



**BMW  
MOTORRAD**

**BMW  
MOTORRAD  
DAYS**  
AMERICAS 2023

# THE ROADS TO BIRMINGHAM

**BMW MOTORRAD DAYS AMERICAS 2023  
OCTOBER 6-8, BIRMINGHAM, AL**



**MAKE LIFE A RIDE**



powered by  
**BUTLER MAPS**  
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# HOW TO USE THIS GUIDEBOOK

The intent of this guidebook is to provide a detailed, easy to read resource for motorcyclists attending BMW Motorrad Days Americas 2023 at Barber Motorsports Park in Birmingham, Alabama. Within the pages of this resource are five paved main routes originating near the cities of Nashville and Memphis, Tennessee, Blairsville and Valdosta, Georgia as well as Jackson, Mississippi. These routes all have one thing in common: we at Butler Maps believe them to be the best segments of paved roadway within the Southern Appalachia and Southern Gulf State region. Don't live in one of these cities? No problem, simply ride to one of the route starting points and head out on one of these epic rides.

To add to the adventure we have included an exciting scavenger hunt. Gather points along the way, and get a prize at the event. See page 18 for more details.

## MAP ICON GUIDE



## NAVIGATE WITH GPS TRACKS

We understand that simply consulting a paper map can be tricky at times, especially when there's twists and turns as well as lefts and rights. That's why we have created a set of GPS tracks that move in lockstep with each route for you to follow on your smartphone or GPS device. Using both this guidebook as well as the GPS tracks, you'll have more than enough confidence to not only get there but also have an unforgettable experience en route!

Take one of the five main routes into the event, explore the Smoky Mountain Discovery Loop, ride the additional connectors – the choice is yours on the BMW Motorrad Days Ride to Birmingham.

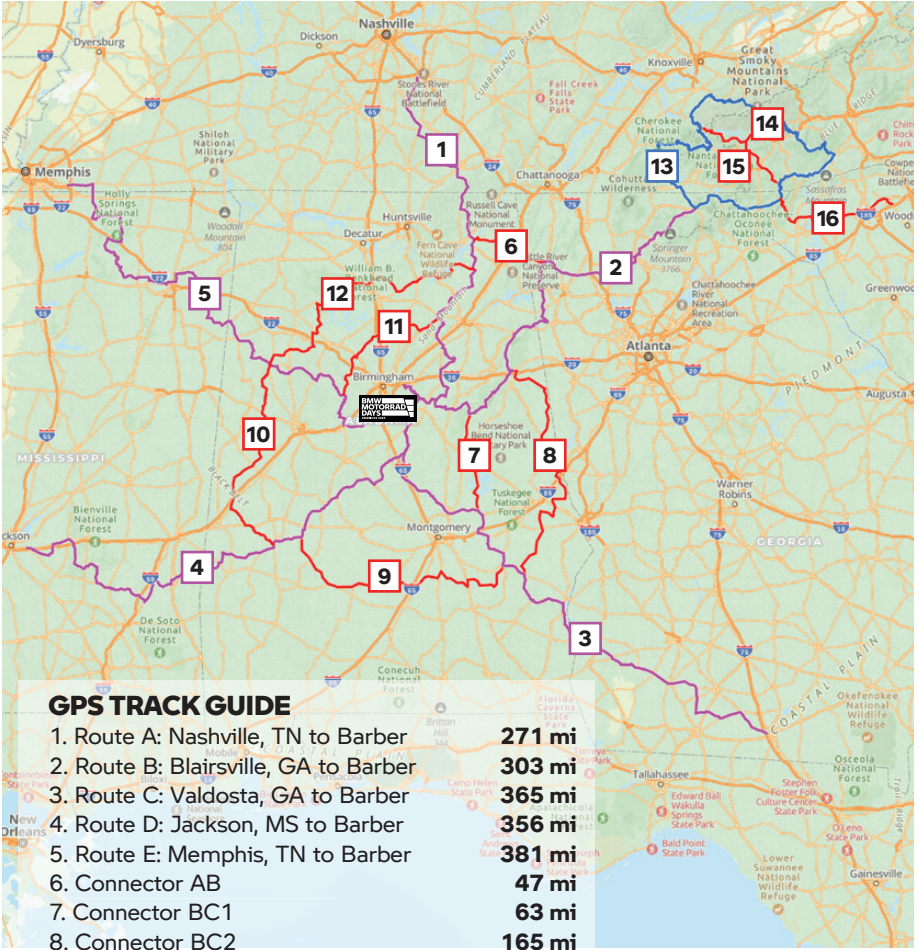
**Thanks for riding with us; we look forward to seeing you there!**

Your friends from BMW Motorrad and Butler Maps






# THE ROADS TO BIRMINGHAM

We've highlighted the best routes in the surrounding area to take you straight to Barber. Each of the five main routes are designed to take a full days' ride to the event. Start from the beginning of a main route, explore the Smoky Mountains, or take a series of connectors to extend your ride into multiple days.

