



Tuesday 23rd January 2018

## Witness the 'Queen Stage' of our toughest tour, with Lake Mountain climb set to be a heart-breaker.

The stunning scenery of Lake Mountain is set to play a pivotal role in this year's Jayco Herald Sun Tour with the 20km climb to the 1,433m high summit expected to decide who remains in contention for the famous leader's yellow jersey and who will fall agonisingly short.

The Mitchelton Winery Stage 3 of this iconic event is acknowledged as the longest and toughest stage the Tour has endured in recent years.

On Saturday 3<sup>rd</sup> February 2018, it begins at the winery in Nagambie, but finishes with a monster ascent up Lake Mountain, riders needing all their energy and guile to negotiate what is considered the most challenging stage of the race.

They will be making their way through the Strathbogie shire and across the Highlands before heading to Eildon where the race will heat up with the hill climb up Skyline Rd. The potentially tour-deciding fireworks are set to happen on the final 20km climb to the hilltop finish on Lake Mountain.



Race Director JOHN TREVORROW says

*"The longest and toughest stage we have ever had, a true queen stage. Seriously dramatic racing terrain for the full 218 km, the shape of the General Classification race will be influenced up Lake Mountain.*

Grand Tour stage winner ESTEBAN CHAVES will have star-billing, with three-time Olympic gold medalist ED CLANCY looking to get his JLT-Condor team on the podium again.

The Lake Mountain crowd privileged to be offered an opportunity to witness their feats up close and personal, as the slow pace of the climb will give everyone front row seats.

The might of powerful Australian owned team MITCHELTON-SCOTT will be on show along with fellow WorldTour powerhouse Trek-Segafredo, and amongst the peloton will be an array of decorated title-holders from both road and track cycling.

The Murrindindi Shire Council Mayor Charlotte (Charlie) Bisset said the community was proud to host two days of challenging cycling through the beautiful Murrindindi Shire.

*"We welcome spectators and cyclists alike, as the tour winds its way around 300km of the Shire, with great views of Lake Eildon and Lake Mountain before culminating in the climatic finish at Kinglake".*

*"Murrindindi Shire Council and the community are excited to once again host the event village and finish line for the ride in Kinglake, with the exhilarating five lap circuit through the Kinglake Ranges. Kinglake is only one hour from Melbourne, so while people will be here mainly to watch the race travelling through beautiful national parks and State forests, we hope they also take the opportunity to check out the great camping and bushwalking opportunities and even bring their road or mountain bikes for a ride through the area."*

*"The local community is gearing up for a huge weekend with our businesses, service clubs and sporting groups coming on board to support the event activities. These will include market stalls featuring local wines and produce. This is an exciting opportunity for those of us in Kinglake Ranges and in Murrindindi Shire more broadly. We are delighted to be hosting the Jayco Herald Sun Tour."*

Jayco Herald Sun Tour chairman Tom Salom said the introduction of a women's race was a pivotal moment in the history of the race.

*"It is terrific that we have the best female riders competing in our iconic event and it reflects the progress the Jayco Herald Sun Tour has made in recent years in terms of attracting the best riders and appealing to a broad range of cycling and non-cycling fans."*



\*\*\*\*And how about having the chance to win a Jayco Swift Outback camper trailer worth nearly \$23,000 – it's easy to enter – Grab the Code word each day in the Herald Sun or Weekly Times and for more chances to win get to the race village each day between January 30 and February 4 2018 for a bonus code word (Details terms and conditions at [heraldsuntour.com.au](http://heraldsuntour.com.au))

### **Course Overview**

Start: Mitchelton Winery, Nagambie

Finish: Lake Mountain Resort, Lake Mountain Rd

### **Viewing Points**

Key viewing points include -

Nagambie - Mitchelton Winery, Mitchellstown Rd

Seymour – Emily St & High St

Highlands – Highlands Rd

Alexandra - Aitken St

Eildon – Skyline Rd & High St

Buxton – Buxton - Marysville Rd

Marysville -Buxton – Marysville Rd

Lake Mountain – Lake Mountain Rd

### **Lake Mountain – Tourism Information**

Lake Mountain Resort Tourism

### **Travel**

Driving from Melbourne to Lake Mountain: 118 km / 2 hours 5 mins

Public Transport - V Line operate a variety of regional public transport services throughout Victoria [www.vline.com.au](http://www.vline.com.au)

## **Road Closure Information**

The Jayco Herald Sun Tour aims to minimise the impact on local communities. However, some road closures will apply.

Residents and business directly impacted by the road closures will receive written notification prior to the event

### *Lake Mountain*

Road closures will be implemented as follows –

**Location:** Lake Mountain Road, Lake Mountain  
**Date:** Saturday 3rd February  
**Time:** 2:00pm to 8:00 pm  
**Details:** Closed between Arnold Gap Car Park and Lake Mountain Resort

### *Rolling Road Closures*

The Jayco Herald Sun Tour operates under a rolling road closure implemented by Victoria Police. As the race travels along the course the roads will be temporarily closed for the race to pass through safely.

Motorists will be stopped by Victoria Police and asked to pull over to the side of the road until the race passes. Delays of up to 20 minutes may be experienced. If travelling on roads used by the race please allow extra time to complete your journey.

## **Car Parking – Lake Mountain**

Road Closures will happen in sections to maximise spectator access –

- Arnold Gap Car Park – 4km from the finish
  - Access will be available all day
  - No access will be allowed down Lake Mountain as the event comes through until advised by an event official.
  
- Car Park Access – prior to 3:00pm
  - Lake Mountain Resort – at the finish
    - Access to the car park will be from 8:00am through until the car park is full.
  - Snowy Hill Car Park – 800m from the finish
    - Access to the car park will be available through until 3:00pm
    - Cars will be held during the support event and until the completion of the race.
  
