



# RIDE GUIDE

MONTANA ROAD TOUR  
CONTINENTAL DIVIDE ROUTE 2021

# WELCOME

The Montana Road Tour is a new name but you'll see a lot of familiar faces from our past ride, Cycle Greater Yellowstone. It's a little smaller this year due to pandemic uncertainties, but we hope to build back with a few more numbers so we can have "camp" with more of the fun and amenities that come with a few hundred people.

We hope you are ready for a challenging week. We have some long days in the saddle, but also the opportunity to not be in the saddle on a couple of days. We'll pass through the Continental Divide a couple of times and ride through the Pioneer Scenic Byway on Day 3 along with a couple of passes including Mill Creek Pass on Day 1, Big Hole Pass Day 2 & 3, opportunity for Badger Pass on Day 4 and Pipestone Pass Day 5. Long slow climbs with long descents make up a large portion of this ride. We'll have a few "flat" sections but there's always a hill somewhere. Day 2 will bring you to Bannack, MT, where you can explore over 60 intact structures from the old gold mining town. You can walk through town so we'll offer a shoe drop here so you don't have to walk around in your bike shoes.

While in Jackson, you'll get to enjoy hot springs for a couple of nights along with live music. Dillon will have live music and a local performance from the Junior Fiddlers – after all, the area (and Butte) is known for it's Irish roots.

Thank you for joining us this year!!

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# BASICS OF THE MONTANA ROAD TOUR

This route is going to test your abilities in heat, long climbs, distance and changing temperatures. You'll be starting at 5,500 feet elevation and top out at about 7,900 feet. Montana is known for dramatic changes in weather and temperature - wind, hail, snow, heat.... you'll be challenged beyond the saddle. So please be sure to leave aid stations with full water bottles, drink often, stay fueled with food and electrolytes and eat well at dinner. If you live at a lower elevation, your body will be adapting to elevation – you'll need to drink and eat more than your used to in order to accommodate the work your body needs to do to adapt. Hydration is key.

Each aid station has water, electrolytes and nutrition. Some have more food than others but you'll have the opportunity to stay stocked up while out on the route. Some of our stops are along with a bar/tavern stop or not far from a small store if you'd like to purchase something locally. But many of our stops are a good distance from local amenities. So if you see a store and think you might need something – stop! You may not see one for a long time!

Mechanics will be on the route and in camp. See more on page 9.

Packing weight is 65 lbs. for campers and 40 lbs. for hotel folks. Please be thoughtful of those hauling your gear. It's five days on a bike and we know bike clothes don't weigh that much so leave your 3 pairs of jeans home, bring one pair of shorts and one pair of long pants. See more about packing on page 5. Thank you in advance for helping us out.

Read on and if you have more questions, just ask. Thank you!

# PACKING LIST

## Bike

- Helmet – required!
- Gloves
- Bike shoes
- 2-3 bike shorts
- 2-3 jerseys (1 long sleeve/arm warmers)
- 1 set leg warmers/bike tights
- 3 pairs socks – one wool or thick layer
- Rain jacket
- 1 wool or synthetic layer
- Bike shoe toe covers
- Wool or synthetic skull cap
- One item with reflective gear – vest/jacket
- Rear view mirror\*

## Bike Accessories

- Small bike pouch
- Rear bike light – red or bright white
- Two water bottles or hydration pack
- Tire irons
- Bike tube
- Patch kit
- Chain lube\*
- Duct Tape/electric tape\*
- 1-2 cleat screws
- Zip ties\*
- Plastic bag or bike seat cover\*
- Gear drop bag – to leave gear at a rest stop in order to be picked up and brought to the finish. Zip lock, old stuff sack, big sock – anything that folds and fits easily into your jersey.

