



**HIGH COUNTRY
VICTORIA**

RIDE GUIDE

22 - 24 NOVEMBER, 2024

**BEECHWORTH | BRIGHT
YACKANDANDAH**



**QUAD CROWN
MTB EVENTS
AUSTRALIA**

NAVIGATING THIS GUIDE

The event information in this guide is organised to assist you with planning your Quad Crown MTB 'The Mystic Yak' experience and ensuring a fun time in Victoria's High Country.

Our stages are detailed as accurately as possible, however last-minute course changes do occur for a variety of reasons. Please check our Socials for any 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.

JOIN THE CONVERSATION...



@QUADCROWNMTB
#quadcrownmtb
#themysticyak

WWW.QUADCROWNMTB.COM.AU

RIDE | EXPLORE | COMPETE | REPEAT



DIRECTOR'S WELCOME

A big welcome to our final event of 2024 - The Mystic Yak! It has been a huge second year for us at Quad Events and we are really pumped to be putting on this event in Victoria's High Country. It's fair to say that this event came together pretty quickly, after we had to face the reality of postponing the planned event for Omeo. However, thanks to the support of the two local councils, the tourism body and also the local mountain bike park and clubs, we are ready to deliver!

If anything, the way that this event has come together has given our management team even more confidence in our event model and what we are trying to create with our events. When we approached the region to host the event, all the key people already knew about Quad Crown and the events we had done in Tassie, Eden, Newcastle and the Sunshine Coast.

The formula for our events is simple – find a region that can combine great trails for riding with a beautiful tourism area, plus a couple of good pubs! We couldn't be more confident that the towns of Beechworth, Bright and Yackandandah can deliver on all of the above criteria – all set within the incredible surrounds of Victoria's High Country. This area has a fine reputation for quality mountain bike trails and it was on our radar from the very outset when we started planning for the Quad Crown events. Plus one of our biggest supporters, Paul van der Ploeg comes from this region and is an ambassador for Ride High Country so there was no way we couldn't have considered it after all of his plugging.

We are looking forward to coming to this beautiful region to run this event and we all know how lucky we are to be able to have such awesome trails made available to us and our riders. The new management team at Mystic Park in Bright have done an incredible job reworking the trail network and we know everyone competing in The Mystic Yak is in for a treat on Stage 1. Couple this with the Indigo Epic Trail that stretches from Beechworth to Yackandandah and it is fair to say we have been presented with the best Canvas on which to paint the first edition of The Mystic Yak.

Finally, we hope all of the riders participating in the event this weekend can help spread the word out there. There has never been a tougher time for our event industry as the cost of living issues and event fatigue post covid has seen a massive downturn in participation. As a team at Quad Crown we are committed and dedicated to delivering these events as we have seen how much joy and comradery they bring our participants. We also feel that the Weekend Warrior handicap system that we have been refining is a perfect one to bring the fun back into events as riders get to race against themselves in our format. This we hope can get more people back to events without them feeling the pressure to "race" against the clock as we look to encourage fun and participation.

Enjoy your weekend at The Mystic Yak and come and say hi to us!

SALLY, LIAM, CHRIS AND JASON

Directors



EVENT TIMES

22 - 24 NOV 2024

FRIDAY 22 NOVEMBER

1.00 PM

REGISTRATION OPENS

Indigo Epic Trail
Lake Kerferd Road, Beechworth

3.00 PM

PRELUDE

Indigo Epic Trail - Beechworth Loop
All riders to start by 3.30pm

FROM
6.00 PM

WELCOME FUNCTION

Bridge Road Brewers,
42 Ford Street, Beechworth

SATURDAY 23 NOVEMBER

8.00 AM

REGISTRATION OPENS

Bright Brewery,
121 Great Alpine Road, Bright

9.00 AM

STAGE 1 - RACE START

Start / Finish - Bright Brewery
Mystic Bike Park, Bright

FROM
1.00 PM

LUNCH & PRESENTATIONS

Bright Brewery
121 Great Alpine Road, Bright

SUNDAY 24 NOVEMBER

8.00 AM

REGISTRATION OPENS

Yack Creek Distillery
231 Bells Flat Road, Yackandandah

9.00 AM

STAGE 2 - RACE START

Start / Finish - Yack Creek Distillery
Indigo Epic Trail

FROM
1.00 PM

LUNCH & PRESENTATIONS

Yack Creek Distillery
231 Bells Flat Road, Yackandandah

RIDE | EXPLORE | COMPETE | REPEAT



FRIDAY 22 NOV



REGISTRATION, PRELUDE AND WELCOME FUNCTION

FROM 1.00pm Registration Opens // Lake Kerferd Road - Indigo Epic Trail

Registration will clearly be set up at Lake Kerferd Rd on the banks overlooking the lake where the prelude will start and finish. Here, you'll receive your plate, transponder, event T-shirt and complimentary beer token for the welcome function at the Bridge Road Brewers back in Beechworth later that evening.

