

Helpful Hints for Organizing a Long Ride.

PLEASE REMEMBER – The goal is to have fun and be safe riding with your friends. Most experienced riders will already follow many of these “hints”. These are provided to help you have fun riding and less worries leading. Adapt them as the situation dictates.

1. Decide where to go.
2. Set a date- determined by the weather conditions for where you want to go.
3. Recruit good help such as co-ride leader(s) and sweep or "tail-gunner"(s).
4. Make an itinerary and map out the route including:
 - a. Daily rally points and departure times. Remind the participants to arrive early with gas tanks and stomachs full ready to roll.
 - b. Daily mileage and drive-time. Use an online program such as Google Maps or AAA Trip Tiks to determine both.
 - c. All stops for fuel, food, restroom, and site-seeing.
 - d. Hotels and/or campgrounds.
 - vi. Request blocks of rooms and campsites early to be held for reservations.
 - vii. Include hotel/campground names, phone numbers, address, contact person, and deadlines for holding rooms/spaces.
 - viii. Forward this information to participants ASAP.
 - ix. Participants make their own reservations.
 - e. Planned temple attendance if it is part of the itinerary.
 - vi. Contact each Temple to confirm:
 1. Is it open when you plan to be there?
 2. How large of a group will they allow?
 3. Do they rent clothing?
 4. Make a reservation.
 - f. Sunday plans
 - vi. Service times.
 - vii. Chapel location and directions,
 - viii. Attending one or two hours is up to each individual and how many people the ward can accommodate
 - ix. (Traveling on Sunday is an individual decision. The TRA suggests riding only when necessary.)
5. Email and print copies of the ride itinerary for each bike in the group and extras to share with any other interested parties.
6. Provide a safety checklist for each bike to be included with the hotel/campground info.
7. Be prepared. At least one rider in each group should have a first-aid kit and a full tool kit, and all riders should carry a cell phone, so the group is prepared for any problem that they might encounter.
8. If you are planning your ride as a chapter ride, advertise:
 - a. By word of mouth
 - b. At chapter meetings and rides

- c. Via chapter emails
 - d. Posts on private chapter Facebook groups, etc.
9. If you are opening the ride to the entire TRA organization, advertise to all members:
- a. In the TRA newsletter
 - b. Posts on “Temple Riders Association, Official Group for TRA Members” on Facebook, a private group
 - c. TRA website forums, everywhere you can think of.
 - d. Promote, promote, promote by going to the various chapter meetings and encouraging outlying areas via phone or email.
10. *Special note: be courteous enough to welcome and include any TRA member (or non-member), regardless of chapter affiliation (or lack thereof), who expresses a desire to join your ride. If you want to limit how many or who will join you for a long ride, then don't advertise it.*
11. Remember someone will always be upset with you. **DO NOT TAKE IT PERSONALLY!**
YOU CAN NOT PLEASE EVERYONE. SOME PEOPLE JUST LIKE TO GRUMBLE.