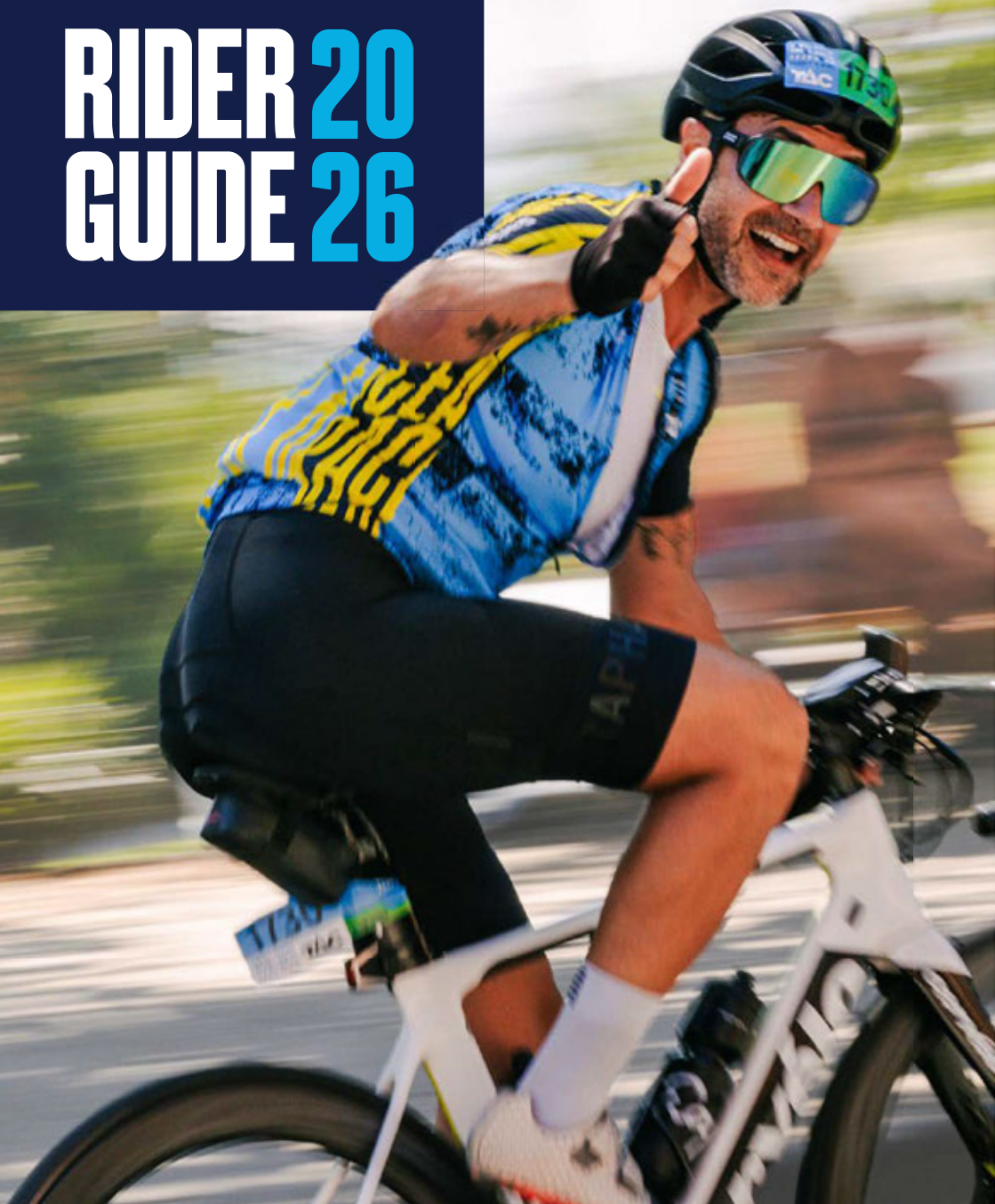


RIDER 20 GUIDE 26



TAC PEOPLE'S RIDE 31 JAN

MAPEI CADEL EVANS GREAT OCEAN ROAD RACE

Thank you for registering to ride in the 2026 TAC People's Ride 'where everyone's a legend'.

I think 'Legends' sums up our event and the people that create it - you - perfectly. Our application of the word 'legend' in this sense is not a patronising or slang reference. It is a word to sum up our appreciation of you, irrespective of your cycling ability or public profile and we like to think that each and every rider is valued just the same.

I was reflecting recently on the Saturday of the broader Mapei Cadel Evans Great Ocean Road Race. 3000 riders in the same jersey will congregate for the start of the Women's Mapei Cadel Evans Great Ocean Road Race. It quite literally is one of the great days of cycling anywhere in the world and no one will tell me otherwise. The atmosphere out on the road is probably only surpassed by that in the village and enjoying the company of those known - and those not so well known - to you. It really doesn't matter. Enjoying a responsible but very well earned 'Easy Roller' (produced by Geelong's very own Blackman's Brewery) and supporting the brilliant race the women's riders put on year in, year out. We all know 2026 won't be any different.

