



BRISBANE VALLEY RAIL TRAIL



THE BRISBANE VALLEY RAIL TRAIL (BVRT)

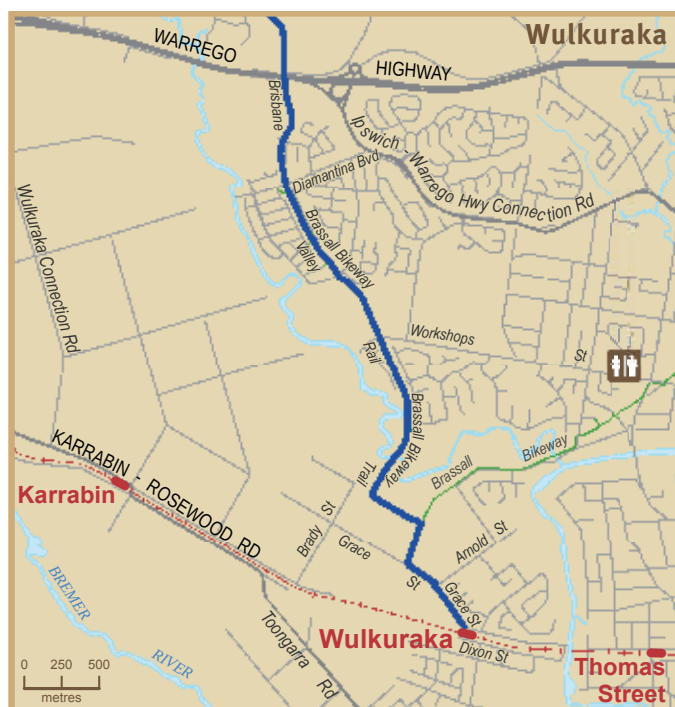
The Brisbane Valley Rail Trail, or BVRT, is a recreational trail that follows the disused Brisbane Valley rail line from Wulkuraka, west of Ipswich, to Yarraman, west of Kilcoy.

The BVRT provides walkers, cyclists and horse riders with a unique opportunity to experience the diverse rural landscape of the Brisbane Valley. With the final link between Toogoolawah and Moore now complete, the BVRT is the longest rail trail in Australia, spanning 161 kilometres.

You'll find places of interest marked on maps throughout. See the list to the right for more information.

The standard of the trail surface varies between sections although generally the trail surface is a combination of compacted gravel/dirt. The section from Linville to Benarkin has a rough gravel surface with some rocky sections. From Linville to Blackbutt, the trail gradually rises up through the Blackbutt Range, with a number of creek crossings that are moderately steep.

WULKURAKA TO FERNVALE (23 KM)



PLACES OF INTEREST

- 1 Fernvale Futures Visitors Centre
- 2 Fernvale Memorial Park – Main Street
- 3 Old Lowood Railway Station – Railway Street
- 4 Lowood Showgrounds – off Station Street
- 5 Bellevue Homestead and Vineyard – 1 West Road, Coominya
- 6 Old Coominya Railway Station and surrounding grounds – Railway Street
- 7 Esk Visitor Information Centre – 82 Ipswich Street
- 8 Esk Caravan Park – 24 Hassall Street
- 9 Nash Gallery and Café – 212 Ipswich Street, Esk
- 10 Poll Crandell Park – Brisbane Valley Highway, Toogoolawah
- 11 Old Toogoolawah Railway Station – Cressbrook Street
- 12 Toogoolawah Condensery Art Gallery – 29 Factory Lane
- 13 Stanley Gates Park – Main Street North, Moore
- 14 Moore Soldiers Memorial Hall – Main Street North
- 15 Old Church Gallery Moore – 35 Linville Road
- 16 Linville Memorial Park (location of the old Linville Railway Station) – off George Street
- 17 Linville Hotel – George Street
- 18 First Settlers Park – Scott Street, off D'Aguilar Highway, Benarkin
- 19 Blackbutt Visitor Information Centre – Les Muller Park, D'Aguilar Highway
- 20 Blackbutt Showgrounds – Bowman Road
- 21 Memorial Plaque, Blackbutt (located in front of the Council offices) – 69 Hart Street
- 22 Heritage House Yarraman – Millar Street
- 23 Yarraman Caravan Park – 12121 D'Aguilar Highway, Yarraman



Trail users can start or finish the BVRT at Wulkuraka train station, which connects into the Brassall Bikeway network, and continues through to Brassall and Pine Mountain. From Ipswich's northern suburbs, the BVRT winds its way north towards Fernvale. While the station buildings no longer remain along this section, replica station signs indicate the original site of previous stops or stations including Muirlea, Pine Mountain, Borallon, Wanora and Fairney View.

If starting your journey from the southern end, please note there is minimal on-street parking available at Wulkuraka train station. Parking facilities are available for trail users off Borallon Station Road, which can be accessed from the Brisbane Valley Highway.

FERNVALE TO LOWOOD (8 KM)



LOWOOD TO COOMINYA (12 KM)



There are minimal services available at Coominya for trail users. The Bellevue Homestead and Vineyard is privately owned, and caters for morning/afternoon tea, lunch and wine tastings by prior arrangement. Accommodation is also available (bookings required).

