Hills Galore Ride



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| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Ride Distance: | 150 kms | Altitude Gain: | 2,700 m |
| Grade[[1]](#footnote-1): | Hard | **Average Pace1:** | 22-24 |
| Ride Surface: | Road | **Est. Duration:** |  8+ hrs |
| Ideal for bike: | Road | **Child Suitable1&[[2]](#footnote-2):** | n/a |
| RidesAssist: | No |  |  |

**Ride Summary**:

Mostly riding through national parks, around waterways and through countryside, we take on 7 hill climbs over the 150km distance. Designed for more experienced riders, this is a great training ride for those planning to take on L’Etape, Sydney to Gong Return or any other “challenge” ride.

Several opt-out points are available to reduce the distance and number of hills, with the option of a return train ride.

**For more information on this ride including when it is next scheduled, please refer to the CCBUG Rides Calendar at** [**www.ccbug.org.au**](http://www.ccbug.org.au) **or checkout our events on Facebook** [www.facebook.com/CentralCoastBicycleUserGroup](http://www.facebook.com/CentralCoastBicycleUserGroup%20)

# Ride Details

## Full Description

May the hills begin! And there are plenty of them on this ride ☺ Seven to be climbed (and descended): Kariong, Calga, PitS, Galston, Berowra, Mt White and Somersby. Much of the ride is along the old Pacific Highway so we can relax and enjoy very few other vehicles, although you do need to watch (or listen) out for the motor bikes and the occasional motor car.

Setting out from Woy Woy we ride alongside the beautiful Brisbane Waters to West Gosford, then up Kariong hill (hill #1) to the bus stop for a regroup and signing on any extras. Then we quickly leave the busy Central Coast Hwy and start our ride along old Pacific Hwy through Brisbane Water National Park. Up to Calga (hill #2), then along to Mt White and down to the Hawkesbury River bridge (a fun descent), before a 3km climb (hill #3) up to Pie in the Sky café – likely coffee stop #1.

Continuing our ride along the Old Pacific Hwy heading to Hornsby, we move into more the populated and trafficked areas between Berowra and Asquith. Options to exit the ride at Cowan, Berowra or Asquith/Hornsby for a relaxed train ride home.

At Asquith we turn off and head west via “the gorge”, a fun little set of switch-backs taking us deep into Berowra Valley National Park and up to Galston (hill #4). Before getting into Galston proper, we turn north towards Arcadia, enjoying some country riding past farms of various types. Then it’s down to Berowra Waters where we catch the ferry across Berowra Creek to meet our next climb up to Berowra (hill #5).

Depending on how we feel, our first (or second) coffee stop will soon be had. Either at Berowra, Pie in the Sky or even the Estuary alongside the Hawkesbury River. Rejoining the old Hwy we climb up to Mt White (hill #6), across to Calga, down to Mooney Creek and then up to Somersby (hill #7). With all the climbs over we cruise down Kalga hill to West Gosford and head back to our starting point.

Regroups: Kariong (also an opt-in point); Calga after the climb; PitS for coffee; Asquith to make sure we all turn to Galston; Galston Rd; Berowra at the ferry; Mt White and Kariong.



## Opt in points

Kariong at the bus stop just after the Shell servo, about 45 mins after ride start time.

Pie in the Sky café Cowan (our first coffee stop), about 2.25-2.5 hrs after ride start time.

## Opt out points

Berowra train station after about 55 kms and 3 hills.

Hornsby train station (which is about 3kms from the route) after about 65 kms and 3 hills.

Berowra train station after about 93 kms and 5 hills.

Water & Toilet Locations

Woy Woy train station

Kariong, Shell servo (regroup / opt-in point)

Mount White, Old Highway café (not a normal stop)

Cowan, Pie in the Sky café (normal coffee stop)

Berowra Waters boatshed (not a normal stop)

Map Reference

## <http://www.mapmyride.com/routes/view/1726559849>

## Ride Leaders Personal Notes:

Some alternatives:

* Go via Berowra Waters first and come back Galston Gorge (ie, reverse this loop)
* Use shared path from West Gosford back to Woy Woy; may be a good idea after a long ride as people will be tired.

