

# Northern Rivers Rail Trail Product & Experience Development Project

## Case Studies Report

Prepared for Destination North Coast

11 October 2021





Image: Hannah Cameron Powell

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## Disclaimer

The information contained in this Report is intended only to inform and should not be relied upon for future business investment or other decisions. It is expected any specific recommended actions should be analysed and appropriate due diligence undertaken prior to making any investment decisions.

Recommendations contained in this report have been made on the basis of assumptions, methodology and information provided from many sources. The authors, and Destination North Coast accept no responsibility or liability for any errors, omissions or resultant consequences including any loss or damage arising from reliance on the information contained in this Report.



Image: Tim Hawkins

## 1.0 Introduction

### This Case Studies Report presents findings of Part Two of the Northern Rivers Rail Trail Product and Experience Development Audit.

The review sought to identify good practice examples of tourism product and experience development operations from trails in Australia and New Zealand that can be used to inform product development associated with the Northern Rivers Rail Trail.

Five cases (two from New Zealand and three from Australia) were identified as good examples to inform business development opportunities along and around the NRRT including:

1. Otago Central Rail Trail, Queenstown, New Zealand
2. Queenstown Trail, New Zealand (NB: not a rail trail but a very good trail example)
3. Brisbane Valley Rail Trail, Queensland
4. Ride High Country, Victoria
5. Riverina Highlands Trail, New South Wales

These cases were reviewed to:

- Provide an overview of the scale and development of similar trails
- Understand the visitation and economic value of the trails
- Understand the scale and type of products (paid) that operate along the trails e.g. tour, transport and hire, food and drink, and accommodation
- Identify examples of good practice tourism operations that could be used to inform business development initiatives along and around the Northern Rivers Rail Trail.



Image: Destination NSW

## 2.0 Key Findings

There are over 14,000 trails in the United States, 1,500 in Europe, over 100 in Australia, and 22 in New Zealand that have realised the potential of disused railways as recreational assets for residents and visitors from all walks and bikes of life.

The review of the five selected case study trails in Australia and New Zealand shows that most trails have had a similar 10–20 year journey to achieve trail completion, and most have also had to address issues to gain community and Government support.

Overall, the review has highlighted that the Northern Rivers Rail Trail has distinct features that will help to set it apart from other rail trails including:

- Awesome scenic vistas
- Diverse flora and fauna
- Abundant natural areas
- Local Aboriginal culture
- Arts and creative industry precincts
- Rich rail heritage - buildings, bridges and tunnels
- Ideal temperatures, which are suitable for riding and walking
- Opportunities to ‘loop’ to other nature and water based experiences.

There are real and exciting opportunities for local enterprises to capitalise on these features to create transformational product and experiences including cycle and walking tour and hire operations; vibrant craft breweries, distilleries, wine bars and cafes; arts and creative spaces; picnic services; and unique accommodation.

## Key Findings

The following summarises other key findings from the case study review that may help Northern Rivers Rail Trail operators to enhance their current offering or develop new rail trail product and experiences:

- **There are good examples of operators offering exceptional experiences** including tours, food and drink, accommodation, and specialty service providers that can offer useful case studies for Northern Rivers operators to think about new product development concepts
- **Most of the rail trails reviewed focus on cycling** with limited information for walkers, or the creation of products targeting walkers
- **Trail service providers [accommodation, pubs and cafes] cater to riders and walkers** needs e.g. bike racks, transfers to and from trail, meal and drink packages, free showers etc.
- **Good practice operators** have great online listings that show alignment to the rail trail experience and work cooperatively with other operators to package and bundle experiences
- **There is a need to determine licensing arrangements and access points** for operators and business who are keen and ready to develop product along the Northern Rivers Rail Trail and to be clear on what is allowed on the trail, e.g. what surfaces are being used in different parts? What sections are closed and can off trail loops be developed?
- **There is a need to explore and advocate for government funding** for product development for the Northern Rivers Rail Trail.

