide and on our website but rest assured by our final two events last year the results were amazing as the Top 3 Weekend Warriors for each stage were riding within less than 10 seconds of their handicap time. This created a really cool ranking system for the average rider and a lot of fun and banter amongst mates. Like the golf handicap system we feel this makes the event open to everyone to get a great result that reflects their ability to ride and enjoy each stage.

The other aspect of our events which will continue to evolve this year are the courses and each individual stage design. A couple of the stages that we ran last year were probably a little

too hard for average rider but rest assured we have tinkered with the courses and will make sure they remain challenging but more importantly fun, and full of the best of the single track from each region we visit!

With the courses for The Wild Penguin we really must pay tribute to the local clubs and individuals that keep these trails in amazing condition throughout the Cradle Coast region. The network of trails under the banner of Wild Mersey are some of the best in Australia and we are really lucky to have access to the stretch between Latrobe and Sheffield for our event. Add to this the brilliant trails at Penguin which have been lovingly maintained by the local club volunteers and we have the perfect recipe for great courses across the weekend!

Speaking of regions – each destination that we pick for a Quad Crown event brings with it something special from a tourism and visitation perspective. We want all our riders to have time off the bike each day to be able to explore the destination, see the sights, try the renown cafes and restaurants and enjoy a well-earned drink or two! There is something great about an active weekend away where you can ride hard and then eat whatever you like without having to count the calories.

To our major partner at Events Tasmania we thank you for your involvement and backing. To all of our suppliers, accommodation providers, management, staff and volunteers, we again thank you for your support as we grow and expand and strive to ultimately achieve our goal of staging Australia's favourite MTB series.

We hope to see you in Tassie for The Wild Penguin but if not we look forward to having you ride in one or more of our upcoming events in 2024 on the Sunshine Coast, Eden or in Omeo Victoria.

SALLY, CHRIS, LIAM AND JASON

Directors



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TASMANIA

EVENT TIMES

FRIDAY **8 MARCH**

2.00 PM

REGISTRATION OPENS

Penguin MTB Park, Montgomery Road, Trailhead

3.00 PM

PRELUDE BEGINS

Penguin MTB Park, Montgomery Road, Trailhead

6.00 PM

WELCOME DRINKS

Penguin Brewing Co, 85 Main Road, Penguin

SATURDAY **9 MARCH**

8.00 AM

REGISTRATION OPENS

Wild Mersey, Warrawee Shale Road

9.00 AM

STAGE 1 - RACE START

Wild Mersey, Warrawee Shale Road

4.00 PM

SOCIAL FUNCTION & PRESENTATIONS

Island State Brewing, 17 Oldaker St, Devonport

SUNDAY **10 MARCH**

9.00 AM

STAGE 2 - RACE START

Crockers Street, Railton

12.00 NOON

PRESENTATIONS & SOCIAL FUNCTION

Seven Sheds Brewery, 22 Crockers Street, Railton

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TASMANIA

FRIDAY 8 MARCH

REGISTRATION, PRELUDE AND PENGUIN BREWING CO



2.00pm Registration Opens // Penguin MTB Park

Penguin MTB Park is located just 2km from the township of Penguin on Tasmania's North West Coast. From the Bass Highway take an exit to Penguin and head South, away from the township follow the signs to the Penguin Regional Sports Centre and onto Ironcliffe Road.

Continue to head up Ironcliffe Road to the intersection with Montgomery Road, turn left into Montgomery Road where parking will be available. Registration is located at the end of this road and the Start/Finish line will be nearby.

Please use extreme caution when driving this road as it forms part of the trail network and therefore you may come across riders.

Registration will clearly be set up at the end of Montgomery Road. Here you'll receive your plate, transponder, event t-shirt and complimentary beer token for our Welcome Drinks later in the evening.

