

Welcome to the 39th Annual

# LA-BARSTOW-TO-VEGAS

DUAL SPORT and ADVENTURE BIKE RIDE ~ November 25-26, 2021

BETA AMA NATIONAL DUAL SPORT SERIES and AMA NATIONAL ADVENTURE RIDING SERIES

The AMA District 37 Dual Sport Committee welcomes you to our 39th Annual LA-B-to-V Ride and 28th Annual Toys for Tots run. We'll begin for the third year at Embassy Suites in Palmdale, following marked existing trails on Bureau of Land Management (BLM) land through U.S. National Forests and finish in Las Vegas at The Orleans Hotel and Casino, a mile west of I-15 on Tropicana Blvd.

ALL RULES MUST BE ADHERED TO! Failure to do so WILL JEOPARDIZE our ability to receive permits for future dual sport rides. If you need additional information, please call Paul Flanders at 626-446-7386 or Kieth Huff at 562-244-0244.

**Membership in the American Motorcyclist Association (AMA) is required to ride LA-B-to-V. Avoid waiting in a second line at registration. Sign up now at [join.americanmotorcyclist.com/privileges-savenow/](http://join.americanmotorcyclist.com/privileges-savenow/) if you haven't already.**

PREPARE YOURSELF AND YOUR BIKE! Eat breakfast and get gas BEFORE you reach signups. Sweep crew leaves Friday at 8:30 a.m.! Expect rain, snow, wind, or fog, although sunshine is usually the norm. Layers are helpful so you can shed clothes if it gets warm. BE SURE TO BRING ALONG A BACKPACK WITH WATER, TOOL KIT, AND TIRE REPAIR KIT! Take time to go over your bike thoroughly to prevent on-course repairs. Tighten all bolts and check chain, cables, brakes, air/fuel filters, battery, oil, drain plug, and tires.

TIRES: Fresh, aggressive off road/knobby tires are VERY important! If you need a tire after the first day, A-ONE CYCLE will be open at the hotel parking lot in Barstow. Buy and install new tires and, especially, ultra-heavy-duty tubes before the ride. Carry a regular spare tube and repair kit (including tire irons) with you on the ride!

DUST: Be prepared for dust. A cover for your mouth and nose is a smart idea. The ride is over 400 miles of desert every year. (Hope for rain before the event and the awe- some traction we might have if it happens.)

DUAL SPORT: **This is not a race or competitive event!** Our course has been ridden by both novice to veteran riders within daylight hours. Your skill and personal riding style may vary from these riders. There are leap options or bail outs for both day's rides. USE THEM! We don't want to be out looking for you because you are lost in the dark. Please remember this is not a race, but a scenic dual sport ride for you to enjoy our mountain and desert areas.

**TIME MANAGEMENT IS CRITICAL, SO PLAN YOUR DAY!**

TECHNICAL REQUIREMENTS: As part of our permits, your motorcycle must have an operational spark arrestor at the start. Before you proceed to sign-ups for the event, your motorcycle needs to be street licensed and have proper license plate, muffler, mirror, turn signals, headlight, tail/brake light and insurance. If you are coming from out-of-state and have all the necessary equipment to be street licensed for your state, this will suffice. Aftermarket exhaust systems not exceeding 96 dbA will be allowed. NO STOCK PIPES WITHOUT BAFFLES; THEY ARE TOO LOUD!

ROLL CHART and GPS USE: You will have the option to ask for a roll chart with turn mileage and important course information. If using a roll chart, it is recommended to use an enduro-style roll chart holder. Most riders find the Countdown roll chart holder is the deepest and easiest to load. Find it at Flanders Co. in Duarte, CA. Tel. 626-303-0700. **GPS is only an aid for navigation. Most of the important information concerning the route is on the roll chart and not annotated onto GPS.** Your GPS is not accurate enough to warn of critical turns. If you are using GPS, bring your own cable to signups for a GPS download. You will also receive a map and updated information pertaining to the course and permit stipulations for each day. We are going towards GPS only next year.

ROLL CHART RESETS: There are many reset sections per day where you set your odometer back to zero miles. Do NOT stop for a lengthy period. Stopped time burns daylight! Reset and get going or try to reset on the fly. Save the bench racing for when you finish. If you want to take photos, have your camera in a handy location, not in your backpack.