## Off Bike Clothing

- Walking shoes
- Pants
- Shorts
- Shirt – short and long sleeve
- Undergarments
- Thermal pants/top
- Outer warm layer – puffy
- Gloves
- Beanie/hat & brimmed hat
- Swim suit

## Miscellaneous

- Sunscreen
- Toothbrush/toothpaste
- Camera\*
- Extra water bottle
- Chamois Crème
- Multi-tool\*
- Pain reliever of choice\*
- Maps downloaded from Ride with GPS\*

## Camping\*

- Sleeping bag
- Pillow
- Tent
- Sleeping pad or similar
- Headlamp/flashlight
- Earplugs
- Bungee or rope for tying off a short area to hang/dry washrag/towel
- Towel & washrag
- Small chair (we will have some in camp)
- Dry cloth for under tent

\*Denotes not necessary but recommended. Also, only applies to camping participants. If in hotels, please keep bags to 40 lbs. or less. We have to deliver these to hotels and pick them up. If camping, 65 lbs. or less. Please be considerate of those that have to handle your luggage. **If it's too heavy – it won't come off the truck and you can figure out how to lift it and bring it to your hotel or campsite.** We will have a couple of wash bins for those camping. You'll have two nights in each location so you'll have time to wash/rinse your jerseys & shorts. Thank you in advance!



# ARRIVAL

## Flying In

If flying into the Butte Airport, check with your hotel to see if they offer a shuttle, if not, please email Jennifer and be sure to fill out your rider information so we know your flight information.

If flying into the Bozeman Airport, please be sure to fill out your rider information and purchase a shuttle on our website at [montanacyclingproject.com/shop](http://montanacyclingproject.com/shop). We have two shuttles going from the Bozeman Airport to Butte, August 7, 4 pm and August 8 2:30 pm. You can purchase departure shuttles (Butte to Bozeman) there as well for Friday, August 13, 7 pm and Saturday, August 14, 7 are.

## Driving In

If your driving to the event, parking will be in [Butte at the High Altitude Training Center](#), 34 Olympic Way, Butte, MT 59701. This will also be the finish line. You can park there Sunday evening, 4-8 pm or Monday morning early 5-6:30 am (you need to be heading out on the course by 7 am).

Here is how you do it:

Sunday - Leave your baggage at the hotel/KOA where you are staying, take your bike and car to parking. Leave your car, lock it, ride your bike back to your accommodations. Use the map on page 7. We do not have shuttles, parking is free but upon return we will have a donation bucket for the High Altitude Training Center (HAT) – they're giving us this location and do a lot of great work for the Butte community!

Monday – drop luggage at the Chamber (if camping) or leave it at your hotel if it's on our list. Or leave your luggage at the HAT when you drop your car if your accommodations are not on our list (like a VRBO or AirBnB). Leave your car, lock it, ride your bike to the Chamber for breakfast and start.