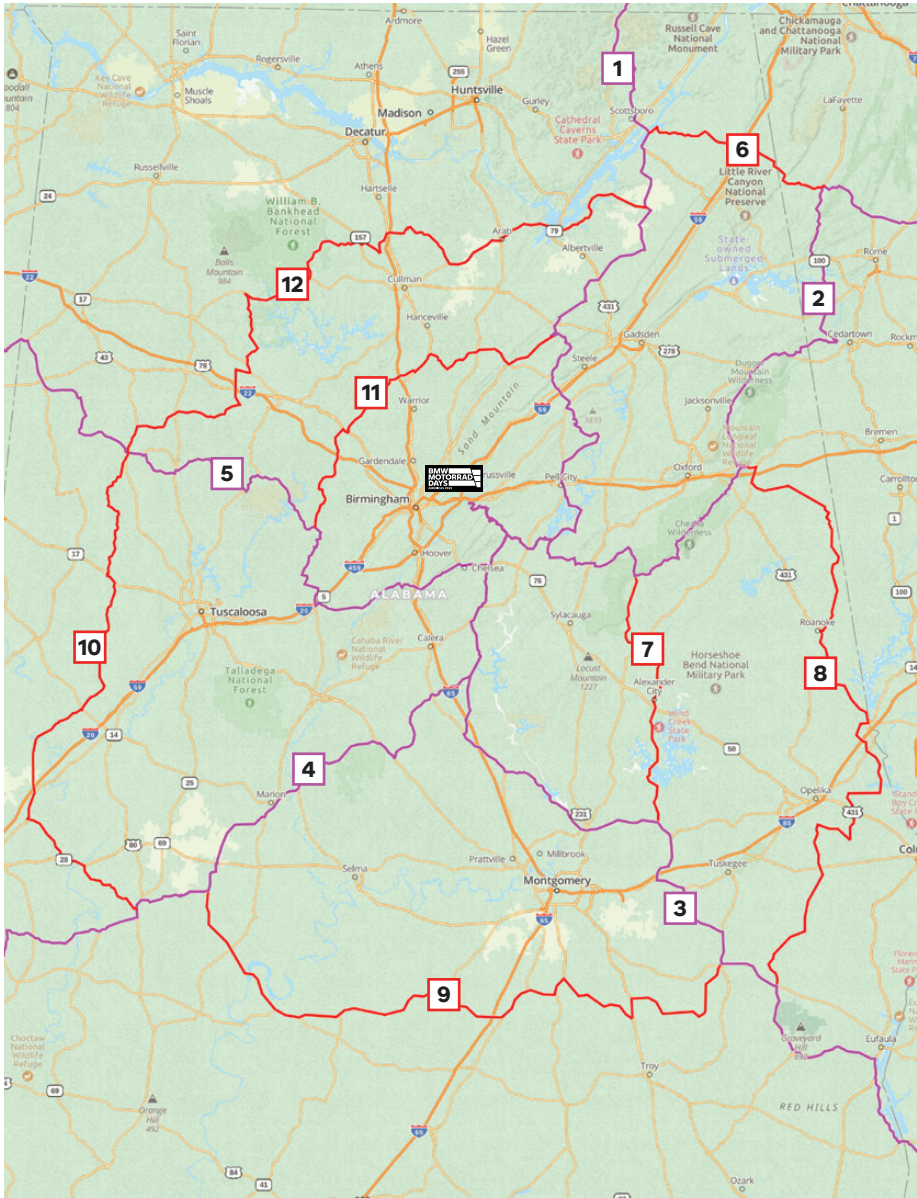


## GPS TRACK GUIDE

- |                                       |               |
|---------------------------------------|---------------|
| 1. Route A: Nashville, TN to Barber   | <b>271 mi</b> |
| 2. Route B: Blairsville, GA to Barber | <b>303 mi</b> |
| 3. Route C: Valdosta, GA to Barber    | <b>365 mi</b> |
| 4. Route D: Jackson, MS to Barber     | <b>356 mi</b> |
| 5. Route E: Memphis, TN to Barber     | <b>381 mi</b> |
| 6. Connector AB                       | <b>47 mi</b>  |
| 7. Connector BC1                      | <b>63 mi</b>  |
| 8. Connector BC2                      | <b>165 mi</b> |
| 9. Connector CD                       | <b>158 mi</b> |
| 10. Connector DE                      | <b>129 mi</b> |
| 11. Connector AE1                     | <b>84 mi</b>  |
| 12. Connector AE2                     | <b>72 mi</b>  |
| 13. Smoky Mountain Discovery Loop     | <b>395 mi</b> |
| 14. Blue Ridge Parkway Connector      | <b>19 mi</b>  |
| 15. Tail of the Dragon Connector      | <b>75 mi</b>  |
| 16. BMW Perf. Center to Smoky Loop    | <b>81 mi</b>  |

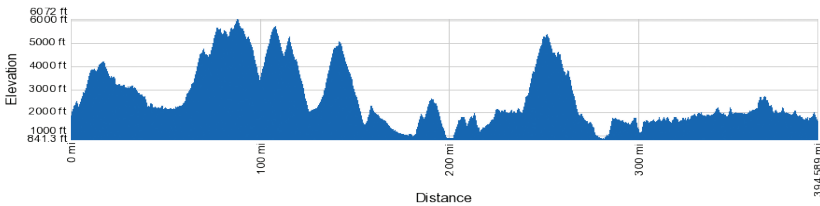
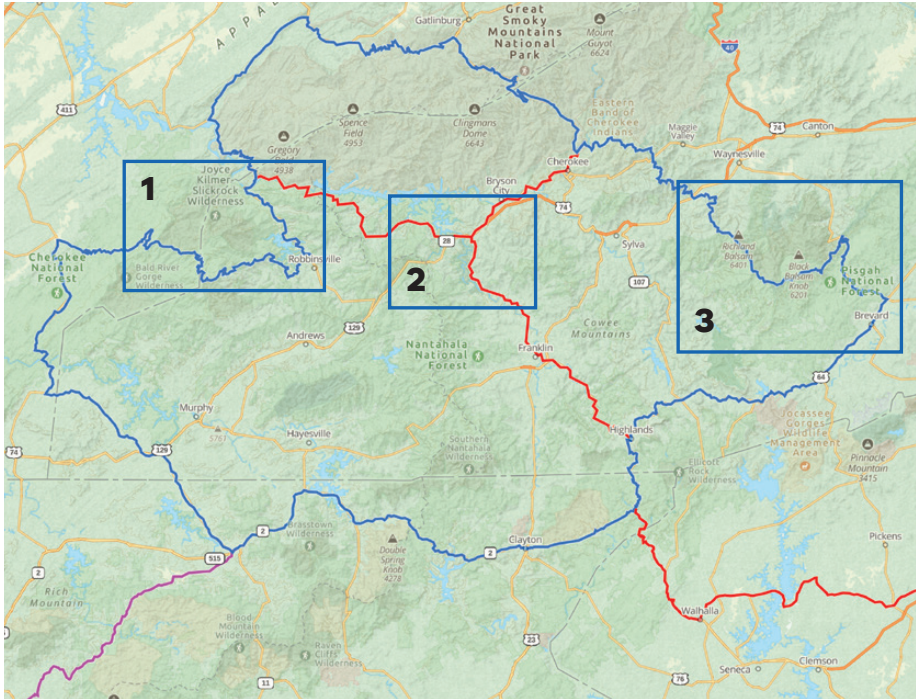
	<b>Main Routes</b>
	<b>Connector Routes</b>
	<b>Smoky Mountain Discovery Loop</b>

Our series of connector tracks are a great way to extend your journey on the road to Birmingham. These can also be used for day rides during the event and are a great way to gather additional scavenger hunt points. All together we've mapped more than 3,000 miles of great riding just hours from BMW Motorrad Days.