FUEL: A four-stroke bike with a large capacity fuel tank should have no problem with the distances. If you can't make 85 miles, you may want to carry gas with you. At the lunch stop on DAY TWO in Sandy Valley, each rider will receive 1.5 gallons of gas ONLY. This is just enough for you to make it to Las Vegas. **Get gas at each opportunity, especially in Baker!** At the gas stations, try to refuel as a group of 3 or 4 as one purchase to speed things up. Get fuel as you arrive in Barstow.

MEDICAL EMERGENCIES: All regular checkpoints will have minor first aid kits available to riders. If you are injured or riding with another rider who becomes injured, please have someone notify the closest available checkpoint of the position on the course and the nature of the injury. Keep the emergency room address/phone list, along with other important addresses and phone numbers provided in this packet, on you. When you seek medical help, notify our workers with your name and rider number so we can notify your pit crew. The best way to get emergency medical help is to call 911.

SWEEP CREW / DESIGNATED COURSE: The sweep crews follow the designated course only. They leave the start area half an hour after signups close. Do not deviate from the course. Use bail outs, when necessary, but notify the nearest checkpoint of your ride plan. The sweep trucks have been instructed to pick up ALL riders and broken motorcycles on the course to be delivered to a drop-off point to connect with your crew. Your cooperation is appreciated.

LUGGAGE and GEAR: We will transport your small gear bag from the start to the finish each day. Please put your contact info on all pieces of your luggage. We are not responsible for lost, stolen or damaged luggage. Drop off/pickup of luggage is during sign-in times each day at the signup area. You'll find the luggage trailer parked outside the signup area.

GOODIES: Your entry includes a commemorative t-shirt, sticker, ride pin and special goody. Some additional t-shirts will be available for sale in Las Vegas.

TOYS FOR TOTS BENEFIT: Remember, this is a Toys for Tots benefit ride, and you are asked to bring an unwrapped toy with a \$20 value or be prepared to make a charitable \$20 cash contribution.

WE NEED HELP AT THE EVENT: If your pit crew/wife/ family/friends can assist us at the start or finish of each day, we would really appreciate it. To help with signups or parking lot support, please call Jackie Nicholson 626-225-0269 If you have questions, find a worker wearing District 37 attire.

ALL LAWS APPLY: All Federal, State, County, Local, BLM (and Murphy's) laws apply to the operation of this event. This event IS NOT exempt from any law pertaining to the safe operation of a street-licensed motor vehicle.

## **IMPORTANT COURSE INFORMATION**

ALL routes on the course are expected to have two-way traffic situations. Please keep to your RIGHT on all roads, especially in the mountains. You may encounter hikers, horseback riders, mountain bikers, and others within our course area. Although we have permits for this event, this does not give us exclusive use of the areas. Course marking will be with PINK AND BLUE ribbon at a turn with a confirming ribbon after the turn. RESETS will be marked with RED/ SILVER mylar and BLUE ribbon. Ribbon will only be used in dirt sections unless otherwise specified on the roll chart. IMPORTANT: HARD WAYS are exactly that and we mean it, no B.S! Our hard ways may strip the cylinders off a BMW twin, and we won't airlift it out!

The 2022 LA-B-to-V course will traverse the Toiyabe National Forests and four BLM Resource Areas. On both days, there are checkpoints and sections where speed limits of 30 mph to "protect the desert tortoise" are necessary. This course will include mostly two-track jeep roads and several short sections of pavement. The terrain will vary with both easy- and hard-way options available. Some "bail-outs" and "leaps" will be included for you to take if you experience fatigue or are running late.

**THERE ARE 30 MPH TORTOISE ZONES. YOU MUST OBEY THE SPEED LIMITS. YOU CANNOT SEE THESE ON YOUR GPS. THEY ARE NOTATED ON YOUR ROLL CHART. BLM OFFICERS WILL BE WATCHING FOR RIDERS EXCEEDING THE SPEED LIMIT IN THESE ZONES.**

**DAY ONE SIGN-IN PROCEDURES: FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 25, 2022 (START RIDING DAY ONE 6:30-8 a.m.)**

Embassy Suites, 39375 5th St. W., Palmdale, CA 661-266-3756

Step 1. Parking: Parking is available for your vehicles on the four streets surrounding Embassy Suites: W. Ave P-4 north of the hotel, 5th St. W on the east side of the hotel, Technology Dr. on the south side of the hotel and Trade Center Dr. on the west side of the hotel. A dedicated security guard hired by District 37 Dual Sport will be watching bikes from Thursday night to Friday morning. There will be porta potties in the Embassy Suites parking lot for your convenience.

