

2026 Tour of Orange Technical Guide



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1. OVERVIEW

NOW OPEN TO U17 Riders

With four grades each for Men and Women, the tour has something for everyone, a prologue on fully closed roads kicks the tour off, followed by a technical criterium on the newly built Gosling Creek Crit Circuit and finally a road race on a rolling circuit with plenty of opportunities for breakaways to get up the road and an uphill sprint finish to challenge the legs.

The course offers fantastic opportunities for spectators to watch the action, as well as all that the Orange region offers riders and non-riders alike – amazing food, world famous wineries and great hospitality.

Speaking of hospitality, event sponsor and long-term supporter of the local Orange Cycle Club, the **Hotel Canobolas**, is hosting a pre-event social gathering on Friday night and the famous presentation for the Tour leaders on Saturday evening followed by dinner and an opportunity to relax with friends, old and new. With a \$25 voucher, discounted accommodation ([click here](#) and use code **OCC001** for a 10% discount), a fantastic bistro and local wine and beer on at the bar, be sure to support the business that has supported local cyclists for so long.

Nationally and internationally recognised winery, Swinging Bridge Wines, will be hosting wine tastings at their cellar door with uninterrupted views of Mt Canobolas. [Click here](#) for more information and to make a booking.

Winner's jerseys supplied by [CYCLING BAY](#) will be awarded at the conclusion of the event.

Finally, local bike mechanic Nick Murphy of [Mechanick - Bike Repairs](#) will be on hand to assist with any last minute tweaks and a selection of spares and nutrition. Nick will also be on hand with the camera, with all photos available for download after the event.



CYCLING BAY

SWINGING BRIDGE
orange, australia

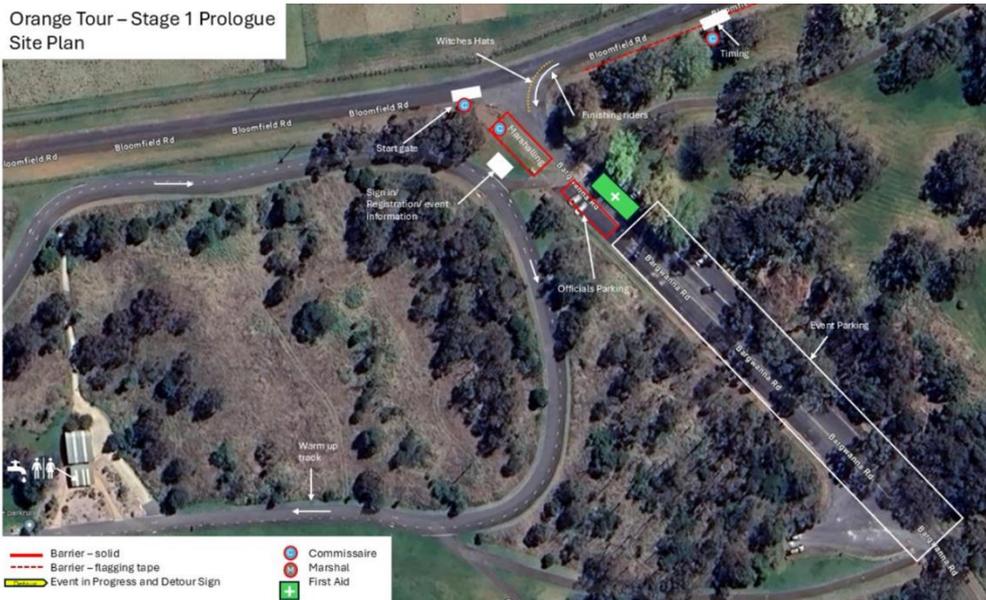
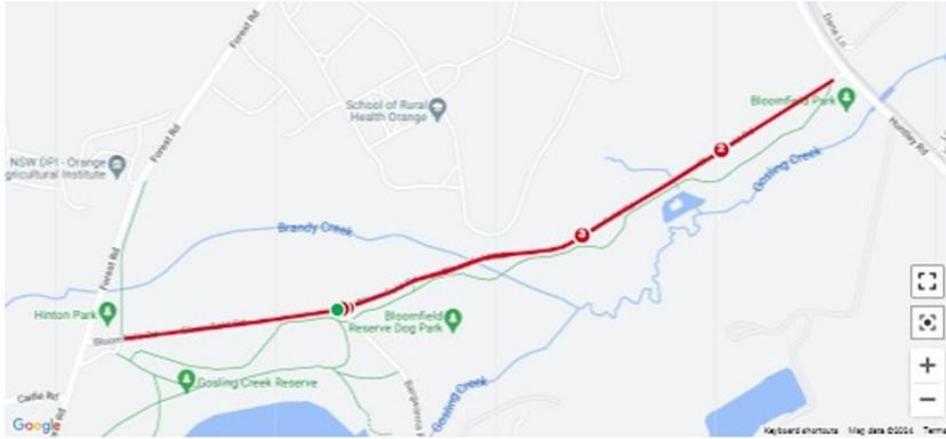