# SMOKY MOUNTAIN LOOP

395 MILES



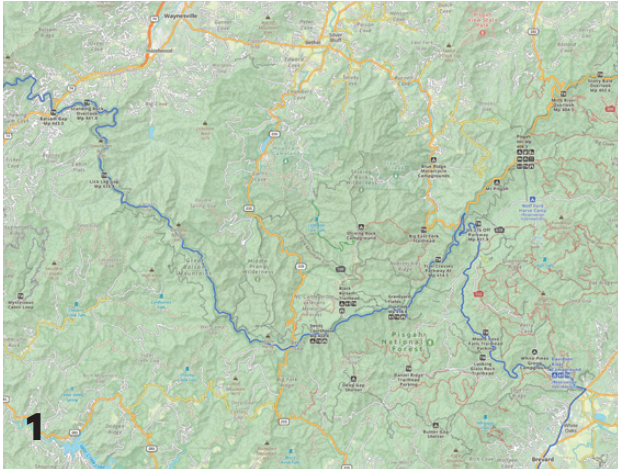
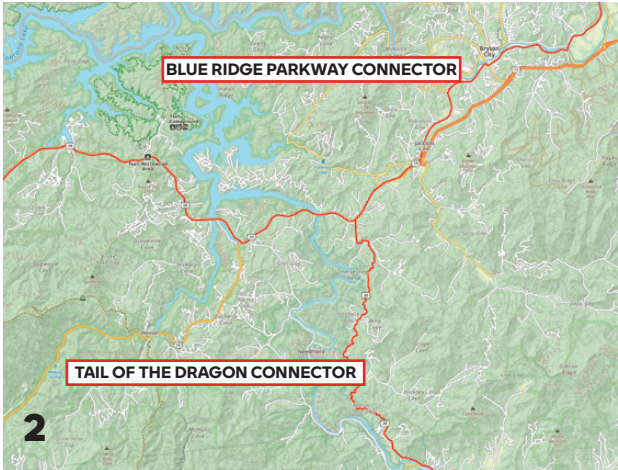
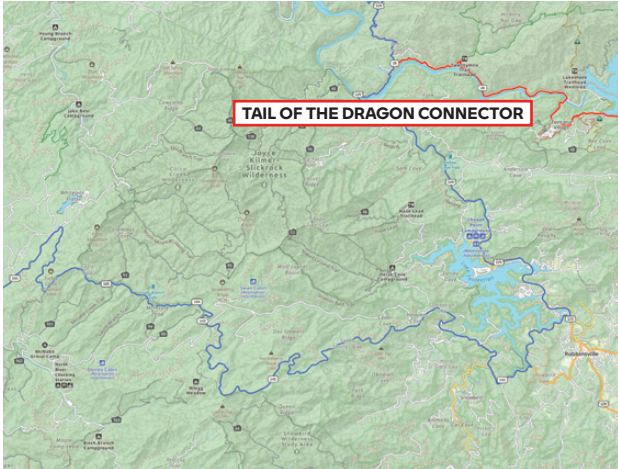
This is quite possibly the East Coast's answer to fantastic motorcycle roads. We've thrown in the kitchen sink of famous roads and stitched them together into a life-changing 396 mile loop. Get ready to tick rides like the Moonshiner 28, Indian Lakes Scenic Byway and Tail of the Dragon off your bucket list. We've even included a short but sweet segment of the Blue Ridge Parkway so you can take in the vistas within the Pisgah National Forest.

## DON'T MISS

- Fontana Lake Dam (480 feet-highest dam East of the Rockies)
- Deals Gap Motorcycle Resort at the start of the Tail of the Dragon
- Wheels Through Time motorcycle museum near Maggie Valley

# CONNECTORS

Looking to create your own loop in the area surrounding the Barber Museum? Look no further than these great connector tracks. Use these to extend your ride to and from the event, gather additional scavenger hunt points, or fashion your own custom day ride during the weekend.



