

2012

**BMW
BIKE FEST**



Page 1 of 7

Dirt Route 2

Hogsback

Away – 127km

Leave the monument and turn left onto the R67. After 10.3km, turn left toward Ecca Pass and Fort Beaufort. Remain on the tar for a further 21km, going through Ecca Pass. Please take it easy on the pass as there are some tight corners with steep, long drop-offs on the outside of the corner. Get it wrong and it will take days for someone to find you.

After 21km, turn right off the tar toward Committees Drift and proceed for 1.7km, before turning left to Andries Vosloo Kudu Nature Reserve.

In the reserve you will be crossing the Great Fish River. Please inquire at the gate as to the water level across the causeway and do not attempt it if more than 300mm. It is fast flowing with slippery patches on the causeway.



Take it easy through the reserve. At S33 05.227 E26 46.157 you will get to Fort Double Drift.



The name 'Double Drift' is derived from the small island that divided the Great Fish River, forming two shallower streams or "drifts", by means of which the ox wagons used to cross.

Fort Double Drift was built in 1819 after an agreement between chief Ngqika and the British, where huge tracks

of land were ceded to the British for use as 'Ceded Territory'. Double Drift witnessed an endless stream of ox wagons with all kinds of trading merchandise. For the military it lay on the shortest transport and communication line with Grahamstown, although the road was described as the worst on the frontier.

Read more about it at the fort.

2012

**BMW
BIKE FEST**



Page 2 of 7

Dirt Route 2

Hogsback

300m further you will encounter the Great Fish River. As opposed to the island and shallow drifts of the 1800's, it can now be crossed via the concrete causeway, provided the water level is not too high. The causeway is not altogether level.

The deepest area is the first 15 meters, after which it then rises by approx 200mm, before dipping again slightly just before the opposite bank.



Approximately 15km after crossing the river you will meet with the main Breakfast Vlei/Alice road. Continue north for a further 26km before entering Alice.

Exit Alice onto the R63, turning left onto the R345 towards Hogsback after 4,5km.

This 29km of scenic tar will take you into Hogsback via the Hogsback Pass. Take care in the pass as certain sections of the tar seldom see sunlight and can be slippery at times.



Spend some time in Hogsback. It's worth the visit.

2012

BMW
BIKE FEST



Page 3 of 7

Dirt Route 2

Hogsback

Return via Michell's Pass – 147km

Return via Nico Malan Pass – 190km

After your visit, continue through Hogsback until you get to this sign.

Left will take you to Seymour via Michell's Pass. This pass is not pillion friendly and is not recommended for inexperienced riders. Do not attempt this pass if it has been raining and the roads are wet. There is an alternative.



The pass, although short, is extremely steep, rutted, rocky and slippery.

It is recommended to walk the technical sections first. This will enable you to find the best place to fall over.

Lower down the road improves and 12km later you will be in Seymour.



The alternative is to turn right at the sign toward Cathcart. After 15.5km of good gravel, turn left. After a further 14km you will reach the R351.

Turn left onto the tar and left again onto the R67 after 2km. 28km further you will bypass Seymour after riding down Nico Malan pass.

At S32 44.079 E26 34.620 you can stop at Baddaford Farm Stall for refreshments. 7.5km further will see you in Fort Beaufort.



2012

**BMW
BIKE FEST**



Page 4 of 7

Dirt Route 2

Hogsback

If time permits, visit the Martello Tower at S32 46.717 E26 38.130.

This Martello Tower has been skilfully restored to its original condition, and is one of only two Martellos in South Africa. The other is located in Simonstown. Fort Beaufort's Martello is unique in that it is the only one of its kind in the world, which is not situated along the coast.



The tower was built around 1840, and apparently "never saw a shot fired in anger". Local rumour says that the tower was built in the wrong place, and that there were plans to build another one in the correct vicinity. The Martello is flanked by old building of Fort Beaufort, which later became a military museum, but no longer functions.

Return to Grahamstown via the R67 and Ecca Pass. A total of 17 geocaches can be found on this route.