Step 2. Technical requirements: Friday morning, make sure you have a spark arrestor and other street-licensed requirements. All motorcycles should be at or below 96 dbA at 20". You must have a license plate and street legal motorcycle. Park your bike where directed by event volunteers. Do not block the Embassy Suites east driveway on Ave. 5th St. W! Vehicles will be driving through to the parking area. Parking until Sunday or Monday for your vehicle is available in the Embassy Suites parking lot.

Step 3. Sign-ups: You will be directed, as spacing permits, to the signup area, where you will pick up your rider envelope. Take your GPS/cable and Toy for Tots toy with you to sign-ups.

Step 4. Toys for Tots: Put your toy into the receptacles provided and get your toy receipt or have your \$20 ready here.

Step 5. AMA Membership: AMA membership (\$49) is required to ride LA-B-to-V. Your name will automatically be entered into the national drawing to win a new Beta motorcycle from Beta USA just by entering LA-B-to-V!

Step 6. Entry Processing: Pre-Entry-You will be directed, as spacing permits, to the area corresponding to your LAST NAME. If you have not prepaid for the toy, turn in your toy receipt and sign the release form. You will receive your rider wristband, roll chart, map, t-shirt, LA-B-to-V rider # sticker, ride plaque (if ordered) and other important information.

Step 7. Next, if you have a GPS, go to the GPS download area to get the tracks downloaded. Make sure ahead of time previous GPS tracks are cleared to accept the download. Remember to bring your GPS cable! **Only one GPS unit downloaded per rider. You must show wristband to receive GPS download.**

Step 8. If using a roll chart: **Start rolling with the end/ finish of the roll chart connected to the bottom spindle! If the roll chart is too thick for your holder, tear it in two where the lunch stop is, put the second half in your backpack and load that portion after lunch. PUT YOUR LA-B-TO-V RIDER # STICKER ON YOUR NUMBER PLATE OR FRONT FENDER. WEAR YOUR RIDER WRISTBAND THROUGHOUT THE RIDE, INCLUDING SATURDAY NIGHT.**

Step 9. **READ YOUR RIDERS' INSTRUCTIONS ON THE BACK OF THE MAP IN YOUR ENVELOPE BEFORE LEAVING ON THE RIDE!**

Step 10. Put 1 small gear bag in the enclosed luggage vehicle outside the front entrance of Embassy Suites or send with your personal support crew. Give your support crew the **PINK MAP** in your rider packet. It's for them to follow the route and meet you along the way, if desired.

Step 11. GO! Hit the road! Start the ride by 6:30 a.m. (no later than 8 a.m.) GET FUEL PREFERABLY BEFORE YOU ARRIVE AT SIGNUPS or AS YOU DEPART! Lunch stop in silver lakes, eat and gas up quickly, then ride to the Checkpoint on the way out of lunch. Then get back on the trail. Leaps and bailouts are coordinated on the roll charts to the maps supplied. You MUST keep track of TIME and use it to your advantage in order to be in before dark, especially if you want to ride the hard ways.

FINISH DAY ONE: BARSTOW-FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 25. Our official headquarters, new this year, will be at the Hampton Inn and Suites, 2710 Lenwood Rd., Barstow, in the meeting room inside the hotel. Look for the Checkpoint sign and go inside the hotel. We will open Day One Finish around 2 p.m. and will continue in the same location until 7 p.m. or when final sweep comes in. You will receive Day Two riders' instructions/map and GPS downloads at the same time. **If you bail out early, you must check in so we can account for you.** There is limited RV/trailer parking in the parking lots of Hampton Inn. Overflow RV/trailer parking will be in the dirt lot next to hotel. Camping here is for self-contained RVs only. Bring locks for all evenings to secure your bike! (See below.)

BIKE SECURITY IN BARSTOW: Security for your bike will be provided by Boy Scout Troop 357 for a \$10 donation. The secure, well-lit paddock on the dirt lot adjacent to the Hampton Inn will be staffed by troop members and their fathers from 2 p.m. Friday until 7:30 a.m. Saturday morning. Your bike must be out of the lot by 7:30 a.m.! **(In the last few years, bikes have been stolen that were parked at other motels, even inside vehicles and trailers. Let the Boy Scouts guard your bike!)**

MOTORCYCLE MECHANIC: A-one cycle set up in Barstow next to the Hampton Inn. Alex will stock basic parts, tires, tubes, chains, and levers. A master technician, Alex can do all types of repairs (within limits, if parts are available) from early Friday afternoon throughout the evening until Saturday morning. See Alex at A-one cycle or call 760-447-4538

DAY TWO ONLY RIDERS: PRE- AND POST-ENTRANTS. Check in at the Hampton Inn beginning 3 p.m. Friday, 11/25, until 7 p.m. and again from 6-7 a.m. on Saturday, 11/26, to receive your second day's riders' envelope, roll chart, map, and GPS download.

