

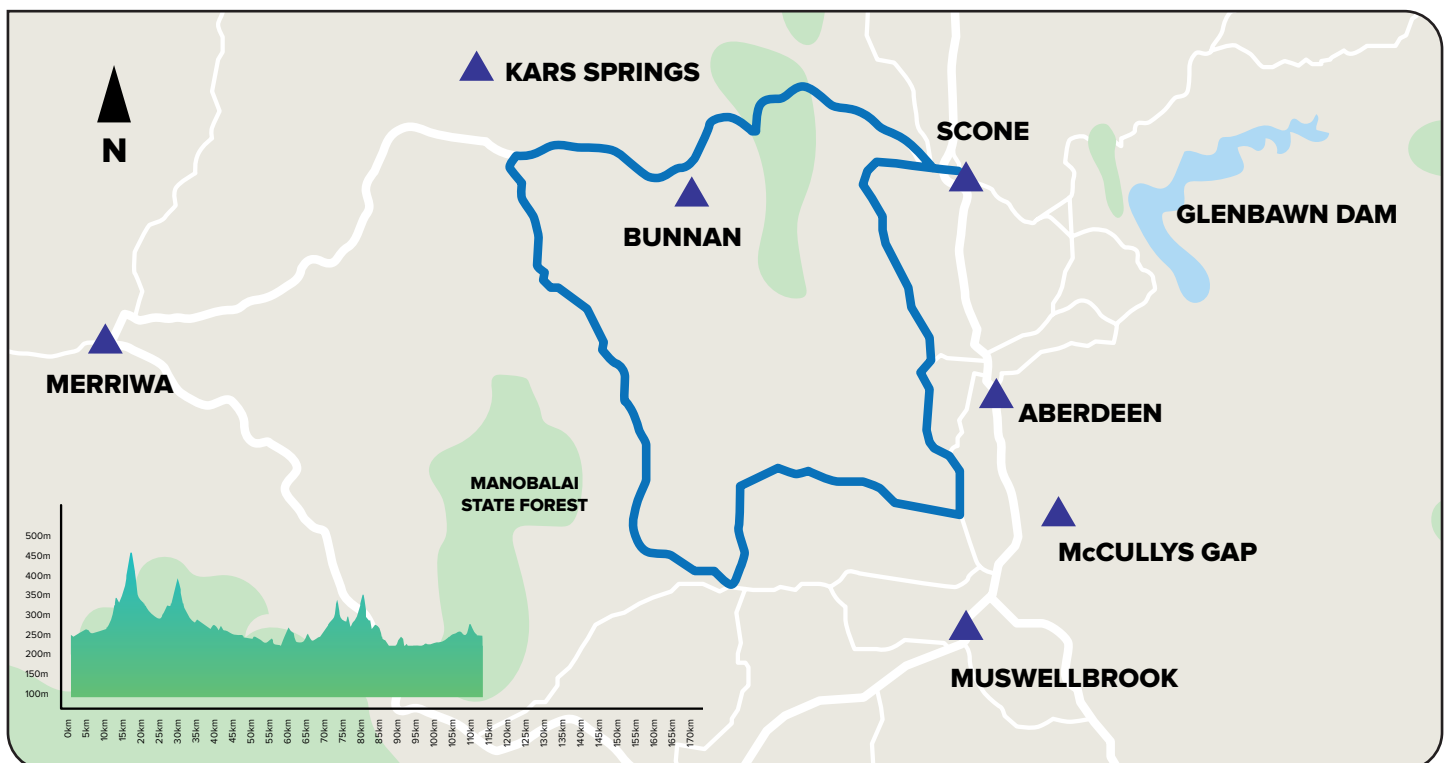


Ride on up!