# ROUTE A

## NASHVILLE, TN TO BMW MOTORRAD DAYS

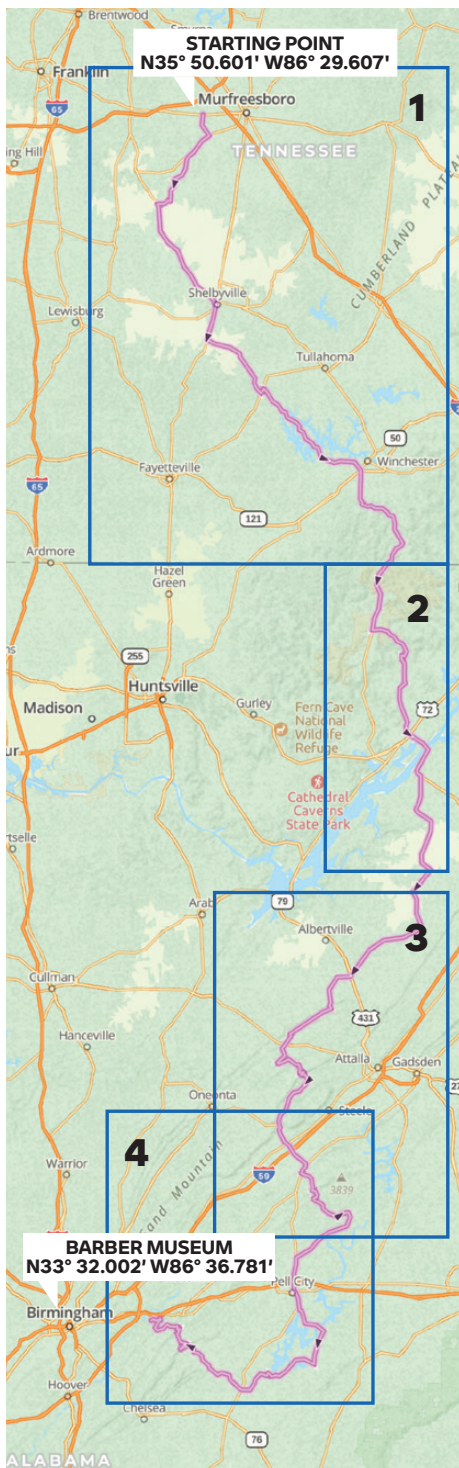
271 MILES



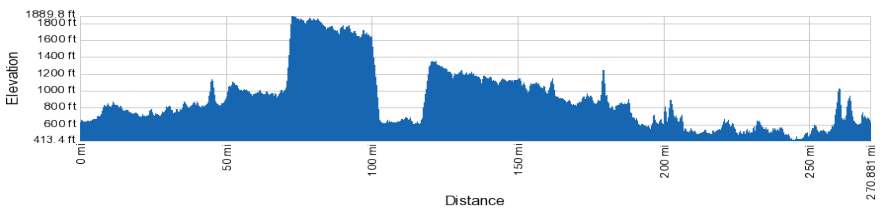
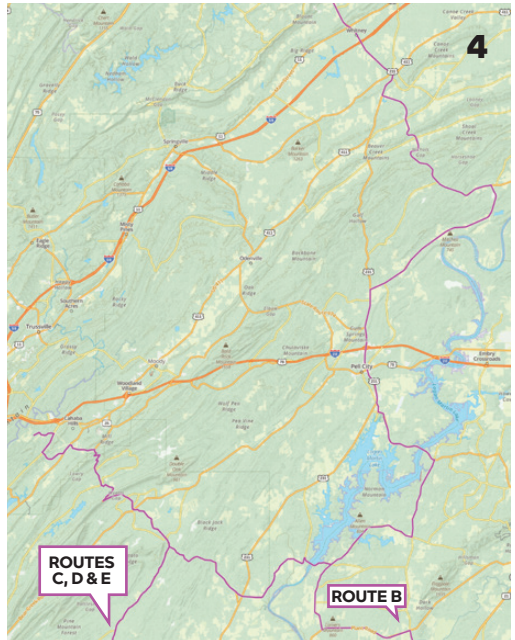
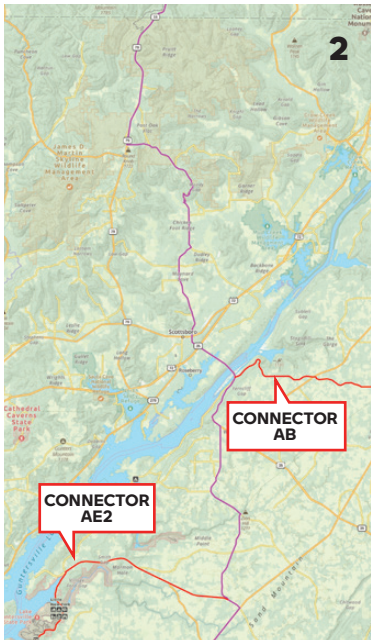
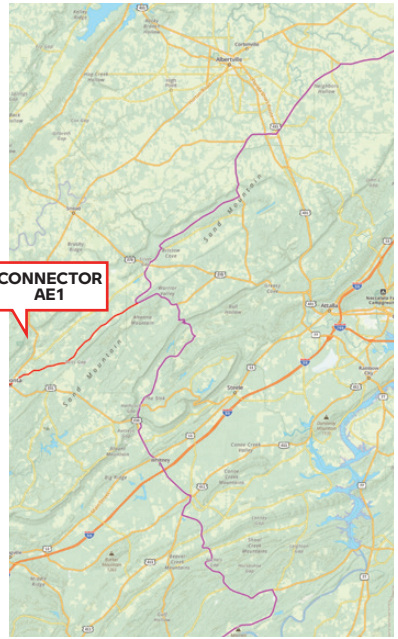
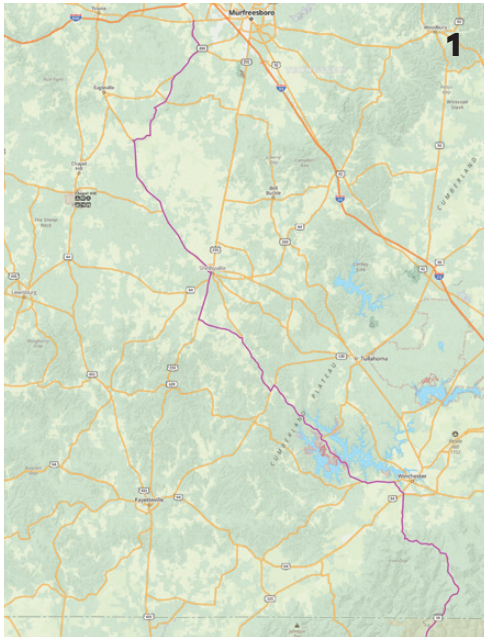
Riders opting to ride this route into Birmingham will enjoy a day of rhythmic sweepers and gentle grades up and over some of the many escarpments that make up the Western foothills of the Appalachian Mountains. The journey south brings you into more mountainous terrain with thick canopies of trees to make you feel like you're running the gauntlet. The southern section leads riders to the Tennessee River and lower Tennessee River basin, known for having over 174 species of fish and 85 different types of mussels. Make sure to stop in Scottsboro, Alabama as this charming riverside town can showcase some of the diverse seafood found in the area—a true gastronome paradise!

### DON'T MISS

- Stones River National Battlefield near Murfreesboro, Tennessee
- Russell Cave National Monument - slightly off route but well worth a visit (near Stevenson, Alabama)
- Cathedral Caverns State Park near Scottsboro, Alabama