I'd also like to congratulate our TAC People's Ride ambassador Caleb Ewan on a magnificent career and for agreeing to ride with us at the TAC People's Ride. Indeed a privilege for us all, thanks Caleb.

And to my long-term mate Simon Clarke who will head into retirement the following day after the men's race. Simon epitomises all that's great about cycling, a person who has a pure love of the sport and who has left nothing on the table in the pursuit of being the best version of himself on and off the bike.

And let's show our appreciation to the TAC for their support by respecting and adhering to road rules without exception, remembering it's a ride and not a race and looking after one another out on the road. We all have someone to ride home for so stay safe, be seen and share the road.

Prepare well and I'll see you at the start line.



TAC PEOPLE'S RIDE 26
— MAPEI CADEL EVANS GREAT OCEAN ROAD RACE —



Welcome

FROM THE MINISTER

STEVE DIMOPOULOS

MINISTER FOR TOURISM, SPORT AND MAJOR EVENTS

It is a pleasure to welcome riders, fans and visitors to the 2026 Mapei Cadel Evans Great Ocean Road Race, one of Australia's most celebrated cycling events.

Each summer, this world-class event brings the excitement of elite international cycling to Geelong and the Great Ocean Road, showcasing the region on a global stage. Since its inception, it has attracted the world's best riders to compete across a spectacular coastal course that is as challenging as it is scenic.

Beyond elite UCI-sanctioned races, the event continues to inspire participation at every level. The TAC People's Ride and GeelongPort Family Ride give cyclists of all ages the opportunity to experience the same roads as their heroes, making it a true celebration of cycling for the whole community.

The Mapei Cadel Evans Great Ocean Road Race also draws tens of thousands of visitors to

regional Victoria each year. Whether people are competing or cheering from the sidelines, visitors contribute to a vibrant festival that boosts local businesses and tourism operators across the region.

The Victorian Government is proud to support events like the Mapei Cadel Evans Great Ocean Road Race through our \$38 million Regional Events Fund, because they strengthen our visitor economy and showcase the best of Victoria to audiences around the world.

Thank you to the volunteers who make this event possible, and to the Geelong and Surf Coast communities for their continued support and enthusiasm.

I wish all riders, whether taking part for the first time or competing at the elite level, a safe and memorable Mapei Cadel Evans Great Ocean Road Race.

FROM THE TAC CEO

TRACEY SLATTER

CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER, TAC

The Transport Accident Commission is pleased to welcome back the TAC People's Ride in 2026, an exciting opportunity for riders of all abilities to come together and experience Geelong and the Surf Coast by bike.

Each year, thousands of Victorians look forward to the Cadel Evans Great Ocean Road Race, which showcases the natural beauty of the region while delivering significant benefits to the local economy. As a proud Geelong-based organisation, the TAC warmly welcomes all participants — whether you're an elite cyclist, a recreational rider, or a family looking forward to an active and enjoyable weekend.

The TAC is committed to improving safety for all Victorian road users. People who ride bikes are among the most vulnerable on

our roads, and partnering with events such as this provides an important opportunity to work with the cycling community and promote the shared responsibility we all have in creating a safe road system.

In 2026, the TAC is proud to have Australian cycling star Caleb Ewan as an ambassador for the People's Ride. His involvement helps reinforce the importance of respect, awareness, and cooperation on the road, both during the event and every day.

With over 2,500 participants expected to take part, the 2026 TAC People's Ride promises to be a fantastic day of community connection, celebration, and cycling. We wish everyone involved a safe and enjoyable weekend of events.

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EVENTS GEELONG

Discover what's on across Greater Geelong
From festivals and gigs to markets and family fun.



Follow @EventsGeelong
or visit geelong.link/EventsGeelong



Key Timings



TAC People's Ride Marquee Opening Hours

STEAMPACKET GARDENS, GEELONG

Friday 30 January 16:00 – 19:45

Streamline your event morning by collecting your Kit Friday Evening. The Free GeelongPort Family Ride will be on from 17:30 to 19:00.

Saturday 31 January 5:30 – 7:30

*Please note Kit Collection closes 30mins before each ride starts.

