St James Cycle Trail



Opening - Saturday 20 November 2010 - 10.00 am



Programme

10.00 -10.30 am Arrive at Maling Pass car park

10.30 am Official opening

11.00 am Cyclists / walkers leave Maling Pass car park. Follow the cycle trail for as far as you wish with stops at: Sandy Stream, Maling Pass, Waiau River and Lake Guyon

 Choose your route according to your experience and fitness. The following tracks are all Grade 3 – intermediate level with steep slopes and rough terrain.

Sandy Stream (2 km) – 45 min – 1 hour return to car park

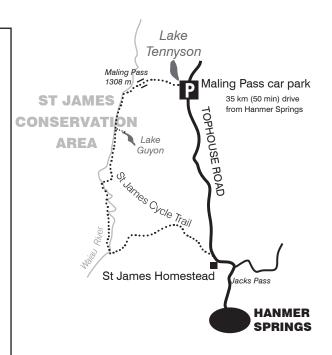
Maling Pass (a further 4.5 km) – 2 hours return to car park

Waiau River – end of 4WD access (a further 6 km) – 4 hours return to car park

Lake Guyon (7 more km) – 6–8 hours return to car park

 Beyond Lake Guyon turn-off to Edwards Valley the cycle trail becomes more technical and remote, requiring river crossings and bike-carrying in places. This section is Grade 4 – suitable for experienced cyclists. Some cyclists may choose to undertake the whole trail, but will need to be well equipped, fit and experienced.

1.00 pm The first section of cycleway from the car park over Maling Pass to the Waiau River is open for 4WD vehicles.



Safety information

- 4WD access from Maling Pass car park as far as the Waiau River will be closed to all motorised vehicles until 1 pm, Saturday 20 November
- Participants are responsible for their own transport to and from event, food and safety
- Ensure you have adequate clothing and food and have told someone where you are going and when you plan to return
- Note there is no cell phone coverage in this area





Department of Conservation *Te Papa Atawhai*





Protect plants and animals Remove rubbish Bury toilet waste Keep streams and lakes clean Take care with Camp carefully Keep to the track Consider others Respect our cultural heritage Enjoy your visit Toitu te whenua (Leave the land undisturbed)



Check, Clean, Dry

Stop the spread of didymo and other aquatic pests.
Remember to Check, Clean, Dry all items before entering a waterway, and when moving between waterways.

St James Cycle Trail

The official opening will take place at the Maling Pass car park – the recommended start to the 64-km trail.

At the opening we'll be focusing on the first sections of the trail from the car park to Maling Pass, then down to the Waiau River and to Lake Guyon and return.

Cycle any section and back, or go the whole length over one or two days; check the following to ensure you have the right equipment and experience to complete the whole trail.

Description

The St James Cycle Trail as a whole is designed for experienced mountain bikers looking for a challenge, but there are also intermediate-level sections for those wanting a half- to one-day return ride.

From Maling Pass car park to the pass and over to the Waiau River the track is an old 4WD track. The track may be muddy, rutted and steep in places, meaning bike pushing and even carrying could sometimes be required. Once over the pass it is steeper down to the Waiau River flats where the 4WD access track ends.

The easiest section is from the end of the 4WD track to Lake Guyon. Families can drive over Maling Pass, picnic by the river and enjoy an easy 2–3 hour ride along the river flats and back.

The section after Lake Guyon from the turn-off to Edwards Valley is particularly demanding. Only fit and experienced cyclists should undertake this. In good conditions the whole trail will take 8–10 hours. Check the latest weather forecast, allow plenty of time and be prepared to spend the night out.

Code of conduct

All mountain-biking tracks are shared-use tracks. This means other recreational users may also be using these tracks, including horse-riders, motorised vehicles, walkers/trampers.

The basic rules for shared-use tracks are:

- Respect that other users have different, and valid, reasons for being there.
- Anticipate other users around corners or in blind spots.
- Expect the unexpected; drive/cycle at a speed you can stop at if a hazard arises.
- Do not startle other users greet them when approaching.
- The basic give-way rule for shared-use tracks is: 4WD and other motorised vehicles give way to walkers, cyclists and horses; cyclists give way to walkers and horses; and walkers give way to horses.
- Common sense and courtesy prevail at all times.

Wet weather

If the Maling Pass track is too wet and muddy to cycle, the event will take place at St James Homestead. Participants can cycle the 15-km Peters Loop from the homestead via Peters Valley to Edwards track to Tophouse Road. From here it is an 8-km easy cycle along the shingle road back to St James Homestead.

The opening venue on the day will be marked from Hanmer Springs township.

DOC Waimakariri Area Office, 32 River Road, Rangiora, 03 313 0820, waimakariri@doc.govt.nz . www.doc.govt.nz

Supported by: Ngãi Tahu, Te Rūnanga o Kaikōura, Hurunui District Council, Hurunui Tourism, Hanmer Springs Community Board, Hanmer Springs Business Association, Hanmer Springs / Hurunui – i-SITE Visitor Centre, Hanmer Springs Thermal Pools and Spa, Hanmer Recreational Track Network Group



Refer to Hanmer i-SITE or www.visithurunui.co.nz for a range of accommodation options, hot pools, cafés and restaurants, bike hire and other activities, to make a weekend of it.