










Denniston Plateau MTB Tracks

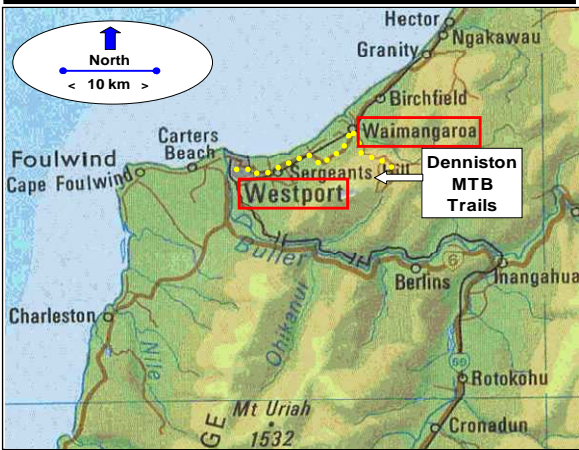
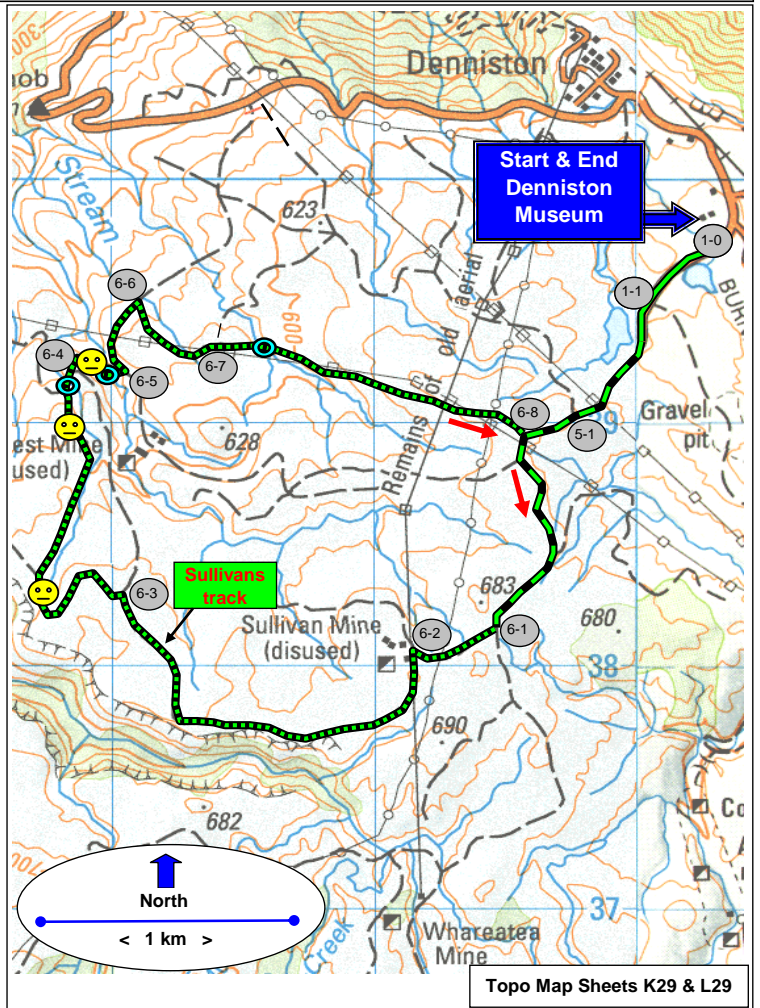
Route Guide for the Sullivans Circuit

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

Sullivans Circuit

Approximate Riding Time = 1 hour
 Approximate Distance = 9.2 km
 Total Ascent = 195 m
 Grade = 3

-  Sealed road (1 km)
-  Gravel road (2 km)
-  MTB track (6.2 km)
-  Walking track (0 m)
-  Predominant travel direction
-  River crossings (3)
-  Technical sections (3)
-  Way point & Track markers
-  Power line

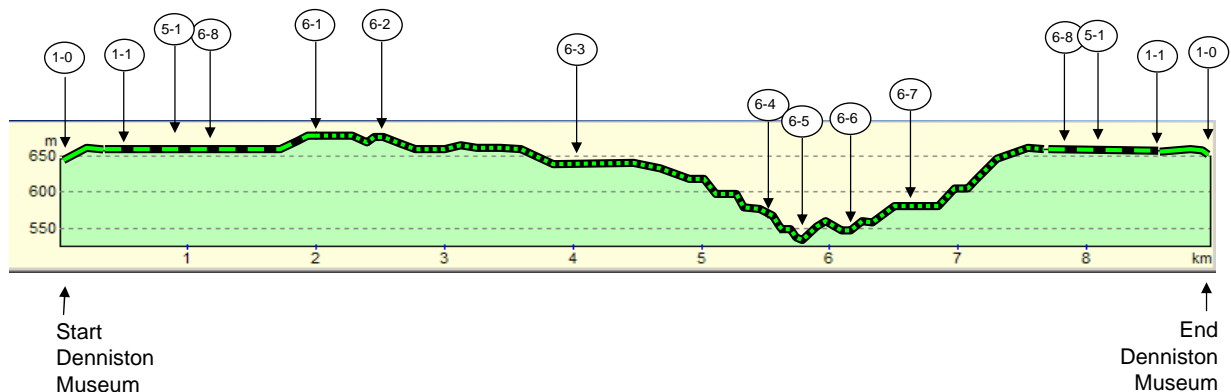


SULLIVANS CIRCUIT -

This circuit was named after the Sullivan coal mine, which lies underground deep below this area. The tracks in this area were originally built for exploration drill rigs to prospect the coal seam below. They were also used for power line construction. Now they are used for a recreational 4WD track and powerline maintenance.

This circuit is a particularly good one to do late on a fine afternoon, as it offers the best sunset views over the sea.

Starting at the museum, head south west for approximately 2 km following the short section of sealed road then a good gravel road. At marker 6-1 turn right onto a wide MTB track / gravel road and head about 300m along to marker 6-2 and the site of the old Sullivan Mine entrance. From here the track veers around to the left. This mine is now closed and little remains of the tunnel entrances, conveyors, rail lines, workshops, large coal bins and aerial ropeway that used to occupy this site. However the winch and a few other features are still present to mark the site of this once busy coal mine. From here the track is relatively flat for about 2 km and not too difficult to traverse. The gradient drops away a bit more past marker 6-3 but is generally still good riding. There is a small stream crossing just before marker 6-4 closely followed by a larger one just before marker 6-5. These are both usually shallow and rideable. But be warned, this stream is not called Rapid Stream for nothing! These streams will 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**). From here the track follows a good 4WD track which climbs on a steady grade back up onto the plateau. There is a stream crossing above marker 6-7, but this is also usually shallow and rideable.



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