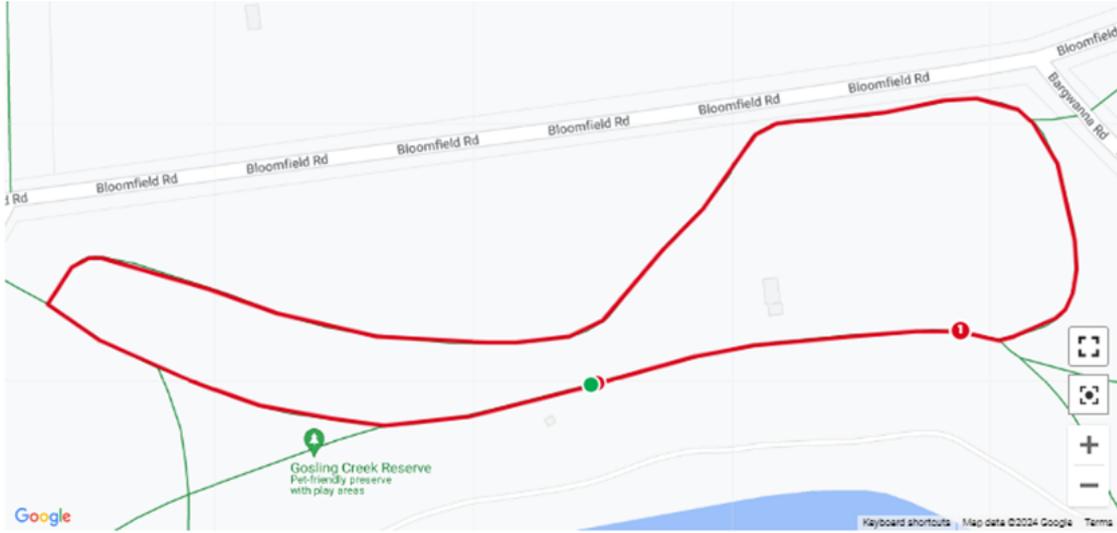
2. COURSE MAPS

Stage 1: Prologue

Riders will be doing 2x Laps of the Prologue Course

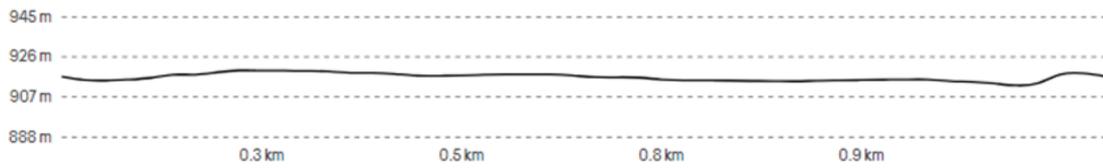


Stage 2: Criterium



Elevation

Start **917 m** Max **920 m** Gain **2 m**

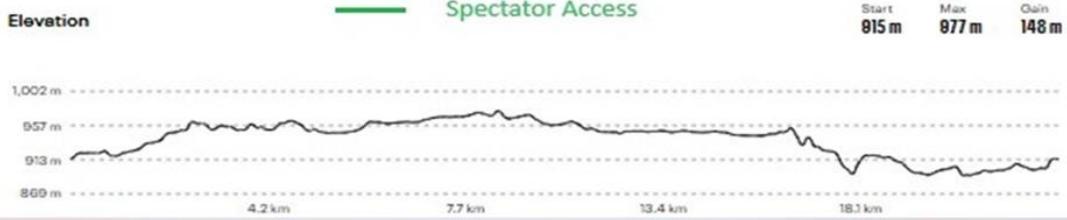
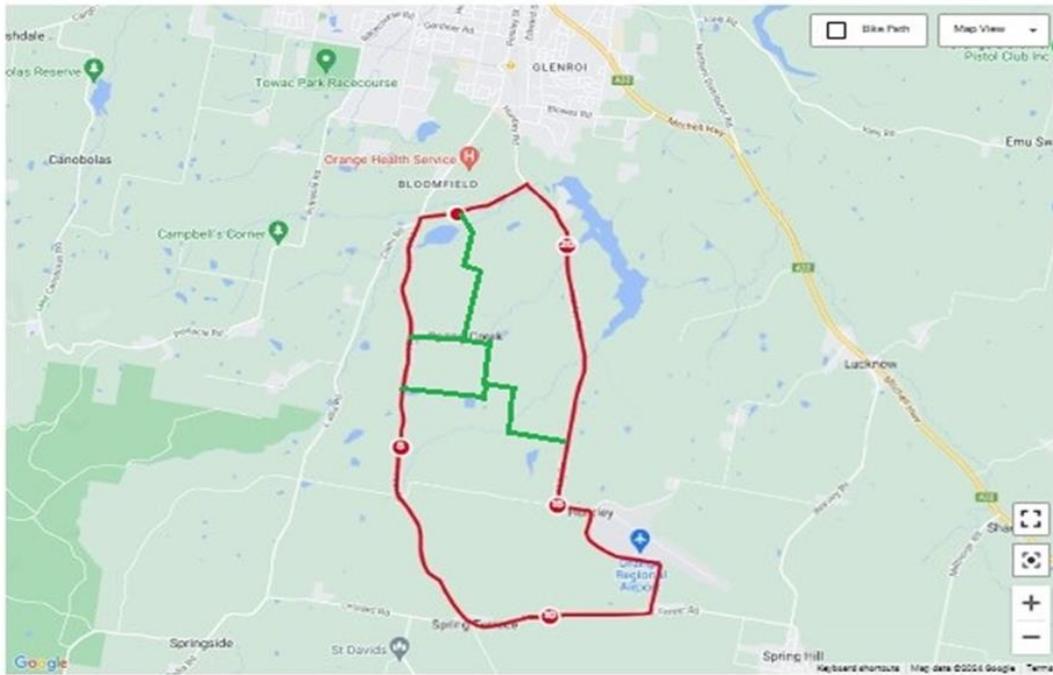