Starting Times and Distances

124km 7:00

63km 7:30

START/FINISH LOCATION

Steampacket Gardens, Eastern Beach Rd, Geelong VIC 3220

Elite Races Spectator Guide

cadelevangreatoceanroadrace.com.au/visit/spectator-guide

Mapei Cadel Evans Great Ocean Road Race Event Schedule

WEDNESDAY 28 JANUARY (Lorne/Torquay)	
11:00	Surf Coast Classic - Women Finish & Presentations from 14:15*
THURSDAY 29 JANUARY (Lorne/Torquay)	
11:00	Surf Coast Classic - Men Finish & Presentations from 14:17*
FRIDAY 30 JANUARY (Geelong)	
17:30	GeelongPort Family Ride
SATURDAY 31 JANUARY (Geelong)	
7:00	TAC People's Ride 124km
7:30	TAC People's Ride 63km
12:40	Mapei Cadel Evans Great Ocean Road Race - Women Finish & Presentations from 16:40*
SUNDAY 1 FEBRUARY (Geelong)	
11:10	Mapei Cadel Evans Great Ocean Road Race - Men Finish & Presentations from 15:35

* Start times and courses are subject to changes

Event Information

Rider Packs

The 2026 TAC People's Ride Pack includes:

- » Exclusive TAC People's Ride jersey
- » Helmet sticker
- » Seat post sticker
- » Exclusive offers from supporting partners

If you have not received your rider pack in the mail prior to the event (optional purchase in registration), you will need to collect your rider pack from the TAC People's Ride marquee at Steampacket Gardens (See opening times on page 6).

Jersey

You will receive your exclusive 2026 TAC People's Ride jersey as part of your rider pack. Custom designed and made in Italy by Santini. Santini apparel is known for its energy microsense technology. This means your jersey is made of lightweight, antibacterial, ENERGY fabric. Soft and breathable, this jersey is perfect for summer cycling.



Jersey Size Swap

Subject to availability, a jersey size swap service will be on offer at the TAC People's Ride Marquee throughout the Mapei Cadel Evans Great Ocean Road Race event.

Bib and Sticker Instructions

Seat Post Sticker

Place this sticker around the seat post of your bike, with the number over the rear wheel. Ensure the numbers can be seen from the side.



Helmet Sticker

Place this sticker on the front of your helmet in the centre.

Note: Numbers must not be cut, folded or modified in any way and must be clearly visible.



Track any TAC People's Ride number on course with the **Multisport Australia App**.

Download here <https://www.multisportaustralia.com.au/apps/msa>

Event Information

What to Bring

Compulsory

When you are packing your bag for the weekend, make sure you include the following compulsory items for the TAC People's Ride:

- » Bike and helmet
- » 2026 TAC People's Ride official jersey
- » Seat post and helmet sticker

*Please don't affix stickers to your bike until you arrive in Geelong.

Recommended

In addition to the compulsory items above, we recommend you also bring the following items to the 2026 TAC People's Ride:

- » Sunscreen
- » Rain jacket
- » Sunglasses
- » Money
- » Puncture repair kit
- » Spare inner tubes
- » Pump
- » Lights, front and rear
- » Water and drink bottles
- » Adequate ride nutrition
- » Fully charged and working mobile phone

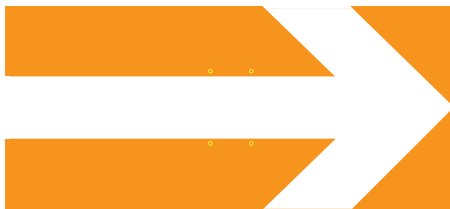
Course Directions and Aid Stations

Please follow the course notes (Mocka) on your ride sticker, these contain a street name and action note to guide you around your course.

Long Course, follow the **BLUE** arrows for the full course (same as the Elite races!).



Short Course, follow the **BLUE** arrows from the start line, then **ORANGE** arrows from KM 38 through to finish.



To help you get to the finish site, there will be aid stations set up along the course. At each station there will be toilets, water, first aid, mechanical support and sports nutrition. There will be a limited supply of the above, therefore it is recommended you bring along sufficient food and sports nutrition to meet your requirements. Similarly, you are expected to pack your own basic tools and spares so that you can get yourself out of trouble on the day. If hot weather is forecast; additional water stations will be added along the course. Any additional locations will be advised in the days leading up to the event, via the website and social media.

Event Information

Aid Stations

124KM COURSE Ride With GPS Interactive Map <https://ridewithgps.com/routes/52093905>

KM	DIRECTION	LOCATION
0.0		START
29.4	AID STATION 1	Barwon Heads, Thirteenth Beach
50.5	AID STATION 2	Torquay, Elephant Walk Reserve
82.0	AID STATION 3	Moriac, Newling Reserve Tennis Club
111.5	CROSS	Scenic Road (Option For Left Turn - Avoid Challambra Climb)
115	WATER POINT	Challambra KOM/QOM, Montpellier Park
124	FINISH	FINISH - STEAMPACKET GARDENS

63KM COURSE Ride With GPS Interactive Map <https://ridewithgps.com/routes/52092996>

KM	Direction	Location
0.0		START
29.4	AID STATION 1	Barwon Heads, Thirteenth Beach
63.2	FINISH	FINISH - STEAMPACKET GARDENS



Event Information

Event Nutrition

Science in Sport (SiS) are proud to be the Official Energy Chew and Energy Gel supplier for the TAC People's Ride.