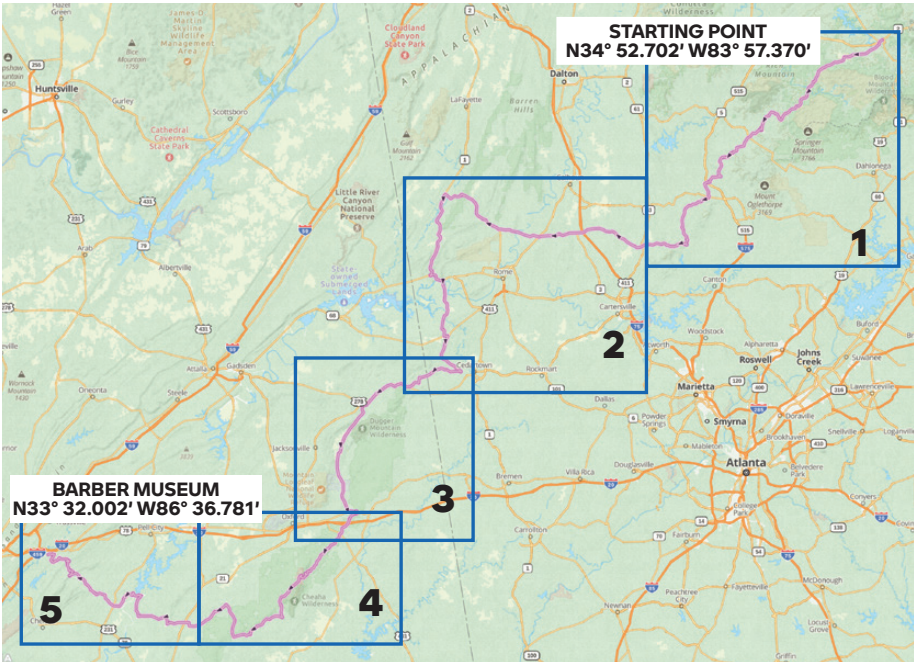




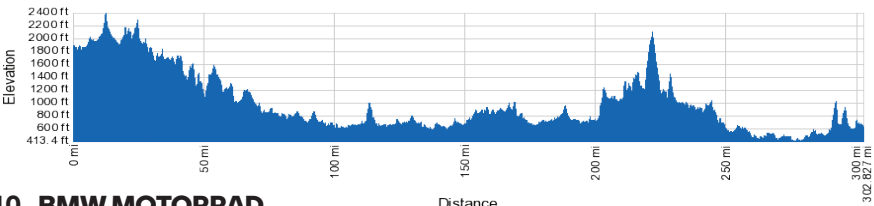
# ROUTE B

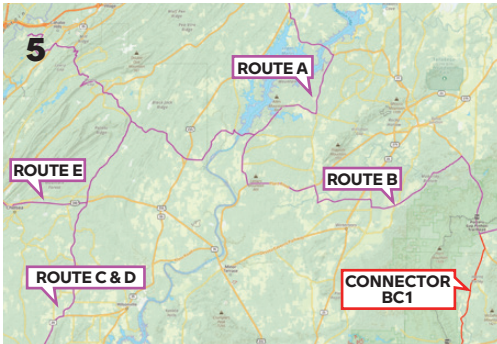
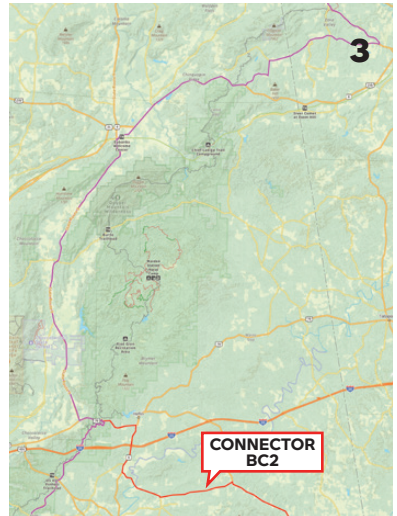
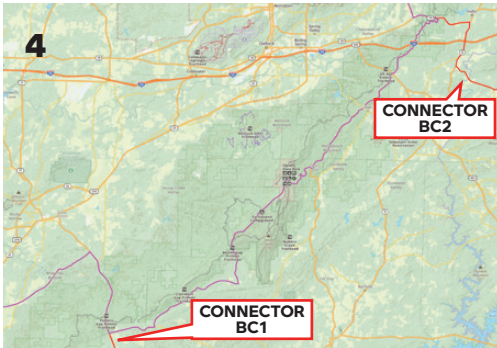
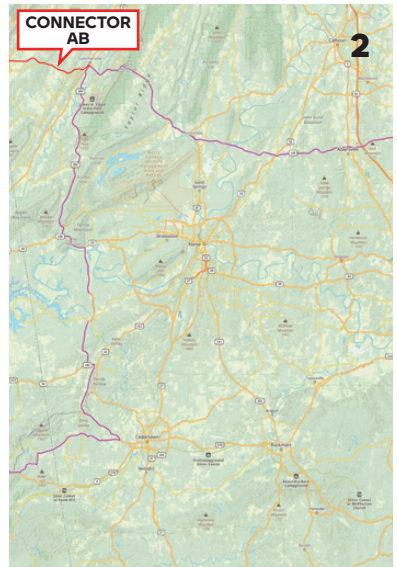
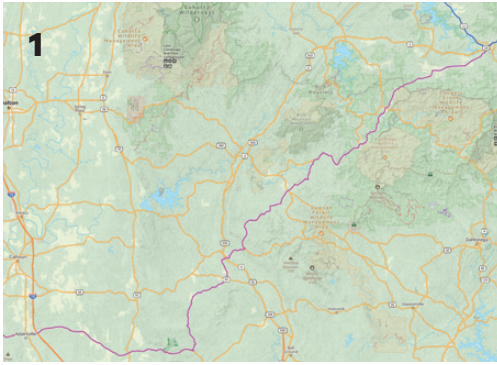
## BLAIRSVILLE, GA TO BMW MOTORRAD DAYS

303 MILES 



If the idea of a long day in the saddle chock full of the twistiest ribbons of tarmac as well as the most amazing scenery fills your bucket, then this is a must do ride en route to the BMW Motorrad 100 event at Barber Motorsports Park. From the start, you'll quickly get into some of North Georgia's best of the best. Much of the first part of this route follows a famous series of roads called the Six-Gap figure eight—a name born from the inordinate amount of times you crest and descend dramatically steep summits and numerous hairpin turn sweepers. About the time you've gotten a break from the mountainous splendor of this part of the Peach State, you cross the line into Alabama and soon jump right back into the action within the Talladega National Forest and Cheaha State Park which also serves as the highest point in Alabama at 2,407 feet.





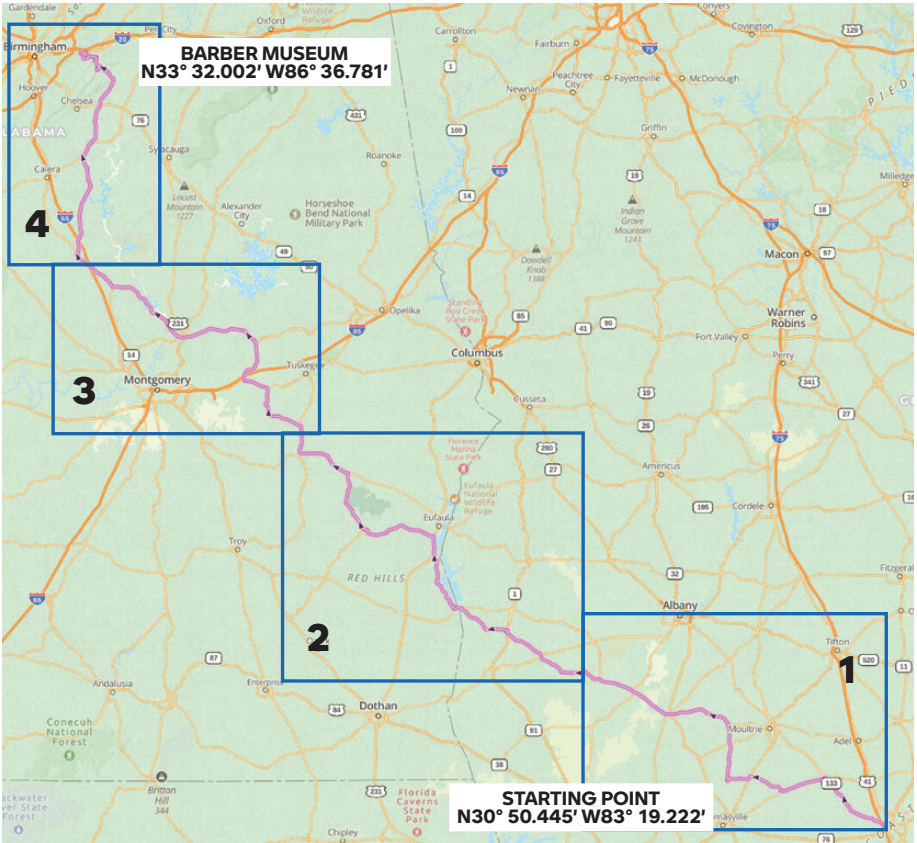
## DON'T MISS

- Talladega Speedway near Talladega, Alabama
- Dhlonega - birthplace of Nascar and a really cool town (slightly off-route)
- Chattahoochee-Oconee National Forest's recreation sites