Orange Tour – Stage 2 Criterium Site Plan





Stage 3: Road Race



Orange Two Day Tour – Stage 3 Road Race Site Plan





3. SCHEDULE

REGISTRATION – Friday 15th May

1. 5:30pm – rider pack collection and informal dinner and drinks

DAY 1 – Saturday 16th May

1. 8:30AM – Sign On and collection of remaining rider packs
2. 10:00AM – Stage 1 Prologue
3. 12:15PM – Stage 2 Criterium
4. 5:30PM - Presentation and dinner at Hotel Canobolas

DAY 2 – Sunday 12th May

1. 6:45AM – Sign On
2. 8:00AM – Wave 1 Commences (Presentations immediately after)
3. 11:00AM - Wave 2 commences (presentations immediately after)
4. 2:30pm – event complete

Stage Profile can be found on the AusCycling website on the Tour of Orange page.

Here: [NSW/ACT State Road Series - Round 2: Tour of Orange | AusCycling](#)

STAGE 1

The Saturday prologue consists of a 3.5KM out and back style course with two U turns on closed roads. The course has 18m of elevation gain over the distance. All riders will be doing 2 laps of the course.

STAGE 2

The afternoon criterium consists of 25 to 45 mins + 3 laps, depending on your grade, of racing around the 1.1km circuit on the Gosling Creek Reserve. The circuit consists of tight and sweeping turns, predominantly right-handed, with a long sweeping corner opening up to the finishing line with around 100M to go.

STAGE 3

The Sunday Road race consists of 2 to 5 laps around a 22.64KM circuit. The course provides approx. 148M of elevation gain per lap.



Stage 2: Criterium Schedule

**Gradings to be determined by Entry Numbers

Category	Duration	Start Times
Women's C & D	25 min + 3 laps (30mins)	12:15pm
Men's C & D	25 min + 3 laps (30mins)	12:50pm
Women's B	30 min + 3 laps (40mins)	1:25pm
Men's B	35 min + 3 laps (40mins)	2:10pm
Women's A	45 min + 3 laps (50mins)	2:55pm
Men's A	45 min + 3 laps (50mins)	3:50pm

Stage 3: Road Race Schedule

Category	Duration	Start Times
Men's A	113.2 km	8:00am
Men's B	90.56 km	8:05am
Men's C	67.92km	8:10am
Men's D	67.92 km	10:45am
Women's A	90.56 km	11:00am
Women's B	67.92 km	11:05am
Women's C & D	45.28 km	11:10am



5. EVENT INFORMATION

ENTRIES

U17 Men & Women are able to race in B Grade & Below

Entries are capped at 175 riders, and the entry portal may be closed early. Riders wishing to enter the event after the entry portal closes may be placed on a wait list.

ROAD CONDITIONS

Riders should be aware that roads on the race route are country roads, and the condition may vary.

Stage 1 - Roads will be closed between the hours of 9:45AM and 12PM. Access to the Start / Finish area during this time will be via the Western Car Park (corner Forest and Bloomfield Roads) and the Criterium Circuit.

Stage 3 - Roads will be under the guide of traffic controllers. The traffic control plan includes traffic controllers who would stop vehicles and advise drivers to proceed with caution when safe to do so.

