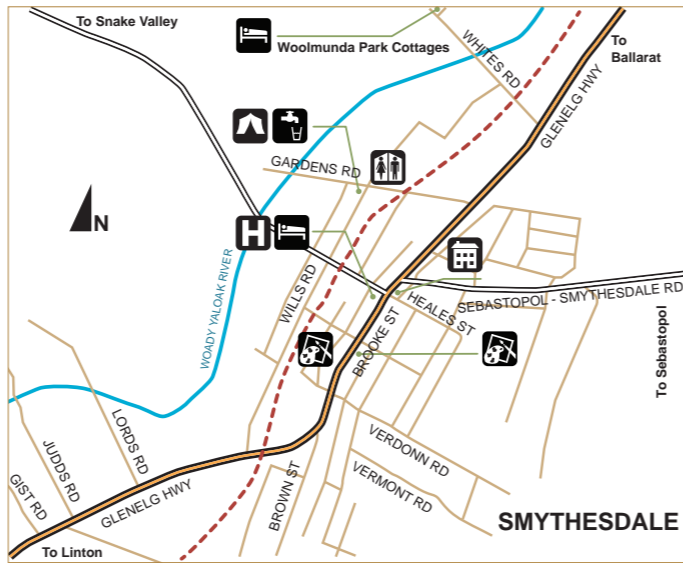


0 250 500 750 1km  
Township maps scale: metres

**KEY TO SYMBOLS**

toilet	points of interest	disused mine
picnic ground	campsite	café
drinking water	historic building	arts/crafts/gifts
garage	factory	fishing
accommodation	church	swimming pool
hotel	cemetery	golf club



**START/FINISH**

The trail officially begins approximately 500m west of Ring Road at the junction of the former Ballarat to Skipton and Melbourne to Serviceton Railway lines.

Join at Public Access Point 2 Remembrance Drive (Avenue of Honour). Construction of the Ballarat Western Link Road will be completed late 2014.

The Trail is 53km one way. To the trailhead from Ballarat CBD is another 8km.



**Public Access Points and Road Crossings**

Access to the Ballarat–Skipton Rail Trail can be gained at the points below. These are listed in order from Ballarat–Skipton, and Skipton–Ballarat with the distance in kilometres listed between each access point.

	section length	from Ballarat	from Skipton
0	Ballarat Rail Junction	0.0	52.8
1	Blind Creek Rd	0.5	52.3
2	Ballarat–Burumbeet Road (Avenue of Honour)	0.5	51.8
3	Ballarat–Carngham Road	4.1	47.7
4	Kopkes Road	2.1	45.6
5	Haddon Station Ground (Sago Hill Road)	1.2	44.4
6	Thomas Road	1.5	42.9
7	Ross Creek–Haddon Road	0.6	42.3
8	Whites Road (Smythesdale)	4.0	38.3
9	Smythesdale Township/Station Ground	1.0	37.3
10	Carey Road (Scarsdale)	2.5	34.8
11	Scarsdale Township/Station Ground	1.4	33.4
12	Newtown Station Ground	3.3	30.1
13	Happy Valley Station Ground	5.5	24.6
14	Linton–Piggoreet Road	2.0	21.7
15	Linton Township/Station Ground	1.2	20.5
16	Glenelg Highway	0.4	20.1
17	Linton–Mortchup Road	1.2	18.9
18	Jacks Road	3.3	15.6
19	Pittong Station Ground (Chepstow–Pittong Rd)	4.0	11.6
20	Glenelg Highway	5.2	6.4
21	Skipton–Geelong Road	5.0	1.4
22	Skipton Township/Station Ground	1.4	0.0
		52.8km	52.8km



*bike - walk - ride*  
**Ballarat–Skipton Rail Trail**

Download the FREE tourism Apps to discover more about Golden Plains Shire and the Ballarat–Skipton Rail Trail  
[www.visitgoldenplains.vic.gov.au](http://www.visitgoldenplains.vic.gov.au)



**Significant dates for the Ballarat–Skipton Railway, 1883-1985**

<b>1870s</b> Haddon–Smythesdale–Scarsdale population estimated at 16,300. Provision made for a railway.	<b>1883</b> Formal opening of the line to Scarsdale, including stations at Haddon, Smythesdale and Scarsdale.	<b>1889–1890</b> Cardigan, Newtown, Happy Valley and Linton Stations open. Scarsdale passenger journeys total more than 20,000 annually.	<b>1891</b> Extension of railway to Linton via Newtown opened by the Chief Secretary, the Hon. Alfred Deakin.	<b>1896</b> Closure of Scarsdale as a staff and ticket station.	<b>1911</b> Ballarat to Colac via Cressy line opens as an extension of the Ballarat–Skipton line from Newtown.	<b>1914–1916</b> Work on Linton–Skipton line at a cost of £65,000. Officially opened in 1916.	<b>1931–32</b> Passenger use declines due to Depression and competition from road transport. Skipton station reduced to caretaker status.	<b>1953</b> Nimons Bridge destroyed by fire. Line closed beyond Newtown for many months while the bridge was rebuilt.	<b>1970–1979</b> Closure of Cardigan, Happy Valley, Kopke, Scarsdale and Haddon stations.	<b>1985</b> Closure of the Ballarat–Skipton line on 27 September, 1985.	<b>2008</b> Official opening of the Ballarat–Skipton Rail Trail following major works to allow for various recreational uses.
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