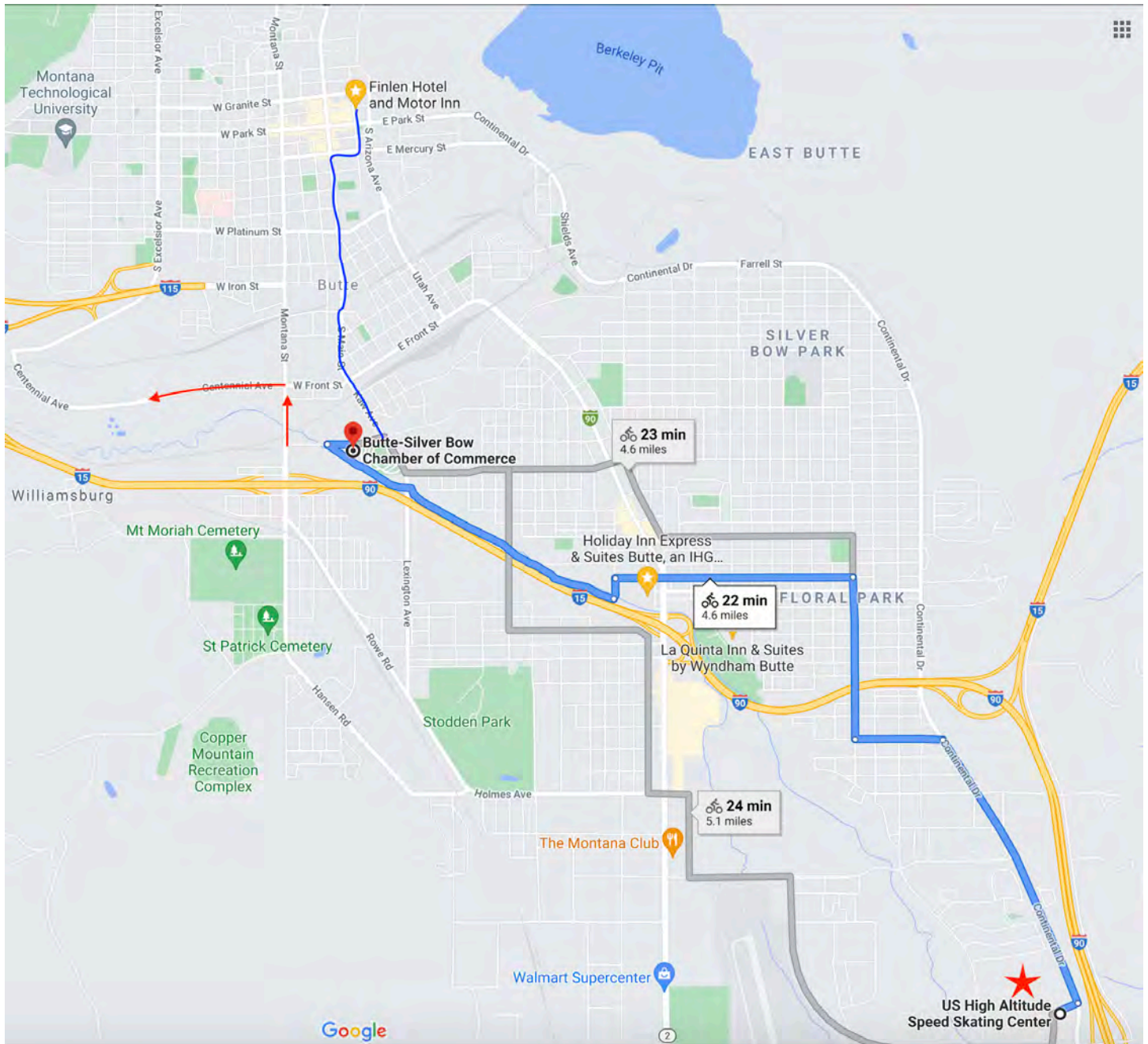
**Only leave luggage at the following locations: Finlen, Miner's, La Quinta, Holiday Inn Express, Chamber/KOA or at HAT parking.**



# MAP OF BUTTE, MT

Bike routes (blue) from Finlen, Miners (next to Finlen), Holiday Inn Express, LaQuinta and US High Altitude (red star - parking) to Butte-Silver Bow Chamber. KOA is next door to Chamber.

Red arrows indicate direction you will ride out on Monday morning, August 9. Finish line for Friday, August 13 is US High Altitude Training Center (red star); you'll be coming in from the south on Centennial.



# EVENT CHECK IN

Ride packets are picked up at Butte Chamber of Commerce Sunday, August 8 12-6 pm. Be sure to check in and you should have filled out all of your information for your check in prior to August 1. If not, your packet may not be ready. Shuttles will be available to go hiking at Thompson Park (Pipestone/CDT) between 1- 5:30 pm. First Shuttle out is at 1 pm, last shuttle out is at 4:30 pm. These are complimentary from Montana Cycling Project, we have hired Linked Adventures to run these hiking shuttles.