3.00pm Prelude Starts // Penguin MTB Park

Friday afternoon's Prelude is a fun 10km loop at the Penguin MTB Park just a short 20 minute drive west of Devonport. This single-track smash will not only get your legs warm and turn the bike over, it will also give you a base time for your handicap. It incorporates a 10km loop of the best of the single trail here, including an array of tracks known as the Full Monty!

The time you get for the Prelude will be used to determine your personal handicap for the following two stages, which will then be used to calculate the Weekend Warrior awards

6.00pm Welcome Drinks // Penguin Brewing Co

Penguin Brewing Co
85 Main Road, Penguin
Time: 6:00pm – 9.30pm
www.penguinbeerco.com.au

Beers by the beach? Yes please. Penguin Brewing Co has it all – amazing views, delicious food and live events, all while slinging some of the Island States' best range of locally brewed craft beers. Why not try a tasting paddle of Penguin's signature brews?

The guys at Penguin Brewing Co have been an awesome support to The Wild Penguin team and to show what great folk they are, have given each rider a token for a FREE pot to enjoy after the Prelude. Cheers guys! Your beer token is included in your registration pack. You don't need to book in - just show up for a social drink or stay for dinner!

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SATURDAY 9 MARCH



REGISTRATION, STAGE 1 AND ISLAND STATE BREWING

8.00am Registration Opens // Wild Mersey

The Warrawee Trail Head Car Park is at the end of Shale Road, 3.8kms from the centre of Latrobe. To get there make your way to Latrobe and drive along the main street looking out for Hamilton Street. Just turn left onto Hamilton Street and it becomes Shale Road.

You shouldn't be able to get lost once on the road (just keep the river on your right). The car park is at the very end of Shale Road.

Registration will be clearly set up in the Event Carpark.

If you haven't registered yet, here's where you'll receive your plates, transponder, and event T-shirt

9.00am Stage 1 Starts // Warrawee, LaTrobe

Stage 1 on Saturday morning will see riders gather at the northern end of the Wild Mersey trail network at Warrawee, Latrobe. This stage will not only feature the brilliant single track at the Warrawee end of Wild Mersey but also include an out and back on the Railton Express, a beautiful trail that

winds all the way along the Mersey River. The highlight will come with the new Wild Mersey Adventure Trail freshly built just out of Sheffield and nicknamed the "Raptor Trail". Riders can expect a solid 53km stage with over 1000m of climbing.

4.00pm Social Function and Presentations // Island State Brewing

Island State Brewing
17 Oldaker Street, Devonport
Time: 4.00pm onwards
www.islandstatebrewing.com.au

Devonport's only independent craft brewery. Established in 2022 Island State Brewing provides fresh, great-tasting beers brewed on site.

You will sit amongst the stainless steel and experience the sights, smells and tastes of a working brewery. Local beers include the Port City Pale, North West Coast IPA, Mersey River Mid and the ever popular Devonporter.

You don't need to book in - just show up for a social drink or stay for dinner!

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SUNDAY 10 MARCH



STAGE 2, PRESENTATIONS AND SEVEN SHEDS BREWERY

8.00am Registration Opens // Crocker St, Railton

The Stage 2 start line at Railton is a 20 minute drive south of Devonport. For this stage we return to the Wild Mersey trails at the southern end of the network, which without doubt has the best selection of single trail in the region.

9.00am Stage 2 Starts // Railton

An epic stage of testing climbs and fun descents has been designed coming in at around 40km with just under 1000m of elevation. We feel it is only right to issue a warning to all riders who tackle this stage, there is every chance you might be sick of sweet flowing single track when you get to the finish line! The best cure might just be a well-earned burger and beer from Seven Sheds Brewery, our host for the end of race presentations.

12.00pm Social Function and Presentations // Seven Sheds Brewery

Seven Sheds Brewery
22 Crockers Street, Railton
Time: 12.00pm onwards
www.sevensheds.com

Seven Sheds has operated in its original “backyard” premises since 2008 where visitors can see hops growing, sample the brews and meet the brewers. Its range includes a number of beers inspired by ingredients grown and produced in the Cradle Coast region including quinoa, oats, raspberries and honey.