From 3.00pm Onwards - Prelude Starts // Indigo Epic Trail Beechworth Loop

Get into Beechworth early on Friday afternoon so you are ready to kick off a great weekend. Grab a light lunch in town and then warm up the legs with a short ride out to the Prelude, which will start and finish overlooking Lake Kerferd. The time trial a "must do" on Friday as it not only sets your handicap for the weekend stages but also gives you a taste of the incredible single trail that will keep you smiling all weekend long.

Allocated start times will be between 3:00 pm and 3:30 pm so riders need to arrive no later than 3:00pm. You will then

start in 30 second intervals, heading out for a short 10km single track blast at your own pace before heading back into Beechworth for the welcome function at Bridge Road Brewers, for a free drink and some delicious food.

From 5.00pm Social Function // Bridge Road Brewers

42 Ford Street, Beechworth
www.bridgeroadbrewers.com.au

Bridge Road HQ is situated in a circa 1850s Victorian Gold rush era coach house. This beautiful building has been their home since 2006 and the venue is famous far and wide not only for its beer and food but a relaxed family-friendly atmosphere.

The taproom showcases a rotating 20 tap house-brewed line-up featuring core range favourites and limited releases in a wide range of styles to cater for all beer lovers. Beer's not your thing? They also pour a curated selection of wine, gin, and whisky all local to the North East of Victoria. The Bridge Road Pizzeria is our recommendation to carbo load for the weekend riding ahead!

SATURDAY 23 NOV

27KM

REGISTRATION, STAGE 1 AND PRESENTATIONS

8.00am Registration Opens // Bright Brewery

Registration will clearly be set up at the rear of Bright Brewery, near the start/finish line. If you haven't registered yet, here's where you'll receive your plates, transponder, and event T-shirt. There is plenty of parking in the town of Bright where the stage will start and finish.

9.00am Stage 1 Starts // Bright Brewery

Stage 1 on the Saturday morning will be based out of the iconic Victorian High Country town of Bright, and centre upon the incredible trail network at Mystic MTB Park. Starting and finishing from the rear of Bright Brewery, the stage begins with a solid climb out of town before riders will encounter a wonderful array of trails, many of which have undergone recent refurbishment. Mystic Park classics such as Hero, Shred Kelly's and Flowmingo are all included.

The final course will come in at around 27km and 628m of elevation – with a perfect mix of climbing and sweet flowing single track that will challenge but reward all riders! Riders will need to arrive in town by 8.30am for a mass rollout start BEFORE 9.00am. You will not be able to park at Bright Brewery as this will be the location for the start and finish set up.

There are numerous breakfast and coffee options in town so we encourage everyone to arrive early and get ready to hit the trails!

1.00pm Social Function & Presentations // Bright Brewery

Bright Brewery

121 Great Alpine Rd, Bright

www.brightbrewery.com.au

Overlooking the river, parks and mountains, Bright Brewery is an ideal destination for a beer and a meal. After you finish riding relax with a full flavoured craft beer, either outside on the Hop Terrace looking over the riverside parkland or at the bar where you can explore their Mountaincrafted and Backcountry beers and seasonal brews across 24 taps. Not sure where to start? Try a Tasting Paddle of their six Mountaincrafted beers! Indulge in delicious beer-matched meals and, if you have kids they will love the adjacent adventure playground!



RIDE | EXPLORE | COMPETE | REPEAT

SUNDAY 24 NOV

33KM

STAGE 2 FROM YACK CREEK DISTILLERY

8.00am Registration Opens

Registration will be set up within the ground of the Yack Creek Distillery for those who are riding just this one stage. We encourage all riders to park in town at the Sports Complex and take the short ride out to the start line.

9.00am Stage 2 Starts // Yack Creek Distillery

The final stage of The Mystic Yak promises to be the highlight as the course will centre upon the amazing Indigo Epic Trail, this time from the Yackandandah side. This network of tracks has fast garnered a glowing reputation on the east coast as one of Australia's best new riding destinations.

