

2012

**BMW
BIKE FEST**



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Dirt Route 1

Bathurst – Port Alfred – Fish River

Away – 62km

Exit the Monument onto the N2 and head east for 2.7km. Turn right onto the R67.

700m after turning right you will find a natural spring. Stop and fill up your hydration pack with clear mountain water. There is also a geocache at the spring. After a further 1km bear right at the fork and head down toward Southwell.

This is a short tar pass that turns to gravel after a few kilometers. Find the geocache on the way down.

After 25km, turn left. After approximately 17km you will reach the tar just outside Bathurst.

Points of interest in Bathurst:

At S33 29.781 E26 50.627 you will find the Toposcope. Bradsham’s Mill dating back to 1822 is at S33 30.635 E26 48.920. There is a short walk involved the get to the mill itself.

Horseshoe viewpoint of the Kowie River at approximately S33 32.118 E26 47.911



Toposcope

The Pig & Whistle Hotel has the oldest pub in South Africa. Since there’s no thirst like bathurst, pop in for some refreshment. The farmer’s market is open every Sunday morning till 12 and various other arts and craft shops are spread around the village.



St John’s Anglican Church dating back to 1832 can be found at S33 30.122 E26 49.010

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Follow the tar road and exit east out of Bathurst. 13km further you will enter Port Alfred. If you wish to spend some time in Port Alfred, there are refreshments at the river mouth. If not, begin your return trip.

Return – 145km

Turn east at Alfred road and follow the railway line north. After 10km, turn left and then right again a kilometre further. A very scenic road will lead you down to the river and up to a plateau on the other side. At the 4way crossing, turn right and left again 7km further on. This very historic route takes you through a number of frontier war landmarks.

Keep a lookout for old war graves that are scattered along the route.

The road along the top of the plateau tends to have mud puddles even in the driest conditions since it would appear that the bedrock prevents the water draining off.

Those that are quick with the camera should have something (or someone) to have a laugh at later in the evening.



After 33km, turn right to reach the N2, and right again onto the N2 toward King Williams Town. This short 15km of tar will lead you down to the Great Fish River.



Immediately after the bridge over the river, turn left. You will now be heading for Committeesdrift. This 22km of good gravel winds its way through a number of small picturesque villages all along the Great Fish River. Please drive slowly and be on the lookout for small children, chickens, goats, sheep, pigs and donkeys.

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At Committeesdrift you will once again cross the Great Fish River, this time over a narrow steel bridge.



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24km further you will reach the tar again.
Cross the road and have a look at the
Toposcope at S33 13.686 E26 37.977. There is
also a geocache here.

Heading SW for 20km from here will find you
back in Grahamstown.

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as this optimise double sided printing.

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Route 1 - Away Ride



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Route 1 - Return Ride

