



RIDE GUIDE

12 - 14 SEPTEMBER, 2025

GRAVITY EDEN MTB TRAILS
TATHRA



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 Orca' experience and ensuring a fun time on New South Wales' Sapphire Coast.

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.

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DIRECTOR'S WELCOME

Welcome to the third running of The Orca!

It is again great to be heading back to the Sapphire Coast, not just for the awesome trails at Eden and Tathra, but also for the wonderful tourism and hospitality that this area is so well known for.

Our management team love coming here to deliver this event, and if this is your first time at The Orca we can promise you that this is one hell of a good time! There is so much to see and do between Eden and Tathra and the trails are so good that we know this will be a weekend to remember for everyone participating!

This year it seems to have been a particularly long, wet and cold Winter across Australia, hence we are super keen to hopefully see some sunshine on the Sapphire Coast this September. The irony is when we ran the first event here in 2023 we almost had to cancel as there hadn't been enough rain to bed in the new trails!

Speaking of these trails at Gravity Eden, we are super lucky to be able to build an event around such an awesome place. This trail build project epitomises what we look for in a Quad Events destination – new trails, an amazing tourism scene, great food and drink, while in most cases a spot that many people would not have visited. The locals have been incredible welcoming and we hope

you love their trails as much as they do and appreciate what has been created in Eden.

The other unique aspect of The Orca is it is held on the Sapphire Coast, so the other key location in our event (Tathra) offers it's own special experience when it comes to riding and tourism. We think the Tathra Hotel, our Stage 1 start and finish venue on Saturday, might be the best of all of our events we have run across Australia. Plus the old school trails at Fireshed and Bundadung offer the most wonderful compliment to the trails that we bookend the event with at Eden.

Post-covid the event industry has been hard hit and participation in Mountain biking events in particular have dropped off. We hope the weekend stage race format is one that is more accessible to riders and that crowds will return in the future. There is a certain community aspect to riding events that makes us tick, and visiting destinations you normally wouldn't go to. We hope if you enjoy our events you can spread the word and bring others along to grow events into the future.

We hope you have fun at The Orca – both on and off the bike!

SALLY, LIAM, CHRIS AND JASON

Directors

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EVENT TIMES

12 - 14 SEPT 2025

FRIDAY **12 SEPTEMBER**

1.00 PM

REGISTRATION OPENS

Gravity Eden MTB Park Trailhead,
end of Storey Avenue, Eden

3.00 PM

PRELUDE

Gravity Eden MTB Park
All riders to start by 3.30PM

FROM
5.00 PM

SOCIAL FUNCTION & PRESENTATIONS

Hotel Australasia
142 - 144 Imlay Street, Eden

SATURDAY **13 SEPTEMBER**

8.00 AM

REGISTRATION OPENS

Tathra Hotel
8-12 Bega Street, Tathra

9.00 AM

STAGE 1 - RACE START

Start/Finish Tathra Hotel
Bundadung MTB Trail, Tathra

FROM
1.00 PM

LUNCH & PRESENTATIONS

Tathra Hotel,
8-12 Bega Street, Tathra

SUNDAY **14 SEPTEMBER**

8.00 AM

REGISTRATION OPENS

Hotel Australasia,
142-144 Imlay St, Eden

9.00 AM

STAGE 2 - START

Start/Finish Hotel Australasia
Gravity Eden MTB Park

FROM
1.00 PM

SOCIAL FUNCTION & PRESENTATIONS

Hotel Australasia,
142-144 Imlay St, Eden

RIDE | EXPLORE | COMPETE | REPEAT



FRIDAY 12 SEPT



REGISTRATION, PRELUDE AND WELCOME FUNCTION

FROM 1.00pm Registration Opens // Gravity Eden MTB Park Trailhead and Pump Track

Registration will clearly be set up at the Gravity Eden MTB Park Trailhead and Pump Track. Here, you'll receive your plate, transponder, event T-shirt and complimentary beer token for the Welcome Function at Hotel Australasia later that evening.

Access is via Storey Avenue, which comes off Princes Hwy just north of the Eden Sport and Recreation Club. Parking will be available on the road leading up to the pump track, however access to the carpark at the base of the track is only permitted for drop offs.

From 3.00pm Onwards - Prelude Starts // Gravity Eden Mountain Bike Park Trailhead and Pump Track

Get into Eden early on Friday afternoon so you are ready to kick off a great weekend with a taste of the new trails at Gravity Eden MTB Park. The Prelude will start and finish at the main Trail Hub, with 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.

