

# Defence Road Cracow Loop

★ HISTORIC BRIDGES ★ HAUNTED PUB  
★ CRACOW BEACH  
**147kms**



**CRACOW BEACH**  
access track = black soil

- DRY weather only
- OK in light wet

# Defence Road Cracow Loop



**147 km**

The past lives large on this trail with wonderful markers and reminders along the way that capture the region's history from the earliest years of settlement through to today. Both surprising and fun, you'll travel near Banana Shire's largest cattle station; see one of Queensland's oldest race courses, visit ghost towns and cross bridges steeped in war history.

Start at the Theodore Post Office on The Boulevard (GIS -24.946331, 150.075695).

## Camboon and historic bridges

- Travel north along Leichhardt Highway for 6 km and TURN RIGHT onto Castle Creek Road (GIS -24.896034, 150.087381).
- Drive 12.5 km until you reach a T-intersection. TURN RIGHT onto Defence Road (GIS -24.878486, 150.190305).
- Travel 30 km down the Defence Road, where along the way you will see four historic stone bridges. These bridges were built by hand in the 1940s by Prisoners of War in mobile internment camps.
- Boam Creek Bridge (GIS -24.923844, 150.269123)
- Bridge 2
- Bridge 3
- Otrack Creek Bridge (GIS -25.036690, 150.413293)
- At the end of the 30 km run, TURN LEFT onto the Crowsdale-Camboon Road (GIS -25.045281, 150.421986) and drive 1.5 km to the junction.
- TURN RIGHT at the 'Hall' sign (GIS -25.037281, 150.433256) and drive a further 2 km until you reach the Camboon Campdraft Grounds (GIS -25.051180, 150.444156). The old Camboon School of Arts Hall and bar are well worth a look.

Note: you will cross a grid and go through gates – please close the gates behind you.

## Cracow and Cracow Pub

- Head back to the Defence Road (GIS -25.045281, 150.421986).
- TURN LEFT and continue south along the Defence Road for 33 km.
- TURN RIGHT onto Eidsvold-Theodore Road (GIS -25.320671, 150.442104).
- Continue 13.25 km and turn left to the Cracow Cemetery – this is a must see.
- Continue along Eidsvold-Theodore Road for 1.75 km to the Cracow Pub (GIS -25.295372, 150.302624). The Pub is legendary and owned by Fred Brophy, it is a hoot to visit and offers the chance to stop for a drink, have a chat with the locals and enjoy a pub meal. The hotel has a resident ghost that haunts the hallways and on occasions has been spotted among the memorabilia that lines the pub walls.
- Take a walk along the main street and delight at the abandoned buildings from yesteryear.
- Head up the Hill past the pub to the Gold Mining Museum and feel the mining history of the town.

## Theodore

- Continue along the Eidsvold-Theodore Road for 18.5km and just over the bridge, TURN LEFT onto Isla Delusion Road (GIS -25.174455, 150.205900).
- About 1.9km along TURN LEFT onto a track (GIS -25.177378, 150.188060) and follow it to the junction of Delusion Creek and the Dawson River (GIS -25.183716, 150.188514), (mark it in your diary as a future camping and fishing spot). The track to Cracow Beach is black soil composite – good 4WD ok, NO caravans/campers in in wet weather.
- Head back to the Eidsvold-Theodore Road and continue 41km north-west and you'll pass the Theodore Airport (GIS -24.994238, 150.095200) on your right.
- Continue a further 7km to return to Theodore (GIS -24.946331, 150.075695).