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Date: October 05, 1999 03:09 PM

Author: Ethan Gelber (ethang@gorp.com)

Subject: Be your own "spokes"-person

GORP has gone out on a limb and picked 12 of some of the best and most contemplative places to road bike in the U.S. (see GORP's [Fall picks](#)). However, we are confident that there are many more excellent spots (in the U.S. and beyond) that we have overlooked.

Please let us know what you think. Share with us and everyone else your faves for excellent road biking. Nothing isn't good enough if there are miles and miles of open road, vistas beyond belief, lung-busting

climbs, eye-searing descents, and memorable bumps that will live deep in the striations of your thigh muscles forever.

(http://gorpforums.gorp.com/forums/Index.cfm?CFApp=52&Message_ID=26928)

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Date: October 12, 1999 02:59 PM
Author: Ron (diasde75@aol.com)
Subject: road biking

I live in Tucson, AZ. We have the most incredible riding here!

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Date: November 04, 1999 08:13 PM
Author: A.Hutchings (ahutch70@hotmail.com)
Subject: Travel in Canada.....

Try the provinces of British Columbia, ALBERTA, Saskatchewan and Manitoba some time.
Awesome!!!!

(http://gorpforums.gorp.com/forums/Index.cfm?CFApp=52&Message_ID=28012)

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Date: October 12, 1999 05:49 PM
Author: KARL (karl.matz@mankato.msus.edu)
Subject: Bike Central Minnesota

Without doubt some of the prettiest landscape anywhere anytime is the rolling prairies of Central Minnesota. I recommend the Glacial Lakes Trail and the lightly traveled roads that circle the many lakes in this area (Willmar, Spicer-New London.

Also, the 35 mile Sakatah Trail (70 from your car in Mankato, to Faribault and back to your car) is a mix of lush woodland, open prairie, and lakesides. No better ride in the Midwest.

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Date: November 01, 1999 11:40 PM
Author: Dave (scayf@hotmail.com)
Subject: Where I ride...

...all over Texas. Jack Brooks Park in Hitchcock for really technical MTB stuff, McKinney Falls near Austin for grins & giggles on the rocks, Lake Somerville (Birch Creek Unit) for flat, fast, in-the-woods

duck & dodge, and down the road in Wadsworth just to keep in shape, physically as well as spiritually. Next spring: a solo trip to Big Bend Nat'l. Park to test my survival skills, and get away from civilization. Good dirt!

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Date: November 04, 1999 08:11 PM
Author: A.Hutchings (ahutch70@hotmail.com)
Subject: Places to ride.....

Try the Canadian Rockies, Prairies and West Coast of Canada for great scenery and nice folks!

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Date: November 06, 1999 12:56 AM
Author: John Egan (johnwe@trib.com)
Subject: summer tour

Anybody interested in 14 weeks of serious self-contained touring? I've toured all over U.S. and Canada and Europe, but have come to prefer the American and Canadian West and North. Half Moon Bay, CA to Taos, NM then a left turn all the way up the Rockies to Alaska and the Yukon. Trip includes major national parks (for ex. hiking across the Grand Canyon) as well as communities which represent a wide range of cultures, native and European-descended. About 1/3 dirt. Lots of primitive camping, hot springs, back country. Why cycle on a busy highway when you can have a road with perhaps one pick-up stopping and the rancher asking, "Are you lost?"

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Date: December 06, 1999 10:49 AM
Author: kathy
Subject: favorite biking areas

Along the Connecticut River between N.H. and Vt. is New England at its best and untouristy. No mountain passes, just rolling hills. Most traffic is on nearby interstate and there are paved secondary hi-ways on both sides of the river

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Date: December 16, 1999 09:44 AM
Author: Todd (ozarkcyclist@hotmail.com)
Subject: Northern Arkansas Ozarks