Nutrition plays a vital role in maximising performance, as well as ensuring you complete the ride in a healthy state. SiS energy products are used and recommended by cycling champion Cadel Evans. Ensure you have the energy you need for training and ride day with the Cadel's Road Race energy bar pack from scienceinsport.com.au

Staying hydrated

Heat exhaustion can be avoided.

Follow these tips:

- » Drink enough fluid to replace your sweat
- » Refill your water bottle at every opportunity, there are aid stations along the course
- » Remind your friends and team members to drink fluids at every opportunity
- » Don't ignore the signs of heat exhaustion; dizziness, fatigue, weakness, headache, nausea, unsteadiness, rapid pulse or shortness of breath

Seek medical assistance at the nearest aid station if you are suffering from any of the above signs or call the Event Operations Centre on 0497 034 575. Please save this number in your mobile phone.

Medical

Medical services will be on site at the event village, on the course and at all aid stations. If you require non-urgent medical attention, you can report to an aid station First Aid post. If you are unable to make it to an aid station, contact one of the event team, traffic control or course teams, or call the emergency number that has been SMS'd to you.

For medical attention, call 0497 034 575.

For emergency medical attention, call 000.

Rider and Road Safety

Much of the TAC People's Ride is conducted on open roads therefore standard road rules apply to every participant. Police will be in attendance and will impose penalties. As a minimum, TAC People's Ride participants must:

- » **Stop for red lights**
- » **Stop at stop signs**
- » **Give way at give way signs**
- » **Ride no more than two abreast**
- » **Use the hard shoulder when possible**

Please also respect and keep an eye out for your fellow TAC People's Ride participants.

Two Route 55 buses have permission to come on course in Ocean Grove at Wilton's Road through to Barwon Heads Bridge, before the exit via Barwon Heads.

These buses should/will not exceed 60 km/h, and it should/will slow further when overtaking cyclists who might not expect a vehicle approaching from behind.

Mechanics

Hendry's Cycling will provide mechanical support at the following times in the Steampacket Village:

FRIDAY 30 JANUARY: 16:00 - 19:45

Exhibiting in the event village for the TAC People's Ride Kit Collection & the GeelongPort Family Ride.

SATURDAY 31 JANUARY: From 5:30am

Hendry's Cycling will assist riders with mechanical issues until the last TAC People's Ride Rider departs onto course (within applicable start line cut off times).

Event Information

Pedal Power Garage will provide mechanical support on course for the TAC People's Ride. Look out for their teams along the course and at aid stations. Their fleet of vehicles will have a full complement of spares on board such as cables, chains, cassettes, etc. During the ride you can sms or call 0487 350 656 for mechanical assistance.

Event Photography

Event photographers from NORTHSOUTH Live will be situated throughout the course capturing you in action, with your images becoming available shortly after you cross the finish line. Use coupon code TAC20 to get 20% off all photo products, valid on event day only. To find your photos, simply visit <https://northsouth.live/?event=tac-peoples-ride> and enter your name or bib number.

Start Line

The 2026 TAC People's Ride will start at 7:00am from the start/finish line on Eastern Beach Road at Geelong's beautiful waterfront. We recommend you arrive approximately one hour prior to your start time. Please take into account travel time, parking and any unforeseen holdups you may encounter.

Note: All 124km and 63km course participants must depart the start line no later than 7:45am. Don't forget your exclusive 2026 TAC People's Ride jersey is compulsory to start the ride.

Starting Waves

124km	7:00AM
63km	7:30AM

Start positions

Start positions will be determined by the "speed group" selected during the registration process. Speed groups will be allocated in the starting area from fastest to slowest.

Start wave categories

Start waves are important to ensure you have the best start possible and to minimise the

amount of overtaking needed in the first part of the ride. Please help by selecting an appropriate average speed that you will complete the entire ride at. Please note, you can change start waves without notifying the event, as your time will begin when your chip crosses the start line.

Start Wave Categories are:

35-40km/h - RED START

30-35km/h - GREEN START

25-30km/h - ORANGE START

20-25km/h - BLUE START

15-20km/h - YELLOW START

Finish Line

Look for the large inflatable arch when you approach the finish line on Western Beach Road in Geelong. At this point you will be asked to pass through, dismount and move off the course as efficiently as possible to avoid congestion.

We appreciate you working with the event marshals to ensure there is a clear finish line at all times. Don't forget to recover, refuel, rehydrate, and join us in the Event Village to watch the Mapei Cadel Evans Great Ocean Road Race - Women.