The course design for Stage 2 will be simple as it will feature the main loop around Nine Mile Creek, coming in at an overall distance of 33km with 795m of elevation, which will be testing for some but heaps of fun for all. The stage highlights will be too many to list but we reckon the epic 8km descent back to the finish line, aptly named Homeward Bound is sure to be a favourite!

From 1.00pm Presentations // Yack Creek Distillery & Brewery

231 Bells Flat Rd, Yackandandah
www.yackcreekdistillery.com.au

Yack Creek Distillery is situated just 2 kilometres out of the township of Yackandandah, on acreage with the Creek to the east and the Stanley State forest to the south. The creek flows all year round and includes brown trout and the Murray Spiny Crayfish. Hence their logo which was born from the Crayfish head. A family owned passion project, Yack Creek produce award winning small batch releases of Whisky, Rum, Gin and Vodka.

The start and finish line for our epic final stage on the Sunday, the distillery will also host our final presentations where riders can enjoy local food trucks and a few drinks in the courtyard while they swap tales from an incredible weekend of riding and relaxing in Victoria's High Country!





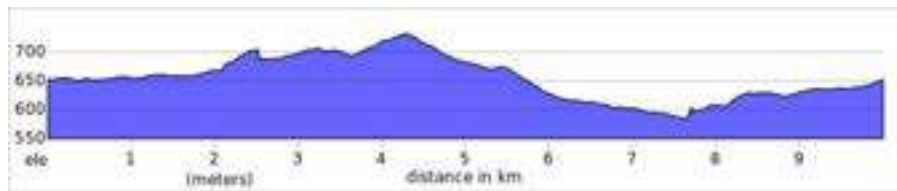
RIDE | EXPLORE | COMPETE | REPEAT



FRIDAY 22 NOV

PRELUDE COURSE MAP

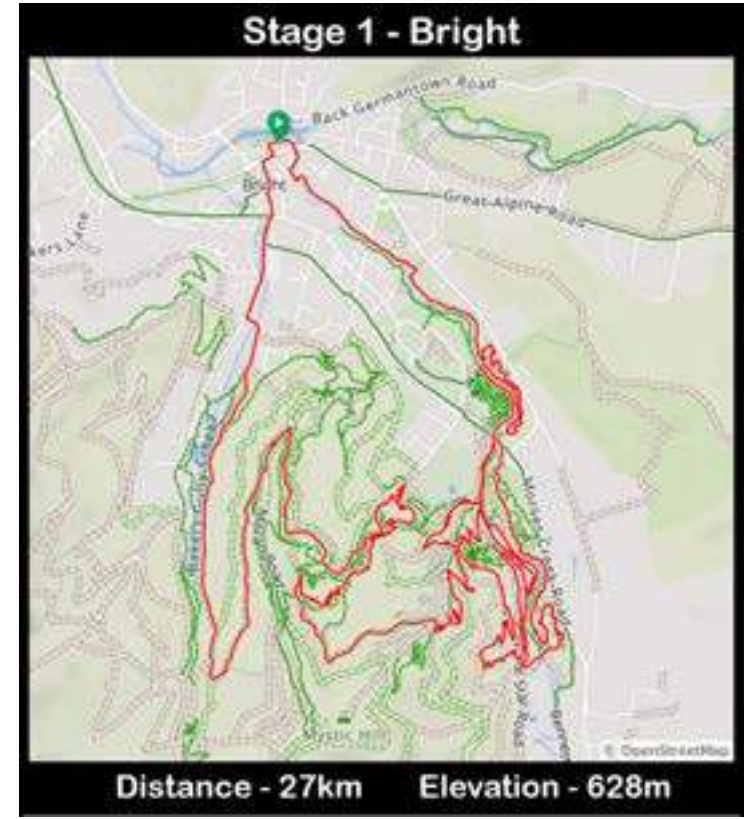
10KM



SATURDAY 23 NOV

STAGE 1 COURSE MAP

27KM

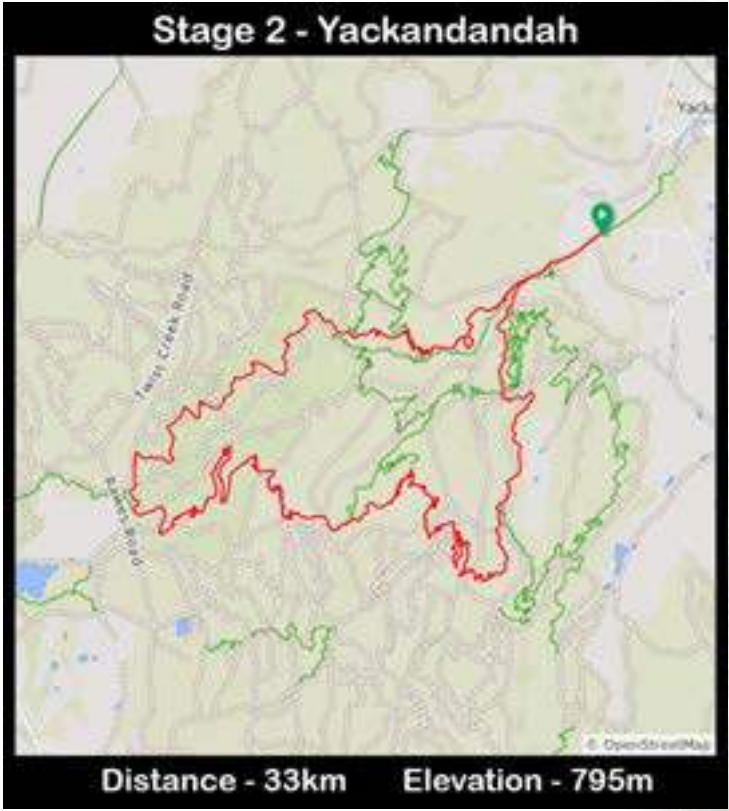


RIDE | EXPLORE | COMPETE | REPEAT

SUNDAY 24 NOV

STAGE 2 COURSE MAP

33KM



RIDE | EXPLORE | COMPETE | REPEAT



HANDICAP SYSTEM

Our unique Quad Crown handicap system is one we have continued to revise across our first year and a half 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 golf 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. So you simply need to ride to your own ability! 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 Mystic Yak.

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 too.

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. Best of all you can compare yourself at the end of the race against the best of the elite riders using our handicap system!



CATEGORIES & AWARDS

The Mystic Yak 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 ahead of their cohort.

Our Handicap system ensures that everyone and anyone is in the mix to be crowned the overall winner of The Mystic Yak (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. A total prize pool of \$2,000 will be spread amongst the top 3 Elite Male and Female place getters, with all other category winners receiving prizing and podium recognition after the final stage.



