



# Suzuki 2013 HIGH COUNTRY RIDE

Thank you for entering the Suzuki 2013 High Country Ride. This rider information pack is to give you the information you need to know for the event. For other great tips to get more out the event please visit our website at [www.amtra.com.au](http://www.amtra.com.au), where you can also post up any questions you may have. Instructions on how to register are on the website.

Please read ALL this information prior to coming to the ride.

## WHAT IS IT?

The High Country Ride is a two day trail bike adventure ride conducted on open public roads. You will follow an arrowed course through some of the best high country riding in the state in the company of other like minded riders. **All normal road rules apply, IT IS NOT A RACE.** Support riders will be there to offer assistance where required. The ride is intended to be a challenge for riders of moderate off road ability (sorry, we don't think this is a beginner's ride).

## WHEN IS IT?

The ride will run on **Saturday April 20th and Sunday April 21st**. Riders are requested to get to the ride on Friday for registration and scrutineering. The planned ride start time is 9:00 a.m. each day.

## WHERE IS IT?

The ride will be based from the AMTRA property at Abbeyard in the Buffalo Valley (Melway Map 522 E10). It takes around 4 hours to drive from Melbourne to Abbeyard either via Myrtleford or via Mansfield and Whitfield. The last 25km down Abbeyard Rd is a dirt road, suitable for 2WD vehicles. The road from Whitfield through to Buffalo Valley is also unsealed gravel. Please take care as the event generates significantly higher than normal traffic volume on the roads in the area.

See detailed directions on page 6.

## ARRIVAL:

On arrival follow the directions to the camping area, where you can unload your bike and set-up your camp for the weekend. The cleared area at the front of the block has been allocated for rider camping. Please consider others as you set up as we have up to 250 riders to accommodate (e.g. park vehicles on the uneven ground and leave level ground for tents).

## RIDER REGISTRATION:

Registration for riders will be open from around 3 p.m on Friday. You will need to show your valid motorcycle licence or learner permit to register. The club may record your licence details.

You will be asked to fill out an indemnity form at registration, form must be filled in and signed to complete registration.

## MOTORCYCLE REGISTRATION:

Both Full and Recreational registration is permitted; however Farm or any other type of conditional registration (including interstate conditional registration) is not permitted. It is a requirement by law that the issued number plate is attached at the rear of your motorcycle and a registration label is affixed to the bike (Participation in the ride will not prevent you from being fined by Victorian Police). Please be able to show your motorcycle has current suitable registration at scrutineering. If there is any doubt as to the



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registration status we regret that we will not be able to permit you to use the motorcycle in our event. Final decisions will be made by the event director.

### SCRUTINEERING:

**You are required to show your spare tube at scrutineering for your bike to pass.**

Bikes should be in good working order and will be scrutineered prior to the ride to minimise mechanical issues out on the trail so you can enjoy the ride. We will check the following items:

WHEEL BEARINGS – No free play to be felt through the wheels.

CHAIN – In good condition, no obvious binding or able to be pulled off rear sprocket.

SPROCKETS (Front and Rear) – Must have sufficient wear remaining for the ride.

LIGHTS – Must be fitted and working, we usually get some riders returning in the dark. You WILL be asked to start the bike to check the lights are working. Includes a rear tail light.

TYRES – No damage to the carcass, suitable type with sufficient tread for the prevailing conditions.

If there are any problems we will do our best to help you out and any disagreement between scrutineers and you will be referred to the event director who will have final say.

The DSE may be conducting noise tests at the ride start so please don't bring a bike that is excessively loud. Remember, we share the bush with many other users.

Once checked through scrutineering your rider number sticker will be affixed to the front of your motorcycle. This must be on the motorcycle at the start of each day's ride. You do not need to fix any rider number to your bike prior to the event.

### WHAT TO BRING:

Accommodation on site is camping, with hot showers and toilets available. Please bring camping equipment suitable to withstand cold and wet weather, as the high country is very unpredictable throughout the year. We have ordered good weather but our supplier has not always been reliable.

### FOOD:

Your meals from breakfast on Saturday through to lunch on Sunday are included. Light snacks will be available from Friday night at reasonable prices.

Please don't bring alcohol to the event as it is fully licensed. Soft drinks, beer and spirits will be available at reasonable prices.

Tea, coffee and light snacks will be available during the day for those staying at the property. For those staying Sunday night there will be food available at reasonable cost.

### WATER:

The tap water provided on the property is TANK water. Bottled drinking water will be available for purchase onsite at reasonable cost. If you choose to drink the tank water, the responsibility for treatment (to make it safe for your consumption) rests with yourself.