You'll receive:

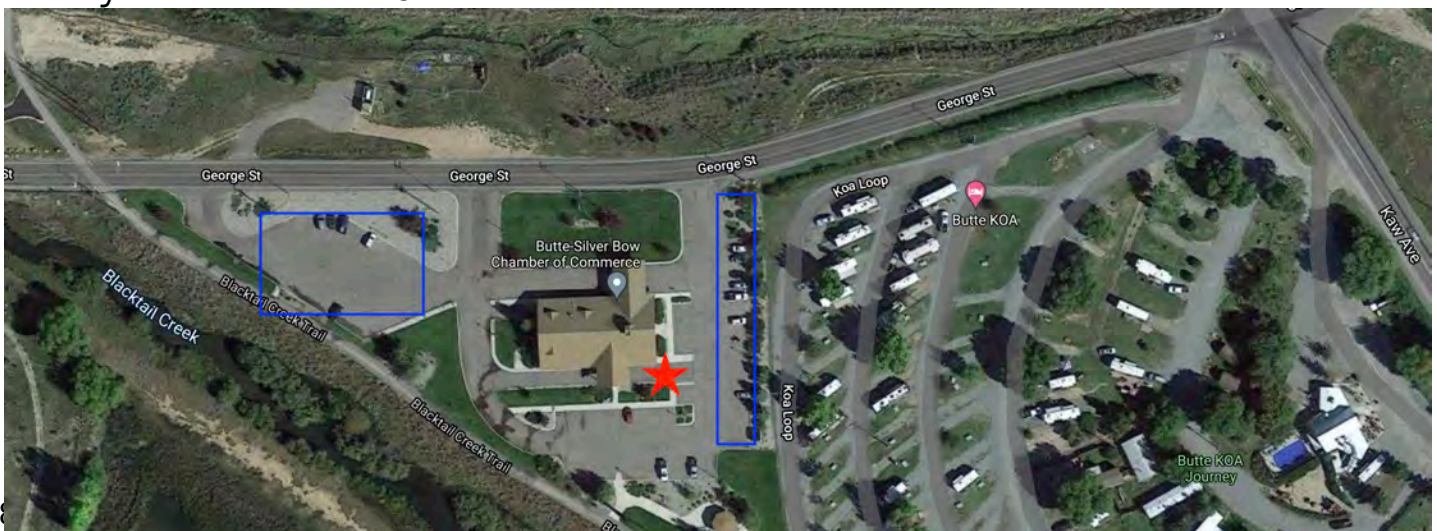
- Rider wristband
- Helmet, bike and baggage numbers
- Pre-purchased jerseys
- Rider t-shirt
- Rider goodies

Your baggage tags will be a color for the hotel/camping you have signed up for. Please be sure to verify we have the correct hotel for you by checking your bag tags. If they are not correct, your bags may go to the wrong place.

We will not be issuing a print map so if you want to the rides via gps or print your own, you can do that on Ride with GPS using this link:

<https://ridewithgps.com/events/141658-montana-road-tour>

Chamber map below: Park in blue outlined areas when checking in Sunday. Red star is where to pick up your rider packets. This is also the start but do not leave your cars at the Chamber all week!





# ALL THINGS BIKES

## Shipping

If you're shipping your bike through Bike Flights or another way, the address for shipping is Montana Road Tour, c/o Butte Chamber of Commerce, 1000 George Street, Butte, MT 59701. Bike Flights is linked from our website or you can use this link: <https://www.bikeflights.com/events/Montana-Road-Tour>

If you are shipping your bike and assembling yourself, it will be available prior to the ride on Saturday, August 7. The bike mechanics will be assembling bikes at the Chamber that day and on Sunday, August 8. Assembly and disassembly is \$75 and paid directly to the mechanics. Bike bags/boxes are stored at the Chamber of Commerce during the week of the ride.

## Mechanics & Bike Pumps

Bike pumps are for general use and stationed next to the Help Desk or Mechanics. Do not use mechanics pumps or reach into their area to use any tools – these do not belong to the tour, they belong to the mechanics. We provide a few items with the pumps and you can use those items. Thank you!

Mechanics are on hand in the camp area and along the route during the day. You'll find them close to Help Desk. You'll only be charged for parts needed or major overhaul items. Montana Cycling Project provides mechanics. Tips are appreciated!

