

The Great Gold Walk

Melbourne, Victoria, Australia

Route Detail

<i>Day Overview</i>	<i>Walker Transport</i>	<i>Luggage Transport</i>
<p><i>Arrive in Ballarat at least a day before to enjoy the City and its great attractions, including the world reknowned Sovereign Hill outdoor goldrush museum.</i></p> <p><i>Stay night in Ballarat</i></p>	-	-
<p><i>Day 1 Mount Buninyong to Ballarat 22k</i></p> <p><i>A pleasant easy start day, descending downhill from Mt Buninyong, through the town of Buninyong, then along the Yarrowee River flats into Ballarat.</i></p> <p><i>Stay night in Ballarat</i></p>	<p><i>Get a taxi in the morning from your accommodation to the start of the day's walk at the top of Mount Buninyong (about 20 minutes).</i></p>	<p><i>None. Leave your luggage at your Ballarat accommodation</i></p>
<p><i>Day 2 Ballarat to Creswick 26k</i></p> <p><i>The day starts by walking through the wonderful historic streetscapes of Ballarat, before turning eastwards along the Yarrowee River trail. You will then head north through bushland and historic mining areas to reach the town of Creswick. No major hills but steady walking.</i></p> <p><i>Stay night in Creswick</i></p>	-	<p><i>Taxi your luggage to your Creswick accommodation.</i></p>

Route Detail (Cont.)

<i>Day Overview</i>	<i>Walker Transport</i>	<i>Luggage Transport</i>
<p style="text-align: center;"><i>Day 3</i> <i>Creswick to Mollongghip 23k</i></p> <p><i>Leaving Creswick you return southeast on a parallel route to Day 2. Shortly after leaving town you walk into Creswick Regional Park and some real 'bush-walking', before emerging into farmland to spend the second half of the day in open country. A bit of climbing but generally steady walking.</i></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Stay night in Creswick</i></p>	<p><i>Get a taxi back to your Creswick accommodation at end of the day's walk.</i></p>	<p><i>Leave luggage at your Creswick accommodation</i></p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><i>Day 4</i> <i>Mollongghip to Daylesford</i> <i>26k</i></p> <p><i>From the tiny hamlet of Mollongghip you will quickly enter dense attractive bushland then enjoy a stroll, for a short time, down the alignment of an old bush railway line before more great bushwalking past Sailors Falls to Daylesford.</i></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Stay night in Daylesford</i></p>	<p><i>Get a taxi in the morning from your accommodation to the start of your day's walk at Mollongghip</i></p>	<p><i>Send the taxi on from Mollongghip to your Daylesford accommodation with your luggage.</i></p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><i>Day 5</i> <i>Rest Day</i></p> <p><i>Enjoy a rest and sightseeing day in the wonderful gold spa town of Daylesford.</i></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Stay night in Daylesford</i></p>	-	-

Route Detail (Cont.)

<p style="text-align: center;"><i>Day 6</i> <i>Daylesford to Hepburn Springs</i> 17k</p> <p><i>An easy day winding through Hepburn Regional Park visiting mineral springs and a great country pub.</i></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Stay night in Hepburn Springs</i></p>	-	<i>Taxi your luggage to your Hepburn Springs accommodation.</i>
<p style="text-align: center;"><i>Day 7</i> <i>Hepburn Springs to Vaughan Springs</i> 26k</p> <p><i>A solid day's walking past Jackson's Lookout and the Chocolate Factory. Walk on through bush and gold mining heritage from the major alluvial mining that took place to reach Vaughan Mineral Springs and the hamlet of Vaughan.</i></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Stay night in Hepburn Springs</i></p>	<i>Get a taxi from Vaughan Springs back to your Hepburn Springs accommodation at the end of the day's walk.</i>	<i>Leave your luggage at your Hepburn Springs accommodation</i>
<p style="text-align: center;"><i>Day 8</i> <i>Vaughan Springs to Castlemaine</i> 19k</p> <p><i>A steady day from Vaughan Springs through the Castlemaine Diggings National Heritage Park passing the well preserved goldfields town of Fryerstown, then on to Castlemaine.</i></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Stay night in Castlemaine</i></p>	<i>Get a taxi in the morning to the start of your day's walk at Vaughan Springs</i> <i>Then walk</i>	<i>Send the taxi on from Vaughan to your Castlemaine accommodation with your luggage.</i>

Route Detail (Cont.)

<p style="text-align: center;"><i>Day 9 Castlemaine to Maldon 28k</i></p> <p><i>A great day through mainly open scenic country finishing with a climb up Mt Tarrangower, before descending to the wonderfully preserved heritage town of Maldon.</i></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Stay night in Maldon</i></p>	-	<i>Taxi your luggage to your Maldon accommodation (if required)</i>
<p style="text-align: center;"><i>Day 10 Maldon to Castlemaine 19k</i></p> <p><i>An easy, flat stroll today back to Castlemaine along the historic rail line, then through the Castlemaine Botanic Gardens. You may be passed by a heritage steam train along the way!</i></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Stay night in Castlemaine</i></p>	-	<i>Taxi your luggage back to your Castlemaine accommodation (if required)</i>
<p style="text-align: center;"><i>Day 11 Rest Day</i></p> <p><i>Enjoy your second rest and sightseeing day in Castlemaine, a larger town with a lot to see.</i></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Stay night in Castlemaine</i></p>	-	-

Route Detail (Cont.)

<p style="text-align: center;"><i>Day 12</i> <i>Castlemaine to Harcourt North</i> <i>28k</i></p> <p><i>This is possibly the best day of the walk with two climbs, great bushland and some stunning scenery. Leaving Castlemaine follow the riverflats to the east before climbing slowly northwards to a vantage point over the valley. Descend and commence the climb to the summit of Mount Alexander, before dropping down to end the day at Harcourt North. The climbs are not strenuous.</i></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Stay the night in Bendigo</i></p>	<p><i>Get taxi at end of the day's walk to your Bendigo accommodation.</i></p>	<p><i>Taxi your luggage to your Bendigo accommodation</i></p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><i>Day 13</i> <i>Harcourt North to Bendigo</i> <i>33k</i></p> <p><i>A longer slog today to test your fitness at the end of the GGW, but it's pretty flat all the way into Bendigo. An interesting day alongside the Coliban Water Channel.</i></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Stay the night in Bendigo</i></p>	<p><i>Get a taxi in the morning back to Sutton Grange Road to start your day's walk.</i></p>	<p style="text-align: center;">-</p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><i>Day After</i> <i>See Bendigo</i></p> <p><i>Bendigo is the other jewel in the crown after Ballarat. Plan to stay a day or two and enjoy more Australian hospitality.</i></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Stay the night in Bendigo</i></p>	<p style="text-align: center;">-</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">-</p>