## Other Relevant Findings

Although not a focus of the Northern Rivers Rail Trail Product and Experience Development Project, the review also highlighted the importance of presenting appealing and consumer focused Rail Trail websites and operator listings. Key points that should be considered in the development of the Northern Rivers Rail Trail site include:

- **There are some standout trails in terms of product and marketing** - 'Ride High Country', 'Murray to Mountains', 'Otago Central Rail', Queenstown Trail
- **'Ride High Country' has the best consumer site** servicing three rail trails as well as mountain biking and road cycling, excellent product around food and wine and family friendly experiences. It draws listings from ATDW and is managed by a regional tourism body
- **Some trail websites seem focused on the political history of trail development** instead of the consumer and product
- **Creating a Northern Rivers Rail Trail website that pulls from ATDW will enable an easy-to-use marketing channel for operators** and allow destinations (town / villages) to be promoted along with smaller operators such as farm gates and cafes on the one page
- **Potential themes for a Northern Rivers Rail Trail website** include – Cycling and Walking; Local Food, Drink & Produce; Village Life; Nature & Wildlife; Aboriginal Culture.



Image: Tim Hawkins

## 3.0 Rail Trail Case Study #1 Otago Central Rail Trail, Queenstown, New Zealand South Island

### Trail Description - overview

New Zealand's first Rail Trail and Original Great Ride opened in 2000. The Otago Central Rail Trail is a 152-kilometre, recreational trail that follows the former Otago Central railway line between Middlemarch and Clyde.

See more:

[Website](#)

[Map](#)

[YouTube](#)

### VISITATION / ECONOMIC VALUE

The business case put to the New Zealand Government for the Queenstown Trail was that within five years of opening 20,000 to 35,000 trail tourists would visit each year. The potential was \$35m in tourism revenue and was based on the Otago Central Rail Trail figures. There were 107,000 users in the first 9 months of opening.

A study conducted in 2005 that assessed the impact of the Otago Central Rail Trail on adjacent businesses found that:

- 64% of accommodation providers operating prior to the opening of the rail trail in 2000 attributed more than 20% of turnover to visitors using the rail trail
- 80% of accommodation providers who set up their businesses after the trail opened attributed more than 20% of turnover to people using the Trail
- 53% of these businesses attributed more than 60% of their turnover to the rail trail [Otago Central Rail Trail Trust, 2005].

A more recent survey (2011) estimated the economic impact of the rail trail to the regional economy as follows:

	Impact Summary	Direct Total
Output	\$8,159,042	\$12,277,024
Output GDP	\$4,213,793	\$6,245,289
Employment (FTEs)	96.0	121.3

In 2016 it was reported that more than 250,000 people used cycle trails around Central Otago in 2015 generating around \$17 million in economic benefits for local communities.

## DIGITAL MARKETING / TARGET AUDIENCE

- Operating 20+ years, well-established visitation, marketing and website
- Focused towards cycling more so than walking
- Excellent website and visitor maps
- Website covers planning, FAQs, operator listings, maps, suggested itineraries, rail trail passport - co-op marketing

## OPERATOR CASE STUDIES

Over 20 tour operator listings on website, majority are cycle tours.

### *Example - adventure tour*

**Active Adventures** is a small company based in Queenstown

- Small groups (7 - 10 people)
- 1/2 day to 5-day Central Otago Biking Adventure starts and finishes in Queenstown, making it easy to experience the full length of the Otago Rail Trail without having to worry about any of the logistics.
- 2 very experienced guides to look after each group and the trip is fully vehicle supported to give flexibility. Everyone is free to go at their own pace,
- Trips include absolutely everything; from the moment you join us to the moment you leave From yummy local food, to comfortable accommodations, activities, equipment, permits, travel - even right down to a snack basket on the bus. And a course a bike if you'd rather not to bring your own!
- Price From \$2599 per person e bike \$350

[Visit Website](#)

## FOOD & WINE

Over 20 food and wine listings on website predominately hotels, cafes and vineyards.

### *Example of repurposed building to support trail users:*

**Clyde Post Office Bar & Cafe.** A favourite for rail trailers to unwind after a hard few days of cycling or to relax before setting off on their adventure.

[Visit Website](#)

### *Example of stop over tavern*

**Chatto Creek Tavern** Opening in 1886, the stone and mud brick tavern was once the focal point of the local community. Today, visitors from all over can stop by to visit the historic pub or to enjoy a drink outside in our large, sunny garden. Chatto Creek Tavern is located right on the trail, making it the perfect place to stop for lunch or a cheeky break from cycling. Feel free to join us in your cycling gears, you won't feel out of place.

[Visit Website](#)

## ACCOMMODATION

Over 50 Accommodation providers listed on website from budget holiday parks to luxury lodges.

*Excellent examples of repurposed buildings include:*

**Pitches Store** Built 1883 as a General Store for John Pitches in Ophir, the schist stone building has been carefully restored to create the unique ambience that is Pitches Store's boutique accommodation and dining.