Cut Off Policy / SAG Wagon

For the safety of participants and as a courtesy of local residents, a 'cut off' policy does apply to the TAC People's Ride. This requires riders to maintain an average speed of 18km/hr in the Long Course & 16km/hr in the Short Course. This will allow all participants to complete the TAC People's Ride under our standard ride conditions, but in the event you do drop back, please familiarise yourself with the cut off time policy in order to understand the outcomes of falling outside the time restrictions. If you are unable to maintain the average speed there are options to shorten the course, or to be transported back to Geelong in the SAG wagon along with your bike.

We hope you enjoy your Great Ocean Road ride, and taste of the Surf Coast!

Make sure you check out the other cycling events that take place in our magnificent natural velodrome. A highlight on the 2026 calendar is Amy's Great Ocean Road Gran Fondo on the 13th of September.

With flowing mountain bike tracks, stunning walking trails, heaps of events, markets, surf, sand, waterfalls, adventure and spectacular scenery ... there are just so many reasons to

get
amongst the
surf coast

Torquay's cycle friendly cafes and restaurants are ready to welcome you with the perfect brew and a stunning view!



Photo credit: Amy's Great Ocean Road Gran Fondo

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f SurfCoastEvents **📷** SurfCoast_Events **🌐** surfcoastevents.com.au



Chat with the locals at the Torquay Visitor Information Centre for the best ideas on exploring our region on two wheels.
Surf City Plaza, Beach Road, Torquay **Ph: 1300 614 219**

Event Information

CUT OFF TIMES – 124KM Course

KM	DIRECTION	ROAD	CUT OFF
0.0		START	7:30AM
29.4	AID STATION 1	Barwon Heads, Thirteenth Beach	9:00AM
50.5	AID STATION 2	Torquay, Elephant Walk Reserve	10:10AM
82.0	AID STATION 3	Moriac, Newling Reserve Tennis Club	12:00PM
111.5	CROSS	Scenic Road (Option For Left Turn - Avoid Challambra Climb)	1:00PM
115	WATER POINT	Challambra KOM/QOM, Montpellier Park	1:15PM
124	FINISH	FINISH - STEAMPACKET GARDENS	2:00PM

CUT OFF TIMES – 63KM Course

KM	DIRECTION	ROAD	CUT OFF
0.0		START	7:45AM
29.4	AID STATION 1	Barwon Heads, Thirteenth Beach	9:35AM
63.2	FINISH	FINISH - STEAMPACKET GARDENS	12:30PM

Fallen outside the cut off times

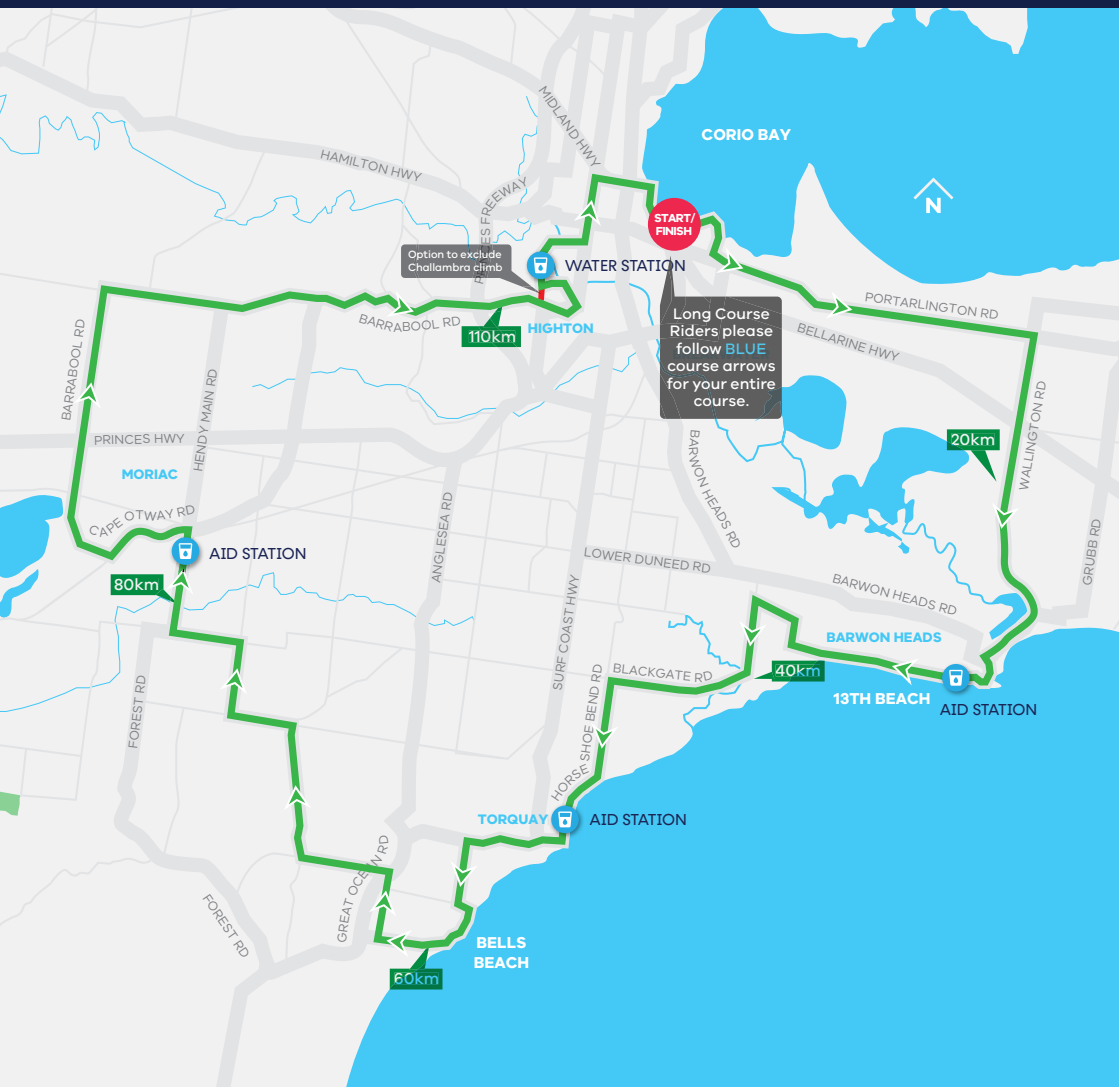
If you choose to continue or finish the ride on your own once you have fallen outside of the cut off times, you do so at your own risk. Please be reminded that you will be riding under the standard road rules and that traffic regulations apply. It is important to note rider support services such as medics, mechanics and aid stations may not be available for you. Additionally, the Mapei Cadel Evans Great Ocean Road Race - Women may impact you should you fall outside of cut off times. If the elite race approaches you while you are still riding, you must wait while the race passes and obey the instructions of moto marshals.



