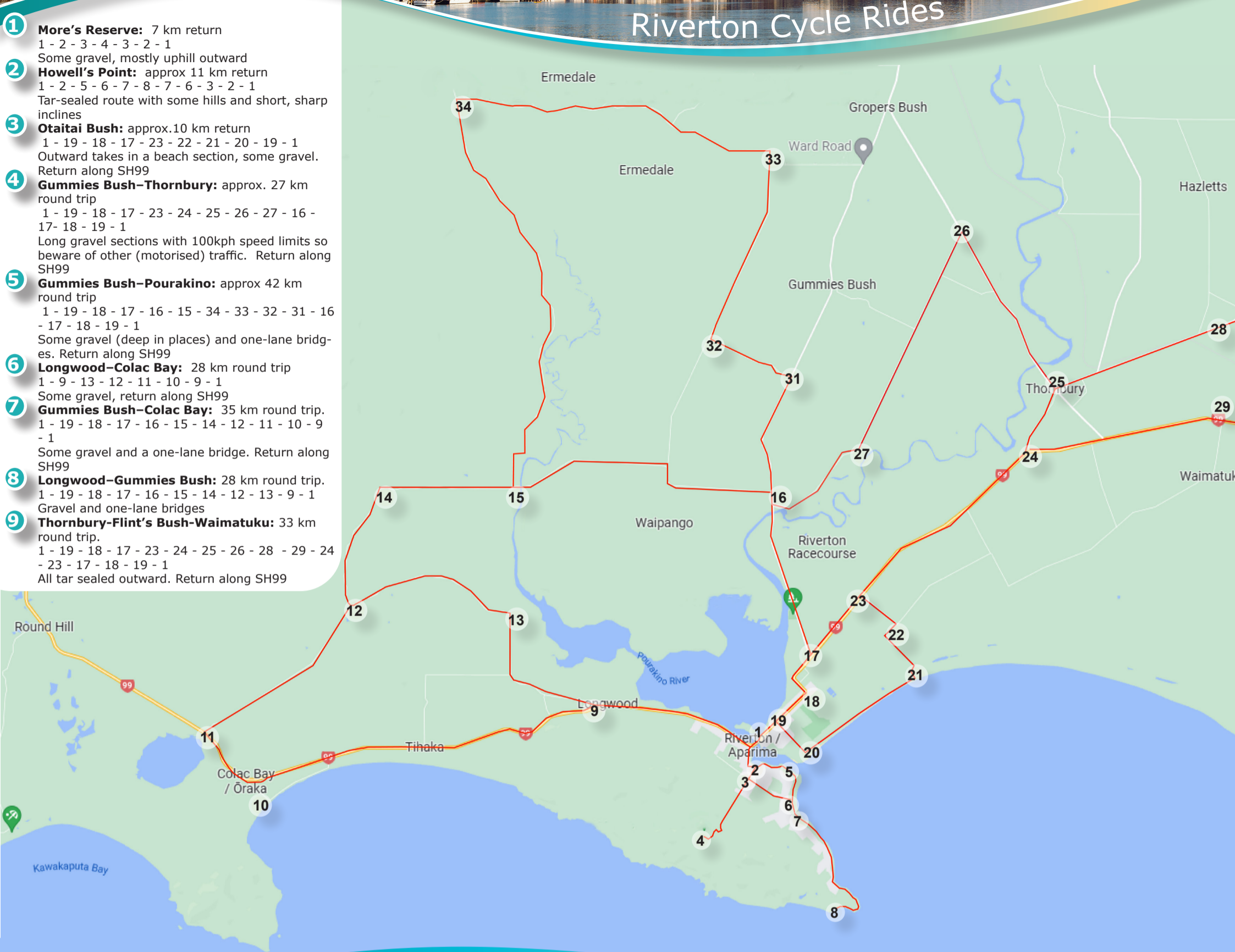




Riverton Cycle Rides

- 1 More's Reserve:** 7 km return
1 - 2 - 3 - 4 - 3 - 2 - 1
Some gravel, mostly uphill outward
- 2 Howell's Point:** approx 11 km return
1 - 2 - 5 - 6 - 7 - 8 - 7 - 6 - 3 - 2 - 1
Tar-sealed route with some hills and short, sharp inclines
- 3 Otaitai Bush:** approx. 10 km return
1 - 19 - 18 - 17 - 23 - 22 - 21 - 20 - 19 - 1
Outward takes in a beach section, some gravel. Return along SH99
- 4 Gummies Bush-Thornbury:** approx. 27 km round trip
1 - 19 - 18 - 17 - 23 - 24 - 25 - 26 - 27 - 16 - 17 - 18 - 19 - 1
Long gravel sections with 100kph speed limits so beware of other (motorised) traffic. Return along SH99
- 5 Gummies Bush-Pourakino:** approx 42 km round trip
1 - 19 - 18 - 17 - 16 - 15 - 34 - 33 - 32 - 31 - 16 - 17 - 18 - 19 - 1
Some gravel (deep in places) and one-lane bridges. Return along SH99
- 6 Longwood-Colac Bay:** 28 km round trip
1 - 9 - 13 - 12 - 11 - 10 - 9 - 1
Some gravel, return along SH99
- 7 Gummies Bush-Colac Bay:** 35 km round trip.
1 - 19 - 18 - 17 - 16 - 15 - 14 - 12 - 11 - 10 - 9 - 1
Some gravel and a one-lane bridge. Return along SH99
- 8 Longwood-Gummies Bush:** 28 km round trip.
1 - 19 - 18 - 17 - 16 - 15 - 14 - 12 - 13 - 9 - 1
Gravel and one-lane bridges
- 9 Thornbury-Flint's Bush-Waimatuku:** 33 km round trip.
1 - 19 - 18 - 17 - 23 - 24 - 25 - 26 - 28 - 29 - 24 - 23 - 17 - 18 - 19 - 1
All tar sealed outward. Return along SH99



Cycle rides near Riverton



All rides start and finish at Te Hikoi Museum - 172 Palmerston Street.

If you want to open a map in google maps, click this link >



- 1 More's Reserve:** 7km return
1 - 2 - 3 - 4 - 3 - 2 - 1
Some gravel, mostly uphill outward

- 2 Howell's Point:** approx 11km return
1 - 2 - 5 - 6 - 7 - 8 - 7 - 6 - 3 - 2 - 1
Tar-sealed route with some hills and short, sharp inclines

- Ride along Palmerston Street towards the river bridge, turn left at the end of the bridge onto Bay Road.