### **DAY TWO PROCEDURES: SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 26, 2021 (START DAY TWO 6-7 a.m.)**

START- DAY TWO IN BARSTOW: SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 26, 6 A.M., **EVERY ENTRANT WILL PASS THROUGH OUR CHECK-OUT CHUTE STARTING BEFORE DAYBREAK ON SATURDAY MORNING.** You will be checked off our official rider list to account for our riders on the course. This is part of our permit stipulations from the BLM, so we must

**strictly adhere to it!** BLM personnel will ride the event on both days as they have in the past. Give them your best regards and share your enthusiasm for the dual sport rides we have on our public land.

Day Two will be nearly all desert and a fabulous mountain finish, with a course of around 250 miles, depending on route options. There are fun and fast sections. Keep a good pace. Get a quick lunch at our checkpoint in Sandy Valley, where a free lunch and 1.5 gallons of gas are part of your entry fee. **ONLY RIDERS WEARING WRIST- BANDS WILL RECEIVE FREE LUNCH AND GAS!** The best part of the ride is after lunch through two mountain passes between Sandy Valley and Las Vegas, so don't delay here. **FILL YOUR BIKE AT BAKER AND EACH GAS STOP!**

**FINISH-DAY TWO LAS VEGAS: SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 26.** The finish will be at The Orleans Hotel and Casino in Las Vegas about one mile west of I-15 on Tropicana Blvd., on the street level of the north parking structure. Porta potties will be provided for your convenience. Check-in will be from 2-7 p.m. **Check in even if you are staying at another hotel, at a friend's place, or going home!** If you arrive after 6 p.m., check in at the awards reception at 7 p.m.

Photo ops with the showgirls are at the finish with Grumpy from 3-6 p.m. Showgirls are upstairs at the Mardi Gras Ballroom from 6:30-8:30 p.m. for personal photos.

**AWARDS RECEPTION: LAS VEGAS-SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 26.** Riders, their families, and support crew are welcome to attend the awards reception in the Mardi Gras Ballroom above The Orleans Casino. Rider admission is included with entry. Doors open at 7 p.m. with no host bar, hors d'oeuvres will be available starting at 7:30 p.m. and the awards presentation begins at 8 p.m. **Riders must wear their wristbands for admission and to win prizes.** Riders must be present to win all prizes.

**SPECIAL AWARDS:** Tradition dictates that we recognize those who take the effort and dare to be different. If you feel that you or one of your riding buddies qualifies for one of these awards, please discuss this with our District 37 officers.

**OVERALL DAY 1 AND DAY 2 COMBINED CATEGORIES:**

Terry Pratt Memorial Oldest Motorcycle Award

Cal Bottum Oldest Participant (verified by driver license)

Hard Luck Award (verified by witnesses, not rumor) Smallest Engine

(Rider finishing both days has priority on this award) Distance Traveled to Event Award

(U.S. entries only, verified by entry and driver license)

International Entry Award (for farthest outside the U.S.) Most Unusual Motorcycle

(As determined by our opinionated staff) Ben Gay Award (Ouch!)

**BIKE SECURITY IN LAS VEGAS:** A dedicated security guard hired by District 37 Dual Sport will guard bikes from 8 p.m. Saturday night to 8 a.m. Sunday morning at The Orleans Hotel District 37 parking area where you checked in upon finishing the event. **Regardless, you should still lock up your bikes! If you have a long cable, lock your bike to a pole.**

**OUR SWEEP CREWS ARE PROVIDED AS A COURTESY:**

They are not mechanics, do not change tires, adjust valves, or refill your oil. They are there to assist, get medical aid, and communicate in case of an emergency. Sweep is not out there to remove you from a hard way course. Our 4WD sweep will help get a broken bike out of the boonies to the nearest road so your own crew can rescue you. Their radios and communication system will make sure your message gets to the appropriate party. Your entry fee does not provide point- to-point towing/flatbed service. Our sweep crews will close portions of the course throughout the day. If you do not heed sweep's personnel warnings, you will be in the desert after dark. You will be on your own with no one behind you. (Unless you have super-bright off-road lights on your bike, you do not want to be out in the very dark desert at night. It is easy to lose your bearings and get lost.)