Our mechanics supply limited bike retail items related to cycling next to the mechanic area. There will only be two bike shops in Butte, [Derailed](#) and Bad Beaver Bikes at the start, so try to plan for what you need before hitting the road.

**ON-ROUTE MECHANICALS: A SAG will take you to the next mechanic if your bike is unrideable – mechanics do not come to you, they remain stationary. If you happen to catch them en-route you're one lucky cyclist!**



## HOTELS AND LUGGAGE

We will be focused on moving luggage to and from hotels and the camp area this year. You will be responsible for getting yourself to and from hotels to camp or ride start and finish. We will take care of picking up baggage after you leave the hotel. You will have a designated spot to leave your luggage. Know that if it's not all packed inside the bag and left in the lobby it may not get picked up.

We will have some shuttles running in Butte and Dillon, but not on a regular schedule. The hotels are all within bike riding distance and Butte has various taxi services. Jackson shuttles will focus on a couple out of town hotels – Jackson is 4 blocks long, no one should need a shuttle within Jackson. Dillon is an easy town to ride around with plenty of little shops and stores between hotels and Southwest Montana Bike Camp – ride headquarters.

Tip: Bring a small backpack to put items in when riding between ride headquarters and hotels. Jackson you'll likely walk but in Dillon you'll probably use your bike or shuttles as they are available.

## START/FINISH & CAMPING

Start/Finish line acts as ride headquarters will an area for camping. We will have some camp amenities – a few shade tents with tables for small groups to sit together. Riders will all start and finish here. We ask that all riders check in at the start line, especially Day 1, Monday, August 9. Breakfast is served at the start as a grab and go. Lunch is on the route or will be at the finish line.

At the start and finish area, camping space is provided. Sunday night, August 8, you need to have a reservation at the KOA – it is next to the Chamber of Commerce starting area. Jackson and Dillon will have plenty of space, camping is free on Jackson Hot Springs lawn, Bunkhouse has a fee. We have made a donation to SWMT Bike Camp but please consider an additional donation to help them build up this amazing bike camp!

There will be port-a-potties and access to showers/hot springs in Jackson and showers in Dillon. In Dillon there are only a couple of showers at the bike camp but we will provide shuttles for showers (or you can ride your bike) to UM Western college campus where we have purchased access for showers.

**We will provide drinking water, electrolytes and a few items at our help desk, but we have designed this year not to have a large campsite.**



## MEALS, HANDWASHING & CLEANLINESS

We will provide breakfast at the starting area and lunch on the route Monday & Wednesday. Tuesday, Thursday and Friday, lunch will be at the finish line. Dinner is on your own in Dillon. In Jackson, we have had a change out of our control so we will now be offering a catered dinner at that will cover both nights. You can pay this at registration. You can also sign up for your dinner slots so we spread people out.

We will have hand-washing areas next to port-a-potties and hand sanitizer around – please use it and keep your hands clean. If there is anything COVID-19 Pandemic has taught us it is to keep your hands clean!

Speaking of COVID-19: we realize that this virus is around and still exists. While not everyone has had their vaccine, most everyone that is choosing to travel understands the risks of COVID-19. We are doing our part with a smaller group and less group activity (dining under tents together, less people at rest stops with less participants). We need you to do your part: wash your hands, maintain distance as needed, use staggered start times we provide at registration (this helps spread out breakfast).

Cycling is an outdoor activity but socializing, which comes with bike touring, draws us all a little closer. This is why we are placing tables and small tents around the start/finish & camp areas and not providing large tents. We will also provide spray bottles and wipes at each table to help keep things a little cleaner.

Thank you in advance for helping do your part while we get back in the saddle together!

# AMMENITIES: ENTERTAINMENT, MASSAGE, ETC.

**Massage:** We will have our massage team from Montana Mobile Massage. You can preregister online for your appointments.

