

Travel the way
better ways to go

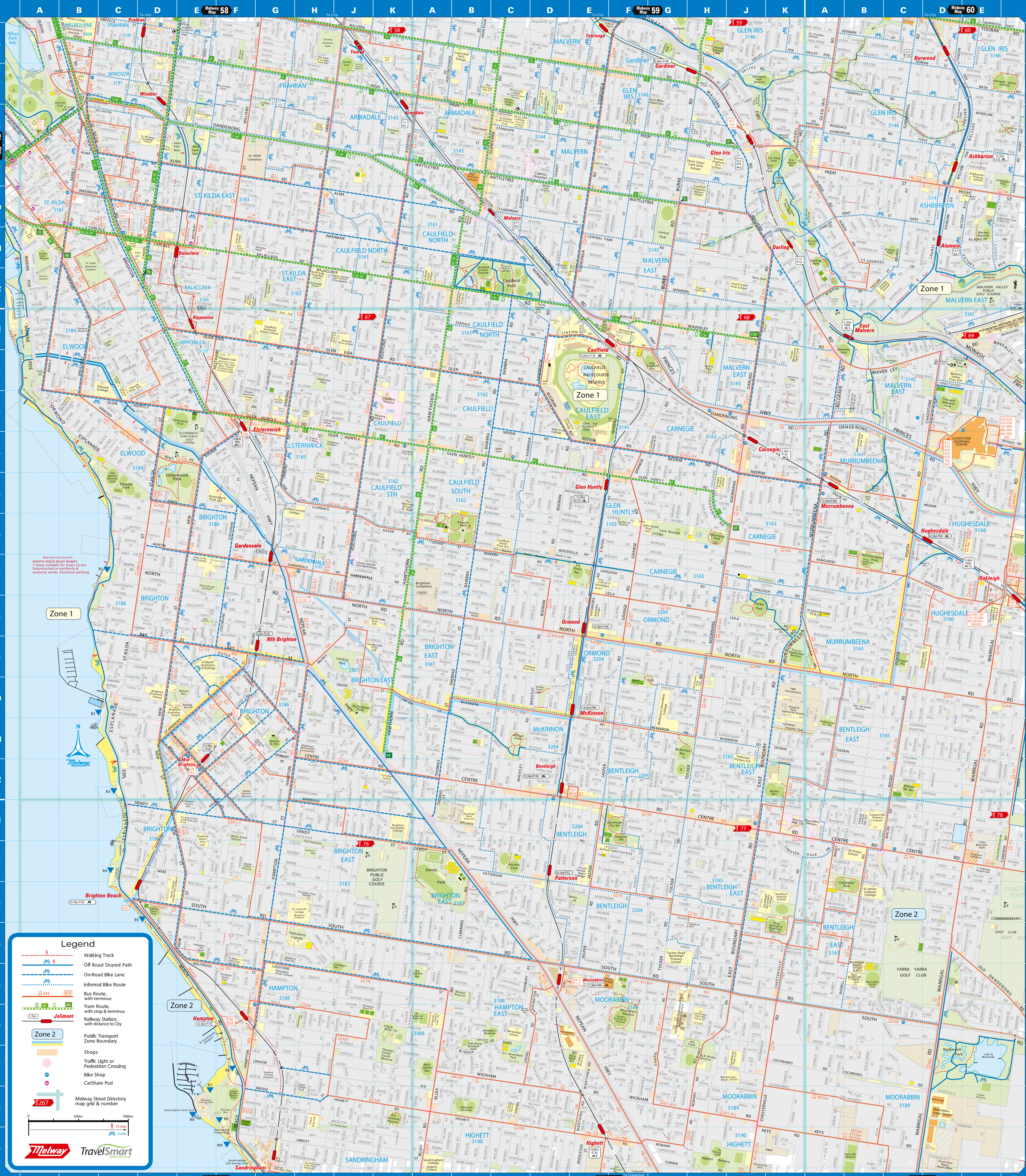
GLEN EIRA
CITY COUNCIL

Melway

Glen Eira

Walking, Cycling &
Public Transport

State Government
Victoria



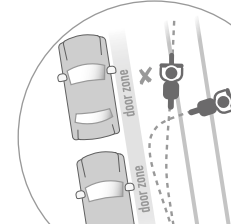
Cycling

Cycling in traffic

When in traffic be visible and confident but prepare for evasive action. Look ahead for gaps in traffic.