# Cue Sheet

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| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Distance Marker (kms)** | **Direction** | **Street / Location** | **Hazards / notes** |
| 0 | Left | From Woy Woy train station onto Brisbane Water Drive | Some traffic in shopping area |
| 5 | Right | At the roundabout to stay on Brisbane Water Drive | Point Clare rail overpass; watch for other vehicles entering roundabout |
| 8.5 | Left | Central Coast Highway | Road shoulder narrow in parts up Kariong hill; fast passing traffic |
| 11.5 | Straight | Traffic lights at Woy Woy Rd |  |
| 12 | Stop | Bus stop just after Curringa Rd. Opt-in point. | REGROUPWatch for buses and pedestrians. |
| 12.5 | Straight | Merge into the left traffic lane due to pedestrian island in shoulder at Kangoo Rd lights | Take care merging, ORConsider crossing at the Kangoo Rd traffic lights onto the shared path if fast moving traffic around. |
| 13 | Right | Wisemans Ferry Rd | Traffic lights; take extra care when changing into the right hand turn lane |
| 13.5 | Left | Pacific Highway |  |
| 17 | Straight | Pacific Highway | Take care on long descent; may be damp patches on road after rain or tree litter after winds |
| 25 | Stop | Cnr Pacific Highway and Peats Ridge Rd Calga | REGROUP |
| 25 | Left | Pacific Highway |  |
| 25.5 | Left | Pacific Highway |  |
| 32 | Straight | Pacific Highway | Take care on long descent; may be tree litter after winds |
| 46 | Stop | Pie in the Sky cafe at the top of the hill.Regroup point and probably coffee! | REGROUPWatch for motor cycles |
| 46 | Left | Pacific Highway |  |
| 54 | Straight | Pacific Highway | Moving into more trafficked area |
| 58 | Straight | Pacific Highway near Beaumont Rd | Shoulder narrows – single file, take care |
| 63 | Stop | Pacific Highway just after Yirra Rd traffic lights near bus stop | REGROUP to ensure all riders together and take next right; Galston gorge switch-backs coming up! |
| 64 | Move right | Pacific Highway, move into right hand turn lane | If too much traffic, take ramp to left up towards station, then continue straight back down to stop sign at Highway. Then cross when safe into right turn lane. |
| 65 | Right | Galston Rd at traffic lights |  |
| 71 | Straight | Galston Rd | Bridge over Berowra Creek |
| 74 | Veer right | Galston Rd | Roundabout, watch for traffic |
| 74.5 | Left | Galston Rd |  |
| 75 | STOP | Galston Rd, just after left turn | REGROUP |
| 75.5 | Right | Arcadia Rd | Roundabout, watch for traffic |
| 78 | Left | Arcadia Rd |  |
| 78.2 | Right | Arcadia Rd |  |
| 80 | Right | Arcadia Rd |  |
| 81 | Left | Arcadia Rd |  |
| 83 | Right | Bay Rd |  |
| 86 | Straight | Bay Rd | Start descent, take care! |
| 89.2 | STOP | Bay Rd @ Ferry | REGROUP & catch ferry |
| 89.4 | Straight | Berowra Waters Rd | Start climb; keep left & watch for traffic |
| 93.5 | Left | Berowra Waters Rd |  |
| 93.6 | Right | Berowra Waters Rd |  |
| 95.5 | Left | Pacific Highway | Traffic lights |
| 104 | Straight | Pie in the Sky | Possible coffee stop or continue down the hill (whilst warm) |
| 108 | Straight | The Estuary café | Possible coffee stop |
| 120 | STOP | Pacific Highway cnr Morgans Rd traffic lights | REGROUP |
| 126 | Right | Pacific Highway | Calga |
| 126.5 | Right | Pacific Highway |  |
| 127 | Straight | Pacific Highway | Take care on long descent; may be damp patches on road after rain or tree litter after winds |
| 139 | STOP | Central Coast Highway just before cnr The Avenue | REGROUP |
| 139 | Straight | Central Coast Highway | Descend Kariong hill as one group two abreast taking the left traffic lane; watch for damp areas on sweeping bends |
| 142 | Move Right | Central Coast Highway | Take right hand lane then right hand turn lane |
| 142.5 | Right | Brisbane Water Drive |  |
| 143 | Merge right | Brisbane Water Drive | Merge right over single lane bridge |
| 145 | Straight | Brisbane Water Drive | Narrow shoulder; single file |
| 146 | Straight | Brisbane Water Drive | Narrow shoulder; single file |
| 146.5 | Left | Brisbane Water Drive | Roundabout  |
| 150 | Straight | Brisbane Water Drive | Narrow shoulder over bridge; single file |
| 151 | STOP | Brisbane Water Drive Woy Woy | The end |

1. Refer to the Rides Grading page at [www.ccbug.org.au](http://www.ccbug.org.au) for more information. [↑](#footnote-ref-1)
2. Refer to the Ride Requirements page at [www.ccbug.org.au](http://www.ccbug.org.au) for more information. [↑](#footnote-ref-2)