Consult LA-Barstow-to-Vegas Facebook Group for important information updates, to find riding buddies, and to arrange transportation with fellow riders.

### **HOTELS**

Thursday night, November 24, Palmdale: Event headquarters Embassy Suites 39375 5th St. W. Palmdale, CA 661-266-3756

Friday morning, November 26, Palmdale: Event headquarters Embassy Suites 39375 5th St. W. Palmdale, CA 661-266-3756

Exit Hwy-14 at Hwy 138 (W. Palmdale Blvd.) and go west. Turn right on 5th St. West. Go north. Embassy Suites is on the left. Park on the street or in the Embassy Suites parking lot only if leaving a vehicle for the weekend.

Friday night, November 26, Barstow: Event headquarters Hampton Inn 2710 Lenwood Rd. Barstow, CA 760-253-2600 (Across the parking lot from Holiday Inn Express)

Holiday Inn Express 2700 Lenwood Rd. Barstow, CA 760-253-9200

Comfort Suites 2571 Fisher Blvd. Barstow, CA 760-253-3600 (.8 miles away)

Ayres Hotel 2812 Lenwood Rd. Barstow, CA 760-307-3121 (.4 miles away)

Saturday night, November 26, Las Vegas: Event headquarters The Orleans Hotel and Casino 4500 W. Tropicana Blvd. Las Vegas, NV (About one mile west of the strip.) 702-365-7111 or 800-675-3267

### **MOTORCYCLE SHOPS AT THE START**

CYCLE GEAR Tel. 661-273-6113  
(Open 6 a.m. Friday. See flyer.)  
550 W. Rancho Vista Blvd., Ste B., Palmdale, CA 93551

### **CELL PHONE MONITORS**

Paul Flanders 626-684-2336 Dave Spencer 661-733-7096 Kieth Huff 562-244-0244 Jackie Nicholson 626-255-0269

### **EMERGENCY INFORMATION**

ANTELOPE VALLEY HOSPITAL

1600 West Ave. J  
Lancaster, CA 93534

661-949-5000  
(East of the 14 Freeway, on the corner of 15th St. West)

BARSTOW COMMUNITY HOSPITAL

820 E. Mountain View St. Barstow, CA 92311 760-256-1761

HUMANA/SUNRISE HOSPITAL

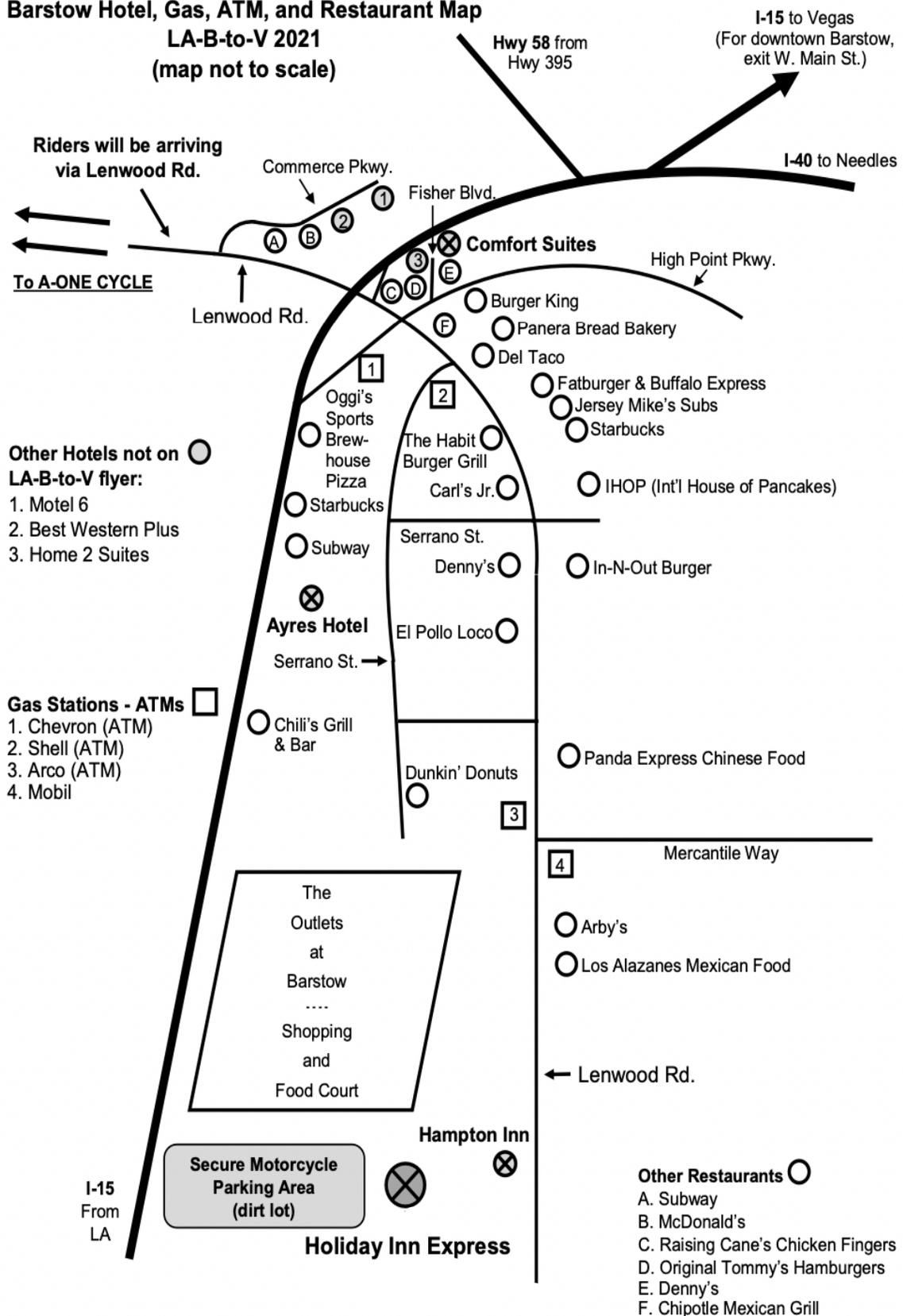
3186 S. Maryland Pkwy. Las Vegas, NV 89109 702-731-8000

