



The fine details of the inaugural Randonneuring Gravel Rally of the Ozarks.

- **Overview**
- **Details**
- **Rules**

Welcome to the Randonneuring Gravel Rally of the Ozarks! You're surely aware that this is completely unique event involving three routes, two bikes, and one amazing day. You're probably not aware of all the nuances of this event and what is fully entailed. While we're still hammering out a few details, we give you this insight as to what your day of randonneuring through the Ozarks will look like.

Overview:

Over the course of a day, teams of two riders will pack up their bikes and all their supplies and navigate their way to, and complete, each (or any of) the three routes. Biking routes are provided as GPX files but it is up to the teams to decide the order of which to complete the routes and the driving directions between them.

Itinerary

Teams will depart from the starting point, Rapp's Barren Brewing in Mountain Home, AR at 6:00 am. The rest of the day is up to you! You elect where you go, when you go there, and how long it takes.

Doing all three routes? Awesome! Only two routes are manageable – also awesome! We truly only ask teams to be conscience of your abilities and time of day. As a cut-off time, if teams have not started their last route by 4:00pm we ask that you return to Rapp's and begin enjoying the post-race festivities.



Safety first:

Teams are intentional, there is safety in numbers.

Participants need to keep their eyes on the road: While one teammate drives, the other will be the navigator looking at GPS or paper maps. Out on the gravel routes, we recommend riders staying together and wearing visible apparel. All routes are to be considered “open courses.” While the communities you’ll be driving and riding through are aware of this event, you need to assume that any given individual you see out there has no clue that people ride bikes on gravel roads.

Don’t speed: This is a randonneuring event, not a race. Go ahead and ride fast, but drive the speed limit! We are encouraging you to drive smart and roll into the finish in one piece.

Be visible: You don’t need to wear blaze orange from head to toe, but we want riders to wear some bright colors and have functional white and red lights for each bike. Weather conditions change and you could be riding in poor visibility. Be seen, be safe!

Vehicles

All route starting points are accessible by any given passenger vehicle; no need for 4x4 or any other such feature. Transport your bikes on a rack, in the back of a pickup truck, or stuff them in a van. You’re welcome to transport your bikes your own way.

The Rules:

Very few rules for the day, but one main rule is that there is only one bike per person, NO BACK UP BIKES. While a backup bike may be a good idea, it’s only fair if all participants have a backup bike and that is simply not the case. To keep it fair and to keep you on your toes, one bike per participant that you will have to maintain throughout the day.



Sag & Support

You are your sag & support vehicle. The great thing of navigating the course in your own vehicle is that you can pack all the gear you want! Change of clothes – check. Nutrition – check. Spare tubes – check. Tools and an air pump – check. Kitchen sink – check.

We encourage everyone to think through what a day of riding can look like. What you will likely need throughout the day and what you may need in unlikely circumstances. Depending on the order of routes you will drive past one bike shop but you need to be prepared virtually anything.

Congratulatory Accolades

Upon completing your rides, everyone will return to Rapp's for some vivations and merriment; let's celebrate your accomplishments together! Now, this is a randonneuring event, not a race, so there are not trophies and medals for the first place teams. That said, we want to acknowledge those teams who hit it hard and finish early. We have some "door prizes" for those who return first but as we stated before, this isn't a race, there is no need to speed down the highway to arrive first.

Stops along the way

Still hammering out the details but here's where this section is going:

One of the driving factors in creating this event is to not only showcase the gravel in our area, but also some of our fine local establishments. As you drive to each route's starting point we'll incorporate at least one local establishment who will be offering some sort of service or product that we'd like you to partake in. Maybe it's picking up a drink from a local convenience store, a beer, a sticker from an outfitter....we just don't know yet!