While the style is heavily influenced by English and European ales, Seven Sheds also produces quirky styles including a beetroot steam ale, a barrel-aged india pale ale and a tart cherry saison brewed with Kentish cherries. It also produces a range of mead wines and one or more is usually available for tasting on request. The meads range from sweet and sparkling table wines to dry, medium and spiced meads.

You don't need to book in – just show up for a social drink or stay for dinner!

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RIDE | EXPLORE | COMPETE | REPEAT



FRIDAY 8 MARCH

REGISTRATION, PRELUDE AND
PENGUIN BREWING CO

10KM



SATURDAY 9 MARCH

REGISTRATION, STAGE 1 AND
ISLAND STATE BREWING

59KM



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SUNDAY 10 MARCH

**STAGE 2, PRESENTATIONS
AND SEVEN SHEDS BREWERY**

40KM



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HANDICAP SYSTEM

WEEKEND WARRIORS – HANDICAP SYSTEM

Our unique Quad Crown handicap system is one we have continued to revise across our first year of events. We are now really confident that we have nailed it and our overall goal is achieved - to identify and crown the Weekend Warriors who ride to the best of their ability at each of our events.

This award is open to the whole field of riders (other than the Elites) and in essence you are riding the stages against yourself, much like a golfing handicap system works! Each rider will be given a handicap from the Prelude based on their own time versus the average time for all riders. So it is VERY IMPORTANT that you ride the Prelude if you want to be included in the race for the Warrior Crown!

The Prelude handicap will produce an expected time for Stage 1 which will be compared with your actual time. The rider who gets as close as possible to their expected time will be deemed the Stage winner.

The same will then happen for Stage 2, with your overall comparison times leading to a final placement on the Weekend Warrior Leaderboard. The aim is to identify the “most consistent rider” who can ride to the best of their own ability over each of the stages at The Wild Penguin.

Keep an eye out for the Weekend Warrior Leaderboard after both Stages 1 and 2 as we will present stage winners for both male and female Warriors. At the conclusion of Sunday's Stage, we will award an overall Warrior King and Queen, which will be the riders in the field who raced closest to their handicap time over the two weekend stages. In the end this award is meant to be fun and create some banter amongst mates across various abilities to keep things interesting for all riders!

ELITE RIDERS – IN IT TO WIN IT!

We all know the elite riders are going to be up the front and smashing it like they do at every event. There will still be Leader jerseys for the leading male and female riders as well as podiums at the end to recognise the best of the best. Furthermore, we allocate ranking points from each of the Quad Crown events. At the conclusion of the 2024 Series, an overall winner in the Elite Male and Female categories will be announced. Points are allocated at each event based on the Top 10 places in both the male and female elite categories. The overall 2024 Series winners will be awarded at The Big O in Victoria in November. Our 2023 Quad Crown Series winners were Dan McConnell and Peta Mullens.



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WEEKEND WARRIORS[👑]

Introducing our 2023 King Timothy Eagling and Queen Melissa Britt for The Wild Penguin's inaugural event and our first ever Quad Crown royalty. We can't be called the Quad Crown without some actual crowns right?

The main goal of Quad Crown events is to have FUN. Part of that is our unique handicap system, which helps us search for the riders in our events who have their best race, based on their ability to begin with.

This pretty much means that EVERY rider can be in it to win it. Congrats again Timothy and Melissa for your Weekend Warrior wins in 2023. Let's see if you can defend your crown again in 2024!



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CATEGORIES & AWARDS

The Wild Penguin is less about prize money and more about good times and an epic three days of riding. However, we do wish to acknowledge the riders who perform to the best of their ability and cross the finish line in the best time.