Start times will be between 3:00 pm and 3:45 pm so riders need to arrive no later than 3:00pm. You will then start in 30 second intervals, heading out for a short 9km single track blast at your own pace before heading into town for the Hotel Australasia Welcome Function.

From 5.00pm Social Function // Hotel Australasia

142-144 Imlay St, Eden
www.hotelaustralasia.com.au

Hotel Australasia celebrates its past, but also nurtures its present, with their restaurant, bar and bistro showcasing the impressive local produce on offer. From farmers to fisherman, their menus celebrate the abundance of produce grown and created in the region. Hotel Australasia envision locals and visitors connecting over a local wine or beer in our dining spaces and the Bar, or coming together to celebrate a big event like The Orca when all the riders hit town!



RIDE | EXPLORE | COMPETE | REPEAT

SATURDAY 13 SEPT



REGISTRATION, STAGE 1 AND PRESENTATIONS

8.00am Registration Opens // Tathra Hotel

Registration will clearly be set up at the Tathra Hotel, in the side 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 // Tathra Hotel

Stage 1 on the Saturday morning will again be based out of Tathra, just over half an hour up the coast from Eden. Starting and finishing from the iconic Tathra Hotel, the trails stretch north and south from Tathra and offer an awesome array of coastal back trails combined with more than 35km of twisting single track. Our Course Director has been working with the locals and has made a few changes to last year and promises an even better course, that will include a few new trails and a slight adjustment to the order of the awesome single trail network at Bundadung that will again be the feature of the latter half of the stage.

Riders will need to arrive in town by 8.30am for a mass rollout start at 9.00am sharp. You will not be able to park at the Tathra Hotel but parking will be available on the side street leading up to the hotel and in the surrounding areas. Please obey No Parking signs and be courteous to the community. Coffee will again be available at the Tathra Hotel from 7.30am, with a full food menu and drinks available at the finish to the stage.

1.00pm Social Function & Presentations // Tathra Hotel

Tathra Hotel
8 – 12 Bega St, Tathra
www.tathrahotel.com.au

Perched on the headland and surrounded by beautiful coastline, the Tathra Hotel has been a welcoming meeting place for over 100 years. Come along and enjoy the charm of a traditional country hotel in a family-friendly atmosphere.

The Hotel will not only have coffee and breakfast snacks to start the day, but a great lunch menu and craft beers from Humpback Brewery to quench a well-earned thirst post-ride. Enjoy lunch and a couple of drinks overlooking the coast, where we will have the presentations for Stage 1 on the outside deck.



SUNDAY 14 SEPT

33KM

STAGE 2 FROM HOTEL AUSTRALASIA EDEN

8.00am Registration Opens

Registration will clearly be set up at the front of Hotel Australasia for those who are riding just this one stage.

9.00am Stage 2 Starts // Hotel Australasia Eden

The final stage of The Orca will begin with a start at Hotel Australasia, with a mass rollout down the main street of Eden and out to the incredible trail network at Gravity Eden MTB Park. With the start and finish venue again in the centre of Eden, riders will enjoy a casual 2km warm up of the legs to start, before heading into 30km of some of the best single track in all of Australia!

This stage will once again be highlighted by the outstanding 8km Wilderness Trail (Round The Outside), possibly the best descent you will ever ride, as well as featuring a number of new trails that our Course Director has added to last year's stage. It's fair to say at The Orca that we have left the best to last as this Stage is always an epic one and will leave all riders with huge smiles on their faces and hero dirt on their bikes!

From 1.00pm Presentations // Hotel Australasia

142-144 Imlay St, Eden
www.hotelaustralasia.com.au

Once known as the 'Grand Old Lady' of Eden, Hotel Australasia reopened its historic doors in late 2022 after a loving restoration. Built in 1904, the heritage building has a rich local history as the heart of the town, often bringing the community together to celebrate, connect and trade.

The start and finish line for the Sunday stage of The Orca 2025, the hotel will also host our final presentations where riders can enjoy a menu and a few drinks in the courtyard while they swap tales from an incredible weekend of riding and relaxing on the Sapphire Coast!