Lockyer Creek Railway Bridge, Clarendon

The Queensland heritage-listed Lockyer Creek Railway Bridge is situated between Lowood and Coominya. The bridge is considered significant due to its age; mixed material construction in timber and steel; high level of intactness and integrity, and low level of change from its original 1885 design; increasing rarity as a timber trestle bridge; value as a local landmark; and association with Colonial government engineer, Henry Charles Stanley. In 2018, the department commenced major rehabilitation works to the bridge due to its poor condition. A new walkway was also installed on the bridge to provide trail users with an all-weather crossing across Lockyer Creek. The project was completed in February 2019.



COOMINYA TO ESK (24 KM)

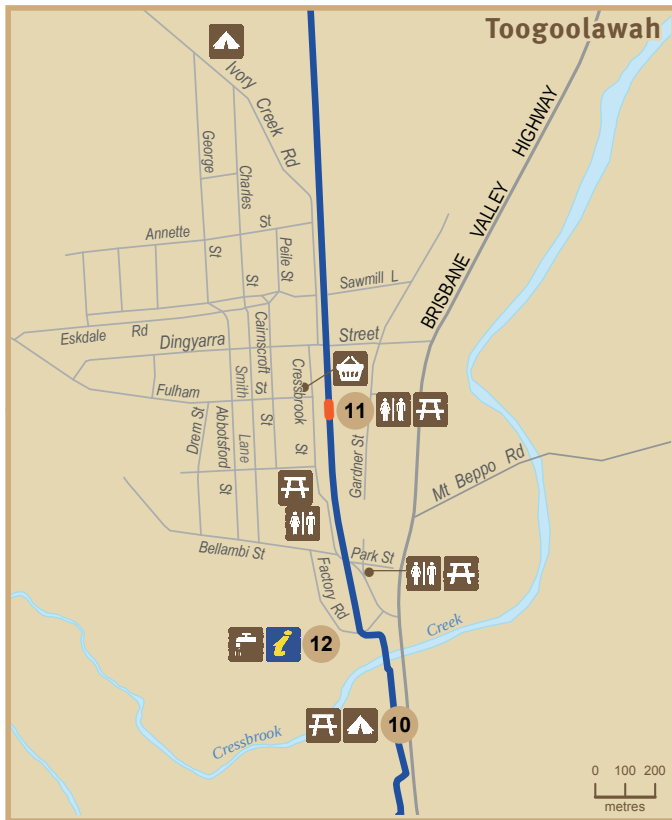


ESK TO TOOGOLAWAH (19 KM)



Check out the Toogoolawah Condensery Art Gallery located in the former packing building of the old Nestle condensed milk factory for a unique cultural experience.

TOOGOOLAWAH TO HARLIN (14 KM)



The section between Toogoolawah and Harlin includes the former Yimbun and Harlin Station sites and the Queensland heritage-listed Yimbun Railway Tunnel. Due to the Harlin Rail Bridge being destroyed in the major floods in 2013, the trail diverts off the former rail alignment near Ivory Creek, south of Harlin, with users directed down local roads and across the creek via a low level concrete crossing. Harlin provides a good halfway stop along this section with toilet facilities and food available.

Yimbun Railway Tunnel

The Queensland heritage-listed Yimbun Railway Tunnel is situated between Yimbun and Harlin and was built between 1909 and 1910. It was the only tunnel constructed along the entire Brisbane Valley branch line and remains a hidden treasure of the BVRT. Yimbun Railway Tunnel is significant as a highly intact example of a concrete-lined railway tunnel constructed for Queensland's narrow-gauge railway lines.



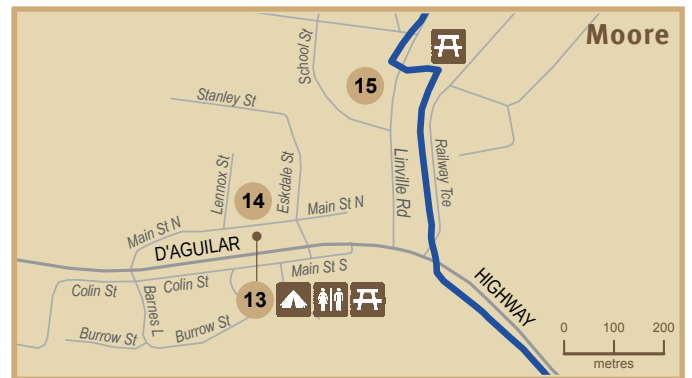
Yimbun Railway Tunnel

HARLIN TO MOORE (13 KM)

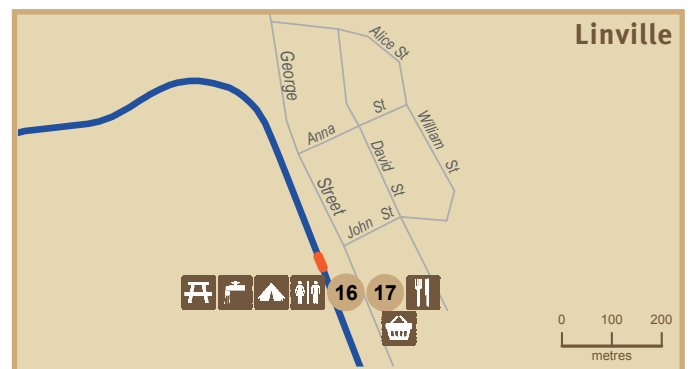


Located to the north of Harlin is Jimmy Gully Bridge, which was restored for use as part of the development of this section of the trail in 2018.