Dirt Route 2

Hogsback

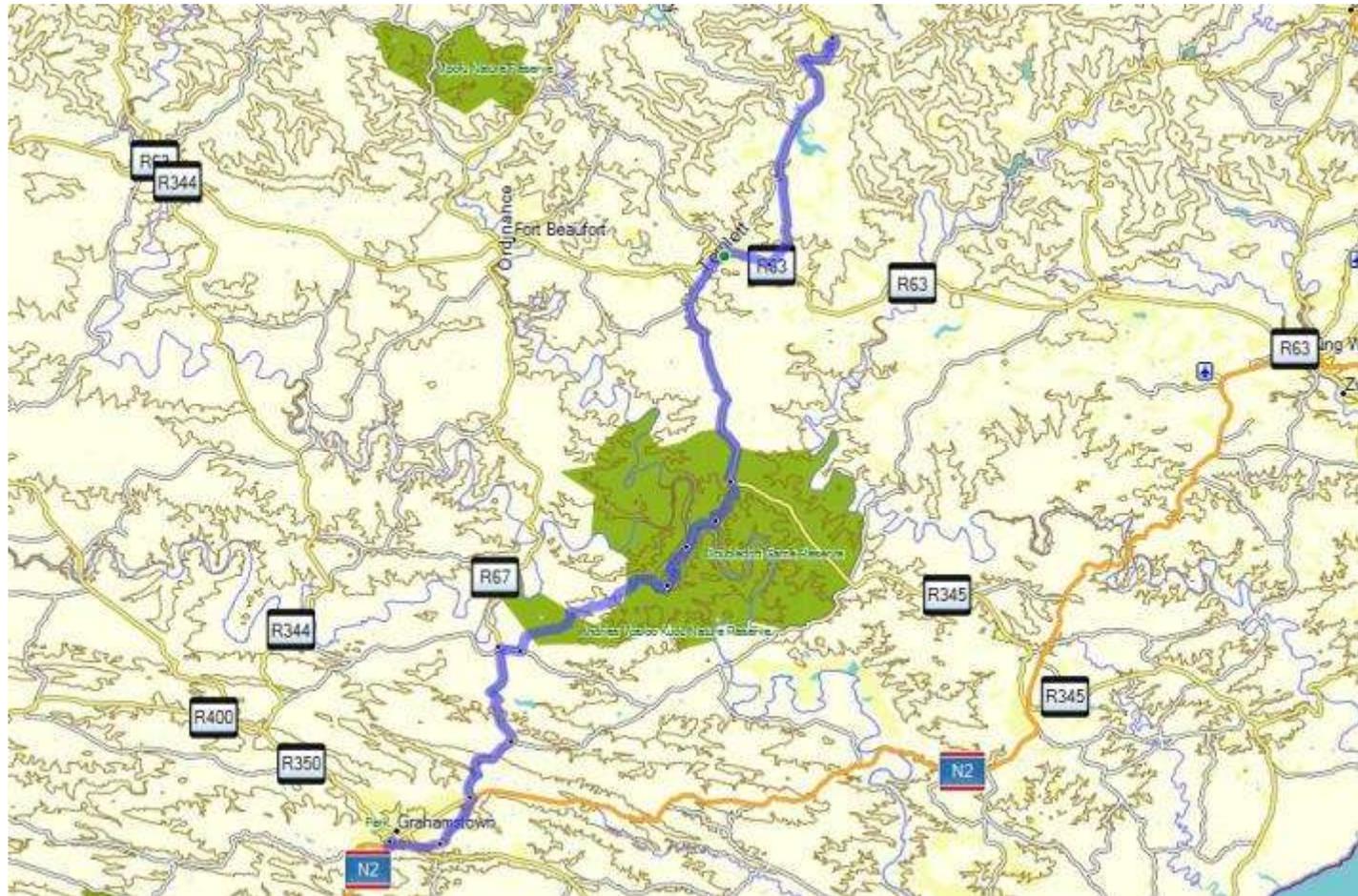
2012

BMW
BIKE FEST



Page 5 of 7

Route 2 - Away Ride - 127km



Dirt Route 2

Hogsback

2012

BMW
BIKE FEST



Page 6 of 7

Route 2 - Return Ride

147km (Michell's Pass)



Dirt Route 2

Hogsback

Route 2 - Return Ride

190km (Nico Malan Pass)

2012

BMW
BIKE FEST



Page 7 of 7

