

# 16 BARNICOAT

**GRADE:** Moderate

**DISTANCE/TIME:** 8.6km return (30-45 minutes up, 10 minutes down)

**START LOCATION:** Top of Marsden Valley Road at gates to quarry.

**CONDITIONS:** Gravel 4WD road with some steep climbs.

**SUGGESTIONS:** Take warm clothing and water

**POINTS OF INTEREST:** Hang gliders often fly from the summit of the Barnicoat range. They have vehicle access via the road you will be using so be mindful that you may meet a vehicle.

## ROUTE DIRECTIONS

Park in the area just prior to the road end and quarry gate and go to the vehicle bridge across Poormans Stream just left of the quarry gates.

Cross the bridge and gate and ride about 100 metres to a second bridge and gate start climbing.

Note: this track is well used not just by bikers but by many walkers, dog exercisers, and vehicles so take care to stay on the left where you can, and descend with caution.

There are a couple of steep pinches near the bottom but don't be put off as it levels off a bit after the first small creek and becomes a steady but gradual climb.

Take in the views of the Ngawhatu Valley, Tasman Bay, Waimea Plains and Nelson Western ranges as you make your way up.

As you near the top you turn left and ride a long flat stretch of road along the eastern face of the hill. A sharp right turn takes you up a steep, but short climb, to the grassy summit where hang gliders launch.

To the left of the final track, another track takes you to a downhill firebreak. This is steep and we recommend it for more advanced riders only. Remember, this is a popular multi use road, control your speed.

LEGEND - MOUNTAIN BIKE RIDES					
	START		PICNIC AREA		INFORMATION PANEL
	PLAYGROUND		WATER		VIEWPOINT
	LINK		SWIMMING		GATE
	TOILETS		CYCLEWAY		VIEWPOINT

