



**Perth Laverton  
Classic 2020**

[www.cyclingdevelopment.org.au](http://www.cyclingdevelopment.org.au)

**vetis**

## DAY 1 - 176KMS

**Toodyay** is situated 85 kilometres north east of Perth on the Avon River and in Noongar Land. The Noongar people, who have lived in this area for thousands of years, occupy the south west corner of WA from Geraldton to Esperance and consist of 14 different groups. The name Toodyay is an Indigenous word and it is thought the name comes from the sound of a birdcall - the restless flycatcher.

**First settled** by Europeans in 1830, Toodyay is a wheatbelt town and in 1870 a steam driven flour mill was built to process wheat and generate electricity. The notorious bushranger Moondyne Joe was imprisoned here for stealing a horse and today Toodyay holds an annual Moondyne Festival in May.

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## TOODYAY - DALWALLINU

### Cycling -

Leaving Toodyay we head north through wheatbelt country on the Bindi Toodyay Road passing through the towns of Bolgart, Calingiri, and Wongan Hills.

We set up camp at the Dalwallinu Caravan Park and after a shower head to the Dalwallinu Hotel for dinner where we will be joined by the traditional owners of the area represented by the Badimia Barna Aboriginal Corporation (BBAC)

## DAY 2 - 144KMS

The **area** surrounding Dalwallinu is a wheat and sheep producing area and the town marks the beginning of West Australia's 'Wildflower Way.' The wildflower season extends from July to October. September is wattle season a time when Dalwallinu hosts a weeklong Wattle Festival.

The **Badimia and Karlamaya** were the original inhabitants of this land. Dalwallinu is thought to be an Aboriginal name meaning grass land or good land. From the early 1870's the Badimia were forced off their land and had to adapt to the consequent impact of this loss on their culture and relationship to land.

This loss is now being mitigated by the purchase of land by the Indigenous Land Council and the Badimia people are now involved in the management of Ninghan Station.

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## DALWALLINU - NINGHAN STATION

**Cycling** - leaving Dalwallinu we will cycle along the Great Northern Highway passing through the town of Wubin.

**Tonight**, we camp at Ninghan Station. Ninghan takes its name from the Noongar word meaning echidna in reference to the shape of Mount Singleton which rises from the surrounding areas and can be seen from afar. Ashley Bell, the manager of Ninghan, will host us for dinner and give a talk on the significance of this land to the Badimia people.



## DAY 3 - 199KMS

After a **sumptuous breakfast** cooked by Ashley, we pass through the small town of Paynes Find a former goldrush town named after a prospector Thomas Payne who was first to register a mining lease with the Mines Department. Rumour has it that Thomas picked up a rock to throw at a crow only to discover it was a gold nugget! The town flourished in the 1930's but today has a fuel stop and a few old buildings.

The area from Lake Moore, located south of Paynes Find is where the Badimia hunt, collect bush medicines, and teach their young about country and culture. There are sacred places in the area that have been used for centuries for traditional ceremonies.



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## NINGHAN STATION - MT MAGNET

### Cycling -

A day of heading north on the Great Northern Highway.

We arrive at Mt Magnet sometime in the afternoon in time for a shower, set up the tents and then a tour of the Granites by another elder, this time from northern Badimia community.

The Granites are a significant cultural place for its traditional owners, and we will hear stories of this ancient land.

**Mt Magnet** is a gold mining town with its famous Hill 50 mine located south west of the township. Gold was first discovered here in 1891 soon after pastoralists had walked their sheep into the area in the 1870's. The present gold mining operations were commenced in the 1980's by Western Mining and are presently operated by Ramelius Resources.

Dinner at the Commercial Hotel.



DAY 4 - 157KMS

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**Today** we pass through mining and pastoral country of the Murchison District.

MT MAGNET -  
SANDSTONE

**Cycling** - We head east on the Mt Magnet-Sandstone Highway.

We will camp the night at the Alice Atkinson Caravan Park and dine at the National Hotel.



## DAY 5 - 150KMS

There were **two distinct** Indigenous tribes that lived in the Sandstone district. The Wongi in the eastern half and the Yamagee in the western half. There are definite signs of an Aboriginal presence in the district. These include hand stencils on rock formations, old camping grounds, stone cairns and the evidence of flint tool making.

**Gnamma** holes, natural cavities found in hard rock, which served as sources of water, have also been discovered throughout the district. They were more recently found by farmers when their stock fell into them. Sadly, many of these holes have been filled in.

**Sandstone** was one of WA's first gold mining towns, gold discovery was registered in 1895. There are a number of small historical gold mines in the area but no current active operations.



