

Denniston Plateau MTB Tracks

Route Guide for the Miners Circuit

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

Miners Track Circuit

Approximate Riding Time = 45 mins
 Approximate Distance = 6.6 km
 Total Ascent = 190 m
 Grade = 3

- Sealed road (1 km)
- Gravel road (1.6 km)
- MTB track (3.8 km)
- Walking track (200 m)

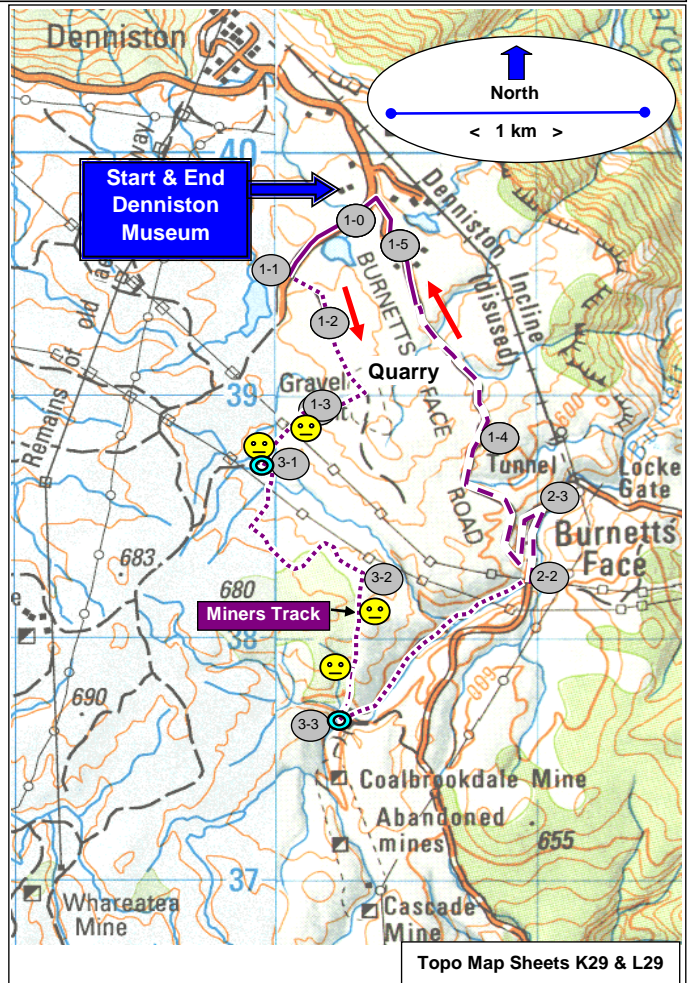
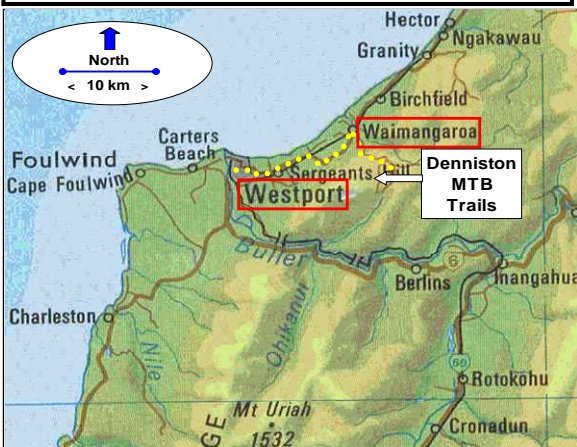
Predominant travel direction

River crossings (2)

Technical sections (4)

Way point & Track markers

Power line

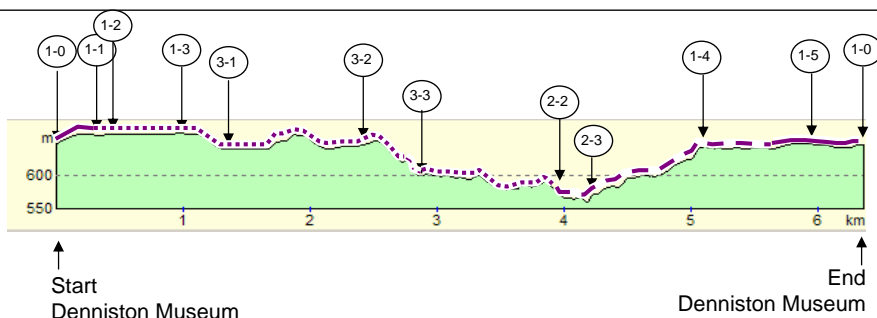


MINERS TRACK CIRCUIT -

This circuit is named after the historic miners walking track that linked the township of Denniston with the mines at Coalbrookdale. (The MTB track follows the same route as the walking track from marker 3-2 to 3-3).

The Miners Track circuit follows the Quarry circuit for the first 1 km. Starting at the museum, head south west following the short section of sealed road before turning left at marker 1-1 onto a wide MTB track. From there head generally south east towards the quarry area. There are numerous tracks through this area, so keep an eye out for track markers with purple arrows. At marker 1-3 the Miners track separates from the Quarry circuit and turns off to the right. (If you are not in a hurry, then the quarry area is a good place to have a play around for a while before continuing down the Miners Track. The quarry has numerous slopes and humps to ride over. **Just be aware there is a 10m vertical face on the south east side of the quarry - so always make sure that you can see where you are riding in this area !! Especially when riding at night or in fog.**

From marker 1-3, the Miners Track heads generally south towards the power line. The wide track finishes at a pylon and a short section of single track continues down through the pakihi, across a stream and connects onto another wide track at marker 3-1. This stream crossing is usually shallow and rideable. But it can rise very rapidly if it is raining. (Streams in this area are fast flowing, so **do not attempt to cross flooded streams - always use an alternative route**). After the stream crossing, head generally south east to marker 3-2, then turn right off the wide MTB track onto a single track which follows the old miners trail. This section of track goes through a narrow cutting and heads down the side of the ridge. (This is a very popular section of track with most riders). At the bush line there is a short walking section down to a stream crossing just before you reach marker 3-3. A good excursion from this point is to visit the site of the historic Coalbrookdale mine a short distance up the valley. (Nb the track up the valley is a walkway & not for riding). From marker 3-3 there is an easy ride out to the gravel road at marker 2-2. Use the MTB track on the true left of Burnett stream. (The track on the true right is a walking track only). **Take care not to crash off this section of the MTB track since you could land in the stream below.** (If the impact doesn't finish you off, then the stream will if its in flood). From marker 2-2 it is a straightforward ride back up to the museum. **Just be aware that although this road often appears to be quiet, there is a good chance you will encounter other vehicles at any time, including 30T truck and trailers hauling coal from mines operating in the Cascade Valley.** The road is narrow and the trucks are wide - so keep out of their way !! and enjoy the rest of your ride.



Denniston Plateau MTB Tracks

Route Guide for the Miners Track Circuit

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