The Buffalo River is about 500 metres from the property and is suitable for swimming (at your own risk).



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## **THE RIDE:**

Saturday's ride will cover approximately 150-170 km's of varying Alpine terrain.

This is not a closed course so caution must be exercised. In particular be aware that the area is also popular with 4wd enthusiasts and it is on a weekend.

Always be aware for oncoming traffic, remember these are public roads/tracks ! **KEEP LEFT**

Sunday's ride will be approximately 80-110km and caution must again be exercised as all roads and tracks used are open to the public.

**You will be informed more about the refuel and ride distance at the rider briefings.**

## **FUEL:**

You should start each ride with enough fuel to do at least 100k, which for some bikes may mean carrying a spare litre or two (in a suitable container). Bear in mind that high country riding is fairly open and fuel range is usually greater than in other riding areas within Victoria.

\*\*\* There will be a fuel top up on Saturday at no more than 100km. AMTRA will provide sufficient fuel (About 3L regular unleaded) for you to finish the rest of the ride.

If you are riding a 2T please bring your preferred oil to mix in with the fuel. Fuel will be measured in 1 litre lots to aid with measuring the oil. Inform the refuel person you need to add oil as we have measured containers for the fuel.

Apart from the fuel top up on Saturday all other fuel is to be provided by entrants. Please take care whenever refuelling your bike, keeping in mind any campfires or other ignition sources within the area. All fuel should be stored in suitable container and kept away from flames or other ignition sources.

## **RIDING GEAR:**

You will need to have suitable riding gear, which will provide protection from the elements and the terrain. You will need an adequate supply of water and enough tools to enable you to carry out minor repairs on the trail, e.g. repair punctures, change tubes etc. While assistance will be provided when needed you should not expect sweep riders, or other ride participants, to provide you with spares or tools that you should have with you.

## **TERRAIN:**

The alpine terrain is generally hard and rocky, so soft terrain tires and dual-purpose road/trail tyres are not recommended. Tyres with good tread adequately inflated to withstand hits from rocks are best.

## **TRAIL FOODS:**

Lunch is provided out on the trail on Saturday. It is recommended that you take a few snacks and water with you.

## **ON COURSE:**



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Please follow any instructions from the sweep riders while out on course, e.g. reduce speed if being waved down or stop if signaled. Such instructions are for your safety and the safety of other riders.

Please pass sweep riders with courtesy as they might be helping you next!

Sweep riders will be wearing clearly identifiable vests and will provide assistance where needed. Please signal the sweep riders if you require assistance. Back up recovery 4WD vehicles will be stationed around the course in the case of mechanical failures.

The local police will be informed of where the event goes. When out riding you will need to have your motorbike licence and registration with you. It is also recommended that you take some cash and a mobile phone (although reception is patchy in the Alpine area).

Approximately every 40-60km there will be a checkpoint where your rider number is recorded. This allows us to keep track of where riders are. Your rider number needs to be displayed at the front of the bike at all times. Rider numbers will also be checked off at the start and finish of the ride at the main gate to the property. Please slow down or stop at the checkpoints, as directed, to allow this to be done.

### **WEATHER:**

We are not able to control the weather (and have proven this in the past) so be prepared for all conditions including change of weather while out on course.

The ride is conducted under a permit issued jointly by Parks Victoria and the DSE. They reserve the right to vary the course or withdraw permission in the event of extreme weather.


### **FIRES:**

Do not light any fires on open ground or dig fire pits. If conditions are suitable, we will supply receptacles for fires.

In the case of a bushfire or other emergency, please move toward the cleared area at the eastern end of the property near the gate where you will be given directions for safe evacuation. We have an emergency plan in place, please do not attempt to leave unless directed to do so.

### **NATIONAL PARK GUIDELINES:**

The property is adjacent to the Alpine National Park, therefore it is forbidden to bring dogs and firearms into the area.

	<p>Fireworks</p> <p>Any other explosives</p> <p>Lemon guns</p> <p>Firearms</p>
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<b>Do NOT bring any of the following on to the club property!</b>	Glass of any kind (NO STUBBIES!)  Dogs or any other animals  NO MINI BIKES  NO Riding on property without a helmet
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### ACCIDENTS:



In the event of an accident during the ride, or on the property, do not provide medication. Someone should stay with the injured rider/person and render assistance whilst another rider proceeds to the next control point and informs the officials. They will organise further assistance and evacuation of the injured rider/person. It is recommended that each rider carry a basic first aid kit.

