



BRISBANE VALLEY RAIL TRAIL



On the right track

Coominya and Esk
24.5 kms



Queensland Government

www.brisbanevalleyrailtrail.org.au

Trail summary

Location

The 24.5 kilometre Coominya and Esk sections of the Brisbane Valley Rail Trail are approximately 50 kilometres northwest of Ipswich and 80 kilometres from Brisbane along the Warrego and Brisbane Valley highways.

Landscape heritage

The rail trail extends through native bushland and rural farms with views of Mt Hallen. Esk is located close to Ravensbourne and Crows Nest national parks and is home to the spectacular Mt Glen Rock.

Use

The trail features a compacted gravel road base suited to people with a moderate to high fitness level—the Coominya and Esk sections are especially suited to families. There are no drinking water or toilet facilities on the trail. Walking shoes or light hiking boots are required and horses must be shod. The surface is not suitable for road/racing bicycles, personal mobility vehicles or horse-drawn vehicles. Motorised vehicles of any type are prohibited. Only walking, cycling and horse riding are permitted.

Distance

1. Coominya Station grounds–Cooragook Bridge — 10 kilometres
Completion time (walking): approximately 2 hours
2. Cooragook Bridge–Mt Hallen — 2.5 kilometres
Completion time (walking): approximately 35 minutes
3. Mt Hallen–Boons Road — 8 kilometres
Completion time (walking): approximately 1.5 hours
(opening in late 2009)
4. Boons Road–Esk Station grounds — 4 kilometres
Completion time (walking): approximately 1 hour



Heritage—Indigenous

The name Coominya means a 'view of water', and is an adaptation of the Yugarabul Aboriginal name Kung-i-nya—from Kung meaning 'water', and nya meaning 'to see'. The Jagera, Yuggera and Ugarapul peoples are the traditional owners of the Coominya-Esk district. Prior to European settlement in 1824, the landscape of South East Queensland (as elsewhere in Australia) was influenced and protected by millennia of Aboriginal stewardship. Indigenous use and management of the landscape maintained a balance between the land and human needs. The South East Queensland Traditional Owners Alliance is overseeing archaeological research into the Indigenous heritage of the Brisbane Valley.

Heritage—European

The original railway line through the Brisbane Valley was built in the 1880s to transport supplies to the growing number of small farmers in the Valley, as well as milk products, timber and stock to Brisbane markets. The last rail motor service on the line was in 1989; the railway line was closed later that year. Brisbane Valley Heritage Trails Inc. has a wealth of old photos from the early days of the Brisbane Valley Line, as well as stories of working people, including the railway men.

Sites of interest

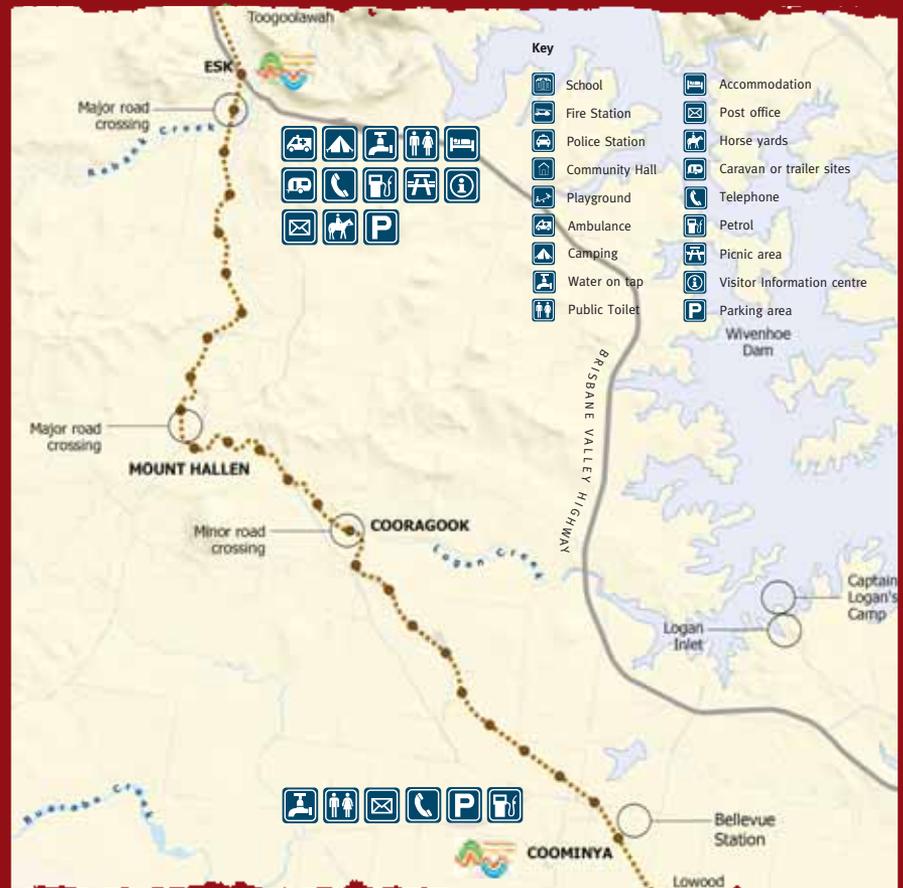
Bellevue Homestead, Coominya Station grounds, Mt Hallen, Cooragook Bridge, Lyceum Hall, Esk Station and Mt Glen Rock.

Services

Public toilets and picnic facilities are located at Coominya and Esk. There are no other public facilities along this section of the trail.

Mobile phone coverage

Good.



Code of conduct

When using the trail, respect other users, the natural environment and the privacy of adjacent landholders.

Sharing

- Park in designated areas
- Please leave all gates as found
- Observe local signs and regulations
- Do not obstruct the trail
- Cyclists must alert other users on approach and pass at a reduced speed
- Give way to horses and approach them with care
- Keep dogs under control and on a lead
- Jogging pace only.

Environment

- Keep on the rail trail
- Do not interfere with native plants or animals
- Take your rubbish home with you
- Clean up after your dog
- Do not light fires
- Clean bikes, walking boots and other equipment after your trip to minimise the spread of plant and animal pests and diseases.



St Francis Xavier Church, Coominya.

For your safety and comfort

- Do not use the trail in extreme weather conditions
- Be cautious at all road and creek crossings
- Cyclists and horse riders must dismount at road crossings
- Cyclists and horse riders must wear an approved helmet and ride in control
- Do not approach pets or livestock in adjacent properties
- Beware of swooping magpies in springtime
- Carry drinking water and light snacks
- Wear appropriate clothing for the conditions
- Maintain your equipment, and carry repair and first-aid kits in case of emergencies
- Where possible, don't travel by yourself
- Let someone know where you are going and when you expect to return.

Emergencies

000

For more information

Blackbutt Visitor Information Centre

Hart Street, Blackbutt

07 4163 0633

Esk Visitor Information Centre

82 Ipswich Street, Esk

07 5424 2923

Fernvale Futures and Visitor
Information Centre

1483 Brisbane Valley Highway,
Fernvale

07 5427 0200

Nanango Visitor Information Centre

Drayton Street, Nanango

07 4171 6871

Department of Infrastructure and Planning

100 George Street, Brisbane

07 3227 8548

www.brisbanevalleyrailtrail.org.au

