

WIMMERA HILLS WINERY

Location:

Glenpatrick, VIC

(80km North-West of Ballarat)



These trails are on Private Property, but open to the public

Trails & Tracks:



Difficulty Levels:



Facilities & Services:



Trail Fees:

\$10

Web:

www.wimmerahills.com.au/index.html

Maps:

www.wimmerahills.com.au/StateXCLoop.jpg

Clubs:

Ballarat Sebastopol Cycling Club

www.cyclingballarat.com.au

Review:

The course for the Victorian State XC Series at Wimmera Hills is great fun. There are no boggy bits even if the weather is wet, there is great spectator access, great singletrack and plenty of overtaking. We have not included the really rocky tyre-eating sections, instead we have built a whole new rip-snorting flowy new high speed return side of the loop with a couple of short sharp climbs thrown in to sort the sheep from the real mountain goats.

It is a 6km loop with most of the climbing in the outbound leg. It is a fast lap – fat old supermasters like me do it in a ½ hour, I reckon elites will be looking at eight laps at least. The superlap starts at the front gate to the Wimmera Hills Winery on the Elmhurst Glenpatrick Road.

It is uphill for the first 250m all the way through the right hand turn and past the Cellar Door where a brief gentle downhill allows those who warmed up properly to get ahead - buoyed by the adoring screams of their supporters at the wine tasting area. Continuing on vehicular track we swing left past the sheepyards and left again along the side of the woolshed. Open paddock continues to the 500m mark where you zip through the gate into the singletrack.

Pretty much a steady climb for another kilometre of singletrack with some overtaking opportunities and stunning views over the winery to the Grampians in the blue distance. Only now do we pass out of view of the spectators at the winery. After the first technical downhill there is good overtaking for 100m as you follow the contour from "Lookout Point" around to the north side of the hill. Two kilometres into the loop is the first AB divide to make the descent onto the bank of the channel

Any idiot can take the A line – its just a matter of guts - and a ladder bridge, avoid them both with the right hand B line. The bank of the channel is wide and fast and you maintain all your speed as you swing right through the channel itself and up onto the singletrack the other side.

Source: **Wimmera Hills Winery**

