

Mtn Bike Course - 28k

Start/Finish at Whitireia - see full Course Description below.

Summary: The 28k Mtn Bike is made up of four sections:

- First section heads south on the Porirua Stream path & cuts through Viard College to Elsdon entrance of Rangituhi-Colonial Knob.
- Second section is uphill on Utiwai track to the bushline, then downhill via various tracks to the bottom of Rangituhi-Colonial Knob, then south to Spicer Botanical Pk.
- Third section heads south to Spicer Botanical Park, crosses Broken Hill Rd & takes a big loop of Te Tai Tonga track, Meridian Link & Spicer Forest back to Spicer Botanical Park. Then heads north via the Reservoir, the Doctor & Tumeke tracks back to Raiha St.
- Fourth section returns back through Viard College & Porirua Stream paths to Whitireia.



Full Description

All Mountain Bikers start at Whitireia Polytech on south side of Transition area.

Multisporters (solo & teams) start the mtn bike straight after finishing the paddle by exiting the south end of Transition and turning left to head straight onto the Porirua Stream foothpath/cyclepath heading south. First Multisporter is expected from 9:00am.



Duathletes (solo & teams) and Mountain Bike Only participants line up together for their 9:00am start on the south side of transition, in the entrance to Polytech service road, facing west. Do not block multisport exit from transition. Do not line up on Wi Neera Dve. Duathletes and Mtn Bike Only participants will have a neutralised start where they will ride behind an official for the opening clockwise lap around the Whitireia Campus and Wi Neera Dve before taking to the footpath/cyclepath headed south to Porirua Stream.

Note: There will be traffic controls, but riders must take responsibility for their own safety, by obeying all road rules, giving way to all traffic and public, and following marshal instructions.

➤ Follow the footpath/cyclepath south for 1.5k, passing pop-up shops, following Porirua Stream past the railway station area toward Kenepuru Dve.

Warning: The path is not closed to public. Give way to the public at all times. Watch for bollards on the path!

➤ Marshals will direct you from the stream-side path west onto a footpath, past a Mobil Petrol Station to Kenepuru Dve, to a pedestrian crossing into Bishop Viard College.

➤ Continue west for approx. 1.5k, around the back of Bishop Viard College, across sporting fields onto a single track pops out onto Raiha St, opposite Rangituhi/Colonial Knob.

Warning: Road crossing will have traffic controls. But you must give way to all traffic and all public at all times.

➤ Riders cross Raiha St onto a grass verge and turn right, heading north downhill for 300m toward Elsdon Motor Camp, then turn left through a car park into Rangituhi/Colonial Knob.

➤ The course turns right here & starts uphill on a bush single track called Utiwai for 5.5k to the top of the Reserve.

Warning: Watch out for runners & general public on Utiwai, especially at the top as you exit the track.

➤ Utiwai exits above the bushline. Ride straight ahead back into another track called Track 10, which zig-zags 1.5k downhill to join another track called Chimney Sweep.

➤ Chimney Sweep continues downhill for 1k and exits onto a downhill 4WD track called Rough Justice. This is very fast with rough off-camber corners and ruts. Watch your speed!

➤ At the end of Rough Justice slow down for a hard left turn onto the Rangituhi/Colonial Knob access road (called Farm Rd).

➤ Follow Farm Rd downhill for 250m and then veer left into a 4WD track for 400m to the top of another downhill single track called 'Blaster'.

➤ Blaster zig-zags down through trees to the bottom of the Rangituhi/Colonial Knob mtb park, where you turn hard right and take the Spicer Link track south.

Warning: When heading south on Spicer Link, riders toward the rear of the field may cross riders at the front coming downhill out of Tumeke. Outgoing riders on Spicer Link must give way!

➤ Follow Spicer Link for approx. 3k of single track all the way to Spicer Botanical Park. As you exit the track into the park, turn hard left and head east to the cycle crossing on Broken Hill Road to access the Te Tai Tonga track.

Warning: Road crossing will have traffic controls. But you must give way to all traffic and all public at all times.

➤ At Te Tai Tonga you start 3k of climbing, heading south up Te Tai Tonga into the Meridian Link track and the meridian access road.

➤ At the top of the Meridian road, continue downhill on the road for 500m and then veer left into a bush bridle path for 500m, at the end of which is a very sharp corner into a pinch climb for 20m back up to the Meridian road.

➤ Cross the road to another track, turn hard left & head downhill for 20m & then veer right, steeply downhill into the bush for 500m to a gate at the bottom of Spicer Forest. At the bottom you are actually at the end of Ohariu Valley Road.

➤ Turn right and enter the Te Araroa Trail, which heads uphill for 3k into Spicer Forest single track.

➤ At the top you continue north along the fenceline (keeping fence on your left) and head downhill into the Scenic Reserve Walkway.

➤ The Walkway heads downhill steeply for 1k, including several steps. It is compulsory to walk the steps, which will only take 4min.

Warning: The downhills on this section are all steep and often slippery and rocky. Take them very slowly & give way to all public at all times. It is compulsory to walk the steps!

➤ The Walkway emerges back at Spicer Botanical Park, but stays in the bush, turning left, crossing a stream and continues west on single track toward the Reservoir.

➤ The Reservoir track heads uphill steeply for 100m, then veers right past the Reservoir onto a single track called “Doctor”, which climbs for 1.5k.

➤ The Doctor leads you straight into a track called “Tumeke” for 1.5k of downhill - taking right hand options at all times - to the bottom of Rangituhi/Colonial Knob.

➤ At the bottom of Tumeke you veer right off the single track onto a 4WD track and head north for 200m down to Raiha St.

Warning: At the bottom of the Tumeke downhill, riders toward the front of the field may cross riders toward the rear still heading south on Spicer Link. Outgoing riders must give way!

➤ At Raiha St, riders cross the road again and head back through Bishop Viard College and the Porirua Stream cyclepaths to finish back at Whitireia Polytechnic.

Warning: Returning riders may encounter slower outgoing riders. Returning riders must keep to the right-hand side of the track at all times.

Multisport and Duathlon participants enter transition at the north end, and then turn hard left into the actual transition area to their running gear or team runners, who head out south on the same service road around the back of Whitireia Polytech.

Mountain Bike Only also enter the north end of transition and continue slowly through the chute to the finish line.