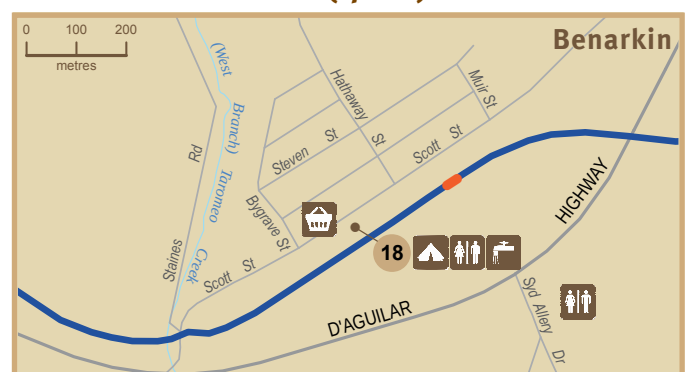
MOORE TO LINVILLE (7 KM)



The former Moore Station site (opposite the Old Church Gallery Café) is available for overnight camping with facilities for horse riders including horse yards and water trough. From here, the trail deviates off the old rail alignment along Linville Road towards Linville. The town centre of Moore is easily accessible from the old Moore Station site via a small footbridge located off Linville Road. Stanley Gates Park in Moore is an overnight rest area with toilet facilities.



LINVILLE TO BENARKIN (17 KM)



MacNamara's Camp between Linville and Benarkin provides a good mid-way resting stop with a shade gazebo, seating and an environmental toilet for trail users.

BENARKIN TO BLACKBUTT (5 KM)



The First Settlers Park rest area in Benarkin is a free overnight camp site with public toilets, barbecues and picnic amenities available plus hot showers and power facilities (for a small fee).

BLACKBUTT TO YARRAMAN (19 KM)



If commencing the BVRT from Yarraman, the trail head is located at the old railway station at the end of Millar Street. From the D'Aguliar Highway, turn into Browne Street, which then becomes Millar Street. Past the Heritage House Museum until you come to Yarraman Station Park at the end of the road. Parking is available off McNeil Street. The museum includes a number of historical displays including the old Yarraman Station building.

Yarraman Weir is about 500 metres from Yarraman Station Park and is a scenic spot with overnight camping available for rail trail users with a toilet.

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Credits: The first page photos provided courtesy of Paul Heymans (left) and Claire Bourke (right).

CODE OF CONDUCT

The BVRT is a shared use recreational trail suitable for walking, cycling and horse riding. When using the trail, please respect other users, the natural environment, and the privacy of adjoining landowners. Please observe the following:-

Cyclists

- Keep left and give way to walkers and horses.
- Slow down when approaching horses and give an audible warning in advance of your approach.
- Alert other users when approaching from behind and pass at a reduced speed.

Walkers

Keep left and give way to horses.

Horses

- Horses must be shod.
- Ensure horses' coats, hooves and equipment are free of seed before entering the trail.
- Do not allow horses to enter or remain in natural watercourses.

All trail users

- Keep on the rail trail.
- Leave gates as you find them.
- Take your rubbish home with you.
- Fires are prohibited on the trail.
- Camp in designated areas only.
- Avoid riding on soft, wet and muddy tracks.
- Do not approach pets or livestock in adjacent properties.
- You may encounter livestock on the trail – please move quietly and with care.
- Keep dogs on a leash and clean up after your dog.
- Do not interfere with native plants or animals.

FOR YOUR SAFETY AND COMFORT

- Cyclists and horse riders should dismount at major road and creek crossings.
- Cyclists and horse riders must wear an approved helmet and ride in control.
- Observe all signs and local regulations.
- Be prepared for changes in weather and trail conditions.
- Motor vehicles including motorbikes are not permitted on the trail.
- Carry drinking water and light snacks (the availability of drinking water along the trail is limited).
- Maintain your equipment and carry repair and first-aid kits in case of emergencies.
- Beware of swooping magpies in springtime.
- Where possible, don't travel by yourself and carry a mobile phone.

EMERGENCY

Call 000 or 112 (from mobile service) for police, fire and ambulance services.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

- Yarraman Visitor Information Centre (Yarraman Heritage House) – (07) 4163 8111
- Blackbutt Visitor Information Centre – (07) 4163 0633
- Esk Visitor Information Centre – (07) 5424 2923
- Fernvale Visitor Information Centre – (07) 5427 0200
- For advice on trail conditions, or to report any issues along the trail, please contact the BVRT Ranger on 0467 729 409.
- Visit www.tmr.qld.gov.au/bvrt