 - Following the road, turn right onto Richard Street (after the GAS station).
 - Continue to the cross roads, making sure to give way as you go over the intersection and up the hill past the holiday park.
 - Continue on Richard Street; it becomes a gravel road, steep towards the top, ascending to the Lookout at the top of the hill.
 - Admire the views of the mountains, hills, sea, Southland plain and Riverton town.
- You may wish to secure your bicycle and then do a bush walk. Return by the same route, taking care on the steep downhill section.

- Ride along Palmerston Street towards the river bridge, turn left at the end of the bridge onto Bay Road.
- Following the road, go straight ahead onto Bates Street and then bear left onto Towack Street (one-way road).
- Fishing boats can be seen on the wharves to the left of this road but you may need to stop and look over bushes etc. to your left to see them. (Howell's Memorial and a memorial to those who lost their lives at sea in the park, down a short stretch of gravel to your left at the end of the one-way road.)
- Continue ahead on Towack Street, turning left at T-junction onto Taramea Bay Road and past the children's playground, toilets and dairy/shop at Taramea Bay.
- A little further on there are toilets on the right.
- The road around the bays, Taramea, Mitchells and Hendersons, has a few ups and downs but it is a good ride beside the sea.
- Continue over the cattle-stop and cycle to the end of the road.
- There are views of Pig, Centre and Stewart Islands. Watch the bird life and enjoy the breakers as they crash onto the shore.
- Return back to Taramea Bay. Follow the road around to the left onto Church Street with its ups and downs, following the road round to the right onto Richard Street.
- This is a fast downhill section so take care as you swing left onto Bay Road.
- Continue to the traffic bridge, turn right and return to Palmerston Street.