[Visit Website](#)

**Hyde School Accommodation & Eatery** is a modern complex made up of a beautiful restored 1869 School House and 5 beautifully appointed ensuite units, 10 bike hire operators, 7 transport and shuttle providers.

[Visit Website](#)



## TRANSPORT / HIRE

*Example of local operation that grew:*

**Trail Journeys** is a locally owned and operated family business that grew out of a 2-man bike & kayak shop in Alexandra. Offer includes:

- Free booking service and customised Rail Trail experience. Book any aspect of tour from accommodation to bike hire, side trips and attractions and offer the full range of transport services.
- Depots at both ends of the trail for your comfort and convenience. Both have secure car storage options, toilet, shower, changing and shopping facilities for cycle accessories, snacks, drinks, last minute necessities and souvenirs.
- Lounge facilities with complimentary tea, coffee or hot chocolate while you wait for friends or your onward transport to arrive and both buildings are alarmed so we can store any valuables not required while on your journey.

[Visit Website](#)

[Visit YouTube](#)





## 4.0 Rail Trail Case Study #2 Queenstown Trail, South Island, New Zealand

### Trail Description - overview

130kms of spectacular off-road trails that starts on the shores of Lake Wakatipu and travels from Queenstown to Gibbston, returning via historic Arrowtown. The Trail takes in a plethora of lakes and mountains, rivers, bridges and spectacular views.

The Queenstown Trails Trust, was established in 2002 following a community meeting. In mid-2009 the Trust secured substantial Government funding which enabled them to greatly accelerate the development and construction of over 120km of world class cycling and walking trails. Today, the Queenstown Trail is a flagship trail, forming part of the New Zealand Cycle Trail.

Three shuttle services provide drop-offs and pick-ups between Queenstown, Arrowtown and Gibbston. Between three and four tour operators run day trips on the trails network using a mixture of self-guided and guided options.

### VISITATION / ECONOMIC VALUE

Use of the trail network varies from some tracks receiving a few hundred walkers / bikers per year to over 100,000 on the most popular sections of the Queenstown Trail (between Frankton and Queenstown).

Skyline / Ben Lomond downhill cycling attracts over 120,000 descents from the Gondola or approximately 60,000 to 70,000 riders per year. Most riders are local using a season pass. Bike shops report that most bike hires are for between 1 and 3 hours.

See more in the 10 year plan 2015-2027 by TRC Tourism

[View PDF](#)

## DIGITAL MARKETING / TARGET AUDIENCE

This trail has an excellent website which uses similar format to ATDW listings and is in partnership with Destination Queenstown. Interesting to note only paid partners are featured.

There are 21 different sub sections / loops that are promoted and feature either riding style or sub sectors such as food and wine. Features greater product categories than competitor trails including:

- Accommodation
- Eating and Drinking
- Tour Operators
- Things to Do
- Retail
- Bike Repair
- Track Transport
- Bike Hire
- Coaching and Camos

[Visit Website](#)

## OPERATOR CASE STUDIES

### Tour Operators

Nine listings and high quality operators which seemed to be paid partners. All listings are guided bike tour companies with each having a unique selling point e.g. focus on adventure incorporating helicopters or gourmet food and wine rides.

[Visit Website](#)

#### *Example: Trail Operator*

**Black** is a fully licensed trail operator USP - Let us weave together the scenery, history, adrenalin, wine and food. Whether self-guided or fully supported – do it in style with BLACK.

‘We curate the ultimate bespoke tour experiences for travellers in New Zealand’s spectacular South Island. Each luxury tour is uniquely personal, utterly exceptional and entirely memorable. Your exclusive Queenstown, Fiordland and South Island exploration begins here.’

[Visit Website](#)

## TRANSPORT AND HIRE SERVICES

4 transport operators and over 13 bike hire companies

#### *Example:*

**All Mountain NZ** is part of Lake Adventures who has been selling the New Zealand destination overseas for more than 7 years.

All Mountain NZ can offers a wide range of options:

- MTB TOURS - Half day or multi day guided tours in Queenstown and beyond...
- HELI BIKING - Reach for the sky, fly up & ride down!
- E-BIKE TOURS - Go faster, go further, book a half day ebike MTB tour
- COACHING & CAMPS - Learn the basics, improve your skills, be more confident and ride safely.

All of guides are fully qualified and trained to ensure your safety on our tours. Planning the best holidays in Queenstown can be overwhelming, if you need accommodation, private transportation, or rental bikes, we will be more than happy to assist you to organize your trip to Queenstown.