TAC PEOPLE'S RIDE 26

MAPEI CADEL EVANS GREAT OCEAN ROAD RACE

Long Course 124km



TAC PEOPLE'S RIDE 26

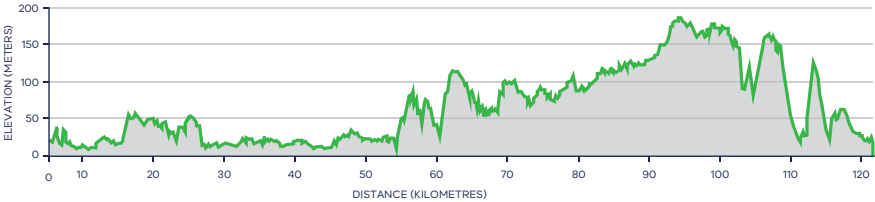
MAPEI CADEL EVANS GREAT OCEAN ROAD RACE

Short Course 63km

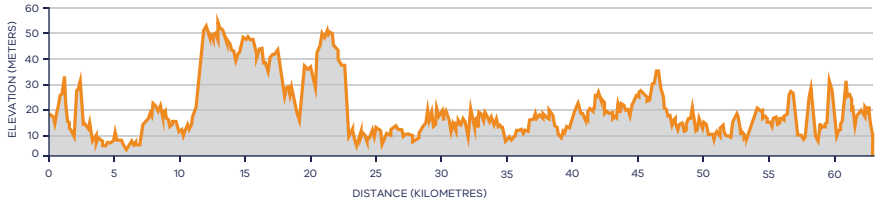


Course Profiles

ELEVATION PROFILE - 124KM COURSE



ELEVATION PROFILE - 63KM COURSE



THE MAKING MUSSEL MEMORIES BIT



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paddock to plate, or boat to
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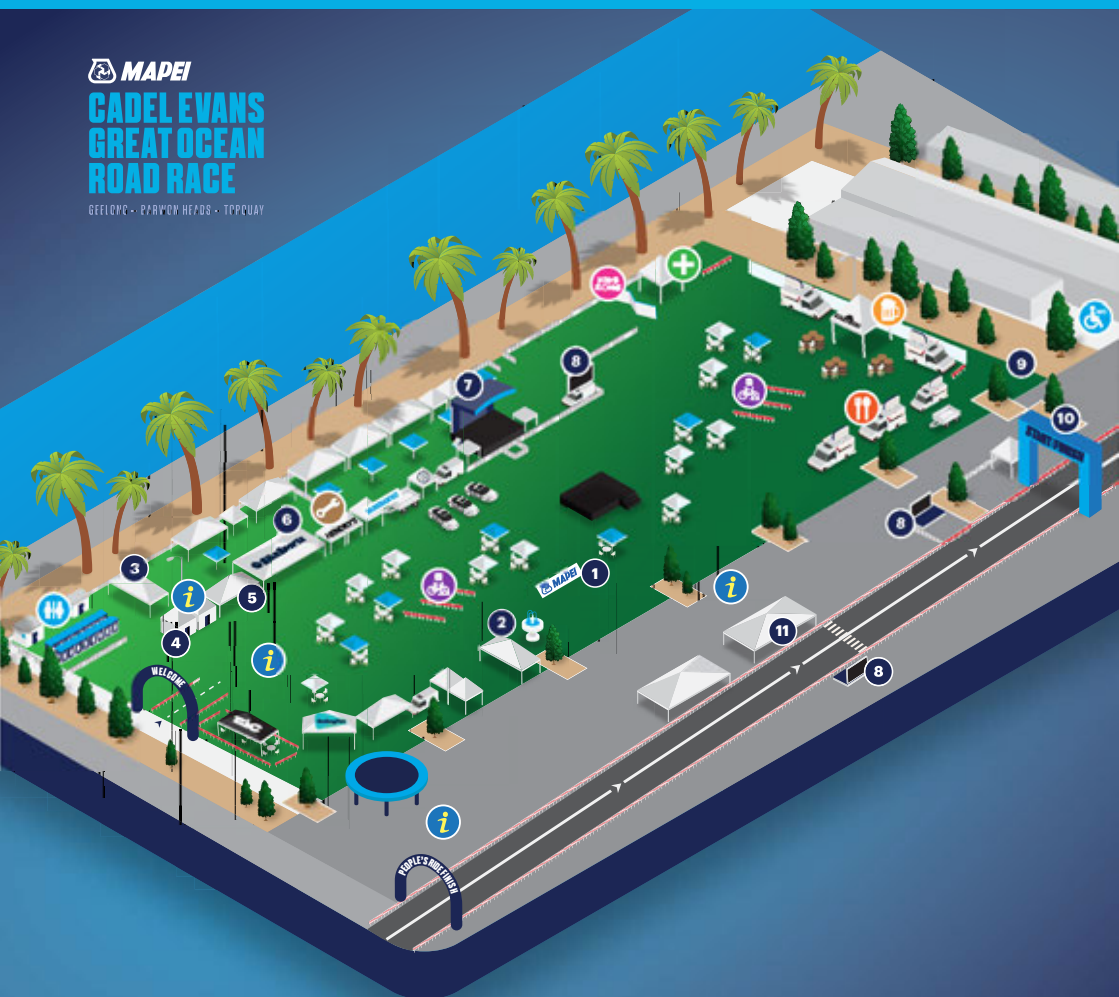
VICTORIA EVERY BIT
DIFFERENT

Velo Village Venue Map



CADEL EVANS GREAT OCEAN ROAD RACE

GEELONG • PLYMOUTH HEADS • TORQUAY



- 1 MAPEI MOMENTS DISPLAY
- 2 WATER REFILL STATION
- 3 CHANGEROOM
- 4 REGISTRATION/JERSEY SWAP
- 5 KIT COLLECTION & RECOVERY
- 6 BIKESPORTZ MERCHANDISE
- 7 STAGE

- 8 SUPER SCREENS
- 9 ACCESSIBLE ENTRANCE
- 10 START/FINISH GANTRY
- 11 ACCESSIBLE VIEWING AREA
- KIDS ZONE & COLOURING WALL
- BIKE PARKING
- INFORMATION

- TOILETS
- ACCESSIBLE PUBLIC TOILETS
- HENDRY'S BIKE MECHANICS
- FIRST AID
- FOOD VENDORS
- BAR

Event Information



Road Closures

Information about traffic alterations during the Mapei Cadel Evans Great Ocean Road Race can be found here: cadelevansgreatoceanroadrace.com.au/about/traffic

Parking

Please be aware there are parking restrictions applicable across the route throughout the day, so please pay attention to signage and avoid parking on the ride/race route.

Signage and Course Marshals

Each wave start will have an overhead signpost along the start chute to help you and your friends line up in the appropriate speed group.

- » Arrows and other signage will be located along the course for your information.
- » Pre warning signage will be prominent as you are approaching an aid station.
- » Marshals and event staff will be along the course, either in a vehicle or at a stationary post. They will be identifiable in an event uniform and a high visibility vest.
- » Marshals are not authorised to stop motorists, you must remember you are following standard road rules.
- » Please respect the instructions of the moto marshals. They are there to ensure the safety of all riders and motorists.

Distance Changes

Riders can downgrade from the long course to the short course on the day by simply taking the shorter course route. There will be no refund if you choose to downgrade.