SUPPORT VEHICLES

Each wave for Stage 3 will have the following support vehicles.

- Lead vehicle.
- Commissaire's vehicles (Comm 1 and Comm 2 for large bunches)
- Follow / SAG vehicle.

Additional support vehicles may include the following.

- Race director and/or PCP vehicle.
- Traffic control vehicle(s)
- First aid vehicle(s)
- Media vehicle(s)
- Police vehicle(s)
- Emergency Services vehicles(s)

No team or individual rider support vehicles are permitted



WEATHER CONDITIONS

Weather conditions in the Central West can be variable, with low temperatures, wind and rain possible. Riders are responsible for ensuring that they have appropriate clothing and ride to the conditions. The Race Director or Chief Commissaire may decide to modify, postpone or cancel racing for safety reasons in response to weather conditions on the day. In the absence of such a decision, racing will proceed as per this guide.



TRANSPONDERS & RACE NUMBERS

You will be given your transponder at registration. Position the transponder on either fork using the supplied cable ties. Please keep the transponder in this position on your bike for all 3 stages. Return your transponder & race numbers at the end of the Tour. Not returning a transponder & numbers will result in a fee.

If you have taken your bibs and transponder home – Please return them to the below address in a padded postage bag:

AusCycling – Cameron Butcher

PO BOX 7209

Bass Hill, 2197, NSW

SIGN ON

Riders can get their rider packs from Hotel Canobolas on Friday Night from 5:30pm. Registration will be required at the beginning of both days. Registration will open at 8:30AM on Saturday & 6:45AM on Sunday.

PARKING

Two parking areas are available as follows.

- Bargwana Road carpark - south of Bloomfield Road. Access via Bloomfield Road closed 9:45am to 12:00pm on Saturday 16 May. Otherwise, accessible from Bloomfield Road throughout the event. Access from the south available throughout.
- Western Carpark – off Bloomfield Road near Forest Road. Access available throughout the event.

HOUSE KEEPING

Toilets and water available in the Reserve. Please place all rubbish in the bins provided.

FOOD AND COFFEE

Orange Cycle Club will be selling coffee and limited light refreshments. No other food will be available on site. Numerous cafés and other shops are in Orange, 5 minutes' drive from Gosling Creek Reserve

REGULATIONS

- All events will be conducted in accordance with the AusCycling Technical Regulations:
 - [General](#)
 - [Road](#)
- This Series is only open to members of AusCycling who hold a Race All-Discipline membership and meet Event Category eligibility.



As per the 2026 Series Guide - Road Bikes only are permitted, including for the Prologue. Aero Bars, including clip on bars, TT Bikes and Disc Wheels are not permitted. Aero Helmets can be worn.

PRESENTATIONS

Saturday's presentation will take from 5:30pm in the Ballroom at the Hotel Canobolas. This will be followed by dinner (pay as you go) and a social gathering. Participants are encouraged stay for dinner at the Hotel where a group booking has been made.

Final presentations on the Sunday will take place following the completion of each grade, these will be done near the start/finish line.

Results for the tour will also be counted towards the standing of the 2026 AusCycling NSW/ACT Road Series.

5.1 GENERAL CLASSIFICATION

The General Classification of the tour will be based on accumulated time over the three stages.

Time bonuses will apply for the Road Race and Criterium, as follows:

Placing	Bonus – Road Race	Placing	Bonus - Criterium
1 st	10s	1 st	3s
2 nd	6s	2 nd	2s
3 rd	4s	3 rd	1s

5.2 TIE-BREAK

Should any riders finish on the same time at the end of the round, the tie will be broken by way of whoever was fastest in the Prologue.

5.3 CRITERIUM TIMING REGULATIONS

All competitors must complete the criterium stage.

- Lapped rider may be withdrawn by race officials. Such riders will be considered to have completed the stage, with withdrawn riders given the time of the final finisher plus a calculated additional time (see below).
- Riders withdrawing from race under their own will be considered as retiring and will be classified as a stage DNF. Such riders will be permitted to continue in the next stage but will not be eligible for General Classification.



The calculated time will be implemented as follows:

Winners Average lap time: 3:15

Winners Average lap in secs 195 seconds

Time Behind final riders: +10 seconds

Rider A pulled at 2 laps. The 110% rule applies = 214 seconds, The Final Rider is 10 seconds behind. Rider A is 3:34 down on GC.

In accordance with the table below – A pulled riders time will be calculated by the following:

Number of Laps Not Completed	% of winners average lap time
1	100%
2	110%
3	120%
4	130%
5	140%
6	150%
7	160%
8	170%
9	180%
10	190%
11+	200%
Genuine effort 50% or less of the race	250%