

DAREBIN BUG RIDES - Oct to Dec 2026

Weekday rides start at 9.30am from Jika Jika Community Centre, cnr Plant & Union streets, Northcote, unless otherwise stated. Saturday rides start at 9.30am from Rushall Station, Falconer St, Fitzroy North, and go to Beacon Cove (about 30km) each week, except for monthly mystery rides. The ride leader sets the route and nominates a tail. Distances are approximate

DATE	RIDE NAME	DISTANCE	LEADER	DESCRIPTION
Thu, 1 Oct	Altona and 100 Steps	55km	Ian H	Ride to Yarraville Gardens (MT). Head south on Hyde St towards Newport, then Williamstown and around to Altona foreshore, Laverton Creek and the 100 Steps (L). Return via Footscray Milking Station (AT) and back streets to Westgarth. Easy riding, almost flat, but subject to strong wind. <i>Early departure by train at Altona or Newport</i>
Fri, 2 Oct	Jika Jika beginners social ride	10km	Various	Short social ride with coffee stop which is led by DBUG members from Jika Jika Community Centre starting at 10.30am
Sat, 3 Oct	Saturday Surprise	30km	David D.	Relaxed outing with mystery destination. Contact leader for details. Note: School holidays
Tue, 6 Oct	Seniors' Month Ride for Newbies	30km	Wolter	Ride to Bundoora Park for free morning tea and tour of the farm then return to Jika Jika via La Trobe Link
Tue, 6 Oct	Seniors' Month Ride for Members	40km	Ed	As above, but skipping the farm tour and heading on to Coburg Lake for lunch and home via Merri Creek
Thu, 8 Oct	Heatherdale to Dandy via Taralla Creek Trail	56km	Bob	EARLY START, MYKI Meet at Westgarth Station Plat 1 for 8.57am train to Jolimont then ride to Richmond for train to Heatherdale. Ride EastLink Trail east to Mullum Mullum Creek Trail (MT along way). Continue to Croydon and ride Tarralla Creek Trail south to meet Dandenong Creek Trail and on to Jells Park (L). Continue on Dandenong Creek Trail south to Dandenong Station. Train back to Richmond. <i>Easy to moderate riding</i>
Tue, 13 Oct	Capital City Trail to Como and Burnley gardens	30km	James	Capital City Trail via City Link to Docklands (MT). Ride through Southbank and around the Botanic Gardens then follow Main Yarra Trail alongside Alexandra Ave and walk around Como Gardens. Back on the trail to Kevin Bartlett Reserve (L) then walk around Burnley Gardens. Continue on Capital City Trail and Merri Creek Trail to return to Westgarth. <i>Short ride with some walking</i>
Thu, 15 Oct	Botanic Gardens: Melbourne and St Kilda	50km	Kathleen	Ride via Dights Falls to Royal Botanic Gardens, Alexandra Ave (MT). Continue along Main Yarra Trail to Southbank, take Sandridge Trail to Beacon Cove. Take Bay Trail south to St Kilda Marina. Cross Marine Pde to Dickens St for St Kilda Botanical Gardens (L). Return to Westgarth via Bay Trail or Albert Park Lake/Moray St. <i>Easy riding.</i>
Tue, 20 Oct	Westgarth to Hursty via Diamond Creek Trail - ride there/train back	45km	Nola	MYKI Meet at Jika and ride to Possum Hollow (MT). Continue on Main Yarra Trail and Diamond Creek Trail for lunch at Eltham North playground before continue on to Hurstbridge (AT) for train back. <i>Moderate to easy uphill riding with some gravel sections.</i>
Thu, 22 Oct	Plenty River Trail	50km	Gael	Ride north on Darebin Creek Trail to Norris Bank Park (MT), continue north and turn right along M80 Ring Road Trail to Kalparrin Gardens Lake, Greensborough (L). Then along the Plenty and Main Yarra trails to return to Jika. <i>Moderate to hard riding with some hills and gravel. Some rough sections</i>
Tue, 27 Oct	Dandenong to Jika	70km	Colin	MYKI Ride to Parkville Station for train to Dandenong. Ride to Carrum via Dandenong Creek and Bay Trail. Lots of escape options by train on way home. <i>Subject to change of direction if strong northerly wind.</i>