ELITE RIDERS - IN IT TO WIN IT!

We all know elite riders are going to be up the front and smashing it like they do at every event. There will be yellow and pink 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 winner will be announced at the conclusion of The Mystic Yak. The current leaderboard looks like this going into the final event of the series.

MALE

- Cam Ivory – 50 points
- Jon Odams – 35 points
- Brent Rees – 30 points

FEMALE

- Izzy Flint – 50 points
- Catherine Hosking – 45 points
- Peta Mullens – 20 points

RIDER JERSEY

If you haven't noticed already, we have one absolutely epic rider jersey this year.

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? Available to purchase at registration. They are selling fast with limited sizes available!

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.

TINELI

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

Prior to riding all riders are required to collect their rider pack. This pack contains your bike plate, transponder, cable ties, and a beer voucher for welcome drinks at Bridge Road Brewers on Friday Evening.

Rider pack collection will be open from 1PM on Friday 22 November at Lake Kerferd Road - Indigo Epic Trail and again from 8AM at Bright Brewery on Saturday the 23 November. It is highly recommended that riders collect packs on Friday so that your bike is setup correctly in advance to avoid time delays.

E-BIKES

Whilst riders on E-bikes are very welcome at our events, we do ask, like with all our riders, that you are courteous on the trails. We do treat you as a separate category, but we do not seed E-Bikers any differently to other riders as you are competing under the same handicap system for the Weekend Warrior rankings.

E-bikes obviously have an advantage when climbing under assistance so we ask that you overtake with caution. We also ask that if you are keen to race at the front of the field you do so with the understanding that you should not impact the elite riders who are racing on standard bikes.

TIMING

The Mystic Yak 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.



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!

IMPORTANT RIDE INFORMATION

START LINE - PRELUDE

The Prelude will see riders go out onto the course one by one with a 30 second gap between riders to ensure a clear run. All riders should be on location, checked in and ready to start by 3pm. There are overtaking points along the course should you need them and be sure to let a rider overtake should this happen to you.

Everyone should ride the Prelude as firstly it is a short, fun course and secondly it sets your handicap for the Weekend Warrior results and overall category rankings.