**Entertainment:** We will have live entertainment Monday – Thursday evenings from approximately 6-8 pm.

Monday	Tessy Lou and Groovy Little Mountain Band
Tuesday	Cole Snyder & Will James
Wednesday	Local Lewis & Clark Historian* & Junior Fiddlers from Dillon, MT
Thursday	Dan Bradner & Annie

**Glassisum Designs:** Katie will be with us selling her bicycle –inspired glass. She is also auctioning off a piece that will represent this year’s tour and benefit Bike Walk Montana, our state’s bicycle advocacy group. She will join us in Butte for the finish line. Her talent is not to be missed!

## Dillon Extras:

- Wristbands get you a Happy Hour discount at Beaverhead Brewing Company, 218 S Montana St, Dillon, MT 59725
- Dillon RAFFLE! We will be selling raffle tickets for a free entry to Montana Road Tour 2022 and bike schwag from our sponsoring bike shop, The Spoke Wrench. 1 for \$5 or 5 for \$20. The raffle will benefit the Wise River Volunteer Fire Department & Community Center.

\*Steve Morehouse is a local Lewis and Clark living historian, using hands on demonstrations and audience participation to bring history alive. He has presented to hundreds of audiences of all age groups over the last 20 years. He was a part of the National traveling exhibit that toured the United States from coast to coast during the National Bi-Centennial celebration from 2004 to 2006. Steve has assembled his own collection of researched accurate reproductions to enhance his history programs. Steve will present the “Camp Fortunate” program, a 60-minute reencounter of Lewis and Clark meeting the Agaidika band of the Shoshone, south of Dillon at the two forks of the Jefferson (Beaverhead) river, now under Clark Canyon Reservoir. Steve will stay around to answer questions and allow hands on investigation of all the artifacts.



# SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

## AUGUST 8, 2021

- 12 – 6 pm Rider Check-In @ Chamber (see map page 7)
- 1:30 - 5 pm Shuttles to Thompson Park for hiking from the Chamber
- 1 pm – first shuttle out to Thompson Park  
4:30 pm – last shuttle out to Thompson Park
- 2:30 pm Bozeman to Butte airport shuttle (additional 4 pm shuttle August 7)
- <https://www.co.silverbow.mt.us/453/Thompson-Park>
- 4 – 8 pm Park your car at High Altitude

## AUGUST 9, 2021

- 5 – 6:30 am Parking your car at High Altitude
- 5:30 – 7 am Breakfast – sign in for breakfast times at registration  
(alleviate congregating in one space)
- 7 – 7:30 am Start – roll out after breakfast, everyone on route by 7:30 am
- 3:00 pm Check – in begins at hotels
- 3:00 pm Shuttle to Grasshopper Inn
- 4:45 pm Shuttle to Jackson from Grasshopper Inn
- 5:00 pm Route closes
- 5:30 – 7:00 pm Dinner
- 6:00 Band/Entertainment
- 8 pm Shuttle from Jackson to Grasshopper Inn – final evening shuttle

## AUGUST 10, 2021

6 – 7:30 am	Breakfast – sign in for breakfast times at registration
7 – 8:00 am	Start – roll out after breakfast, everyone on route by 8:00 am
11 am – 1 pm	Lunch in Jackson (please try to return from Bannack by 1 pm)
1 pm	Route closes
3:00 pm	Shuttle to Grasshopper Inn
4:30 pm	Shuttle to Jackson from Grasshopper Inn
5:30 – 7:00 pm	Dinner
6:00	Band/Entertainment
8 pm	Shuttle from Jackson to Grasshopper Inn – final evening shuttle

## AUGUST 11, 2021

5:30 – 7 am	Breakfast – sign in for breakfast times at registration
7 – 7:30 am	Start – roll out after breakfast, everyone on route by 7:30 am
3:00 pm	Check – in begins at hotels, Southwest Montana Bike Camp happenings
3:00 pm	Shuttles begin to showers at UM Western campus for campers – watch for schedule to be posted. Also a bike-able distance.
5:00 pm	Route closes
5:00 pm	Shuttles begin to downtown for dinner
6:30	Band/Entertainment
Ongoing	MT Road Tour 2022 Raffle benefitting Wise River Volunteer Fire Dept.



