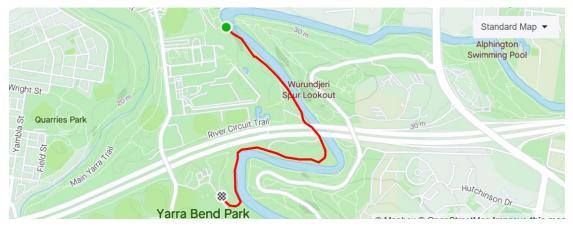
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### **Detailed Segment Information:**

### Stage 1: <u>A Batty Finish</u> **Distance:** 1.71km



Starting directly underneath the Fairfield Pipe Bridge on the riverside track, this segment then follows the river south, under the eastern freeway and then past the bats, finishing with a short sharp climb up to the gate.

Trail Rating: Blue square, a taste of what's to come!

**Potential Hazards:** Members of the public, uneven surfaces, trail in close proximity to river, minor drain crossing, snakes.

### Stage 2: <u>A Very Merri Loop</u>

Distance: 2.97km



Starting at the Clifton Hill side of the Merri Creek bridge closest to Ramsden Street Reserve, immediately cross the bridge and then take the northern fork at the end of the bridge. Before this trail meets the main bike path jump onto the small trail which runs alongside it. Following the trail which runs closest to Merri Creek run all the way to Heidelberg road. Cross Merri Creek on the footpath and then take the bike path which runs on the east side of Merri Creek back towards the start. Make sure you take the small gravel path back to the bridge at the very end of the segment!

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Trail Rating: Green circle, an appetiser for the main meal!

**Potential Hazards:** Members of the public, uneven surfaces, segment passes close to main road, snakes.



Distance: 1.95km



Starting on the east side of the Dights Falls/Merri Creek bridge follow the main trail along the river towards Studley. When you reach Galatea Point Lookout, instead of taking the zig zag down to the river, hop onto the single track which runs alongside the grassed area. When you join the main trail follow this around to Studley Park Bridge.

Trail Rating: Green circle, a classic with a twist

Potential Hazards: Members of the public, uneven surfaces, snakes.



Stage 4: NVii River Dash – Studley Park Bridge to Fairfield Pipe Bridge Distance: 4.73km

Do not leave home without your **NVii** trail shoes for this one!

Starting on the south side of Studley Park bridge take the left fork of the main gravel trail until it bends back on itself and you take the single track alongside the river. Follow this all the way to River Retreat where you follow this small road up to The Yarra Boulevard. Follow

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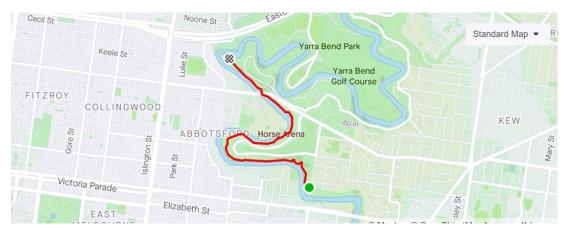
the road around to Bellbird, then take a left back towards the river. Re-join the riverside trail and then follow it around to end of the segment at the Fairfield Pipe Bridge.

Trail Rating: Black Diamond, not for the faint hearted!

**Potential Hazards:** Members of the public, uneven surfaces, trail in close proximity to river, minor drain crossings, footpath section alongside road, snakes.

### Stage 5: Ikea to Dights

#### Distance: 3.06km



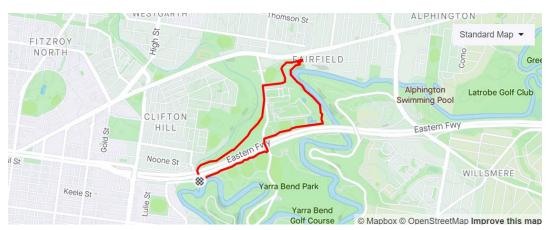
Starting on the north side of the bridge to Ikea/Victoria Street take steps left off the main path and then follow the river trail all the way to dights falls. This trail hugs the east side of the river, essentially don't stop until you get to the falls.

Trail Rating: Black Diamond, The east side is the best.

