

## Optional loops to cycle

**These loops are public roads**, thus suited to the more experienced cyclist and not recommended for groups or families with young children. Hazards include vehicles, unsealed sections, rough surfaces, narrow winding sections and steep inclines. For your safety wear high visibility vests and cycle the loops during daylight hours only.

### John Horrocks loop [9km]

This loop leaves the trail at St Mark's Church, Penwortham and heads west along Horrocks Road, north along Sawmill Road and east along Spring Gully Road. The loop returns to the trail at the Sevenhill railway siding.

### Father Rogalski (Polish Hill) loop [10km]

This loop starts just north of Penwortham and heads east to the Polish Hill Valley. The steep ride up the ridge to the highest point is worth the effort for the magnificent views. The Polish Hill River Church Museum offers an historical glimpse into the lives of the original Polish settler and the Annes Lane Reserve is worth a visit.

### Spring Gully loop [16km]

This loop heads west along Spring Gully Road following the scenic tourist drive through the Skilly Hills, south to Spring Gully Conservation Park. The return section joins Spring Gully Road finishing at Sevenhill Hotel.

### Mawson Trail [900km]

The 900km trail starts in the Adelaide Hills and ends at Blinman in the Flinders Ranges. The trail is for mountain bike enthusiasts wanting an outback challenge. The trail merges with the Riesling Trail between Auburn and Clare then diverges off towards Burra.

### Riverton trails

There are five trails around Riverton to explore the historic landmarks and the picturesque Gilbert Valley. The Lookout Trail offers spectacular 360° views of the valley and the Duck Pond Trail takes you to the Gilbert River Lake.

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## Facilities

**Drinking water** is available beside the trail shelters located at Watervale, between Sevenhill and Quarry Road and at the Lennon Street car park in Clare.

**Public toilets** are located at Auburn Memorial Park, Watervale oval, Sevenhill cricket ground and Clare Skate Park.

**Designated car parks** are located at Auburn, Watervale, Sevenhill, Clare and Barinia.

## Not permitted

Motor bikes (two or four wheeled), vehicles and horses are not permitted on the trail.

## Bike hire

Cogwebs	0400 290 687 (Auburn)
Discovery Holiday Park	08 8842 2724 (Clare)
Clare Valley Cycle Hire	0418 802 077 (Clare)
Riesling Trail Bike Hire	0418 777 318 (Clare)
Fun Wheels Pedal Kart Hire	0433 888 482 (Clare)

## EMERGENCY SERVICES

Ambulance Police Fire	000 [Mobile users 112]
Clare Police Station	08 8842 2711
Clare Hospital	08 8842 6500

## Friends of the Riesling Trail

The Riesling and Rattler Trails are not-for-profit community-based organisations managed by dedicated volunteers.

For more information please visit

[www.rieslingtrail.com.au](http://www.rieslingtrail.com.au) and [www.rattlertrail.com.au](http://www.rattlertrail.com.au)

 The Riesling Trail Facebook page is [www.facebook.com/rieslingtrail](https://www.facebook.com/rieslingtrail)

You can also support the maintenance of the Riesling Trail by becoming a financial member or using the donation box at the Lennon Street car park in Clare.



# Riesling and Rattler trails



CLARE and GILBERT VALLEYS  
SOUTH AUSTRALIA

# Riesling and Rattler trails

## Derailed

Located 130kms north of Adelaide in the Clare Valley, the Riesling Trail was once part of the railway line from Adelaide to Spalding. Built in stages between 1860 and 1918, the railway's purpose was to ease mining transport and open up valuable agricultural land. In August 1983 the wavering future of the line was finally decided; after major sections of the track at Clare were destroyed in the Ash Wednesday fires the line was closed.

In 1994 the section from Auburn to Clare became the Riesling Trail - the first South Australian conversion of a railway line into a recreational trail for walking and cycling. The trail was instigated by the Clare Valley Winemakers with funding support from the South Australian Government through the Office for Recreation and Sport. The section from Clare to Barinia was opened in 2009.

## the Riesling trail

### Auburn to Barinia [33km]

The best time to use the trail is autumn and spring when the valley is at its finest while the cooler temperatures are advantageous for cycling and walking. However every season offers a different reason to visit as the countryside is ever changing and there are special events held throughout the year. Vintage is between late February and early April and the Clare Gourmet Weekend is in mid-May.

The trail is well sign-posted providing distances, directions and services as well as storyboards with information on the local history, the landscape, the Ngadjuri people, the communities and local heroes.

While the surface is well compacted making it suitable for recreational walkers, off-road bicycles, wheelchairs and prams it is advised you travel with caution at all times. Unforeseen circumstances such as adverse weather may cause damage to the surface from time to time.

The gradient is relatively easy for regular cyclists, but for those less experienced it may prove a challenge. The trail takes approximately 1.5 to 4 hours to ride one-way, depending on your fitness, diversions and breaks. The map provides an indication of the gradient and distances.

The picturesque scenery encompasses views of vineyards, bushland, farms, historical buildings and tree-lined laneways. There are plenty of photo opportunities other than just scenery as the trail is home for an abundance of native flora and fauna.

Other attractions include wineries, cafes, pubs, scenic picnic spots, art galleries, historical sites and wetlands. Sculptures are located 500m north of the Lennon Street car park as well as between Leasingham and Auburn. **For suggestions on alternative rides to suit your needs visit our website.**

You can start and finish at either end or where ever you like. As well as designated car parks, the trail can be accessed at several locations where public roads cross the trail.

## the Rattler trail

### Riverton to Auburn [19km]

In 2010 the section between Auburn and Riverton known as the Rattler Trail was opened. The trail, which takes its name from the rattling old train that used to work the route, passes through farming land, vineyards and near the small township of Rhynie.

## Safety first

Accidents are preventable. Keep to the left, be aware of others notably runners and cyclists who may wish to pass you as well as people travelling in the opposite direction. When cycling, avoid excessive speeds and ring your bell when approaching others. Even though it is a recreational trail the wearing of helmets and a working bell are compulsory as the trail crosses public roads.

Dogs don't need to be on a lead, but need to be under control.

It is recommended you pace yourself and carry plenty of water especially in summer.

Be courteous towards others using the trail and respect private property adjacent to the trail by not entering unless you have permission.