UNIVERSITY MEDICAL CENTER (Trauma Center) 1800 W. Charleston Blvd.  
Las Vegas, NV 89102  
702-383-2000

BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

2601 Barstow Rd., Barstow, CA 92311 760-252-6000

**Barstow Hotel, Gas, ATM, and Restaurant Map**  
**LA-B-to-V 2021**  
 (map not to scale)



# Photos by Grumpy

## LA-B-to-V Photo Instructions

Welcome to this year's LA-B-to-V dual sport ride! Our team looks forward to taking your photos so you can remember your LA-B-to-V dual sport experience.

**Rider Number:** Place the number sticker in your rider envelope on your front number plate or fender in a vertical location with no obstructions, so it can be seen from a distance. Our crew depends on these numbers to identify your photos; good sticker placement will help make your photos easy to process online.

**Photo Locations:** Multiple action photo locations are located on the off-road trail sections before lunch both days. Exact locations are marked on the roll chart as well as on our flyer included in your rider envelope you receive at signups. Look for our banners on the trail preceding the photo area and be ready to look good when you see our photographers. There is also one "non-rolling" photo location on Day Two with the showgirls at the finish in the parking lot of The Orleans Hotel.

## Purchasing Photos

Check our flyer in your rider envelope at signups for pricing.

**Online:** Photos are usually available within a week of the event. Individual Digital Images and Prints ranging from 4"x6" to 24"x36" are available through our website. Digital Images will be available for download immediately following payment. Prints are usually shipped and received in less than a week. Our website uses PayPal, which accepts all major credit cards.

Thank you for your cooperation in helping us make your photographic experience an enjoyable one at this year's LA-B-to-V dual sport/adventure bike ride. Your customer satisfaction is of great importance to me.

See you in Las Vegas!

Bryan "Grumpy" Clark 760-947-7558 [photosbygrumpy@gmail.com](mailto:photosbygrumpy@gmail.com) [www.photosbygrumpy.com](http://www.photosbygrumpy.com)



## Steve's Trail Etiquette Tips By Steve Di Yorio

Courtesy is contagious. Please spread it abundantly! We represent our sport to the outside world, so help keep a positive image for dual sport riders everywhere.

When coming up from behind on a slower rider I'll rev the engine a couple times and/or honk to let them know I'm behind, then wait to pass safely. (Follow the Golden Rule, remembering what it was like when you were a beginner rider. Frightening novices can lead to injuries.)

If you need to stop, pull over to the side of the trail. Don't stop in the middle of the trail!

