

## Goulburn River **DISCOVERY TRAIL**

A highly varied circuit of the spectacular Goulburn River country, combining escarpment and riverside scenery with pleasant rural countryside and vineyards. Takes in part of the main Greater Blue Mountains Drive. Highlights include Lees Pinch Lookout, the Bylong Valley and Coxs Gap.

### Drive summary

- 171km (circuit): 3.5hr to drive (circuit)
- Highway, narrow sealed roads, unsealed roads (dry weather only)
- Start and finish: Merriwa (or Sandy Hollow)
- Alerts!: Narrow, winding roads. Some unsealed roads are dry weather only. Suitable for experienced country drivers. Check road conditions after rain before setting out. Unsealed roads may be closed and some areas are prone to flooding.

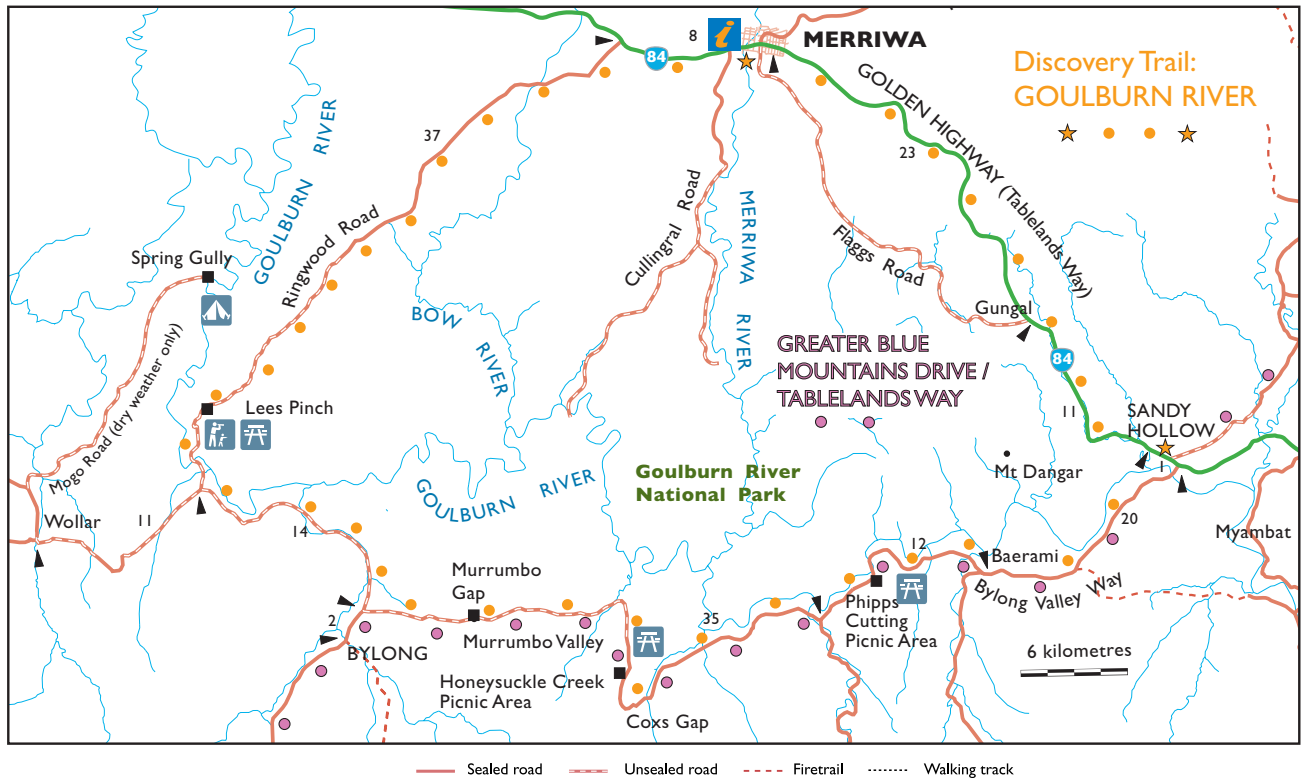
### Route Description

From Merriwa, take the Golden Highway west for 8km, then turn left into Ringwood Road. Heading south-west a huge panorama opens out, over the sandstone bushland to distant peaks of Wollemi NP.

After some distance through the bush, stop for a rest and a view at Lees Pinch before

descending steeply to cross the Goulburn River. On the valley floor, turn left onto Wollar Road and follow it through the impressive farming valley to the junction with Bylong Valley Way on the left. Bylong village and store – just a short distance straight on – is worth a visit, but to continue the drive turn left. Pass over the low Murrumbo Gap into the basalt-rich Murrumbo Valley and re-enter the bush of Wollemi NP on the other side. Here the delightful Honeysuckle Creek picnic area is a great place for a rest before the steep (and spectacular) crossing of Coxs Gap.

Down in the valley again, the road winds along the scenic Goulburn River, where the next pleasant roadside stop is Phipps Cutting. The Bylong Valley Way continues to Sandy Hollow, where the Discovery Trail turns left to follow the Golden Highway (and the main Greater Blue Mountains Drive) through Gungal and back to Merriwa.



The Greater Blue Mountains Drive has been developed by the region's own backyard working together to develop the drive in collaboration with the NSW Dept of Environment and Climate Change, Tourism NSW and Tourism Australia. Further development of the drive product has been enhanced by the ongoing involvement of Transurban. The establishment of the drive was proudly supported by the Australian Government and its business program delivery division, AusIndustry in a program proposed and developed by Blue Mountains Tourism Limited. © 2007

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