[Visit Website](#)

## FOOD AND DRINK

21 listings for eating and drinking again with paid partners featured.

Greater variety of experiences than other trails including golf clubs, alehouses, cellar doors and boatsheds.

### Example:

**The Fork and Tap Alehouse** is located in the heart of Arrowtown, a charming gastro pub and craft beer bar. USP - whether you arrive by 2 wheels, four wheels or horseback, with family and friends or alone we will find you a spot.

Beautiful imagery on website of bikes, horses and people enjoying beer gardens and facilities for trail users.

[Visit Website](#)



## ACCOMMODATION

17 accommodation listings

### Example: Excellent case study of a multi faceted operator

**The Gibbston Valley Experience.** This is your spot for biking in Gibbston. Located in the stunning Central Otago wine region, the Gibbston Valley Bike Centre, gives riders convenient access to some of the top trails in Queenstown, including the Gibbston River Trail and the Arrow River Trail. Riders can bike along the majestic Kawarau River to nearby wineries, while soaking up its famously spectacular scenery. Signage along the trail makes it easy to find your way to and from the winery, giving riders convenient access to some of the region's best wine, food and accommodation.

Whether you want to enjoy a day of casual riding or get your downhill fix, the Bike Centre has a fleet of hard-tail, performance and electric bikes to suit all levels of riders. All bikes cater to riders 5 years of age and older. Looking for a wee break from the bike? A pause on the pedaling? Stop in and taste some of our handcrafted wines, enjoy an exquisite lunch, or relax with a platter in the Cellar Door. Our Winery Restaurant is open daily from noon until 3pm, and our Cellar Door is open 10am until 5pm. We also run regular Winery and Cave tours that give you the history of the Central Otago Pinot industry and how it has evolved.

In December 2019 the doors open to Gibbston Valley's brand new Lodge & Spa. This is the perfect stop off for riders along the Queenstown Trail. Sleep in a luxurious villa, relax in the onsite Spa, sauna or hot tubs, enjoy a cooked breakfast, a hot meal, and of course a glass of wine or two!

We have a range of packages available that can include bike hire, return transport, wine tasting, dining, accommodation – whatever takes your fancy and works for your schedule!

[Visit Website](#)



## 5.0 Rail Trail Case Study #3 Brisbane Valley Rail Trail

### Trail Description – overview

Currently the longest rail trail in Australia, the 161 km Brisbane Valley Rail Trail (BVRT) follows the disused Brisbane Valley rail line. The BVRT officially starts at Wulkuraka Station in Ipswich and then continues to Fernvale, before looping westwards to Lowood and then continuing north to Coominya, Esk, Toogoolawah, Moore, Linville, Benarkin, and Blackbutt before finally arriving in Yarraman.

The first section of the rail trail was developed by the former Esk Shire Council on the old railway line between Fernvale and Lowood, which opened in 2003. After 11 years since the project was first announced in 2007, the entire 161 km length of rail trail officially open to the public in August 2018.

### VISITATION / ECONOMIC VALUE

The impact of the Brisbane Valley Rail Trail is expected to become progressively greater at ten and fifteen years post construction due to greater usage rates. At fifteen years post construction the Brisbane Valley Rail Trail is estimated to increase economic output in the region by \$2.2 million per annum and support 58 jobs. Somerset Regional Council reports that the Fernvale to Lockwood section of the trail had 16,000 users in the June quarter 2021.

[Visit Website](#)[View Document](#)[View PDF](#)

## DIGITAL MARKETING / TARGET AUDIENCE

Very interesting website in terms of history of the trail development but poor user experience. Language refers to challenges and lack of facilities.

### *Good case study on what not to do!*

‘Although it’s the southern trail head for the Brisbane Valley Rail Trail, Wulkuraka Station is not the most user friendly place to commence your BVRT adventure. There is no secure parking, there are no cafes, no toilets, no drinking fountain, the trains don’t run as frequently as train services to Lpswich station...and sometimes they don’t run at all when there are track works’.

[Visit Website](#)

## OPERATOR CASE STUDIES

There is only one operator listed on website and online.

**Out There Cycling** is a small business based in Toogoolawah that provide shuttle services and guided tours. They also provide dedicated bus and bicycle trailer support to any cycling events and private group activities.

