

Denniston Plateau MTB Tracks

Route Guide for Mt Rochfort

For important safety and background information refer also to pamphlet "Denniston Plateau Mountain Bike Tracks" - available via www.cyclebuller.co.nz





Mt Rochfort


Approximate Riding Time = 1.5 hours up + 45 mins down


Approximate Distance = 17 km


Total Ascent = 500 m

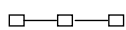
Grade = 3

-  Sealed road (1 km)
-  Gravel road (16 km)
-  MTB track (0 km)
-  Walking track (0 km)

 Predominant travel direction

 River crossings (0)

 Technical sections (0)

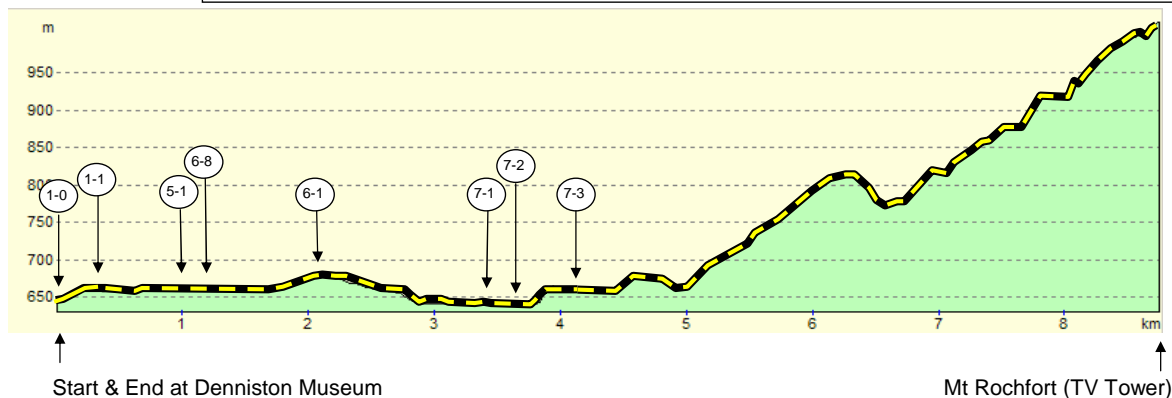
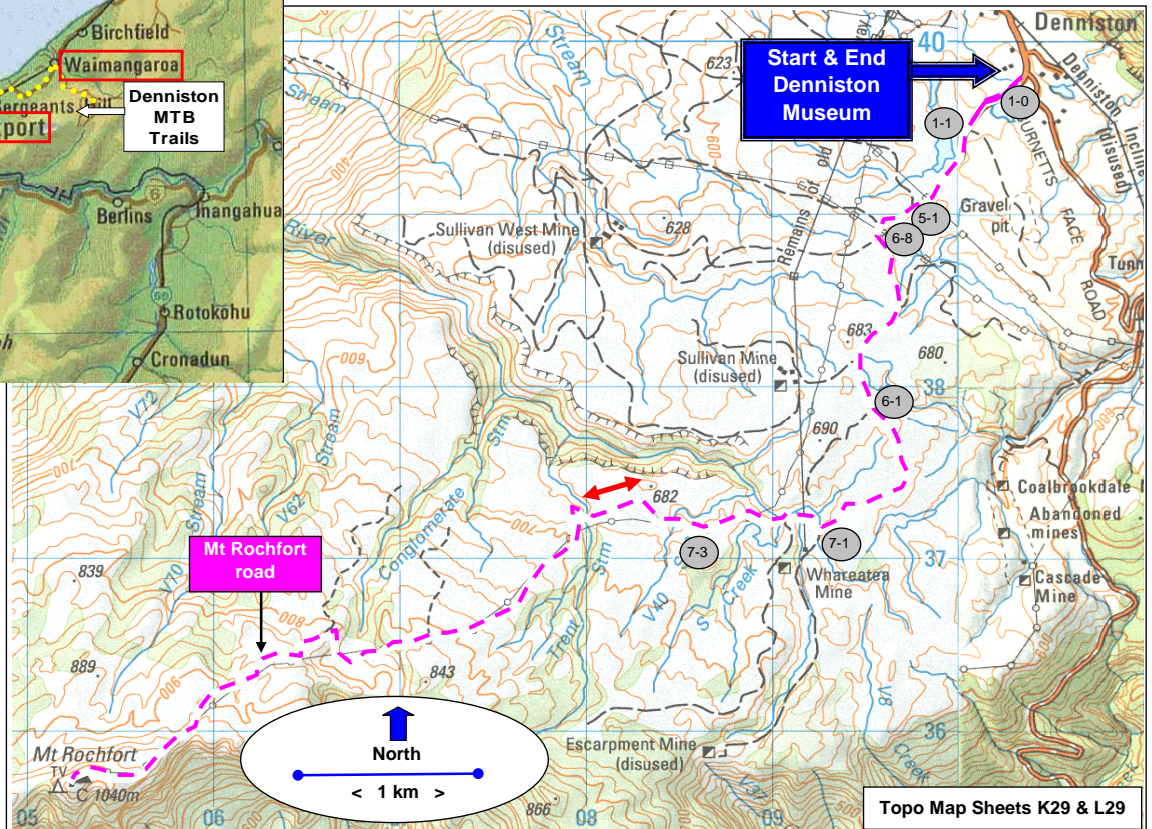
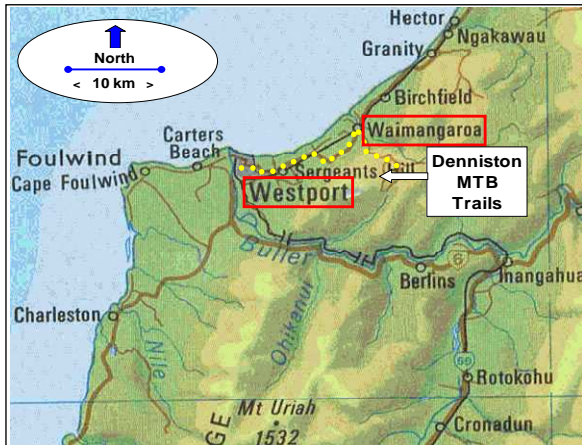
 Power Line