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3 Otaitai Bush: approx. 10km return
1 - 19 - 18 - 17 - 23 - 22 - 21 - 20 - 19 - 1

Outward takes in a beach section, some gravel. Return along SH99

- Ride away from the river bridge along Palmerston Street turning right onto Princess Street, cycle to the end of the road to access North Beach.
- Turn left, ride along the beach, (on hard sand) crossing two small streams and turn left onto the track immediately after the second stream which takes you to a gravel road.
- Turn right and cycle along the road until you come to the sign pointing to the Templeton's Heritage Flaxmill Museum, where a static exhibition can be viewed. (You may have made previous arrangements to see the flaxmill working.)
- Retrace your route and continue on past the turning to the beach until you reach the tar seal.
- Turn left onto Otaitai Bush Road and continue until you reach State Highway 99.
- Turn left and cycle past the Riverton Racecourse and back to Palmerston Street.

4 Gummies Bush-Thornbury: approx. 27km round trip
1 - 19 - 18 - 17 - 23 - 24 - 25 - 26 - 27 - 16 - 17 - 18 - 19 - 1

Long gravel sections with 100km/h speed limits so beware of other (motorised) traffic.

Return along SH99

- Ride away from the river bridge on Palmerston Street which becomes Downing Street then High Street.
- As you come out of Riverton you will pass the Bupa retirement village on the right with a wetland reserve on the left.
- Turn left at the Otautau 22km sign onto Riverton- Otautau Road.
- Continue past the Riverton Cemetery (where Captain Howell's grave is located) until you come to the Gummies Bush Bridge over the Aparima River. (There are many whitebait stands along this stretch of the river.)
- Turn right onto Carmichael Road (gravel) (signpost for picnic spot) and enjoy the ride into dairying farmland, along the riverside for some of the way.
- Turn right at T junction, onto Gropers Bush-Thornbury Road.
- Cycle on this fast, tar-seal road towards Thornbury. A short detour to the left is the Thornbury township and the Vintage Machinery Museum.
- Return to the Gropers Bush-Thornbury Road and then turn right onto Webb Road.
- Continue on Webb Road and turn right onto State Highway 99 and cycle back to Riverton.

5 Gummies Bush-Pourakino: approx 42km round trip
1 - 19 - 18 - 17 - 16 - 15 - 34 - 33 - 32 - 31 - 16 - 17 - 18 - 19 - 1

Some gravel (deep in places) and one-lane bridges. Return along SH99

- Ride away from the river bridge on Palmerston Street which becomes Downing Street then High Street.
- As you come out of Riverton you will pass the Bupa retirement village on the right with a wetland reserve on the left.
- Turn left at the Otautau 22km sign onto Riverton- Otautau Road.
- Continue past the Riverton Cemetery across the Gummies Bush Bridge over the Aparima River and turn left onto Centre Road a short distance afterwards.
- Continue until you come to the one-lane bridge over the Pourakino River. Turn right onto the Pourakino Valley Road (deep gravel).
- Bear right at sign for Carran Road to continue on Pourakino Valley Road. This takes you into a native forest area which has seen logging activity in the past.
- Turn right onto Ermedale Road and continue for 5km enjoying the countryside.
- Turn right onto Omutu Road, continue to T junction.
- Turn right then left onto Mill Hill Road, continue to T junction.
- Turn right onto the Riverton-Otatau Road again.
- This is a good run through to Gummies Bush, past the whitebaiters' huts along the river bank and the Riverton Cemetery.
- At the junction with State Highway 99, turn right and cycle back to Riverton.