When going from dirt to street, don't forget you're now on the street! Sounds simple, but easy to forget. Wheelies, erratic driving, sudden stops, peeling rubber, etc. are not going to win us any points. Don't forget to use blinkers, if they haven't broken off, AND hand signals for turning.

When approaching oncoming OHV traffic, I use the common hand signals to indicate who in my group is behind me, if I can. One finger for each rider behind me or a closed fist if I'm the last one. Maybe this is stupid on LA-B-to-V because I don't have 500 fingers, but there are times when it's just my group for a short while and I feel it helps to practice the habit and promote it among others.

When encountering non-two-wheeled citizens - hikers, horseback riders, mountain bikes, etc. - I always slow way down and wait until I'm a fair distance away before I yank the throttle to avoid dust and rock flinging. A nice wave or nod to be friendly doesn't hurt either. (This is common in Red Rock Canyon.)

I try my best to STAY ON THE TRAILS. If I miss a turn, I turn around and go back or find a connecting trail up ahead, even if a member of my own group decides to bust across a bunch of bushes just to get back on track. (Do you know someone from District 37 Dual Sport has to go back with a rake and repair all those busted-across trails?)

Tortoise zones - 30MPH. This is hard to do but following the rules will keep trails open. Not following rules could jeopardize the future of LA-B-to-V. Don't be a weenie and ruin it for the rest of us because you have a desire for heavy throttle. Pay attention to the roll chart for these zones. If you see one of these little dudes on the trail, stop to pick it up and move it away from the trail to keep it safe. Tell it to go get laid so they won't be endangered any more.

Pack it in/pack it out - don't litter; that's just lame. It takes minimal effort to put trash in your backpack, bike storage, riding pants, in your helmet or up your butt until you can put it in a trash can. This includes cigarette butts. Make sure it's out; store it or lose it at the next pit stop with a trash can. It's not that hard. If everyone does their part, the planet won't look like sh\*t. We are guests here. Let's act like it.

If you encounter officials who feel like harassing you a bit, accommodate them and be nice. Acting like a poo-butt will only make things worse for you and the rest of us. If your bike isn't street licensed, that's your fault, not theirs. Getting angry about it and forcing an escalation to the situation is a losing scenario. Be a winner, not a wiener.

Did I miss anything? Give your mommy a hug? Honor thy country? LIVE TO RIDE?

Have fun out there, guys and gals; I know I will.

Steve Di Yorio

## LA-B-to-V Smart Tips Submitted by people who have been there, done that

This list of LA-B-to-V Smart Tips is included especially for dual sporters riding LA-B-to-V for the first time. However, there are some experienced at this ride who might not have thought of these tips that have proven to make life easier on the trail and when you arrive at your hotel. Read on!

Julie Angell: It's a long walk from the check-in point/luggage trailer in the parking lot of The Orleans Hotel to the front desk of the hotel. Then there's the long walk to your room. Do yourself a favor and buy/borrow a small gear bag with wheels. If you don't have one, you'll wish you did!

Dual Sport Referee: A guy makes his reservation about two months before the ride with The Orleans in Las Vegas. On the day of the ride, his wife drives their truck and arrives in Vegas three hours before her husband. The hotel will not give her the room because the reservation only has his name on it.

She has the same last name, same home address, same credit card number as the husband and the reservation confirmation number. The hotel still won't budge. She must wait until her husband gets in to check in at the hotel and get their room key.  
(This happened years ago to former District 37 Dual Sport president Jim Woods and his wife.)

Add the names of the adults sharing your room with you in case they arrive in town before you. If you already have a reservation, you can call and add their names.

Julie Angell: Put your business card or contact information in your fender bags. Fender bags get turned in to us at the Holiday Inn and The Orleans each year that have fallen off. Some never get found by our riders or sweep. You can't get your fender bag back if no one knows who it belongs to!

Drill small holes in your fenders and zip-tie the clips at the end of the straps to your fender. Keeps your fender bags from falling off.

What do you do about the cold temperatures in the mornings? In 2010, it was in the low twenties leaving Barstow. Brrr!

Candycornman: WEAR SOME GOOD WARM GLOVES! Sometimes it's freakin' cold in the mornings.

mcdx: I found the cheap air-activated hand warmers fit in the top of my gloves and worked well. (Available at Walmart.)

Crawdaddy: I get teased sometimes about the elephant ears I have screwed into my bark busters in the winter months, but nobody is teasing me after that first rest stop in the morning when I start "complaining" about how "warm" my hands are due to heated grips and elephant ears.