**Self Guided BVRT Tours.** Overnight accommodation included. Available Options

- 2 Day Set Tour \$525 per person
- 3 Day Set Tour \$720 per person
- 4 Day Set Tour \$890 per person
- 5 Day Set Tour \$1030 per person

Included in the set tours - Hotel / Motels; Hard Tail Mountain Bike; Pannier Bags; Shuttle Bus

### Other Services

**Out There Cycling** offer Mountain Bike & Road cycling Skills Training

**BVRT Boutique Events** (organised day rides)  
Bicycle maintenance and Servicing  
All ability support for mtbing and rail trail riding

## FOOD & WINE

There are 9 listings for cafes and hotels.

### *Example*

**The Linville Hotel** is a historic Queenslander country pub located on the Trail located 42km along the trail from Yarraman at the foot of the Blackbutt Range or 34km from Toogoolawah.

- Welcome cyclists, hikers and horse riders travelling on the trail, cater for individuals or groups
- Old photos and read up on the history of our region. The hotel dates back to 1887, its been moved 4 times by bullock train before arriving at its final spot in the small town of Linville (rumour has it that they never stopped serving beer during any of the moves)
- A large free camping area is located across the road from the pub with toilets. If you prefer to camp we can assist with hot showers and laundry facilities.

[Visit Website](#)

## ACCOMMODATION

There are 10 listings for accommodation operators on website ranging from B&B, Hotel and Caravan Park

### *Example of a quality retreat:*

**Wiikirri Retreat** is a 4½ star rated bed and breakfast. Conveniently located 200 metres from the Blackbutt entrance to the Brisbane Valley Rail Trail, Wiikirri Retreat is the perfect location to use as a base for your next cycle, horse ride or walk on the Rail Trail. Wiikirri has a number of accommodation options to choose from. The Cottage, The [two bedroom] Guest Quarters and The Glamping Tents. Group bookings are very welcome with space for a maximum of 5 couples or 8 singles or a combination of 3 couples and 4 – 6 singles.

NB: No mention of the Rail Trail on this operator's website.

[Visit Website](#)



## TRANSPORT / HIRE

Only one shuttle service listed - Outhere Cycling

### *Example – horse-riding tour:*

**Nash Horse Riding Tours** have a series of rides that incorporate the BVRT including an overnight in Esk and a separate Pub Tour \*Eskperience weekend\*

A perfect 'glamping' weekend with horses! We have combined horses, adventure & some country comforts to make the ideal weekend away. Spend a day riding our horses along the peaceful Brisbane Valley Rail Trail. We start from our property in Coominya and ride until we reach our destination in Esk. Stay over night at a lovely motel, enjoy dinner at the local pub, have a big breakfast at a country cafe then ride back to our property! What more could you want?!

Price is \$500pp: includes 2 days of riding (5hrs each day) overnight motel accommodation, pub meal (up to \$20pp), breakfast & saddle bag snacks (drinks not included)

[Visit Website](#)



Image: Tourism Victoria

## 6.0 Rail Trail Case Study #4 Ride High Country, Victoria

### Trail Description – overview

The Murray to Mountains Rail Trail is Australia’s best know rail trail and 116km long. Construction of the rail trail began at Bright in 1993, and finished in 2002 with the opening of sections to Wangaratta and Beechworth. The trail between Rutherglen and Wahgunyah on the Murray was completed in 2009. The Wangaratta to Oxley section of the trail opened in 2011, providing tourism links with the Oxley and Milawa regions. Extension of the rail trail toward Whitfield is also planned. The Trail comprises:

- Murray to Mountains - 116km
- Great Victorian Rail Trail - 134km
- High Country Rail Trail - 78km

Located three hours North East of Melbourne, Victoria’s High Country is fast becoming Australia’s premier cycle tourism destination. Boasting over 300kms of Rail Trails, 10 Mountain Bike parks, endless Gravel backroads, and a superb Road Cycling network, including the 7 Peaks road climbs. The quality and extent of its cycling opportunities are unmatched and attract more cycle tourism visitation and yield than any other Australian region.

[Visit Website](#)

### VISITATION / ECONOMIC VALUE

The region currently receives 103,000 cycle tourists per year, spending \$50 million in the region – more than any other regional destination in Australia. Cycle tourism visitor growth is forecast to continue, with the conservative scenario projecting 255,000 visitors participating in cycling in Victoria’s High Country by 2025.

In the year ending March 2019, Victoria's High Country received over 3.6 million visitors, spending over \$1.3 billion. Visitor numbers are forecast to increase to 5.2 million visitors by 2025.

Victorian Government has a specific funding program for operators to develop cycling product, accommodation etc.