# ROUTE C

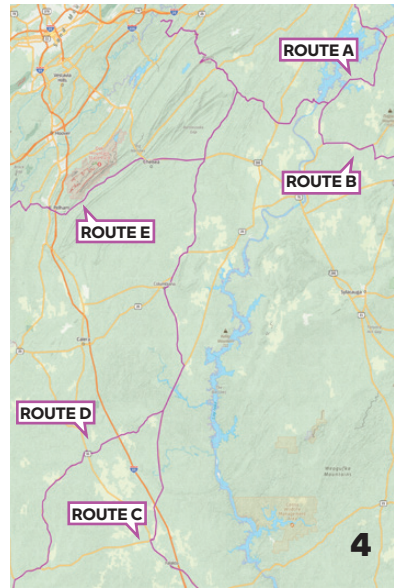
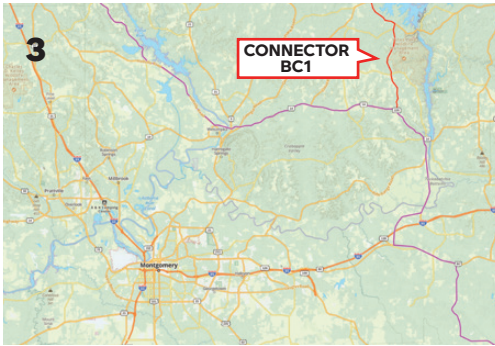
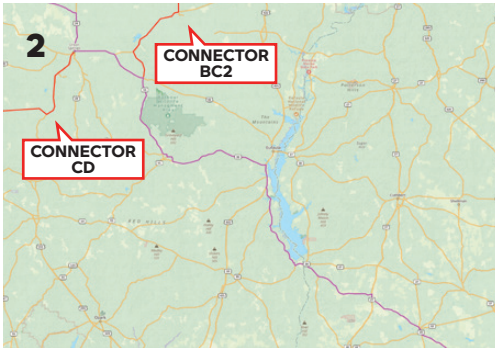
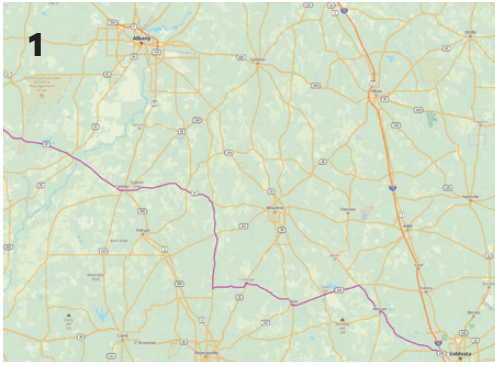
## VALDOSTA, GA TO BMW MOTORRAD DAYS

365 MILES



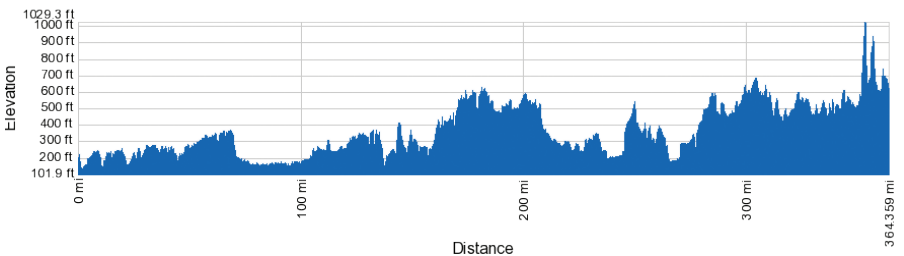
Georgia, once viewed primarily as a cotton state, is now one of the nation's largest producers of pecans, tobacco, blueberries and peaches. This 365 mile journey to Birmingham will be accentuated by miles upon miles of bucolic vegetable plantations, verdant orchard fields as well as groves of cotton and tobacco. Northwestern Georgia paves the way for more drama-infused riding as you traverse from the Southern Georgia low country into the foothills of the Southern Appalachians.

This part of the US, especially Georgia, is particularly rich in history. Make sure you spend a bit of time looking into the historical timeline by way of the numerous roadside historical markers which tell the story of the Movement in Georgia by guiding people to the sites where history happened.



**DON'T MISS**

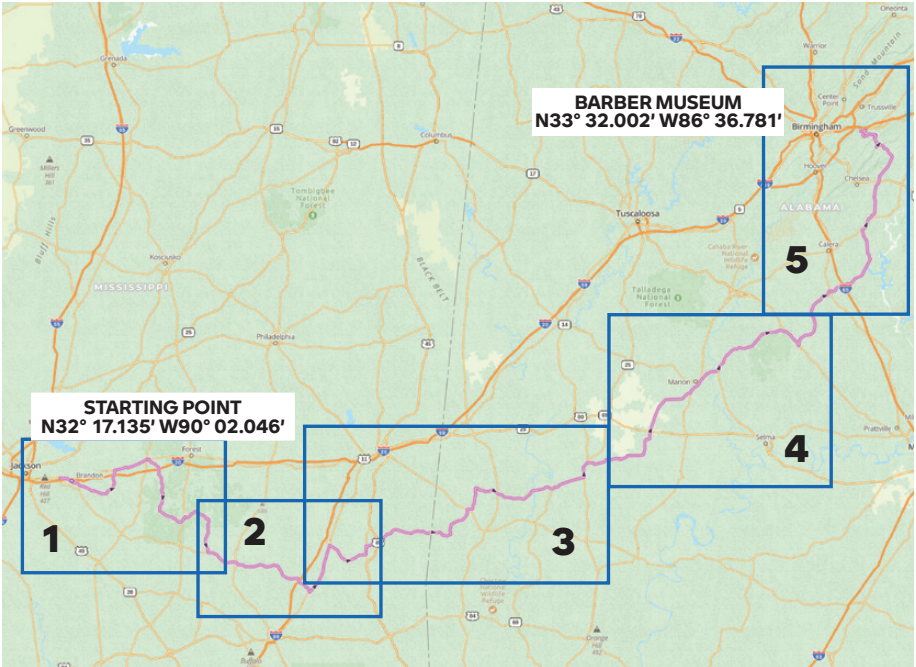
- Tuskegee Airmen National Historic Site in Tuskegee, Alabama
- The Peach growing communities near Clanton, Alabama
- Lake Martin area as well as the Coosa River
- Lake Eufaula, famous for its largemouth bass fishing