Our handicap system ensures that everyone and anyone is in the mix to be crowned the overall winner of The Wild Penguin (Male and Female) and proclaimed King and Queen. Podium glory, prizing and a taste of royalty await the Male and Female who finish with the fastest adjusted time.

We've been monitoring our handicap system closely over the previous years' events and think we've hit on the winning formula. After the Prelude, we will present a pink and yellow jersey to the overall leaders of the whole field. After Stages 1 and 2, there will be presentations to the Top 3 eBikes, Elites and Warriors. By blending the Open and Masters categories together under the Warrior Crown, we really are acknowledging the Quad Crown King and Queen!

Of course, you can still check your results under these categories (Open, Masters, Super Masters, eBikes and Elite) to see how you performed.

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RIDER JERSEY

Our Quad Crown rider jersey was so popular in 2023 we've brought it back for another season!

The Pro Performance Jersey from series partner Tineli has all the best features combined with style, ensuring you're going to perform as well as look good.

How do you get your hands on one? If you didn't purchase one when completing your registration, you can purchase one at Registration on Friday or Saturday.

Pro Performance Jersey - \$149.95

- Technical fitted jersey with waffle textured main fabric.
- High stretch fabric to comfortably fit a range of body sizes.
- Super lightweight fabric – ideal for hot conditions.
- Highly breathable, great moisture management
- Double stitched pockets and hems for durability.
- Three rear pockets.
- Full coverage, full colour, fade resistant digital sublimation printing



Our Pro Performance Jersey was designed by Tineli.

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MEN'S JERSEY SIZING CHART

SIZE	CHEST	LENGTH
XS	88 cm	64 cm
S	92 cm	67 cm
M	96 cm	70 cm
L	100 cm	73 cm
XL	104 cm	76 cm
XXL	110 cm	79 cm
3XL	116 cm	82 cm

WOMEN'S JERSEY SIZING CHART

SIZE	CHEST	LENGTH
XXS (4)	<74 cm	60 cm
XS (6)	77 cm	62 cm
S (8)	82 cm	64 cm
M (10)	88 cm	66 cm
L (12)	94 cm	68 cm
XL (14)	98 cm	70 cm
XXL (16)	100 cm	72 cm
3XL (18)	>104 cm	74 cm



IMPORTANT RIDE INFORMATION

RIDER REGISTRATION

All riders are required to collect their rider pack prior to the event start. This pack contains your bike plate, transponder, cable ties, a beer voucher for the Welcome Drinks at Penguin Brewing Co and an event t-shirt.

Rider pack collection will be open at Penguin MTB Park on Friday 8 March from 2.00pm and again from 8.00am at Wild Mersey on Saturday 9 March. It is highly recommended that riders collect packs on Friday so that your bike is setup correctly in advance and to avoid time delays.



TIMING

The Wild Penguin is timed electronically by OneTime. You will receive a bike plate, transponder and cable ties in your rider pack. These need to be fixed to your bike for the duration of the event. Please affix your transponder as per the below image. You cannot change transponders with another rider as it is unique to your registration. The Transponders must be handed back at the finish line of your final day of riding. You may keep your plate as a souvenir. If you have a timing issue, please have a chat with our staff at the Race HQ tent.



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IMPORTANT RIDE INFORMATION

ACCIDENTS ON COURSE

If a rider in front of you crashes, this is not an opportunity to pass! Please stop immediately and ask if they need assistance. The first rider on the scene should remain with the rider, if the rider requires medical assistance the second rider on the scene is to remember the rider number and move forward to the next marshal check point with a radio. This will allow for medical assistance to be called and first aid to respond.

RIDER ETIQUETTE

Riders are to be reported to the Event Director if they:

- Disobey road rules;
- Be rude or disrespectful to other riders or marshals;
- Who behave in a way that puts any rider or marshal in danger;
- Is reported to litter on course;

Quad Crown believes in the honest and supportive culture of Mountain Biking and holds the safety of our riders a priority. If you stop to assist a rider with a mechanical or injury, please report to HQ and you will be awarded a time credit for the time spent helping out a fellow rider.

