

Gloucester Tops

Craig & Christine Wallace - Trip Leaders
Callum & Braedon
Peter Moss
Carl & Colleen Bleazard
Michael & Elena Zaballero – Zac & Hannah
Jack & Pam Simpson

Day 1 - Friday 10 April
By Jack & Pam

After meeting at the twin servos, we headed north for our final destination at the riverside caravan park about 20 minutes out of Gloucester arriving at lunchtime. After choosing our secluded campsite on top of the hill amongst the trees, we quickly set up camp. After lunch Craig got the gate key so we could cross the river and explore the tracks on the property. Elena stayed at the camp with Hannah and Peter jumped in with Carl & Colleen and off we went, some of the tracks were steep and narrow, but the views were well worth the drive. On our return trip, we loaded up the roof racks with wood for our campfires over the next three nights and then it was back to camp to get the fire going. As it was getting late we decided not to have happy hour. Each of the boys had their bike with them, so they made the most of what daylight was left, while dinner was being organized before the sun set. After dinner and nice hot showers we all sat around the campfire, Colleen produced her guitar and the sing a long began.

Day 2 - Saturday 11 April
By Christine

The day began after we all awoke of course the Children were first to wake up, after having a leisurely breakfast a chit chat and a stroll down the hill to the showers. We all packed our lunches ready for our day trip up to the Barrington Tops to explore the beauty.

We left our campsite at 10am and first headed up to the private property road which leads us to Rawdon Vale Rd we travelled up through the beautiful country side, continuing on to Corbark Lookout where we took a few photos and then travelled along Barrington Tops Rd then we turned into Dilgry Circle for a short 4wd track. On to Thunderbolts Trail which bought us out to Devils Hole lookout where we took more photo's travelled along Barrington Tops Road to Pole Blue Picnic area which was decided a good spot to stop to eat our lunch.

After lunch we travelled west along Barrington Tops Road to the Dingo Fence and got out to take more photos of the stunning countryside as well as our group photo.

We headed back down Barrington Tops. On the way back Craig took us on a couple more 4WD Tracks.

Back to our Campsite we arrived back just in time as Easter Bunny had arrived and an Easter Hunt was about to begin for all the Children.

Happy Hour began and the fire was lit ready for our camp oven meals and our evening gathering around the fire and great conversations had by all.

The Day ended all exhausted and we all retired for bed.

Day 3 - Sunday 12 April
By Carl and Colleen

After a leisurely get up and have breakfast we left the campsite to drive through the water causeways over towards Gloucester. We stopped for a few photo opportunities on the way as Elena was on top form as usual snapping away with her camera.

We left Pete back at the campground to pack up his tent and stuff as he had decided his eye was still pretty sore after his eye poking exercise the weekend before at the Brasserie.

After parking just behind the high street we had a walk up and down the main street deciding where we were going to eat. The decision was made the PUB! was going to the destination, so we ordered our food and lunch was had with a couple of cleansing ales/lemonades.

After we had filled our stomachs with ice creams we went to the garage at the end of town to fill up our tyres as the low pressures were a bit low for the tarmac roads we were on. Then we were off again, back over towards Barrington Tops where we veered off left to Gloucester Tops. On the way back we were faced with a decision do we do the flood road or the main road? Craig and Michael decided they were going to do the main road and Jack and us were going to do the flood road with the 5 or 6 gates to negotiate. Anyway with our speedy gate changes with Colleen opening and Pam closing we managed to pop back out onto the main road just in front of the other two, who blamed us for placing some cows on the



causeway to slow them down! Back at the campsite we met back up with Pete who was sat around the fire waiting for us. Michael and Elena decided to go back with Pete and packed up the trailer and the kids and left just the 3 vehicles to enjoy the rest of the evening cooking by the fire.

Day 4 - Monday 13 April
By Carl and Colleen

The weekend was great and we hadn't had any rain until today when we had low cloud and it rained all day. We packed up in wet and decided to take a detour route home via Dungog, Singleton and the Putty Road. We left Craig and family to pack up along with Jack and Pam. Thanks go to Craig and Christine for a Tops weekend and we had a ball.

