

THE "BLUE DUCK" RIDE 2011

Ride Leader: Gerd Brachmann

Date: Friday, 28/1/2011 – Sunday, 30/1/2011
(the weekend after Australia Day)

Starting Point: Lilydale, Shell Service Station (28/1, 7.15 for a 7.30am start)

Route Day 1: Noojee (Morning Tea), Newborough, Heyfield, Stratford (Petrol and Lunch), Bairnsdale, Swifts Creek (Petrol and Afternoon Tea), Omeo, The Blue Duck Inn at Anglers Rest (for 2 nights). Total distance: 440 km.
Over dinner: Part 1 of the "Blue Duck Trophy" events: TRIVIA QUIZ.

Day 2: Breakfast at the Blue Duck; then Bogong High Plains Road, Falls Creek, Mount Beauty, Tawonga Gap, Mount Beauty (Petrol and Morning Tea / Lunch) and return to the Blue Duck for Part 2 of the "Blue Duck Trophy" events. Total distance: 165 km.
Dinner.

After dinner: Award of the 2011 Blue Duck Trophy.

Route Day 3: 7.30 start, then on to Omeo (Petrol and Breakfast around 8.15), Mt. Hotham, Harrietville, Bright (Petrol and Morning Tea around 10.45), Myrtleford, Milawa, Whitfield, Mansfield (Petrol and Lunch around 1.15), to Healesville (End of Ride and "Good-byes" around 4.00). Total distance: 470 km.

Ride Level: Medium / hard.

Additional Notes:

1. Note that the ride is a reasonably long one.
2. Having filled up at Lilydale, Stratford and Swifts Creek, the petrol stops will be sufficient for all bikes.
3. As many of you know, accommodation at the Blue Duck is in 6 cabins. Each cabin is fully serviced with bedding, towels, full sets of crockery and cutlery, tea and coffee-making facilities by way of a gas stove, a wood heater and wood (if needed), lights and ensuite bathroom. As the facility is powered by a generator, we can't use any appliances (there are no power points).

Each cabin can accommodate up to 6 people. There is a double bed in the main entrance / lounge / kitchen area, and another room contains another double bed and 2 single (bunk) beds. (Of course, you may request the company you want to share with, and I'll try my hardest to accommodate such requests; but this can't be guaranteed, unfortunately...)

Saturday morning (continental) breakfast can be pre-purchased in the bar the night before, if required (I can imagine that some of you may be equipped yourselves).

4. Costs involved:

- Accommodation (2 nights) and Stratford Lunch (Day 1): \$ 135.00 p.p.
This money should be paid to me by 15 July 2010. That payment will guarantee your participation (unless the trip is booked out, of course), and I'll pay for those two items as a whole.
- Breakfast Blue Duck Day 2: \$ 10.00 – 15.00.
- Breakfast Omeo Day 3: \$ 12.00 – \$ 15.00.
- Morning Teas Days 1, 2 and 3: approx. \$ 20.00 - \$ 30.00 all up.
- Afternoon Teas Days 1, 2 and 3: approx. \$ 20.00 - \$ 30.00 all up.
- Lunches Day 2 and 3: \$ 20.00 - \$ 30.00 all up.
- Dinner Day 1 and 2: The hotel serves a very nice dinner (no BYO here). Food and drinks come at a similar price compared to other pubs. (Please check the menu on their web page www.blueduckinn.com.au.) Dinner and drinks are paid for as at other pubs.
- Petrol.

Please take some water or other drinks for on the way as I expect it to become a little warm at times (it will be January, after all).

Whoever wants to bring BYO liquor, is welcome to consume this in and around the cabins, not in the Blue Duck pub (that includes my *schnaps*, of course, too...).

What to expect:

- ✓ Excellent motorbike riding (tight corners, majestic sweepers, fast and long straights) through the best of Gippsland, into 'the mountains', over the Great Alpine Road, and via Mansfield home into our wonderful Yarra Ranges.
- ✓ Good camaraderie with doses of fine food and drinks, and some *schnaps*, of course...
- ✓ The superb battle to wrest the Blue Duck Trophy out of Gipp and Steve's hands.

What to do next:

If you're planning to come along, please advise me as soon as possible (by Email, if possible), and pass on the deposit (covering 2 nights' accommodation + 1 lunch) of \$ 135.00 per person.

Any questions?

Please contact me

- by Email (gbrachmann@minopher.net.au), or
- by phone (9894 1730), or
- by text message to my mobile (0415 996 653).

In the meantime: Safe Riding!

Gerd