**Enjoy your experience and return**

The Snowy Mountains is a region of natural beauty, fresh clean air and a great place to ride a motorcycle. The Snowy Region provides some of the best motorcycling routes Australia has to offer. Combine this with the scenery, the scenic towns and villages, the friendly people and unique features of the area riding this region is a memorable experience. The Snowy Region also offers the rider with the challenge of riding on varied road conditions that requires skill and care. The Snowy Region has it all.

When riding through the Snowy Region there are a number of routes you can choose from. There is the Snowy Mountains Highway, Monaro Highway, Cann River Highway, Alpine Way, Elliott Way, Tooma Road and Batiow Road to mention a few.

Due to its popularity the Snowy region caters for many rallies and offers a popular route through to Phillip Island. The Snowy Region also sees events such as the Snowy Ride, the Annual Celebration of Motorcycles at Bombala and many local club organised rides.

We look forward to you returning time and time again.

**Safe on roads, safe speeds and safe travel**

The local road network across the Tumbarumba, Tumut and Gundagai Shires offer an exciting touring route for motorcyclists, linking into the Alpine region. The road network itself varies between rural, regional and state roads (also including the Kosciuszko National Park). The topography of the region’s road network include many roads having compound corners, numerous sections of sharp bends, curves and unforgiving narrow and winding roads. It also includes sections with reduced sight distance, no centre line road markings, and steep, descending and undulating conditions as well as smooth open road conditions.

The Snowy Mountains region also has the attraction of varied wildlife. This can be hazardous for the unsuspecting motorcyclist as well as all other road users who need to contend with animals such as kangaroos, wallabies, emus, wombats, brumbies or straying cattle or sheep.

Speed is the major causal factor in many motorcycle involved crashes in the Snowy region. To either exceed the speed limit or travel at inappropriate speeds for the road conditions is a behavioural option. Always manage and control your decision making whilst riding, excessive speed or inappropriate speed will increase your crash risk.

Of the motorcycle involved crashes in the Snowy Region, single vehicle run off road motorcycle crashes are the most common type. In all situations, whilst motorcycling in a group, catching up to the group or riding alone the correct decision making will ultimately reduce your chances of becoming a crash statistic. Avoid the high risk factors that contribute to these crashes - speed, fatigue and riding whilst impaired by alcohol or drugs.

**Aged between 30-59 years - you are vulnerable**

2004 to 2008 RTA reported motorcycle crash data in the Snowy Region Shire Council area of Tumbarumba, Tumut and Gundagai identify the 30 to 59 years age group with the greatest number of injury and fatality involved motorcycle crashes. Of this mentioned 5 year period 82% of motorcycle crashes involved the 30 to 59 years age group and of these crashes 95% were injury crashes.

Further data revealed that 22% of motorcycle crashes occur on a Saturday, peak times between 3pm and 9pm and 55% of motorcycle crashes occur in the peak motorcycling months of October, November, December, March and April.

**“CRASHES DO OCCUR”**

Don’t have the ‘Illusory Invulnerability factor’ that it won’t happen to me, it only happens to other riders, crashes do occur.

‘Motorcycling calls for enthusiasm and skill, not senseless actions’

**Attention 30-59 year old Motorcyclists**

- Minimise all risk factors that cause crashes
- Use wisely your years of knowledge and experience and be a leader within your road user group
- Safe Motorcycling

**Prepare yourself**

- Leading up to your trip firstly ‘Prepare yourself’ while also preparing your gear.
- Eat well, drink alcohol in moderation, and better still drink water rather than alcohol.
- Be active, keep fit. A healthier rider is more alert, less stressed and more enthusiastic about the ride.
- Be conscious of your age, riding skills and capabilities. Be sensible and realistic as to your limitations before commencing your ride
- Be mindful of any medication/s you are presently taking. Find out if the medication/s may affect your riding.

**Maintain Good Health during the trip**

The rides through the Snowy Region are going to be long and demanding. To guarantee a more enjoyable ride you need to look after yourself by;

- Getting plenty of sleep (avoid having late evenings whilst socialising, rest up)
- Don’t be impaired whilst riding. Be mindful of your alcohol consumption. Remember the 0.05 Blood Alcohol limit. ‘Time’ is the main factor as to how alcohol is dispersed from your body.
- To maintain peak riding performance don’t drink alcohol before or during the ride.
- Maintain hydration. Drink plenty of water during a long ride.
- Eat well. Enjoy good healthy meals throughout the ride
- Take regular breaks to rest your mind and body. We know that it is more tiring riding a motorcycle than driving a car. Be aware fatigue is a killer.

**Our thanks to the Motor Accidents Authority of NSW and Motorcycle Council of NSW Working group, the Roads and Traffic Authority, Tumut Shire Council, Gundagai Shire Council and Tumbarumba Shire Council.**