St Helens with its spectacular white sandy beaches, surf locations and stunning mountain backdrops will quickly become the world’s most iconic beachside ride destination.

Glen Jacobs - World Trail
Partner of the Blue Derby MTB Trail Network, Break O’Day Council, is thrilled to be building an additional 110km of quality MTB trails right on the doorstep of the internationally acclaimed Bay of Fires and the coastal town of St Helens.

Being constructed by renowned trail builders, World Trail, there is no doubt that the trails will shred on a world class stage, offer a range of trail experiences for all ages and abilities and of course have heaped helpings of the most important MTB ingredient, FLOW.

Still in the construction phase, this project has already attracted millions of dollars of investment to our area. Why? Because this project is a game changer for the north east region and will transform St Helens into the Mountain Bike Hub of Northern Tasmania. Do you have an idea for getting amongst it? Get in touch with us.

An environmental benchmark

Ensuring the sustainability of our trails and bio-security of our natural environment is very important to us and our community. That is why we have consciously taken the lead on sustainable trail building in the state, possibly even the nation. We want visitors to our trails to have a truly unique east coast experience which is as much about our beautiful surroundings as it is the pure, unadulterated stoke.

To ensure the integrity of the natural experience, prior to construction we completed comprehensive environmental and ecological reports so the trail alignment will not negatively impact the environment. Reports included a trail maintenance plan, bike hygiene and a comprehensive Eagle Management Plan which was developed with professionals in this field; Parks and Wildlife and a Tasmanian raptor specialist as well as comprehensive Ecological Assessments.

We have even included environmental risk mitigation during the build phase involving the wash down of machinery and the worker’s boots.

The finished trail projects will have bike wash-down stations in appropriate areas which will include a herbicide designed to stop the spread of diseases and weeds in our area.

We have been working on the wash-down station with environmental stakeholders such as West Australian Walpole warrior Gary Muir, Parks and Wildlife Service Tasmania as well as Natural Resource Management South to ensure we have incorporated best practice.

St Helens – An Experience like no other

St Helens is the largest town on the east coast of Tasmania and already offers a buzzing business district and adventure activities that complement mountain biking and will inspire you to venture off the trails and really get amongst the east coast environment.

Located in one of the most picturesque locations in Tasmania, the Bay of Fires, famous for its white sand, turquoise water and flame orange rocks, St Helens and its surrounding townships offer kilometres of coastline. Frankly, there are so many different beach locations to choose from, it is not uncommon to find yourself the only one enjoying the beach. The selection of beaches also means a diversity of beach activities; swimming, kayaking, diving, snorkeling, fishing and surfing, are all popular pastimes. The area even hosts regular game, estuary and surf fishing competitions as well as an annual surf competition if you fancy swapping the berms for breaks.

But it’s not just about the sand beneath your toes, the St Helens area is surrounded by amazing forests and valleys ready for you to explore.

There are lots of bushwalks in our area that will lead you on a journey of discovery to stunning waterfalls, tranquil swimming holes, scenic peaks and silent places where the only sound is that of the cicadas and birds singing because after all, sometimes you need some downtime after a good MTB session.
Eat, stay, fall in love with the coast

There is so much to see and do you really must stay a night or two, or three or four! You will find postcard worthy free campsites throughout the Bay of Fires area metres from the sound of crashing waves. There are also some well-equipped caravan parks offering powered sites and mountain bike specific accommodation and facilities. Or perhaps you would like camping with a bit more luxury like glamping.. You’re also covered if you were looking for something a little upmarket as there are classy apartments in the centre of town and some spectacular luxury Airbnb’s on offer as well.

Whether you are a foodie or a pub meal person, you will find plenty of restaurants and cafes to keep your taste buds happy. From hip to some of the best fine dining in or dining right on Georges Bay we have all your tastes covered. There is also a brand new $12 million hospital, numerous health services and retail shops. Simply put, St Helens and surrounds is the perfect escape no matter your age, interests or ability, there is something for everyone.

It’s about the location

St Helens is located an easy two hours from Launceston airport and around three from Hobart. It does take a few minutes longer to go via the Great Eastern Drive from Hobart but it is well worth it for the ocean views and coastal towns you will discover along the way. And for the avid mountain bike rider, Blue Derby’s best trail the Blue Tier, is only 40 minutes away in Weldborough or head to Derby which is around an hour away.

The Bay of Fires Trail will be unique in Australian mountain biking. It will be a journey from the mountain tops to the sea, showcasing the beauty and wildness of northeast Tasmania, revealing new sights and wonders with every turn of the trail. It won’t be easy, but it will reward mountain bikers with its never-ending roller-coaster descents, its jaw-dropping and ever changing scenery, waterfalls, creeks and boulders, and its culmination at the peerless Bay of Fires.

Gerard McHugh,
World Trail General Manager.
Tell me about the Trails

Bay of Fires Trail
The first trail to commence construction is an epic ride from the top of the scenic Blue Tier all the way to the pristine white sands and crystal clear turquoise waters of the Bay of Fires. Where else in the world could you end your ride with a refreshing dip and a beach picnic?

Spanning 46 kilometres that meander through changing environments from alpine to coastal heath, this trail offers an immersive Tasmanian environment experience. Breathe in the scent of eucalyptus, feel the fingers of man ferns tickle your arms and legs and keep your eyes peeled for some of the areas unique flora and fauna as you experience the exhilaration of the east coast of Tasmania.

St Helens Stacked Loops
Featuring 10 loops of varying length and skill, three descents and one shared use trail, the St Helens Trail Network project has been designed to be accessible and offer a range of experiences suited to the beginner, the family or the mountain bike enthusiast.

Each trail will offer something different and will lead you to hidden and secret spots that are hard to access any other way. One of these places is the appropriately named Dreaming Pools. You will also be able to enjoy stunning vistas of Georges Bay and St Helens as well as just enjoy the freedom and experience of being in nature.

The multi-use trail is a unique part of this project and offers a link from the trailhead to Georges Bay where it connects with a trail that follows Georges Bay into the town of St Helens.

Trails in St Helens would be unique and attractive due to the fact that they take place in/near a coastal setting in a town that caters for holiday makers.

With plentiful accommodation options available in St Helens, the trail network will be capable of hosting the largest national-level mountain biking events.

Gerard McHugh,
World Trail General Manager.

The Trailhead
The trailhead for the loop network will be located off Flagstaff Rd and has been designed to be sympathetic to its surrounds, it will provide plenty of recreational space for hanging-out before and after a ride. There will be toilets, outdoor furniture, bike wash-down station and more all located in a tranquil bush setting with access to the town of St Helens via a multi-user trail allowing pedestrian and cycle traffic in both directions.

www.sthelensmtbtrails.com.au
Phone 63767900