- Access from Lake Mountain to Marysville
  - No access from Lake Mountain Resort or Snowy Hill Car Park after 3:00pm
  - No access from Arnold Gap whilst the race comes through

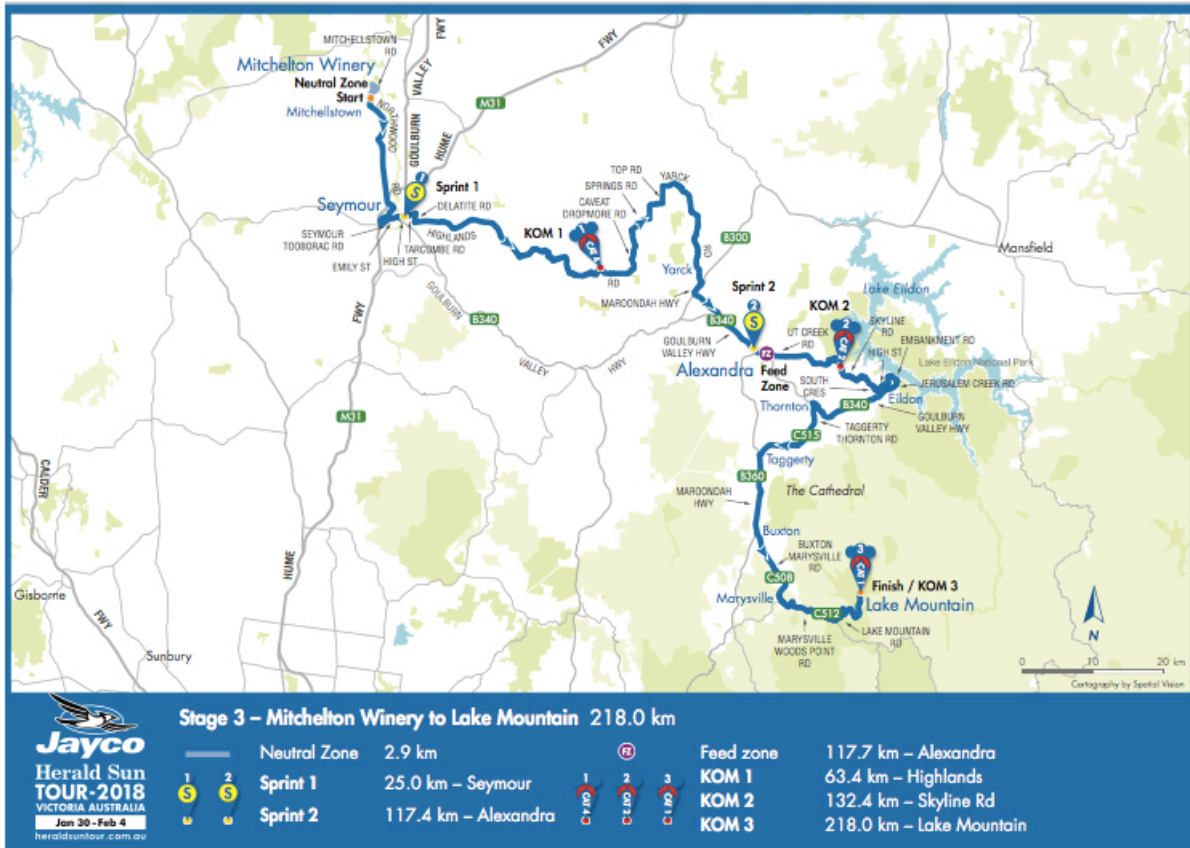
## **Tour Village**

### *Lake Mountain Resort*

**Location:** Lake Mountain Road, Lake Mountain Resort, Marysville  
**Times:** 9:00am – 5:00pm

Experience the excitement of the Jayco Herald Sun Tour Village. Activities include

- Family Entertainment -Tube Riding, Tobogganing & Mountain Bike Riding
- Food and Drink Available
- Rider interviews
- Sponsor activations & displays
- Live commentary
- Post-Race Presentations



What:	65 <sup>th</sup> edition of Australia's oldest stage race – Jayco Herald Sun Tour
When:	Tuesday 30 <sup>th</sup> January 2018 to Sunday 4 <sup>th</sup> February 2018

Course:	<p>Thule Women's stage 1 Healesville – Tuesday 30<sup>th</sup> January</p> <p>Beastwear Individual Time Trial Alexandra Gardens to Southbank – Wednesday 31<sup>st</sup> January</p> <p>Honda Civic Men's Road stage 1 Colac to Warrnambool – Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> February</p> <p>Surfside Holiday Parks Men's Road stage 2 Warrnambool to Ballarat – Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> February</p> <p>Mitchelton Winery Men's stage 3 Mitchelton Winery to Lake Mountain – Saturday 3<sup>rd</sup> February</p> <p>Gumbuya World Men's Road stage 4 Kinglake to Kinglake – Sunday 4<sup>th</sup> February</p>
Website:	<a href="http://www.heraldsuntour.com.au">www.heraldsuntour.com.au</a>

The 2018 Jayco Herald Sun Tour is presented by the Herald Sun and proudly supported by the Victorian Government and Jayco.

MEDIA ACCREDITATION IS NOW OPEN – Please log on at [www.heraldsuntour.com.au](http://www.heraldsuntour.com.au)

For further information (media only), please contact the Jayco *Herald Sun* Tour media team:

Ian Cohen – Cozalive Media – 0405-141-146 or <mailto:ian@cozalive.com>

“Cycling champions racing down a street near you”

EVENT PARTNERS:



EVENT SUPPORTERS:



HOST COUNCILS:



\*\*\*\*ENDS\*\*\*\*