3 Great Gravel Rides of the Upper Hunter

Take a detour off the bitumen on these scenic road rides for your MTB or endurance bicycle

These rural rides take you onto unpaved roads for at least ten kilometres of your route. They are ideally suited for riders of bikes that can go off-road, such as mountain bikes, touring bikes or endurance/gravel road bikes. Challenge yourself on these country rides, recommended by local cycling enthusiasts for their beauty and challenges. Pack plenty of food, water and spare tubes for your journey as some of these roads can be quite remote. Tell someone where you are going and when you are expected to be back.



Scone – Bunnan – Wybong – Scone

Distance: 112km - 16km gravel | Elevation: 1,432m | Ride time: 5 hours

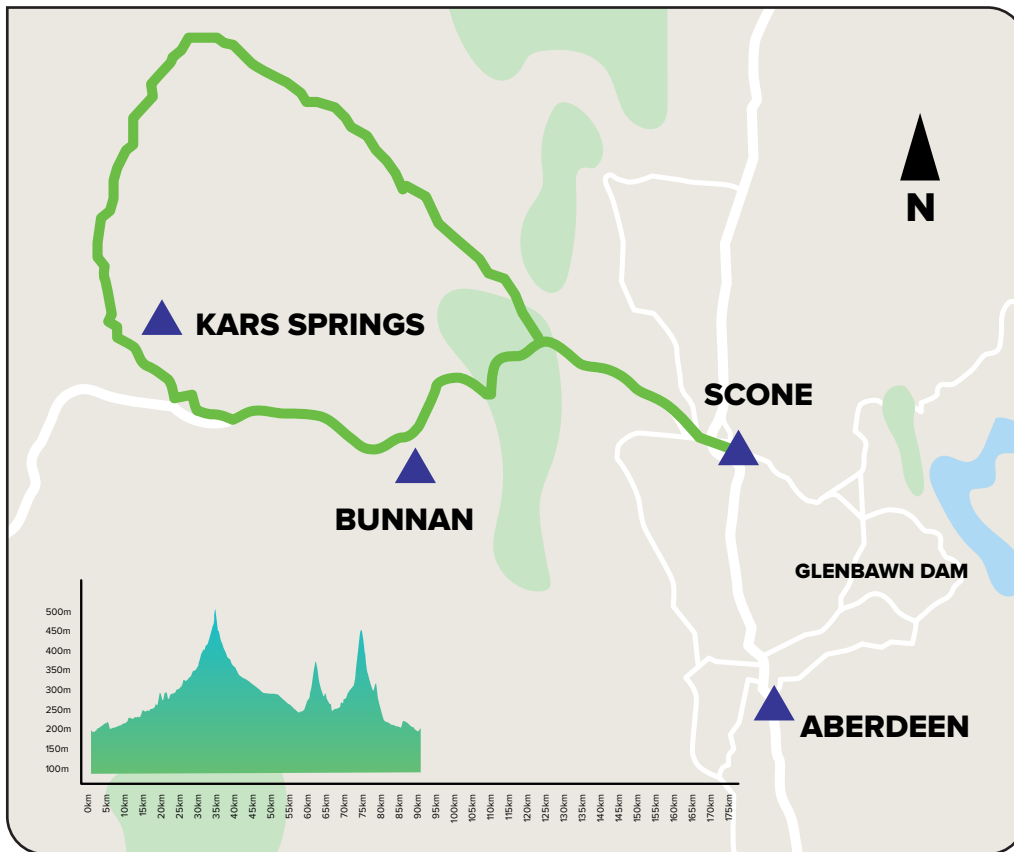
Starting from the Scone CBD, head west along Liverpool Street, over the rail level crossing. Turn right at the second roundabout, onto Satur Road. Continue on Merriwa Road to Bunnan. Turn left onto Ridgelands Road (16kms of gravel) to the end. Turn left onto Wybong Road and then first left onto Castlerock Road (small section of gravel). From here the road is bitumen back to Scone. Continue to the end, turn left

onto Kayuga Road which becomes Invermien Street then Dartbrook Road. Veer left onto Nandowra Road. Follow to the T-intersection, turn right onto Moobi Road and continue back into Scone. This route passes no shops, cafés or service stations. Take everything you need or detour towards a shop at Muswellbrook or Aberdeen.

