



Frank Zipfinger &lt;frank.zipfinger@gmail.com&gt;

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**SLOPES - KNP mountain biking events in 2016 - Update**

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SLOPES <slopes.au@gmail.com>  
Bcc: frank.zipfinger@gmail.com

11 March 2016 at 16:00

Dear SLOPES Members and Associates

Further to our email of 15 November 2015, see below the email from the organisers with information regarding the routes, registration etc for the events in December this year.

Regards

Frank Zipfinger  
President  
SLOPES

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**Subject:** Route announced for L'Étape Australia by le Tour de France

Hi Robert,

An update for you;

Please find below and attached the Media Release going out this morning announcing the route of L'Étape Australia by le Tour de France.

The website will be expanded today to include all the information riders and supporters will need, including route maps, elevation charts, hill climb profiles, entry fees, teams, jerseys, accommodation, local activities etc.

Registrations will open in mid-April.

All the best

Simon



## Route announced for L'Étape Australia by le Tour de France

L'Étape Australia is pleased to announce today the official race route for L'Étape Australia by le Tour de France 2016.

Expertly designed to replicate a stage of the world famous Tour de France, this route has been personally endorsed by Le Tour de France Race Director Christian Prudhomme.

Christian Prudhomme said:

“L'Étape Australia provides a very similar experience for riders to a mountainous stage of the Tour de France; traversing through a multitude of stunning landscapes and topographies and a truly challenging final climb, this route has all the necessary ingredients to provide riders with a true Tour de France challenge.”

Taking place on Saturday 3 December in the New South Wales Snowy Mountains, L'Étape Australia is run on closed roads under full race conditions, with two levels of difficulty to choose from.

**The Race** covers 157km of gruelling terrain with two difficult climbs taking the route to a peak of 1,735m. **The Ride** is a shorter but still testing 126km course with a peak of 1,300m suited to those who wish to immerse themselves in the atmosphere and experience without the intensity of the final climb.

From the start line in Crackenback, the race route provides riders with an eclectic mix of undulating hills and flat sections leading up to the 300 sprint stretch for the Green Jersey -which takes place in the village of Berridale.

The King of the Mountain climb comes at the Col de Beloka, a challenging and punchy 3.5km stretch with an average gradient of 10% but with some sections reaching 17% gradient.

Cyclists competing in the shorter course, *The Ride*, will then pass the finish line at L'Étape Australia Village on the banks of Lake Jindabyne.

But for those competing in *The Race* things heat up. Riders will pass Jindabyne and hug the lake side before turning uphill to begin a steep and long ascent of Col de Kosciuszko to the finish line at Perisher, where fans line the road awaiting the arrival of the Yellow Jersey overall winner. After 157km of racing and 1739m above sea level, this final, leg-burning climb of *The Race* is comparable to the mountain stages of the Tour de France.

From the finish line at Perisher, riders will take their bikes down the SkiTube to the start at Bullocks Flat/ Crackenback and either retrieve their vehicles or catch a shuttle back to the social, celebratory and administrative heart of the event at L'Étape Australia Village, encamped on the banks of Lake Jindabyne.

Head to [www.letapeaustralia.com](http://www.letapeaustralia.com) for more info and to join the entry waitlist.

**Simon Baggs**

CEO & Creative Director

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----- Forwarded message -----

From: **SLOPES** <[slopes.au@gmail.com](mailto:slopes.au@gmail.com)>

Date: 15 November 2015 at 15:42

Subject: SLOPES - KNP mountain biking events in 2016

To:

Dear SLOPES Members and Associates

This email updates you regarding 2 separate mountain biking events planned to take place in 2016.

SLOPES is publicising these events as Clubs hopefully will see them as opportunities to promote sport to their members and, in that way, also increase lodge use outside of the winter season.

The events are:

### 1. **Snowies Mountain Bike Festival - 12 to 14 February 2016**

For details on this event see: <http://in2adventure.com.au/snowies-mtb/>

In summary the website notes:

*The iconic Snowy Mountains are set to host the ultimate mountain bike experience in February 2016 where riders will be challenged with 5 stages across 3 days in rugged mountain terrain in the hunt for a massive \$10,000 Prize Purse.*

*Starting at an altitude of 1260m, riders will be tested with over 100k of rugged mountain terrain, technical single track, a mammoth ascent, and some awe inspiring downhills, making this one of Australia's most iconic mountain bike stage races. In 2016 we add an all new stage with the **'Thredbo All Mountain Descent'** including a chairlift which takes you just a stone's throw from Australia's highest peak followed by 9ks of epic downhill on Thredbo's new All Mountain Trails. Join us in what is arguably Australia's most affordable and logistically convenient MTB stage race, where you can just enjoy the epic riding that only the iconic Snowies can deliver.*

*Tackle all 5 stages as a solo, share the stages between a team of 2 or 3, OR choose to do the 45k marathon or 30k or 15k XC MTB only in this 'not to be missed' Mountain Bike Experience.*

Event details can be found here: <http://in2adventure.com.au/events/2016-snowies-mountain-bike-festival/>

The organisers advise that there are events for everyone. The website notes:

**Something for Everyone** *The Snowies MTB Festival offers something for riders of all levels. Solo riders can take on the ultimate adrenaline-fueled endurance challenge of all 5 stages across the long weekend, or the stages can be shared between a team of 2 or 3. If just one day of heart-pumping action is all you're after, then the 45, 30 or 15k race on Sunday is the event for you.*

### 2. **La Tour Cycling Event - December 2016**

For details on this event see: <http://letapeaustralia.com>

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Described as "the first Tour de France event to be held in Australia" in summary the website notes:

*The ultimate amateur competitive ride in Australia, The Race includes some highly challenging mountain climbs, the Sprint and King of the Mountain sections, with the Race winner pulling-on the coveted Tour de France Yellow Jersey.*

There are challenging climbs "for those who are content to ride rather than race, albeit competitively".

Plus there is a "Ramble" event described as "a shorter and less challenging ride" for "those content to immerse themselves in the atmosphere of a weekend at the L'Étape Australia by Le Tour de France".

See here a Snowy Times article on the event: <http://www.snowytimes.com/le-tour-cycling-event-for-snowy-mountains/>

Regards

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Frank Zipfinger  
President  
SLOPES