

# Grampians Weekend Away.

By Rebecca Just

I was really nervous about this particular ride as I had never been on a big ride like this before and I have only had Geisha (Suzuki GS500F) for about 4 months. The weekend before I installed a Pannier on the back of the bike in 40deg heat!!! Not happy but worth it!!!

I woke up early on Saturday morning, only to look out and see grey skies, but it was still very hot and sticky. I get all my gear ready and headed around the corner to Mobil on Glen Osmond Road. Brenton, Paul and Sonya were already there filling up.

I filled Geisha up and we parked around the corner to see who else was coming. The weather was looking good, it didn't look like it was going to rain but I still put on my dririder gear just in case!!! Alli rocked up and then Robbie at the last minute. OK time to head off.!



As soon as we hit the foot hills I saw fog and light mist rain –very annoying!!! Once we got past Mt Barker the rain cleared and it was smooth sailing from then onwards. First stop was Tailern Bend where we wait to meet Gill & Tony and a new rider Gary. Finally arrive, we have a break with them then hit the road. This was the longest part of the ride with no break until Bordertown. Once we refuelled the bikes we had morning tea at the bakery, chilled and talk.





We hit the road again heading over the border to Horsham and stop at BP for fill up and lunch at Subway. This is the last stretch of the ride and the fun part! Paul takes us through a narrow road which is picturesque, then the fun part the road heading into Halls Gap (fun fun fun), apart from it being wet and slippery on the road.

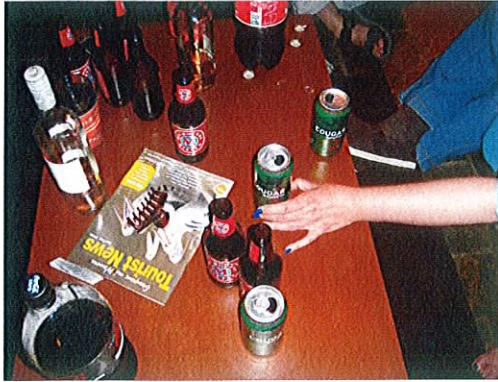


We get into Halls Gap and head to our accommodation (the pyramids). Such a cool place to stay. We will be staying there again next year!!! We then head into town for supplies (dinner, breakfast... oh and drinks!!!!





The night was filled of long conversations and debating.  
Remember: what happens on camp stays there!!! Oh but I can say there is a story about the fire place and a candle... hehehe!!



We all headed to bed, some requiring assistance. I woke up around 2.30am by a symphony of snorers, so headed to the couch to get out of my room. Once I got the couch I look out the window and see it pouring with rain and gusty winds. I feel lucky I don't have to ride in the morning!!

We all rose early to see the rain falling, what a terrible day for riding. We decide to just stay in and watch DVD's. We cook bacon and eggs for breakfast and watch Alli and Brenton get ready for the departure from the "fun shack"... At this time the rain was getting lighter so we decided to go for a walk once they had left.



After the two riders leave we wander down the road to try and find the zoo. To our amazement it was only a hop, skip and jump from where we were staying, so we all went in to have a look. The Zoo was great but there was a pesky chocolate head (Deer) following us all around.





While we were in the Zoo there was not a single drop of rain, but as soon as we stepped one foot out the front door it rained!!! Once we got back to the cabin it stopped again. We get changed and head out for a pub meal-great food! After lunch we stopped in town for supplies for dinner then headed back home for a DVD or two. Once the movie finished we went down to the lake for a walk and Tony and I set off for a paddle in the canoes. On our way back we see Robbe having a paddle too. We moored and Gill jumped in for a paddle too.



The group headed home for some dinner, we had homemade frozen pizza. This night it was more of a quiet night and very low key. Everyone was in bed by 11pm.

It was an early start again, was nice to see the sun shining (something tells me it is going to be a great ride home). We had breakfast and packed our gear to head on home. First stop Halls Gap for a refuel. On our way home we stopped to enjoy the views at a look out, it was very windy but sunny.





The roads on the ride home were much better, not being wet or slippery. I enjoyed myself very much!!



Smooth sailing the whole way home with a little wind coming from my left.

I have to say what a great weekend away it was, with great friends and great company. I will definitely be up for this one next year plus more!!!

Bikes: 7

People: 9

No accidents.

K's travelled 1062

Average speed 73.7

Total time 14.23

Moving time 11.53

Stopped 2.31

Max elevation above sea level 716 meters

Too much fun.

Hope more people can come next year to have the fun we did!!!

