

Dargo via Omeo

Saturday 8th & Sunday 9th December

Come out for an epic weekend adventure ride covering some of Victoria's greatest motorcycling roads, cutting in and out of the Southern valleys of the Great Dividing Range.

Accommodation: local B&B, bunks, twin share, doubles. Four houses: "Up Dargo" (across the river) sleeps 8; "Dargo Central" (two doors up from the store) sleeps 10; "Miners Cottage" (across the road from the pub, sleeps 3; and the "Nurses Cottage" sleeps 6. Cost: \$60 which includes breakfast of a bacon and egg roll and a coffee at the Dargo General Store from 8 am.

Saturday 8th: Note the **9 am start!** Be there early, otherwise you'll be left behind.

We'll take a direct route from Berwick to Tyers for a short break, then work our way around Lake Glenmaggie and on through open farmland to Briagolong for fuel and sustenance after 206km. The real ride starts here! Heading into the forest and up the sensational Beverleys Road, across to Wuk Wuk and onward to Bruthen bakery for lunch. Once both tanks are full, we'll take the Great Alpine Road north to Omeo with a couple of side trips thrown in.

After afternoon tea we'll return to Bruthen, then on to the final leg into Dargo. Around 626km for the day should give us plenty of material to compare stories over dinner and drinks.

A slightly less arduous option exists for those wanting to skip the Omeo leg and go directly to Dargo making a leisurely 284km for the day.

Sunday 9th: Back out on the brilliant Dargo road to Briagolong, then across to Lake Glenmaggie for a run up the spectacular Licola road and either the McAlister River Road or straight up the hill, in both cases until it reaches dirt. From Licola we'll tackle the same corners in the opposite direction, then across the flats again to refuel in Tyers. We'll throw in a detour to Rawson, possibly as far as Thompson Dam if I feel we need more corners. Then on to the infamous Icy Creek road, stopping for afternoon tea at Neerim Junction, before the final short leg into Powelltown. We may run into the Sunday Mt Baw Baw ride.

Around 386km for the day, with over 100km more for most to home.

Porepunkah Christmas Camp

Wednesday 26th December 2012 to Wednesday 2nd January 2013

Over the past 15 years the Club has camped for about a week at the Mt Buffalo Caravan Park. Situated on the fork of the Ovens and Buckland Rivers it offers a fantastic range of activities including swimming, fishing and bush walking. Close by is the Smoko Trout Farm, the "Wandi Pub", the Hedge Maze, various berry, deer and nut farms, and an alpaca ranch. The famous Milawa wineries and cheese factory are close by. Great road and dirt riding country abounds.

Mt Buffalo offers a sensational 25 km climb to the scenic Chalet and lookouts. Nearby are good half-day rides to Falls Creek, Mt Hotham and Dartmouth Dam or full day rides into the Snowy Mountains and some of the best roads in the world. Who can forget Tawonga and Granya Gaps? On the flip side there are lots of fire trails and mountain tracks offering spectacular views of the surrounding alps, most of which can only be reached by 4WD or dirt bike. So, bring your road and dirt bikes, the missus and kids, the 4WD, pushbikes and swim shoes, ready for a great holiday.

Another good option is to rent a self-contained cabin for the week. Ring 03-5756-2235 to secure a cabin or a camp site. Alternatively, there are also budget motels and hotels nearby. Supermarket shopping is available at Bright, 6 km away.