Scone/ Kars Springs/ Bunnan Loop

Distance: 91km - 26km gravel |
Elevation: 834m |
Ride time: 4 hours

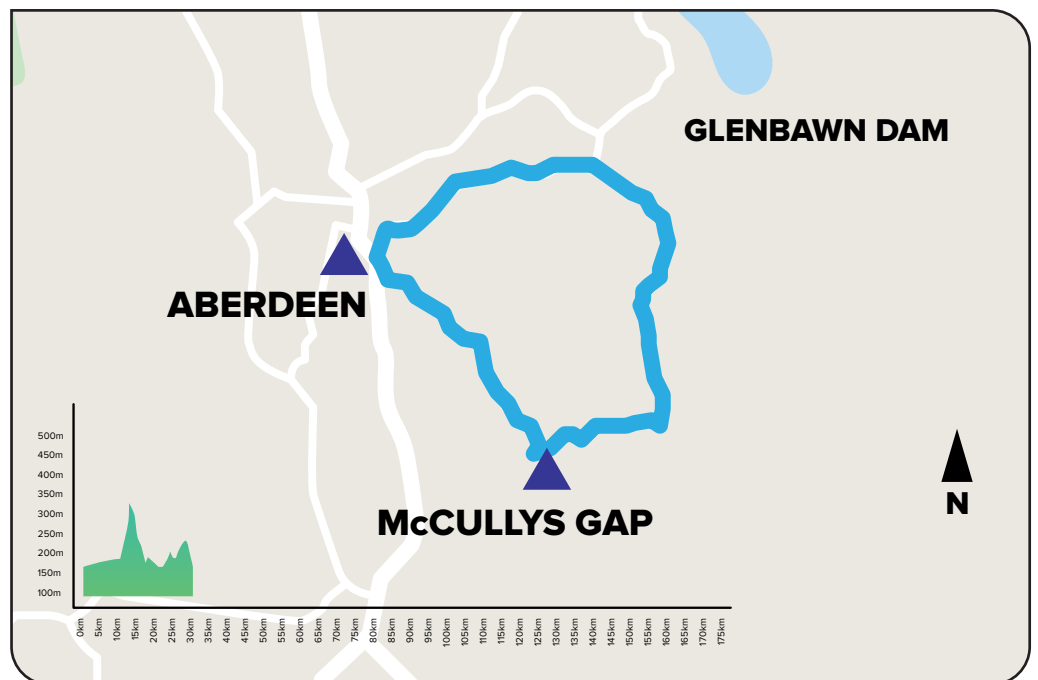
Starting from the Scone CBD, head west along Liverpool Street, over the rail level crossing. Turn right at the second roundabout, onto Satur Road. Continue for 10kms, past the airport and Scone Race Track, then turn right onto Upper Dartbrook Road. Continue along this road as it becomes Kars Springs Road, and heads back to the Merriwa Road (26kms of gravel/dirt road). Turn left towards Scone and follow Merriwa Road back to the start. There are no shops, cafés or service stations once you leave Scone. Take everything you need with you.



Aberdeen/Rouchel Road/Sandy Creek Road Loop

Distance: 30km - 10km gravel |
Elevation: 276m | **Ride time:** 1.5 hours

Head out of Aberdeen on McAdam Street which becomes Rouchel Road. Turn right onto Rouchel Gap Road (gravel) and follow it to the end. Turn right onto Sandy Creek Road (bitumen). Turn right onto Wells Gully Road (gravel) and continue along as it becomes Graeme Street (bitumen). Turn right onto MacQueen Street (New England Highway) and return to McAdam Street.



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Caution: Magpies may swoop at cyclists during their nesting season in spring and early summer.