## AUGUST 12, 2021

6 – 7:30 am	Breakfast – sign in for breakfast times at registration
7 – 8:00 am	Start – roll out after breakfast, everyone on route by 8:00 am
11 am – 1 pm	Lunch in Jackson (please try to return from routes by 1 pm)
1 pm	Route closes
All Day	Explore Dillon! Be sure to use map provided in ride packet! Beaverhead Brewing opens at 3 pm - wristband gets you a discount! Patagonia Outlet will be welcoming cyclists and can help you ship home.
6:30	Band/Entertainment
7:30	Raffle Drawing

## AUGUST 13, 2021

5:30 – 7 am	Breakfast – sign in for breakfast times at registration
7 – 7:30 am	Start – roll out after breakfast, everyone on route by 7:30 am
11 am – 2 pm	Finish Line BBQ & Ice Cream High Altitude Training (where cars are parked)
1 – 4 pm	Various shuttles – watch for a schedule posted the week of the tour.
7 pm	Shuttle from Butte to Bozeman airport (if using a hotel this night, please use one close to the hotel, we do not want to drive into Bozeman)

## AUGUST 14, 2021

7 am	Shuttle from Butte to Bozeman airport
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## ROUTE INFORMATION, SAFETY & MAPS

Jefferson Valley EMS & Rescue will be on the route with us each day. Much of this route is out of cell service range so we depend on HAM Radio Operations to talk to each other between SAG units and rest stops. These radios are all for emergency situations including weather, evacuation and location of riders. Please have your rider number showing so you can be identified from a distance. You will have a helmet number and bike number.

**Should you need help on the route**, please step off the highway at least 4 feet (so many times into the grass/dirt) from the white line. Then be sure to give one of the event vehicles a **THUMBS DOWN**. **If you wave, they will not stop – they may wave and move on.....**

If you're hurt, but mobile and not necessarily an emergency, a SAG or route vehicle will take you to the next rest stop if it is not safe to evaluate onsite. If your injury requires emergency care, our EMT's and Paramedics on route will help evaluate next steps. Please have your ID with you and any other information that is needed – insurance card, allergy information.