## SANDSTONE - LEINSTER

### Cycling -

As we head east the terrain and colours change. Throughout the area, natural rock formations or breakaways contrast dramatically with the rust stained Sandstone landscape which gives the town its name. The mainly flat surroundings and the distant horizons give the impression of a very large sky which provides that wide open and free feeling which one can only experience in the true outback.

We pass by the Agnew gold mining operations of Goldfields; whose waste dumps are clearly visible on the south side of the road.

We camp the night in Leinster and will be joined by more riders.

Dinner at the Golden Nickel Tavern.



## DAY 6 - 134KMS

**Leinster's** only residents are all employed by BHP. This is a nickel mining town.

This morning a surprise awaits us - a **coffee shop!**

Operating only 2 days a week we are fortunate enough to be here on one of those days, but we need to be early its operating hours are from 04.30 - 9.00.

**Gold** was first discovered in Leonora in 1895 and by 1896 a Sons of Gwalia mining operation commenced 5km south of Leonora with a small township called Gwalia. In its early years in 1898 the young mine manager was an American mining engineer Herbert Hoover who later became the 31st President of the United States of America (1929-33).

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## LEINSTER - LEONORA

The **underground mine** was the deepest gold mine in Australia at 1.2 kms when it closed in 1963 after the extraction of 2 million ounces of Gold. Underground mining operations recommenced in 2000. It is now operated by Barbara Mines from a decline extending 1600M below surface level. It remains the deepest underground mine in Australia and still has reserves in excess of 2 million ounces.

### **Cycling -**

Our road heads south on the Goldfields Highway. We camp the night at the Leonora Caravan Park with dinner at The Whitehouse Hotel.



## DAY 7 - 123KMS

We are now in the goldfields, home to the **Wongatha** people who are active in traditional customs and lore.

During the early 1900s **missionaries** from New South Wales came to Western Australia to establish an area that is now known as the Mount Margaret Aboriginal Community, located close to Laverton.

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## LEONORA- LAVERTON

### Cycling -

We head east on the Laverton Leonora Road and when we see the sign to turn right to Laverton our extraordinary journey is almost done, a mere 20 kms to go!

The **Laverton Shire** will welcome us on arrival.

Camping is in the Laverton Camping ground and dinner for the next 4 nights is at the Desert Inn Hotel.

## DAY 8

**Gold** was first discovered in the district in 1893 and led to development of large underground mines at Lancefield and Mt Morgans.

Laverton District has several large operating gold mines at Granny Smith and Wallaby (Goldfields Australia) and Sunrise Dam (AngloGoldAshanti) located south of Laverton beside Lake Carey.

A large gold mining operation has recently started at Gruyere (Goldfields-Gold Road JV) located north east of Laverton. All are FIFO operations.

Greg Hall was an exploration Geologist in the Laverton area and was responsible for the discovery of the Granny Smith deposit.

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## LAVERTON

**Today** we have an excursion with some Laverton elders, and visit culturally significant areas.

Laverton has a history linked to cycling. In 1896 **Dr. Charles Laver**, a humanitarian and mining entrepreneur rode his bike from Coolgardie to the site which is now the town of Laverton.

There he treated Aboriginals and miners and established the Laverton Hospital. A statue of Dr. Laver and his bike is erected on the old main road.



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## DAY 9-10

**The Cycling Development Foundation** have been running cycling programs in Laverton since 2018.

From building bikes to indoor training, on road cycling and bike repairs. Today we invite you to join in this program.

We have found the children to be enthusiastic participants and with many helping hands we will be able to repair bikes and take groups out for some cycling experiences as children build confidence and skills.

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## DAY 11

**Day 11**, we load up the vehicles with bikes and personal belongings and drive to Perth approximately 11 hours with breaks for coffee and lunch.

## WHAT TO BRING

- Bike in good order
- Kit
- Sleeping bag
- Pillow
- Torch
- Clothes for pub meals
- Wine and/or Beer for pre-dinner
- Washing powder – some parks will have washing facilities
- Money for pub drinks and coffee shops
- “Working With Children” Check Card
- Bathers for Laverton Pool and possible swim in the ‘healing pools’ outside Laverton
- Money for Coffee shop and dinner drinks and general out of pocket expenses.

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## WHAT WE PROVIDE

- Water
- Hydration salts
- Lollies
- Meals
- Tents
- Mattresses
- Snacks for pre-dinner



# OUR VALUED EVENT PARTNERS

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Member of the Surbana Jurong Group

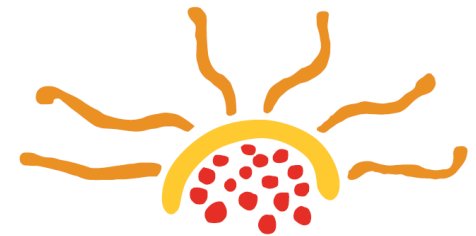


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