Challambra Climb

How to become the King or Queen of the Mountain

The 124km course features the legendary Challambra climb – an iconic test of endurance. Take on the #ChallengeChallambra and see how you measure up against your mates, the pros, and even Cadel Evans himself.

Famous for its role in the 2010 UCI Road World Championships, Challambra's KOM/QOM ascent is a bucket-list climb for cycling enthusiasts worldwide.

The Challambra Segment – an 845m King of the Mountain (KOM) and Queen of the Mountain (QOM) final ascent – will feature ranked times included in your results. Family and friends can follow your progress live using the [MultiSport Australia App](#)

Social Media

Don't forget to record your progress along the picturesque course, grabbing photos around the route and at the finish.

Share to your channels using the hashtags **#TacPeoplesRide** and **#CadelRoadRace**.

Smart riders wear bright kit. So how bright is your cycling group?



Make sure your cycling crew is visible for all the right reasons. Wear bright, highly visible colours with reflective elements from head to toe; plus bright flashing lights – day and night.

Be Seen. Be Safe. Share the Road.

Learn more at: tac.vic.gov.au/road-safety/cycling-safety





**PROUD
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FAQ's

Where is the best place to watch the TAC People's Ride live?

There are a number of great locations along the TAC People's Ride course to watch the action. Please use the course map to help find a suitable location. You can also cheer the riders across the finish line on the Geelong waterfront.

Will I be riding on closed roads?

The TAC People's Ride is staged on open roads, therefore all riders must adhere to normal road rules at all times. Failure to do so is at the risk of the participant and may result in the participant being removed from the ride. TAC People's Ride participants, as a minimum, must:

- » **Stop for red lights**
- » **Stop at stop signs**
- » **Give way at give way signs**
- » **Ride no more than two abreast**
- » **Use the hard shoulder when possible**

If a TAC People's Ride participant is still cycling on the route when the Mapei Cadel Evans Great Ocean Road Race - Women approaches they will be required to move off the road until ALL elite riders and event vehicles have safely passed. This is a direction that will be enforced by Victoria Police.

Do I need to wear a helmet?

Yes. All participants must wear an Australian Standards Certified helmet as per Victorian road rules.

What type of bike can I ride?

Given our event is a non-competitive recreational ride, participants may choose from a variety of bike types. Suggestions may include road bikes, mountain bikes, city bikes, hybrid bikes and cross bikes. Participants must ensure their bikes are well-maintained and fit for use in the TAC People's Ride. E-bikes are permitted too, however we recommend that e-bikes be used only in the short course as there will not be any battery charging facilities on course or at the start line. Please ensure E-bike batteries are fully charged, and have the capacity to maintain charge over at least 63km.

What should I wear during the event?

As part of your Rider Pack you will receive a 2026 TAC People's Ride jersey, which is a compulsory part of a participant's Rider Pack. In addition to the event jersey, participants are recommended to wear standard and comfortable cycling kit. Participants can purchase event merchandise, including additional Santini rider kit, from the Santini stand in Steampacket Gardens. Please keep an eye on the weather forecast and come prepared for unexpected changes. We suggest bringing a warm undershirt, arm and leg warmers, gilet or vest and a rain jacket if necessary.



FAQ's

Will the Mapei Cadel Evans Great Ocean Road Race be televised?

SBS will televise both the Women's and Men's Road Races LIVE on Saturday 31 January and Sunday 1 February, with highlights of the TAC People's Ride. SBS will stream both the Women's and Men's Road Race live, available anytime, anywhere, and on any device.

If I need medical assistance, what should I do?

Should you need medical assistance during the ride there will be course and traffic marshals as well as mechanics surveying the course regularly who will be able to assist you at any time. In the event of a medical emergency, please call 000. Alternatively, if your medical issue is non-urgent, please call 0497 034 575 for the Event Operations Centre.

I have never ridden in a large group before or on open roads, what should I do?

At time of entry, it is advised that all participants are comfortable riding on open roads and understand that riding two abreast (two riders side-by-side) or in single file is required. All riders must abide by the Australian road rules at all times. Failure to do so is at the risk of the participant and may result in the participant being removed from the ride.

If you need to overtake another rider, please ensure it is done in a safe manner and when the road dictates it is safe to do so. We also advise that riders gain experience riding in a group prior to participation in our event, as we want the ride to be a positive and safe experience for all involved.



Connecting today.
Creating tomorrow.

GeelongPort



We welcome the cycling community to Geelong and the beautiful waters that are our bay and coastline.

As proud locals, we wish everyone a fantastic ride and we hope all riders, their families, team members and friends have an epic experience in our wonderful region.

GeelongPort is the proud partner of the Cadel Evans Great Ocean Road Race Family Ride in 2026

For more information

☎ 1800 979 717

✉ enquiries@geelongport.com.au

geelongport.com.au



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Q GLC 63 S E PERFORMANCE Coupé

2026 Event Partners

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