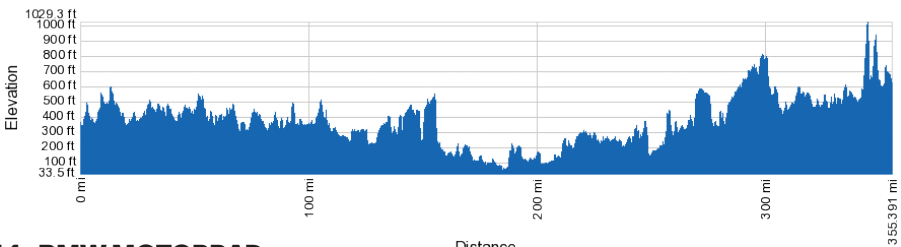
# ROUTE D

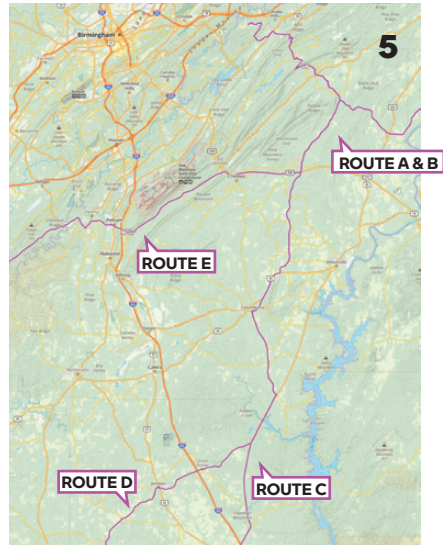
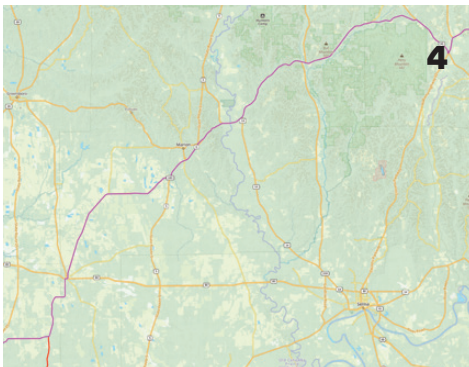
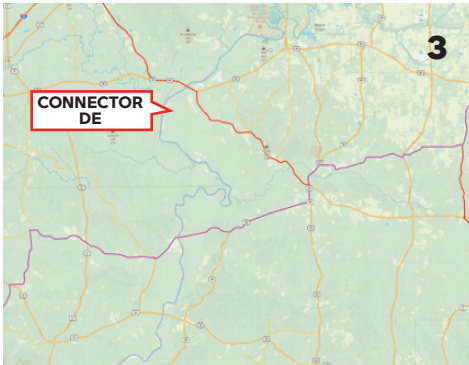
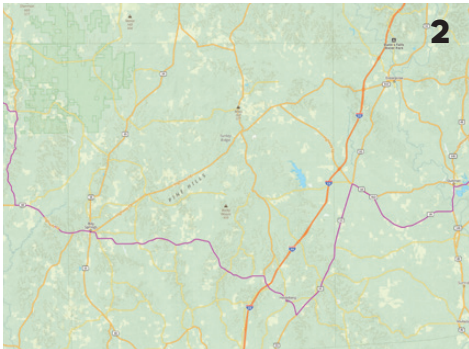
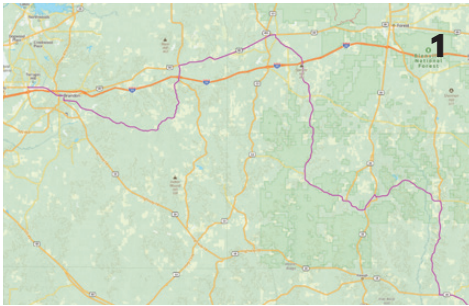
## JACKSON, MS TO BMW MOTORRAD DAYS

356 MILES 



Just because Louisiana is famous for its Cajun food doesn't mean you can't enjoy Mississippi's Cajun and Creole-influenced take on this Southern Americana cuisine. Bring a big appetite as this ride circuitously stitches a trail through the state's rolling hill region while delivering on endless servings of Collard Greens, Jambalaya, Crawfish Étouffée and let's surely not forget, Mud Pie! After a belly full of the local offerings, there's no need to rush, riders can enjoy a relaxed pace of rural riding that brings them through a colorful mixture of farmland as well as dense forests of oak, longleaf-slash pine and hickory trees en route to Birmingham.





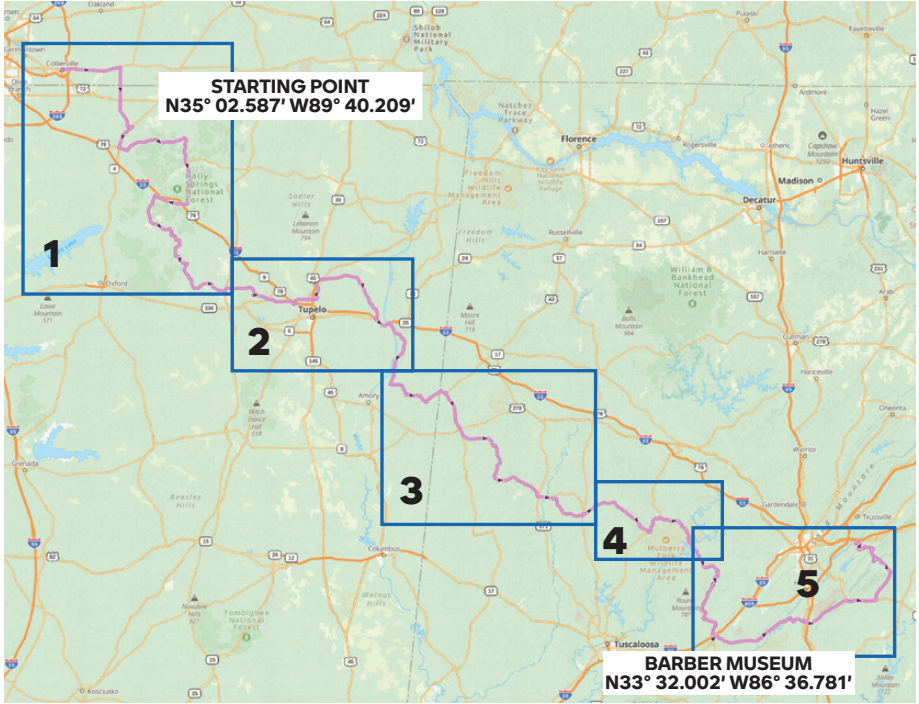
## DON'T MISS

- Natchez Trace National Parkway (route crosses nearby Jackson, MS)
- Historical town of Selma, Alabama
- Famous Mississippi Mud Pie!
- Numerous Cajun and Creole-influenced food options along the way