HEALTH AND SAFETY

Whilst there is a portion of the course that is managed by our Traffic Controllers, the majority of it will have live traffic, meaning road rules will apply. Riders must NOT ride in a bunch on the road or take over the lane. It is important to understand that while traffic management is in place, roads remain open to vehicles. Riders must always give way to cars.

Riders who have medical conditions (eg Asthma) must carry their own medication for the duration of the event. All riders should carry enough food, water, basic first aid and a tool kit in their daily ride kit. There will be basic feed stations on the course to allow riders to adequately rest and refuel.

WITHDRAWING FROM THE RIDE

Should a rider decide to withdraw from the ride, they must notify official marshals on course, who will then communicate to the SAG vehicle to come and pick up the rider or alert timing so we're not waiting for you to finish while you're chilling at the after party!

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IMPORTANT RIDE INFORMATION

START LINE – PRELUDE

The Prelude will see riders move through the course one by one with a gap between riders to ensure a clear run. There are overtaking points along the course should you need them and be sure to let a rider overtake should this happen to you.

At the conclusion of the Prelude the results and wave start times for the following Stage will be announced at the Penguin Brewing Co Function and posted on social media. If you can't make the prelude and have registered for the weekend ride, don't stress – you will be given an average time for your seeding. Ebike riders will start at the last wave for all Stages.

START LINE – STAGES 1 & 2

Riders will be called into the Start grids based on their pre-determined Start Times announced the day prior. You will be checked off as you enter the grid, and your transponder will be already programmed to a gun start time.

If you wish to change waves to ride with a mate or you are running late, please let the timing tent know so we can make sure you get an accurate result. You're always welcome to hang back wave to ride with your mates, however we cannot push riders forward a wave

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EXPLANATION OF SERVICES

ITEM	CONTENT
Bag Drop	The Wild Penguin has limited storage available. It is strongly recommended to not leave any belongings at the start or finish lines.
Bike Mechanic	Roam Cycles will be on site each day looking after your bike servicing needs.
Bike Wash	Facilities are available at the start/finish Trail Head on Stage One and 500m from the start/finish line for Stage Two at Goliath Park.
Bottle Drop	The Quad Crown will have a bottle Drop service on Saturday and Sunday of the race. Please ensure your bottle is dropped in the crates at Information prior to 8.30am and it will be taken to the water point for you.
Coffee	So important! On Stage One we have Bombshell Coffee, offering coffee, muffins, snacks and softdrinks. Stage Two you can get your caffeine fix from Gear House of Grind and Limestone Bakery
Information tent	Got a question? Be sure to see a friendly Quad Crown team member at the information tent who will have all your answers. Information will open at 2:00pm on the Prelude and Day 1 & 2 will see information services open at 8:00am. You can also purchase your exclusive Quad Crown rider jersey here.
Parking	The Prelude is located at Penguin MTB Park, Montgomery Road. Please use the designated MTB Club Car Park and Montgomery Road. Stage One Car Parking is situated on Shale Road, LaTrobe. Stage Two parking is in the surrounding streets, there is plenty of parking along Foster St, the Esplanade and Goliath Park, Railton. Please do not park over driveways!
Registration tent	Registration tent will be open from 2.00pm till 5:00pm on Friday 8 March at the Penguin MTB Carpark, Montgomery Road, Trailhead. Then again on Saturday 9 March at Wild Mersey Car Park from 8.00am.
Rider packs	Rider packs will be available for collection at the registration tent. Your pack will include your transponder and rider plate, T Shirt and beer token.
Water Points	Stage 1 Water station will be located at the 19km mark (riders return to this same spot at the 35km mark) and at the 25km mark for Stage 2. There is no water station at the Prelude. We strongly advise you carry enough water for the course however we'll be there if you need us.

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