You can buy both heated grip elements and elephant ears online for about \$30-40 each. (Moose Racing Foam Handguards.)

I also drop air activated heated foot warmers into the soles of my boots (available at any sporting goods store or Walmart). They last several hours, which is good enough to get you through the morning. It's a good \$3 investment.

And don't forget the balaclava for your face. Cold feet/hands/face = no bueno.

CF: If you're on a budget, you can tape cardboard on your hand grips in lieu of elephant ears.

mcdx: It was so cold in 2010, the water hose for our Camelbaks froze. You might want to purchase the insulated hose cover.

Julie Angell: Buy merino wool long underwear. Nothing beats merino wool when it's cold outside. Believe it or not, it keeps you cool when it's hot outside too. It's expensive but won't smell like polyester long underwear will eventually under the arms. Doesn't itch-I guarantee it! I wear several layers of Smartwool under my jersey, one under my riding pants and a windbreaker in cold weather while riding. Rolls up small in my backpack. No heavy jacket for me that you can't remove when it warms up!

Buy it at [smartwool.com](http://smartwool.com), at REI, or on [Amazon.com](http://Amazon.com).

goldenrod: Buy a nice microfiber cloth at the 99-cent store for cleaning goggles and GPS lenses on the go. They won't scratch your lenses/screens.

CF: Have a microfiber cloth close by. There's lots of dust, especially in the early morning leaving Barstow riding into the sunrise. It's hard to see with the blinding sun/dust that never settles.

goldenrod: How about the old trick of using duct tape and a cardboard extension for your helmet visor when heading into that blinding morning sunshine Saturday morning?

Waky66e: If I can make it this year, I'm bringing a dust mask. I blew at least 1/4 cup of El Mirage out of my head one year.

I'm also transferring all my "go to" items forward to my belt pack and jacket. (Keep items like your camera, goggle-cleaning cloth and energy gels in your number plate bag or a pocket where you can get to them quickly, not in your backpack.)

Julie Angell: Go to Walmart and buy a Cliplight in the flashlight section. They cost about \$10. Attach it to the visor of your helmet and put some duct tape on the clip so it won't come off in case you fall over.

Why do this? How are you going to see your roll chart, GPS and speedometer at night? Or work on your bike if you need to?

You can get different versions of this light at Harbor Freight, Turner's Outdoorsman and Bass Pro Shop, but Walmart's version has worked best for me.

Jim Pilon: Or carry an LED headlamp in your backpack in case you get caught in the dark. There are many kinds. Get the brightest (most lumens) you can afford. It really helps to have two hands to work on your bike instead of one holding a flashlight.

CF: Use your GPS along with the roll chart, double-checking constantly.

Candycornman: Double check your gear. I was going through mine today and found my matches didn't work, glow light didn't work, etc. All the odd items that I carried for the last two years and never used. Guess it's time to replace some items on Julie's list of 'What Should I take on LA-B-to-V?'

Jeff Thompson: And include your spare tube, patches and glue in that check. If they have been in your fender pack for a year or more, the tube may not hold air, or the glue may not stick (or BOTH). Trust me, I learned that one the hard way.

Strega: Three things that will NEVER help you while on a dual sport ride: 1. Fuel you left at the pump. 2. Water you left in the jug. 3. Tools you left on the bench.

mcdx: Put a wrench on every bolt before the ride. If you are just now working on your bike, you need to get busy.

Julie Angell: Make sure you carry the AAA Los Angeles Region, Central Coast Region and the San Bernardino Region map. The latter covers Las Vegas as well. Get them for your support crew too. They are the best maps you will find for the ride!

Jill Flanders: Carry cash with you on the ride, and I don't mean \$1. You'd be surprised how little cash some of the riders carry on them. You need to pay for lunch, gas, dinner, tips, etc. What if you have to pay someone to get you out of a bind?

Credit cards aren't good everywhere, especially at little podunk gas stations.

Christopher Rohner: Get that GPS down pat. Keep moving. Get a 3L bladder for your backpack. Bring a spare, clean, pre-oiled air filter in a gallon ziplock bag. Swap it out in Barstow. Wear layers and peel off as temps rise. Remember to snack during the day.

Brandon Brewer: Ride in a group of 2-3. Big groups aren't good because every time there's a small issue, the whole group stops. Make sure your team is prepared!

Hope these tips help you out. Now go get ready!