**Potential Hazards:** Members of the public, uneven surfaces, trail in close proximity to river, snakes.

#### Stage 6: <u>Yarra Bend Loop</u>

#### Distance: 4.45km



Starting on the east side of dights falls bridge follow the trail closest to the eastern freeway until it hits Yarra Bend Road, including the short section of single trail! Cross the eastern freeway on the bridge and then cross Yarra Bend road to take the gravel trail down to the

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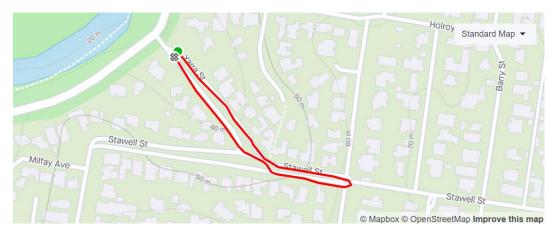
river. Follow the river to Fairfield boathouse, climb up to the main bike path and take it back to Yarra Bend road. Take the gravel track back towards dights falls, finishing at the same place you started.

Trail Rating: Green Circle, a brief reprieve!

**Potential Hazards:** Members of the public, uneven surfaces, trail in close proximity to river, snakes.

Stage 7: King of the Mountain aka Yarra Street

#### Distance: 0.61km



Starting on the northern side of Yarra Street follow it up to where it joins the northern side of Stawell Street. At the roundabout cross the road and come down the southern side of Stawell Street. At the school crossing, cross the road and take the steps back to Yarra Street, following the south side of the street to the finish.

Trail Rating: Green Circle, not a trail.

Potential Hazards: Members of the public, road crossings, footpath alongside road, steps.





Distance: 3.66km

Starting under the Chandler highway follow the riverside trail to Fairfield Pipe bridge. Go under the bridge and continue along the trail until you get to Bellbird park, passing

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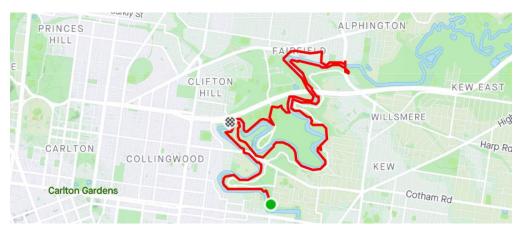
underneath the Eastern Freeway and past the bats. Now the hard work starts, the route now follows the Bellbird park access road up to The Yarra Boulevard, crosses the road and takes the zig zag all the way up to the top of the hill.

Trail Rating: Blue square, feel the burn!

**Potential Hazards:** Members of the public, uneven surfaces, trail in close proximity to river, road crossing, snakes.

### Stage 9: The T8 Grand Tour

#### Distance: 15.66km



That non-chafe running gear from  $\underline{18}$  sure will come in handy for this epic!

Start with the Ikea to Dights segment, then run past dight falls and up to the monument at the top of the hill. Cross the road and follow the single track which splits the Yarra Boulevard loop in the middle. Now take the asphalt path down to Studley Park before running the "NVii River Dash" which finishes at the Fairfield Pipe Bridge. Continue along the river until the Chandler highway, run underneath it and then climb up the tan bark hill to cross the bridge. On the other side duck down the steps and follow the river trail back towards Fairfield boathouse. After a short section up Alphington St and along Park Cr take the switchback down to the boathouse. Now run the very first segment again, "A Batty Finish" before crossing Yarra Bend road and taking the wide trail to Galatea Point Lookout. Do a hairpin turn at this junction, taking the wide trail back towards dights falls where the segment finishes!

#### Trail Rating: Black diamond, the holy grail

**Potential Hazards:** Members of the public, uneven surfaces, trail in close proximity to river, minor drain crossings, footpath section alongside road, steps, road crossing, snakes.

### Stage 10: The Final Sprint

Distance: 0.96km

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Starting off the side of Yarra Boulevard follow the trail down the hill until the fork. Take the right fork and follow the loop all the way out to the end of Galatea Point and back. When you return to the fork climb back up to the start position.

#### Trail Rating: Blue square, the decider!

**Potential Hazards:** Members of the public, uneven surfaces, trail in close proximity to river, snakes.

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