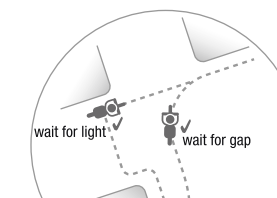
Take or share the lane
Depending on lane width and traffic speed, keep left or take the lane.

Cross tram and train tracks at wide angles



Keep your distance
Maintain a safe distance between you and any traffic hazards. Riding away from obstacles may also increase your visibility to others.

Use hook turns
If a normal right-hand turn leaves you exposed in an intersection, use a hook turn.



Don't hug the gutter
If you hug the gutter you will get squeezed out. Don't weave in and out of empty car parking spaces to stay close to the gutter - keep a straight line.

Positioning in traffic
Be aware of drivers' blind spots to the side and next to their back doors.

Cycling

Roundabouts

Take the lane
As you approach the roundabout, move into the middle of the lane. As you enter, look around and make eye contact with drivers but prepare to move out of the way.

Single lane roundabouts
Give way to cars already on the roundabout.

Turning right
Hand signal so cars know you are turning.

Multi-lane roundabouts
Watch for cars going straight from behind or beside you. Do a hook turn or break the turn into stages if you need to. Two cyclists can legally take both lanes. Consider avoiding the roundabout by taking another route.

Cycling in the wet

Preparing your bike
Invest in a good set of mudguards or make your own. Keep a plastic bag under your seat for waterproofing when parking in the rain. Clean your brakes, rims and chain after rain.

What to wear
Get a good waterproof jacket. Spray your shoes and bag with sealant. Carry spare socks in a plastic bag or just wear sandals. Keep a change of clothes at work/un.

Get a good bike bag
Use plastic bags inside your bike bag to keep things dry.

Riding in the wet
Watch out for slippery tram tracks, grades and metal covers, especially when turning. Squeeze your brakes gently before stopping to clear water off the rims. Beware of puddles as they may be deeper than they seem. You and others will have a longer stopping distance in the wet.

Cycling

Lock your bike

Use a D-lock
Cables are easily cut. Get a good D-lock or armoured cable. Using a cable and D-lock together is even more secure.

Where and how to lock
Always lock your bike, even when it's at home. Lock in visible areas with lots of people around. Don't lock to 'sucker poles' that can be lifted out of the ground. Check your lock before leaving.

Secure your bike
Remove your lights or secure them with super glue or cable ties. Disguise the value of your bike with stickers and tape or even a fake DIY rusty paint job. Replace quick releases with bolts or secure with hose clamps. Engrave your bike with a driver's licence number of someone you trust. The police can assist in the recovery of stolen bikes.

If your bike is stolen
Report it immediately to the police. Look in second hand shops but don't tell staff. If you find it then call the police.

It's illegal to open doors into traffic
A person must not cause a hazard to any person or vehicle by opening a vehicle door, leaving a door of a vehicle open, or getting off, or out of, a vehicle.

To avoid doors, look:

- through car windows
- for heads
- in mirrors of trucks
- at cars that have just parked
- at car tail lights

Watch the door zone
If you can't see into cars, ride slower or move out of the door zone. Be aware of what's behind you if you have to swerve out. Take a lane if you're being forced into the door zone.

If a door opens
Use your brakes and slow down. Move out of the door zone, but don't swing into traffic.

If you get hit
If you're hit by a door and injury or damage results, it's a traffic accident and details must be exchanged. You should report uncooperative motorists to the police.

Cycling

Cycling at night

Lights
Use steady lights to see and flashing to be seen. Buy lights that take standard battery types (AA or AAA) and carry spares with your puncture kit. Avoid lights that need a tool to change batteries.

Being reflective
Add reflective material, tape and stickers to your helmet, clothing, shoes, bike and bag. Reflective tape, fabric and stickers can be sourced from fabric shops, hardware stores, and boating and bike shops.

Riding behaviour
Steer wide of pedestrians. Watch out for people who may step in front of you. Look for car headlights in side streets and from behind.

Road rules

Bikes are legal vehicles covered by the Victorian Road Rules.

Your bike is a vehicle
You must have a warning device such as a bell or horn on your bike. You must wear an approved helmet. At night you must have a white front light, red back light and a red rear reflector.

Laws for others
It is illegal to open car doors into traffic. Car cannot double park or park in bike lanes marked 'No stopping', 'No standing' or 'Clearway'.

What you can do
Cyclists can pass on the left, but not if a car is indicating and turning left. Cyclists can ride two abreast and a third rider may overtake. You must use a bike lane or path if it is practical to do so.

This is not a full statement of the law. For more information see www.vicroads.vic.gov.au