EVENT MAP

STAGE ONE

TATHRA

DIST 35km

ELEV 660m

MERIMBULA

STAGE TWO

EDEN

DIST 33km

ELEV 840m

PRELUDE

EDEN

DIST 9km

ELEV 260m

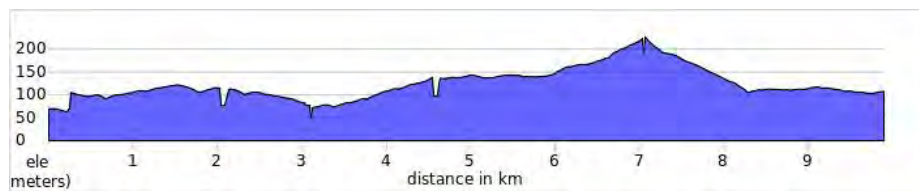


RIDE | EXPLORE | COMPETE | REPEAT

FRIDAY 12 SEPT

PRELUDE COURSE MAP

9KM



SATURDAY 13 SEPT

STAGE 1 COURSE MAP

35KM



RIDE | EXPLORE | COMPETE | REPEAT

SUNDAY 14 SEPT

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 how 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 Orca 2025.

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!

WEEKEND WARRIOR - HALL OF FAME

Event	Male	Female
The Black Pearl - 2025	David Witherdin	Richella King
The Mystic Yak - 2024	Matt Low	Steff van Amerongen
The Orca - 2024	Oliver Bradley	Kate Mitchell
Sunny 80 - 2024	Kirk Pushie	Hannah-Lee Young
Wild Penguin - 2024	John Flood	Catherine Breakspear
The Black Pearl - 2023	Adrian Azzopardi	Katrina Skellern
The Orca - 2023	Graham Smith	Jordyn Hassett
Sunny 80 - 2023	Rusty Mark	Jayne Rutter
Wild Penguin - 2023	Timothy Eagling	Melissa Britt



CATEGORIES & AWARDS

The Orca 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 Orca 2025 (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 placed riders, 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 2025 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 2025 winner will be announced at the conclusion of The Wild Penguin in Tasmania in November.

OVERALL WINNERS - ELITE CATEGORIES

2023

MALE - Dan McConnell

FEMALE - Katherine Hoskins

2024

MALE - Cam Ivory

FEMALE - Izzy Flint / Katherine Hoskings (tie)

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 The Hotel Australasia on Friday Evening.

Rider pack collection will be open from 1PM on Friday 12th September at Trailhead/Pump Track at Gravity Eden Trails and again from 8AM at the Tathra Hotel on Saturday 13th September. 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

By entering the event, all E-Bike riders agree to ride a bike that meets Australian manufacturing standards and that the E-Bike has not been mechanically altered (ie: "chipped"). The onus sits with each individual E-Bike rider to meet this requirement, otherwise their rider insurance may be affected. E-Bike riders are not permitted to change batteries during any of the stages and must manage their power reserves as part of the challenge of riding each day. All E-Bike riders are eligible for the Weekend Warrior Award under the exact same handicap system as other riders entering the event. In some instances, the start position for E-Bikes may be advised (ie: ahead or behind the field or in their own wave) at the discretion of event management.

TIMING

The Orca 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;
- Are rude or disrespectful to other riders or marshals;
- Behave in a way that puts any rider or marshal in danger;
- Are reported to litter on course;

Quad Crown believes in the honest and supportive culture of Mountain Biking and holds the safety of our riders as 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. This may be changed to 15 second intervals at any time by the Race Director pending rider numbers.

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 2025 The Orca will be group rollouts, self seeded with current leaders at the front from 9AM sharp for both Stages 1 and 2. Please be at each start line by at least 8:30AM for each stage to start at 9AM sharp!

RIDE | EXPLORE | COMPETE | REPEAT



EXPLANATION OF SERVICES

ITEM	CONTENT
Bag Drop	The Orca has limited storage available. It is strongly recommended to not leave any belongings at the start or finish lines.
Bike Wash	Please note that bike wash facilities are not available at the event start/finish lines.
Bottle Drop	The Orca 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 near our start/finish venues at Tathra and Eden.
Information/ Registration Tent	Got a question? Visit our friendly Quad Crown team at the information tent for answers. Information services open at 1PM on Friday, and from 8AM on Saturday and Sunday.
Parking	<p>Please follow the parking instructions and signage on the day and park in designated areas signposted. We also recommend checking our social channels for daily updates on parking and other event logistics.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Prelude – Parking will be available on the road leading up to the pump track, however access to the carpark at the base of the track is only permitted for drop-offs.• Stage 1 – You will not be able to park at the Tathra Hotel, but parking will be available on the side street leading up to the hotel and in the surrounding areas.• Stage 2 – Please note that Imlay Street will be part closed in front of Hotel Australasia for our start and finish line and detours will be in place. Plenty of parking is available off the side streets in Eden, but please obey parking signs and avoid private properties.
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, free beer token for The Hotel Australasia Welcome Evening on Friday and tourism information.
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.



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