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Thu, 29 Oct	Yan Yean & Laurimar Lakes	58km	Graham	EARLY START, MYKI Meet at Merri Station for 9.02am train to Mernda. MT at Yan Yean overlooking reservoir with lunch at Redleap Lake. Return via Yan Yean Pipeline Trail and Darebin Creek Trail to Jika. <i>Easy to moderate riding</i>
Tue, 3 Nov	Ruffey Lake, Birrarung & Banksia Parks	49km	Jopie	Anti-clockwise version via Hays Paddock (MT), lunch probably at Finns Reserve and coffee possibly at Ivanhoe Golf Course or beyond. A long climb up Whittens Lane to Doncaster Rd and a few shorter climbs but otherwise pretty easy. We include a cruise around Ruffey Lake Reserve. <i>Note: Melbourne Cup Day</i>
Thu, 5 Nov	Aitken Creek, Craigieburn - ride/train	56km	Wolter	North on Moonee Ponds Creek Trail to Boeing Reserve (MT) before heading from West Meadows to Attwood Creek, Greenvale Drive Linear Trail, Melbourne Water Pipe Track and Yuroke Creek (L). After lunch, head via Aitkens Creek to Craigieburn Station for train
Fri, 6 Nov	Jika Jika beginners social ride	10km	Various	Short social ride with coffee stop which is led by DBUG members from Jika Jika Community Centre starting at 10.30am
Sat, 7 Nov	Saturday Surprise	30km	David D	Relaxed outing with mystery destination. Contact ride leader for details.
Tue, 10 Nov	Gasworks Park	40km	Steve M	Ride through Edinburgh Gardens to Napier St then East Melbourne and past MCG to Royal Botanic Gardens (MT). Continue on the Tan to Linlithgow Ave/Southbank Blvd to reach Southbank Promenade. Turn left on Clarendon St's far footpath to Whiteman St and Sandridge Rail Trail. Ride south on Bay Trail to St Kilda. Cross through to Albert Park and ride around lake. At Albert Rd, take path to Kerford Rd, turn at Richardson St and Gasworks Park (L). Ride quiet streets back to Sandridge and Capital City trails via Docklands to Westgarth. <i>Easy riding apart from Royal Park hill</i>
Thu, 12 Nov	Sunshine and Kororoit Ck	55km	Ian H	Ride to Footscray Park (MT) then along Footscray-Sunshine Trail. At Sunshine Station, take Kororoit Creek Trail and Lower Kororoit Creek Path south to Newport Lakes (L). Return via Seddon. <i>Some hills, easy to moderate, mostly flat.</i>
Tue, 17 Nov	Cherry Lake, Altona	58km	Mary & Mick	Ride to Yarraville Gardens (MT). Head south on Hyde St towards Newport and Williamstown and around to Altona Coastal Park. Head west to Cherry Lake (L). Return via Maddox Rd to Newport and re-join Bay Trail for ride back to Jika. <i>Easy riding, mainly flat but can be subject to headwinds along coast.</i>
Thu, 19 Nov	Mordialloc Loop - train/ride/train	40km	James	EARLY START, MYKI Meet at Westgarth Station to catch the 8.57am train to Jolimont and ride to Richmond Station for train to Mordialloc. Ride loop of Long Beach Trail, Dandenong Creek Trail, Dandenong South Trail, Dandenong Bypass Trail, Dingley Bypass Trail, Mordialloc Freeway Trail and Mordialloc Creek Trail back to Mordialloc for train to Richmond.
Tue, 24 Nov	Ferndale Park Trail		Colin	From Westgarth to Edinburgh Gardens and along Napier St to Main Yarra Trail via tennis centre (MT). Then Gardiners Creek Trail and Ferndale Park Trail to Ferndale Park (L). Home via Anniversary Trail//Outer Circle and Wingrove St. <i>Some hills but mainly flat.</i>
Thu, 26 Nov	Werribee River & Skeleton Ck	33km	Ed	MYKI. Ride to North Melbourne station to take the train to Werribee. Ride to Werribee mansion (MT), then back to join the Federation trail on Duncan's Rd. Join the Skeleton Creek trail at Sneydes rd until it joins the Bay Trail at Cheetham Wetlands. Lunch at 100 steps (Truganina Park). Ride to Altona then to Newport and re-join the Bay Trail near Spotswood before returning to Westgarth. Options to catch the train along the way.

