



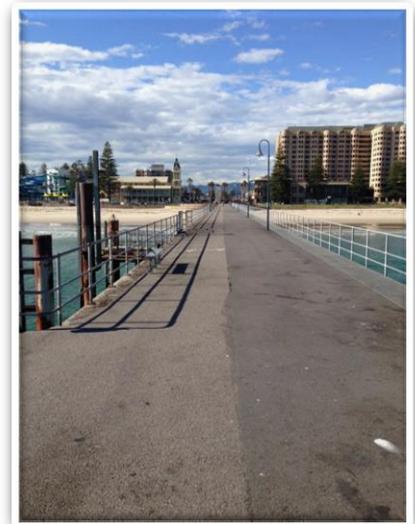
Event Snapshot

The inaugural Adelaide to Uluru Smiddy Challenge will raise funds to assist scientists at Mater Research to undertake life-changing research into the causes, prevention and improved treatment of a range of cancers, including melanoma, prostate, breast and ovarian cancers.

Adelaide to Uluru Itinerary: 5–13 June 2016

Day 1—Glenelg Beach to Clare, 160 km and 1284 m climbing

The 2016 Adelaide to Uluru Smiddy Challenge kicks off from beautiful and cosmopolitan Glenelg, known for its beachside cafés and restaurants. It then climbs the famous Adelaide Hills before cruising into the Riesling vineyards of the Clare Valley for the night.



Day 2—Clare to Port Augusta, 207 km and 976 m climbing

The Clare Valley wineries soon give way to vast croplands as we head north along RM Williams Way towards 'Big Sky' country with rolling open fields. After a steady climb, we roll into the industrial hub of Port Augusta for the night—our last major town before hitting the red centre.

Day 3—Port Augusta to Woomera, 178 km and 675 m climbing

From Port Augusta we embark north and follow the trek of 19th century explorer John Stuart's route to the red centre, pulling in to the military town of Woomera to rest our heads. Once home to over 7,000 people living in a closed community servicing the secret joint missile testing facilities of the Australian, British and US armies, Woomera looks and feels as though it still lives in a by-gone war era.

Day 4—Woomera to Bon Bon, 205 km and 619 m climbing



Leaving Woomera we head on our longest stretch between civilisations—it's almost 400 km to the next town, with just one small road house in between. Much of this area makes up part of the Woomera Restricted Zone used by the military for missile testing.

Tonight's accommodation is rated a billion stars! We'll be rolling out the swags under the great Milky Way and get to enjoy each other's company over a camp dinner.

Day 5—Bon Bon to Coober Pedy, 170 km and 497 m climbing

After a night out under the stars we will be on the road early to meet the amazing sunrise. Today is a relatively short day—170 km—with the added bonus of civilisation at the end of the day. We are heading for one of the more interesting towns Australia has to offer, one of great contrast—Coober Pedy. Tonight we will stay in one of the many underground hotels and live how the locals live.



Day 6—Coober Pedy to Marla, 237 km and 664 m climbing



At 237 km this is the 'Queen Stage' of this year's event. An early start will again give rise to the stunning colours on offer in Central Australia. The terrain initially appears the same as days prior but slowly the changes appear as we start to see the red dirt that we associate with the red centre.

Before reaching Marla on this 237 km odyssey there is one more important thing to do. A short diversion down one of the most famous roads in Australia, the Oodnadatta Track, which re-joins the bitumen at Marla—just to ensure Strava records the track. Tonight we will enjoy the green grass and a quiet ale on tap which is on offer at Marla.

Day 7—Marla to Kulgera, 180 km and 471 m climbing

A shorter day to give some relief to our weary legs, day seven sees the landscape become more and more covered with small desert shrubs, the dirt a stronger shade of red, but the road still reaches out in the seemingly endless distance.

At 160 km the biggest change will occur—the SA/NT border, a new territory. After more than 1300 km we have officially traversed South Australia.

Just after the border we reach our overnight stop, the Kulgera Roadhouse.

Day 8—Kulgera to Curtain Springs, 208 km and 428 m climbing

After more than 1300 km following the Stuart Highway, today we try something different—take a left turn and pick up the road into Uluru. But we still have a bit to do as it's 250kms from the turn off to 'the Rock'.

Tonight we will again be camping out under the stars—our last night in the wide open country with friends, new & old.



Day 9—Curtain Springs to Uluru, 163 km and 528 m climbing

As the sun rises on this stunning landscape we roll out for our final stretch, as Mount Connor dominates then fades from the horizon and at around 75 km another appears. Our first sighting of Uluru—the iconic shape begins to evolve.

Once at the base of Uluru we give ourselves a chance to celebrate a journey from the blue ocean to the red centre. We will have time to explore and admire this amazing landmark, but our riding is not yet finished—a lap of Uluru is another 10 km before we head back to Yulara to our final finish location and a chance to reflect on a truly amazing journey.