Northern Arkansas with the rugged and beautiful Ozark Mountains provides a good network of lightly traveled secondary roads and byways for credit card to totally self-contained bicycle touring. Many small towns along the way offer bed and breakfast type amenities for those cyclist seeking more luxury accommodations and the Ozark National Forest has some of the most scenic campgrounds anywhere in the nation. The friendly folks you'll encounter along the way are a far cry from the bare-foot hillbilly image from the past. Yes, the climbs are a challenge!... especially those out of the White, Red and Buffalo River Valleys, but the efforts are well worth it! I completed a solo self-contained week-long tour this past September starting at Bull Shoals State Park, to Greers Ferry Lake, Blanchard Springs (my personal favorite), Buffalo Point, Yellville and back to Bull Shoals. I will be taking an even longer tour the summer of 2000 which will extend down farther into the Ouachita Mountains around Hot Springs. If anyone would like further information on my touring, please e-mail me at the above address. I will soon have an extensive web site which will cover my interest in cycle touring in more detail as I am an advocate and hard-core fanatic on the subject.

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Date: December 20, 1999 10:10 PM
Author: Dan Regan (psu83@aol.com)
Subject: Vermont Bicycle Tours - opinions?

Can anyone out there offer up opinions on Vermont Bicycle Tours? My wife and I are considering touring with them in Nova Scotia in June 2000 as a 10th anniversary trip. Be honest - these things are expensive! Thanks...

(http://gorpforums.gorp.com/forums/Index.cfm?CFApp=52&Message_ID=29407)

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Date: December 28, 1999 09:15 PM
Author: Penny (hiram@ainop.com)
Subject: Trek Across Maine

Here in Maine, there is an annual ride for the benefit of the American Lung Association that covers 180 miles in 3 days - going from the mountains to the sea - truly spectacular scenery and a ride that is well organized, with tremendous support and the best that Maine has to offer in the summer. More information is available on line from the American Lung Association web site - www.mainelung.org. This year's ride (to be their 16th) is expected to draw 2000 riders from all over the U.S. This is not a race, but a ride and a fund raiser for the ALA - do it at your own pace, and meet people from age 8 to 80. Ride is always over Father's Day weekend - starting at Sunday River Ski Resort and ending in the Belfast/Camden/Rockport area. Do it one time, and be a "Treker" for life!!

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Date: January 20, 2000 04:56 PM
Author: Wendy (wpschin@zeuter.com)
Subject: Touring

We are planning a trip along the north shore of Lake Erie and I would like to know, if you have made this trip before, what to expect as far as traffic and road conditions are concerned. Thanks!

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Date: March 17, 2000 10:11 AM

Author: Ethan Gelber (ethang@gorp.com)

Subject: ... and how about your top Spring picks?

Spring is here! Finally. And it's time to hit the road (although not without some [pre-emptive bike maintenance](#)). The question on the minds of a good many people is: where! Where should I ride? Where should I go for a new year's change of scene and scenery?

Well, last Fall, GORP chose [a few excellent rides](#) that made sense for autumnal reasons. And now, looking back, we realize that these places are just as amazing in Spring. Fortunately, this list has been added to by some go-get-'em members of the GORP community.

Check out our picks and those of your pedaling compatriots. Add to the knowledge pool. We would all love to hear where you ride... and where you think you have had your best rides.

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Date: November 13, 2000 11:44 AM

Author: Kevin Conway (kconway@aztectech.com)