6 Longwood-Colac Bay: 28km round trip
1 - 9 - 13 - 12 - 11 - 10 - 9 - 1

Some gravel, return along SH99

- Ride on Palmerston Street, over the river bridge and around to the right.
- Continue on State Highway 99 but bear right onto Longwood Road (tar seal to start with but eventually becomes gravel). This avoids the steep climb up Longwood Hill.
- Bear right onto Ward Road.
- You will pass the Pankhurst Saw Mill on your left.
- Continue on Ward Road to the T Junction
- Turn left onto SH 99, take a detour into Colac Bay or just stop and take a selfie with the surfer statue.
- There is a long slog up to Tihaka but the cruise down the Longwood Hill is fast and exhilarating.
- Continue into Riverton, over the river bridge and back onto Palmerston Street.

7 Gummies Bush-Colac Bay: 35km round trip.
1 - 19 - 18 - 17 - 16 - 15 - 14 - 12 - 11 - 10 - 9 - 1

Some gravel and a one-lane bridge. Return along SH99

- Ride away from the river bridge on Palmerston Street which becomes Downing Street then High Street.
- As you come out of Riverton you will pass the Bupa retirement village on the right with a wetland reserve on the left.
- Turn left at the Otautau 22km sign (Riverton- Otautau Road).
- Continue past the Riverton Cemetery across the Gummies Bush Bridge over the Aparima River and turn left onto Centre Road a short distance afterwards.
- Continue on Centre Road (gravel) across the one-lane bridge over the Pourakino River and into native forest, enjoy the bird song and smell of the bush.
- At T junction, turn right onto Ward Road and ride to its end.
- Turn left onto SH99 and ride straight ahead into Colac Bay, stopping perhaps to take a selfie with the surfer statue before continuing to the Colac Bay Tavern for refreshments.
- You can continue down to the beach, and turn left at Foreshore Road until it re-joins SH 99 (however this road has washed away, so no longer suitable for road bikes).
- After you re-join State Highway 99 there is a long slog up to Tihaka but the cruise down the Longwood Hill is fast and exhilarating.
- Continue into Riverton, over the river bridge and back onto Palmerston Street.

This can be cycled in either direction depending on the prevailing wind.

8 Longwood-Gummies Bush: 28km round trip.
1 - 19 - 18 - 17 - 16 - 15 - 14 - 12 - 13 - 9 - 1

Gravel and one-lane bridges

- Ride on Palmerston Street, over the river bridge and around to the right.
- Continue on State Highway 99 but bear right onto Longwood Road (tar seal to start with but eventually becomes gravel). This avoids the steep climb up Longwood Hill.
- Bear right onto Ward Road.
- You will pass the Pankhurst Saw Mill on your left.
- Turn right onto Centre Road. This takes you through farmland and sections of native forest, enjoy the bird song and smell of the bush.
- Cross the Pourakino Bridge.
- Bear right at the junction with Waipango - Ermedale Road to remain on Centre Road.
- Continue until you reach the T-junction with Riverton-Otatau Road.
- Turn right.
- Cross the Aparima River Bridge at Gummies Bush.
- Continue past the whitebaiters' huts along the river and the Riverton Cemetery.
- At the T-junction turn right onto SH 99.
- Continue into Riverton back to Palmerston Street.

This may be cycled in either direction depending on the prevailing wind.

9 Thornbury-Flint's Bush-Waimatuku: 33km round trip.
1 - 19 - 18 - 17 - 23 - 24 - 25 - 26 - 28 - 29 - 24 - 23 - 17 - 18 - 19 - 1

All tar sealed outward. Return along SH99

- Ride away from the river bridge on Palmerston Street which becomes Downing Street then High Street.
- As you come out of Riverton you will pass the Bupa retirement village on the right with a wetland reserve on the left.
- Follow SH 99 towards Invercargill.
- Turn left onto Webb Road, signposted Thornbury.
- Turn left at the T-junction and immediately right onto Foster Road which becomes Thornbury-Waimatuku Road.
- Visit the Vintage Machinery Museum (see link for opening hours).
- Continue on this road, crossing the Ohai railway line.
- Ascend a small incline which takes you past the old Flint's Bush Catholic Church. (The church is opposite the junction with Fraser Road and behind a tall hedge, you have to stop and get off to really see it!)
- Enjoy the glide down the hill and continue straight to Waimatuku.
- Turn right at the T-junction onto SH99 and ride back to Riverton.



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