[Visit Website](#)

## DIGITAL MARKETING / TARGET AUDIENCE

Excellent website managed by Tourism North East pulls listings from ATDW. Website is dedicated to riding in the region, three rail trails as well as mountain biking, road and gravel.

[Visit Website](#)

[View PDF](#)

## OPERATOR CASE STUDIES

27 Bike shops and tour companies listed on website

### *Example: Cycle Tour*

**Bespoke Cycle Tours** is a good example of on / off rail trail touring they have a seven day tour which is 70% on rail trails. The 350 km itinerary is carefully crafted to ensure clients have time to absorb the regions culture and history; enjoy its special food and wine and relax each night in comfortable boutique accommodation.

[Visit Website](#)

### *Example: ATDW Page for farm gate*

**The Whorouly** destination page that is linked to the Victoria's High Country site helps to promote smaller businesses such as Farm Gates

A little patch of Italy. That's one way to almost describe the beautiful people and welcoming atmosphere of Whorouly. Whorouly was originally home to many Italian migrant settlers who established thriving farms in the fertile river flats. The La Spina family is one such family who have a long standing connection here and continue to operate a farm today. Their farm gate operates daily from 9am throughout the year where you can pick up seasonal fruit, vegies, nuts, condiments and of course their infamous capsicum sauce for those who enjoy making their own Salami!

[Visit Website](#)

## FOOD & WINE

### *Great example of operator focusing on a sector (Food and Wine)*

**Tour de Vines** is the only provider of small group, fully guided cycling tours on the Murray to Mountains Rail Trail. This exclusive cycling tour is an all inclusive, small group weekend complete with meals, accommodation, local guide, special wine tastings, gourmet food, luggage transfers and transport.

Cycling in a small group is great fun! Make new friends, meet new people or grab a bunch of friends and partners and book a weekend away, knowing that everything is taken care of for you. (PS if you don't like group tours this same bike tour is available self guided)

Our Murray to Mountains Rail Trail group tours also enjoy some extra privileges, including exclusive wine tasting tutorials, access to talks from local farm gate producers and more. The cycling group size is limited to 10 riders plus your guide, so it's small enough to get to know your fellow riders, cycle at your own pace with no pressure and enjoy the ambience of the beautiful scenery and surroundings.

[Visit Website](#)



## ACCOMMODATION

### *Examples: quality accommodation*

**Yarranungara Yurt Retreat** brings you exclusive eco-luxury glamping in the heart of Victoria's High Country. The property features eco-friendly handcrafted Mongolian Yurt and bespoke red gum ensuite overlooking 100 acres of natural red gum forest and waterways with private King River frontage.

[Visit Website](#)

The **Old Crossroads Store** in Wangaratta, converted from a general store to a stylish apartment with all the comforts of home. The open plan studio apartment is fully self contained with large modern kitchen and laundry facilities. Coffee, tea, sugar and filtered water supplied.

A short walk to town, cafes, restaurants, shopping and parks. Walking tracks and cycling trails close by.

[Visit Website](#)

## TRANSPORT / TOURS

### *Example: food / cycle tour*

**Pedal to Prosecco** Make it even easier to get to your next glass of Prosecco, on an e-bike with Pedal 2 Prosecco. A little extra push by battery power help you over hills, from door to cellar door in the upper King Valley. Your map is your guide to follow, the perfect companion to tasting your way along Prosecco Road, pedal where you please. Additional extras can be added such as take away picnic packs, lunch in the Dal Zotto Trattoria and Dal Zotto merchandise such as t-shirts and drink bottles. Picnic packs include local cheeses, salami, bread and Elena's garden vegetables, to enjoy at a local swimming hole, or a spectacular lookout. If you still got stamina, book lunch in the Dal Zotto Trattoria, the perfect reward for your efforts.

[Visit Website](#)



# TUMBARUMBA



## 7.0 Rail Trail Case Study #5 Riverina Highlands Trail, New South Wales

This case study is selected as ‘one to watch’ as it’s just ahead of the Northern River Rail Trail in development so there are no current operators or providers servicing the 21kms.

### Trail Description – overview

The trail will be developed in four stages to a full length of 129 km:

- Tumbarumba to Rosewood (21 km) – Stage 1, opening April 2020
- Wagga Wagga to Ladysmith (19 km) – potential next stage
- Rosewood to Tarcutta (56 km)
- Ladysmith to Tarcutta (33 km)

Described as NSW’s first true rail trail on a government rail corridor passes through beautiful subalpine countryside and farmland.

[Visit Website](#)[Visit Website](#)