START LINE - STAGES 1 & 2

Both stages for the 2024 Orca will be group rollouts at 9AM sharp for both Stages 1 and 2. Please be at each start line at 8:30AM for each stage to start at 9AM.

Elite riders will be ushered into the starting chute to be at the front of each rollout with all other riders self-seeding behind. The lead vehicle will roll out for approximately 1-2 km to start each stage at a speed of between 12-18km per hour which should keep all riders together and allow self seeding to start each stage.

RIDE | EXPLORE | COMPETE | REPEAT



EXPLANATION OF SERVICES

ITEM	CONTENT
Bag Drop	The Mystic Yak has limited storage available. It is strongly recommended to not leave any belongings at the start or finish lines.
Bike Wash	Unfortunately, bike wash facilities are not available at the event start/finish lines.
Bottle Drop	The Mystic Yak will have a bottle drop service on Saturday and Sunday of the race. Please ensure your bottle is dropped in the crates at the information tent prior to 8:30am and it will be taken to the water point for you. Bottle collection will be available at the finish line after each stage.
Coffee & Food	There are plenty of delicious local options for your food and coffee fix at our start/ finish venues at Bright and Yackandandah.
Information/ Registration Tent	Got a question? Visit our friendly Quad Crown team at the information tent for answers. Information services open at 1 PM on Friday, and from 8 AM on Saturday and Sunday. You can also buy your exclusive Quad Crown rider jersey here.
Parking and How to Get There	Please refer to our Parking and How to Get There information on the following page.
Rider Packs	Rider packs will be available for collection at the information/registration tent. Your pack will include your transponder and rider plate, event T-shirt, Welcome Drinks at Bridge Road Brewers when you register on the Friday.
Water Points	Stage 1 and 2 water stations will be located at approximately the halfway point of each stage. There is no water station at the Prelude. We strongly advise you to carry enough water for the course however there will be a bottle drop and water stations on the course for both Stage 1 and 2.

PARKING & HOW TO GET THERE

PRELUDE

To get to the Prelude start line you have two options.

To drive and park near the venue head east from the center of Beechworth on Albert Rd. Turn left onto Stanley Rd then continue 5km before turning left again onto Hurdle Flat Rd. Drive 700 meters on Hurdle Flat Rd and turn left onto Lake Kerferd Rd. The venue is now just up ahead so look for parking on both sides of the road.

The second option is an easy ride from the town center to the venue at Lake Kerferd. Park anywhere in Beechworth and make your way to the Indigo Epic Trailhead at the intersection of Peach Dr & Wallace St, either via local streets or jump onto the Beechworth-Everton Rail Trail. Look for signage directing you to the Indigo Epic Trail.

From the trailhead allow 30 minutes for a mostly flat easy spin to the venue. After racing return the same way, but be aware the last 2 kilometers forms part of the race loop.

STAGE 1

There are many public parking options in Bright but we recommend parking adjacent to Back Germantown Rd and crossing the Ovens River via the footbridge to the Bright River Swimming area & Splash Park, and the venue is right there.

From the Great Alpine Rd/Gavan St turn onto Star Rd, cross the river then turn right onto Toorak Rd. Continue for 500 meters until you see an open grass area on the right side of the road and look for event parking signs.

STAGE 2

There is no parking at the venue or on Bells Flat Rd, all parking is either in the Yackandandah town center or at the Yackandandah Sports Park.

Yack Creek Distillery can be accessed via Bells Flat Rd or the Indigo Epic Trail from the Sports Park. Look for Indigo Epic Trail signage in and around town for directions. From the southern end of the Sports Park it is a flat 1.5km walk or ride to the venue.

Keep an eye on our socials for drop off options for spectators and/or riders closer to the event.



HIGH COUNTRY
VICTORIA

SPONSORS

THANK YOU TO OUR 'THE MYSTIC YAK' EVENT SPONSORS

OUR SPONSORS



RIDE HIGH COUNTRY
www.victoriashighcountry.com.au/ride



INDIGO SHIRE COUNCIL
www.engage.indigoshire.vic.gov.au



ALPINE SHIRE COUNCIL
www.alpineshire.vic.gov.au



BRIGHT VELO
www.brightvelo.com.au



ALL TERRAIN CYCLES
www.allterraincycles.com.au

OUR VENUE PARTNERS



BRIDGE ROAD BREWERS
www.bridgeroadbrewers.com.au



BRIGHT BREWERY
www.brightbrewery.com.au



YACK CREEK DISTILLERY
www.yackcreekdistillery.com.au