DAREBIN BUG RIDES - Oct to Dec 2026

Tue, 1 Dec	Caroline Springs & Kororoit Creek	65km	Jopie	Ride to Parkville for train to Watergardens. MT at Boronia Drive Reserve, lots of lovely lakes including Lake Caroline, lunch at Isabella Williams Reserve, then generally down Kororoit Creek and a few more lakes in Cairnlea to Sunshine and home via coffee probably in Footscray. Possible early pullouts at Sunshine or Footscray stations
Thu, 3 Dec	Ride to lunch at Pettys Orchard Cafe, Templestowe	58km	Jon	Ride along Main Yarra Trail to Possum Hollow, Warringal Parklands (MT). Continue on MYT to Pettey's Orchard Café, just off the trail, for lunch (can purchase at café or eat your own outside). Return via MYT. <i>Moderate riding with some gravel.</i>
Fri, 4 Dec	Jika Jika beginners social ride	10km	Various	Relaxed, short social ride with coffee stop which is led by DBUG members from Jika Jika Community Centre starting at 10.30am
Tue, 8 Dec	Christmas Lunch ride	30km	Wolter	From Merri (Pde) to Christmas (Street Shimmy) and The Boulevard decorations before lunch at Grandview Hotel. Or meet us there. We'll be sending out an RSVP reminder closer to the day
Thu, 10 Dec	Steele Creek	30km	Graham	Ride north along Moonee Ponds Creek Trail before stopping at Boeing Reserve (MT) and joining M80 Ring Road Trail. After Calder Fwy turn off, ride via back streets to Steele Creek Trail. Down that trail past Valley Lake before joining Maribyrnong River Trail at foot of Afton St hill. Back to Westgarth via Kensington or veloway. <i>Moderate to steep riding.</i>
Tue, 15 Dec	Brighton Beach Gardens	55km	Gael	Ride to Bay Trail (MT along way). Continue on Bay Trail south to Brighton Beach Gardens/Green Point (L). Return via the Bay Trail/Albert Park/Moray St. Mainly easy riding, but can be subject to strong wind. <i>Train evacuation from Brighton Beach Station, after lunch.</i>
Thu, 17 Dec	Scotchmans Creek, Valley Reserve & Waverley Rail Trail	55km	Sue H	Ride to East Malvern on Gardiners Creek Trail to Scotchmans Creek Trail (MT along way). Ride along Scotchmans Creek to Valley Reserve (L). Return via the Waverley and Anniversary rail trails. <i>Easy to moderate riding, some gradual uphill.</i>
Tue, 22 Dec	Cairnlea	50km	Jon	MYKI Ride to Maribyrnong River for morning tea across from Flemington Racecourse. Next ride along Footscray to Sunshine Trail to Sunshine Station. Join Kororoit Creek Trail going upstream to Ardeer and follow Jones Creek to Kevin Flint Reserve in Cairnlea (L). Continue west through Cairnlea until we rejoin Jones Creek. Return via train from St Albans Station to Parkville Station and then ride to Jika (riders can change trains at Footscray for other lines to go home). Riders can opt out in the morning at Footscray or Sunshine stations. <i>Easy riding, nearly all flat except for some short hills alongside the creeks.</i>
Thu, 24 Dec	Ad hoc ride	45km		Riders to decide