MT ROCHFORT -

Mt Rochfort is named after one of the early surveyors who visited this area many years ago.

The Mt Rochfort road is easy to follow and there are no MTB track markers beyond marker 7-3. The road follows the Whareatea circuit for the first 4 km (to marker 7-3). Starting at the museum, the first section of the Mt Rochfort road is straightforward. The short section of sealed road quickly turns into an undulating gravel road. Although this road is usually quiet, be aware that occasionally you will encounter other vehicles, especially on fine weekends. Turn right at marker 7-1. There is a short, sharp climb after marker 7-2. Carry on up the main gravel road past marker 7-3. (The track to the left at markers 7-2 & 7-3 is the Whareatea MTB track). The main gravel road continues up to the TV tower on top of Mt. Rochfort. The elevation chart below tells the story from here! It is an uphill climb on a good gravel road, with the occasional short downhill along the way. However, this effort is adequately rewarded. Firstly, from the top there is a fantastic view (on a fine day!) of everything there is to see on this part of the planet. This is followed by a nice downhill ride (dropping 400m in 5 km on a good gravel road). Just zip up your jacket, check your brakes and keep an eye out for other vehicles coming up! This is also a great night ride, especially with a full moon.

If you still have time to spare on your way back to the Museum, you can ride the Whareatea Circuit or make an interesting excursion to the Whareatea mine. (Refer to the Whareatea Circuit route guide for a description of the track). NB the 2^{1/4} hour riding time for the Mt Rochfort road does NOT include any time spent visiting old mine sites. Time spent sightseeing will need to be added onto the riding time).



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