Subject: Northern California single track and road adventures

The best of the best in cycling can always be found somewhere in California, but I been partial to the Marin/Sonoma county trails and roads for the last 8 years. There there is great singletrack throughout the Robert Moses State Park and adjoining lands. Some trails venture some 30+ miles through the dense forest. The vistas in that coastal region are absoutely the most beautiful I've ever come across, be it a clear day or during one of California's winter storms. (which can be more fun if you have the right protection. The Arch Rock trail, Limintour Beach trail, and all adjoining trails in the Inverness region of Olema are steep, fast, and well kept. You may actually spend a beautiful day there without seeing a soul, if your lucky. It is my feeling that you could never say enough about this area that would equal spending a couple of days riding the trails. In the same respect, the raodways in this area are exceptionally forgiving and safe, and can provide you just as stimulating a ride, and in many cases steeper climbs. Most notable to me was the Stinson Beach to Muir Woods and back ride, some 22 miles of winding and hilly coastal road with a steep decent to Muir Woods at the end. This of course leaves you with an equally steep incline to start your ride back, so beware not to spend too much time resting, though you will need your rest to complete the trip. I think all will find that the payoff for this arduous ride lay at the end of the trail, where the small but comfortable outdoor restraunts of Stinson Beach wait eagerly to serve you typically delicious California cuisine. Along with this road tour comes several others including the Headlands and Petaluma to Tomalas Bay rides. The bottom line here is whether your a die hard single track fiend or lover of road tours, this is the place you owe it to yourself to visit.

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Date: November 16, 2000 07:45 PM
Author: dave
Subject: Lake Almanor Area bike rides

too many to list. all types from mellow roads to gonzo single track. well developed public access to wilderness.

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Date: February 19, 2001 09:06 PM
Author: Jim (years1ji@ida.net)
Subject: Great rides

Every spring for the first two weeks in April, Yellowstone Park is open for bicycles only. Last April 7 four of us rode from West Yellowstone to Madison Junction and back. The sun was shining, no cars, no noise, few people, many animals, and a great ride. The trip to Madison Junction is only fourteen miles but is an excellent ride for the whole family. Take some warm clothing in case it gets cold but on the day we rode it was in the low 70's. I would highly recommend this ride.

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Date: February 22, 2001 07:55 AM
Author: Steve (joneses@linkamerica.net)
Subject: Riding the Gaps in the Southern Apps

A great road ride in Georgia's northeast mountains starts north of Dahlonega on Highway 60 at Stonepile Gap. From there, you can go either north (up to Suches on Highway 60) or east on US 19. By taking US 19, you quickly come to US 129 at Turner's Corner where you ride north toward Blairsville. For the shorter ride along the gaps, turn west onto GA 180 until intersecting with GA 60. Turn left (south) and descend the mountain back to Stonepile Gap. It's a great ride any time of the year - even winter, because North Georgia seldom receives much frozen precip or extremely cold weather.

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Date: December 22, 2001 09:58 AM
Author: ed napier (ednapier@hotmail.com)
Subject: Jacksonville Florida to Key West

Best ride in the world is from Jacksonville, Florida to Key West. The ride will be about 550 miles and motels/hotels as well as camping sites are all along the way. You bike on Us 1 and A-1-A for the whole

trip till you cross the bridge from South Miami Beach to Miami and then through the back streets to Florida City and then across the Cards Highway onto US 1 again and then 115 miles down the Keys to Key West. The best time to go is Spring or Fall since the Motel prices are lower and the temperature is not too hot or cold. We just finished the trip in Dec. before the prices change on Dec. 21. Our trip took nine days. Due to the many sight seeing opportunities the trip could be shorter or longer. Our over night stays were in Daytona Beach, Titusville(saw the Shuttle launch), Melbourne Beach, Stuart, Boca Raton, Coral Gables, Key Largo, Marathon, and Key West. Rented a Ranger truck one-way back to Jacksonville.

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Date: December 25, 2001 08:36 AM

Author: Scott (sjlphoto@mindspring.com)

Subject: Florida coast ride

A few years back, I rode the stretch from Fort Lauderdale to Jacksonville, as part of a longer tour (Ft. Laud/St. Louis).

As a long time Floridian, I had assumed that this portion of the trip would serve only as a warmup for the Georgia hills. I was wrong. This part of the tour became as memorable as the remainder. There was (still is) something very enjoyable about cycling alongside the coastline.

Highlights?

- cycling thru "Millionaire's Mile" in Hillsboro Beach
- watching the surfers at Sebastian Inlet
- mystery camping inside Merritt Island National Wildlife Refuge
- gorging on fried Sheepshead sandwiches near St. Augustine

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