### PROGRAM

#### Friday 19th April

Arrival, Registration and Scrutineering: 3.00.pm to 11:00 p.m.

#### Saturday 20th April

Registration and Scrutineering (Limited for late arrivals): 6.30am to 8.30am

Breakfast: 7.00am to 8.00am

Riders Briefing: 8.30am

Riders Depart: 9am to 10am

Lunch: 11:30am until Last Sweep

Dinner: 7.30pm

Presentations: 8.30pm

Entertainment: 8:45pm onwards

There will be a presentation on Saturday night of goods donated by the generous sponsors of the ride. We will also run other entertainment including footage of past events, AMTRA rides, a Raffle Draw and footage taken during the day's ride.

#### Sunday 21st April



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Breakfast: 7.00am to 8.00am

Riders Briefing: 8.30am

Riders Depart: 9am to 10am

Lunch at Abbeyard from 11:30 am until ½ hour after last sweep returns from ride.

Dyno session to finish off any tyres you would like to fry.

### CONTACTS

Pease E-mail or txt General Question.

David Smith HCR 2013 Coordinator – 0408 136 949

E-mail enquires to [highcountryride@amtra.com.au](mailto:highcountryride@amtra.com.au).

Check the AMTRA website [www.amtra.com.au](http://www.amtra.com.au) for updates

### Refund Policy.

Written notice to AMTRA is required if cancelling your entry in the ride, either by mail to AMTRA, PO Box 8 Ringwood VIC 3137 or by email to [highcountryride@amtra.com.au](mailto:highcountryride@amtra.com.au).

Entrants who cancel more than 3 weeks before the event will be eligible for a refund of \$150. An entrant cancelling less than two weeks before the event is run or is a “no-show” at the event will not be eligible for a refund.

Should you need to cancel and wish to send a replacement rider, please contact -

David Smith (0408 136 949) as soon as possible and we will try to accommodate you, private arrangements can be made between you and the replacement rider. Note that last minute arrangements are not possible in the two days before the ride.



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## DIRECTIONS TO ABBEYARD PROPERTY

### Route 1: Hume / major roads

From Melbourne, take the Hume Freeway to the Glenrowan McDonalds and BP service centre. 1km past the service centre, take the Milawa/Taminick off-ramp. At the end of the off-ramp turn right to Milawa. Follow this road (30km) to Myrtleford (signposted all the way). At Myrtleford, turn right onto the Lake Buffalo Road and follow the road to Dandongadale (about 32km). Continue straight ahead onto the gravel road. This road will take you to the AMTRA property at Abbeyard about 22k further on.

### Route 2: Medium roads / Windy and Hilly conditions

Travel to Mansfield. From Mansfield follow the signs to Tolmie, Whitfield, Cheshunt, and on to Dandongadale. Turn right onto the gravel road and proceed about 22km to the AMTRA property at Abbeyard. Note there is approximately 30km of varying gravel road conditions between Cheshunt and Dandongadale and about a further 22km of dirt road to the AMTRA property.

**Route 3:** If travelling from North or West of Wangaratta, travel to Wangaratta and then take the Ovens Highway to Myrtleford. At Myrtleford, turn right onto the Lake Buffalo Road and follow the road to Dandongadale (about 32km). Continue straight ahead onto the gravel road. This road will take you to the AMTRA property at Abbeyard about 22km further on.

**Note: the last petrol is at Myrtleford or Mansfield.**

The gravel road from Dandongadale is in good condition. If travelling on this road at dusk or at night please beware of the native animals that cross the road and occasional cattle browsing along the edges of the road.

The property entrance is 300 metres on your right after you pass the McIver Picnic Ground / Lake Cobler Track. The property is very well lit and there will be AMTRA signage visible.

## REMEMBER TO BRING

- Motorcycle and Motorcycle Licence
- Proof of Motorcycle Registration, including issued number plate affixed to the motorbike
- Riding gear and Camping gear - allow for all weather conditions
- Fuel for 2 days riding (as detailed above)
- Minor repair kit and spare tubes
- Basic First Aid kit
- Cash for any purchases

Drinking water

## REMEMBER TO CHECK

- CHAIN AND SPROCKETS
- BRAKE PADS
- ALL SAFETY ITEMS
- IS YOUR FUEL CONTAINER SUITABLE FOR FUEL?
- ARE YOU RUNNING ENOUGH TYRE PRESSURE? AMTRA RIDERS RUN 15 PSI
- SPARE TUBES
- TOOLS TO CHANGE A FLAT TYRE
- TOOLS TO DEWATER YOUR BIKE
- WHEEL BEARINGS