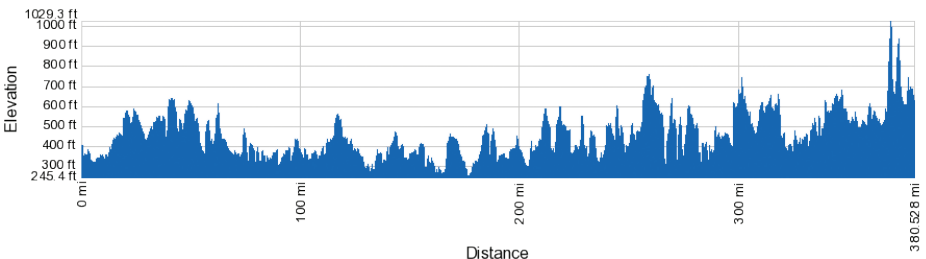
# ROUTE E

## MEMPHIS, TN TO BMW MOTORRAD DAYS

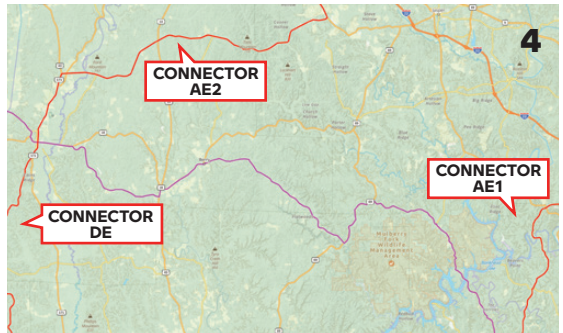
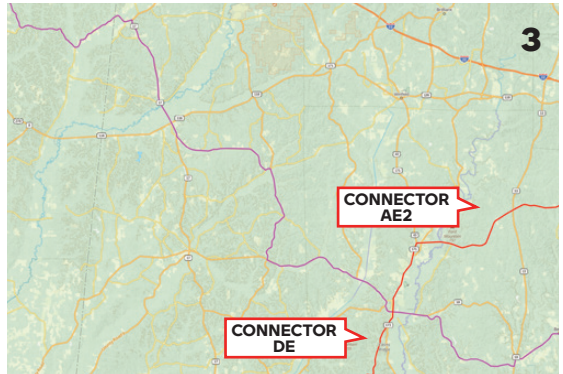
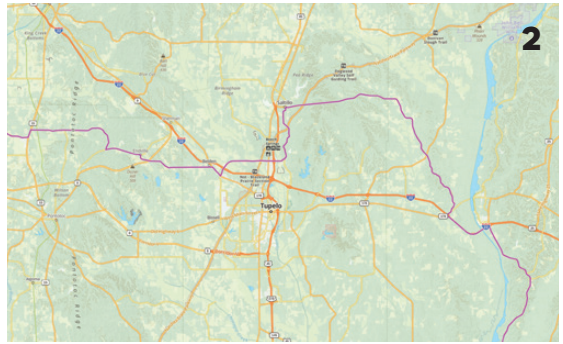
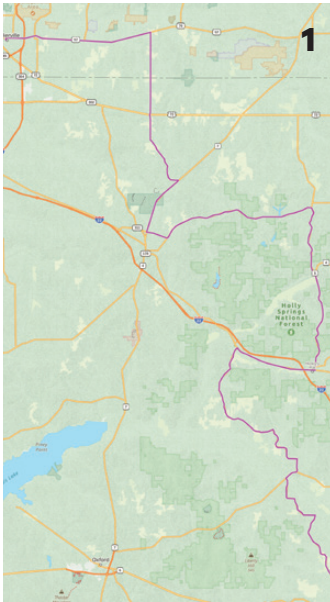
381 MILES



As you travel Southeast from Memphis toward Alabama, you'll be greeted by a wide array of different terrain. From mellow county roads that ebb and flow across an agrarian countryside to pastoral forests and mountain vistas that tell the tales of times long gone by. Envision yourself stepping back through time when the woodmill, gristmill and woodworking shop were part of your daily life. This ride will immerse you in the moments you spend encountering the region's history, culture and traditions or craft, music and agricultural heritage.

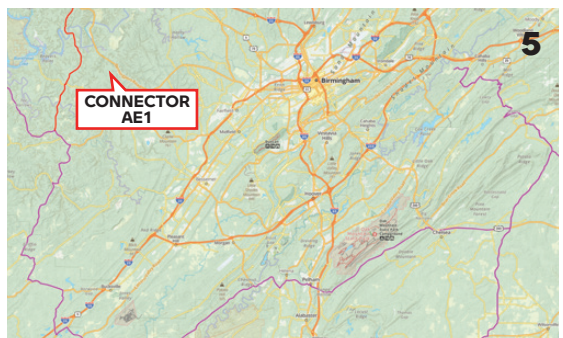






## DON'T MISS

- Elvis Presley Birthplace in Tupelo, Mississippi
- Trace State Park - former stomping grounds of early American pioneer Davy Crockett
- Bankhead National Forest and Bankhead Lake for the amazing waterfalls



# SCAVENGER HUNT

Looking for some added challenge on your ride to the event? We've created an exciting scavenger hunt with items that can be found along your journey to the event, or during day loops in the surrounding area. Some are specific, some are arbitrary. Pay special attention along the way and have some fun on your ride to BMW Motorrad Days!

## HOW TO PARTICIPATE:

1



Take a photo at each scavenger hunt item you find. Be sure and include yourself and/or your motorcycle in the photo.

2



Check off each box you gather and keep track of your progress.

3



Check 5 or more boxes and stop by the BMW Fan Zone, show your photos, and get a prize!

Prizes are available first come first served while supplies last.

4



Don't forget to share your photos on Instagram and use the hashtags:

**#BMW Motorrad Days Americas**  
**#100YearsBMW Motorrad**



# TAKE A PHOTO AND CHECK THE BOX

## SMOKY MOUNTAIN DISCOVERY LOOP

- In front of the tree of parts at Deals Gap
- Next to a Tail of the Dragon sign
- At the BMW Performance Center
- Next to a Blue Ridge Parkway sign
- Next to a Great Smoky Mountains National Park sign

## ROUTE STARTING LOCATIONS

- At the start of Route A – Nashville, TN
- At the start of Route B – Blairsville GA
- At the start of Route C – Valdosta, GA
- At the start of Route D – Jackson, MS
- At the start of Route E – Memphis, TN

## CONNECTOR LOOPS

- At Horseshoe Bend National Military Park (BC1)
- In front of a Wind Creek State Park sign (BC1)
- At the bridge over Lake Harding (BC2)
- At Fort Tyler (BC2)
- At the Howell Heflin Lock and Dam (DE)
- At Camden Ferry Landing (CD)
- Near the J. Lee Long Bridge over the Alabama River (CD)
- In downtown Oneonta, AL (AE1)
- Parked in front of the Little Old Rock building in Double Springs, AL (AE2)
- Battle of Day's Gap sign in Double Springs, AL (AE2)

## BARBER MUSEUM

- The oldest BMW motorcycle in the museum
- Your bike next to the Barber Museum entrance sign
- A friendly Barber staff member
- In front of the BMW Motorrad Days sign
- Your bike parked next to the exact same model and color

## FOUND ANYWHERE

- Next to or under a covered bridge
- Next to a vintage BMW motorcycle not at the museum
- With someone dressed in a costume next to your bike
- Your bike parked in front of a BMW Motorcycle Dealership
- Your bike parked on a lake shore
- Your bike parked near an airstrip
- Your bike parked next to an airplane
- Your bike with any animal
- Next at an old drive-in movie theater
- Next to an old train car or locomotive
- Next to a road number sign that matches your age
- At a "Welcome to Alabama" sign
- Your bike next to a "Welcome to Birmingham" sign
- You helping another rider on his or her journey to Barber
- With a friendly police officer or firefighter
- Sitting in a motorcycle sidecar seat
- Someone you don't know sitting on your motorcycle
- At an abandoned gas station
- Next to a large tourist attraction display (think largest cow sculpture in USA)
- Your bike parked next to a military vehicle

## TOTAL PHOTOS COLLECTED

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**Congratulations!**



#### ABOUT BUTLER

Butler Maps is a company of motorcycle enthusiasts dedicated to making motorcycle journeys as good as possible. The founders of Butler Maps ride cruisers, sport bikes, dirt bikes, adventure bikes and anything else that has two wheels and a throttle. Every road that is recommended on a Butler Map has been ridden and rated by an owner or employee of the company. We do this so that we know with certainty that if we recommend a road it is worthy of your time.

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