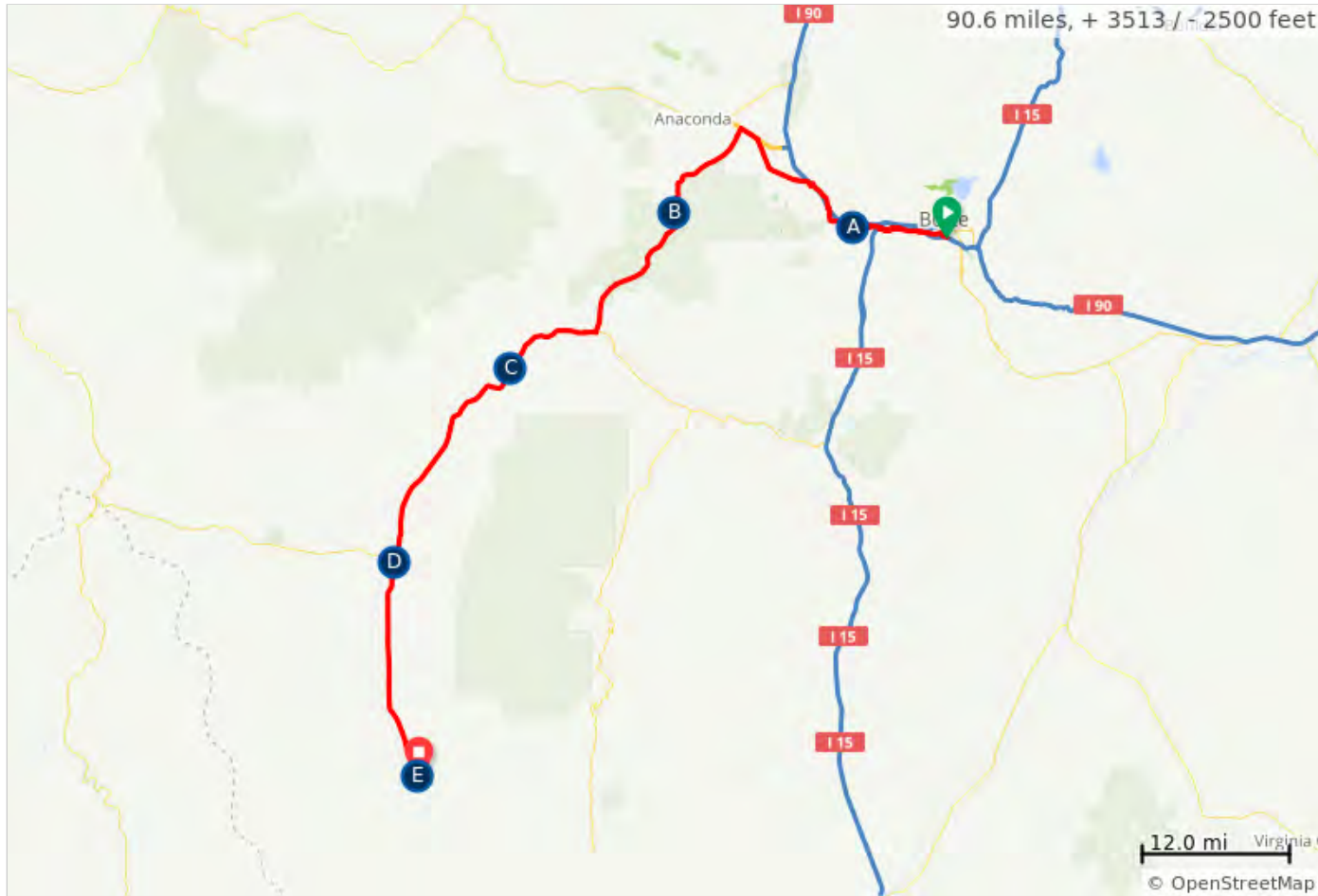
Maps are on the following pages or downloadable from Ride With GPS. We will not provide maps in your ride packet so it will be up to you to print and bring them or have them ready on your selected device. You really don't need much for directions once we leave Butte except maybe a little in Dillon where there is cell service. The towns are small, off of highways and a few blocks long.

If you choose to use your cell phone and have downloaded the ride files, you can use the files without your phone being on data: turn that feature off and save battery. Your phone will die on these routes – there is very little cell service and it will drain the battery. Cell service is found in Butte, some in Jackson depending on provider, Dillon and Twin Bridges. Dewey Bar on Day 3 has WiFi – so during lunch you can drink a cold beverage and check in. We recommend you unplug and just enjoy riding through Montana.

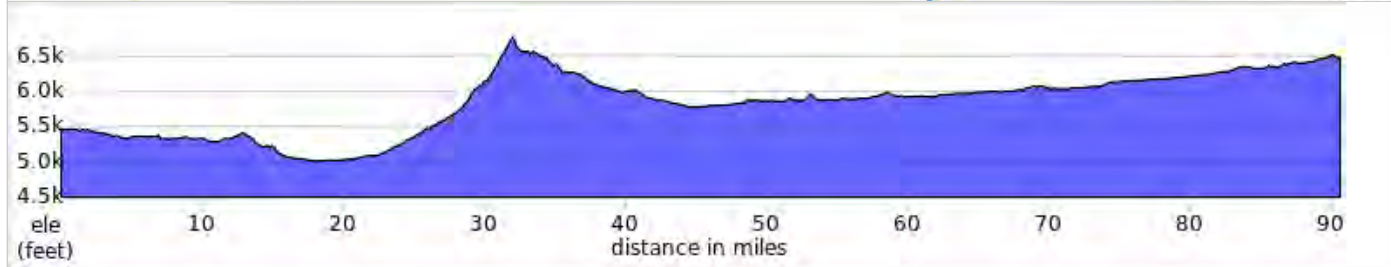




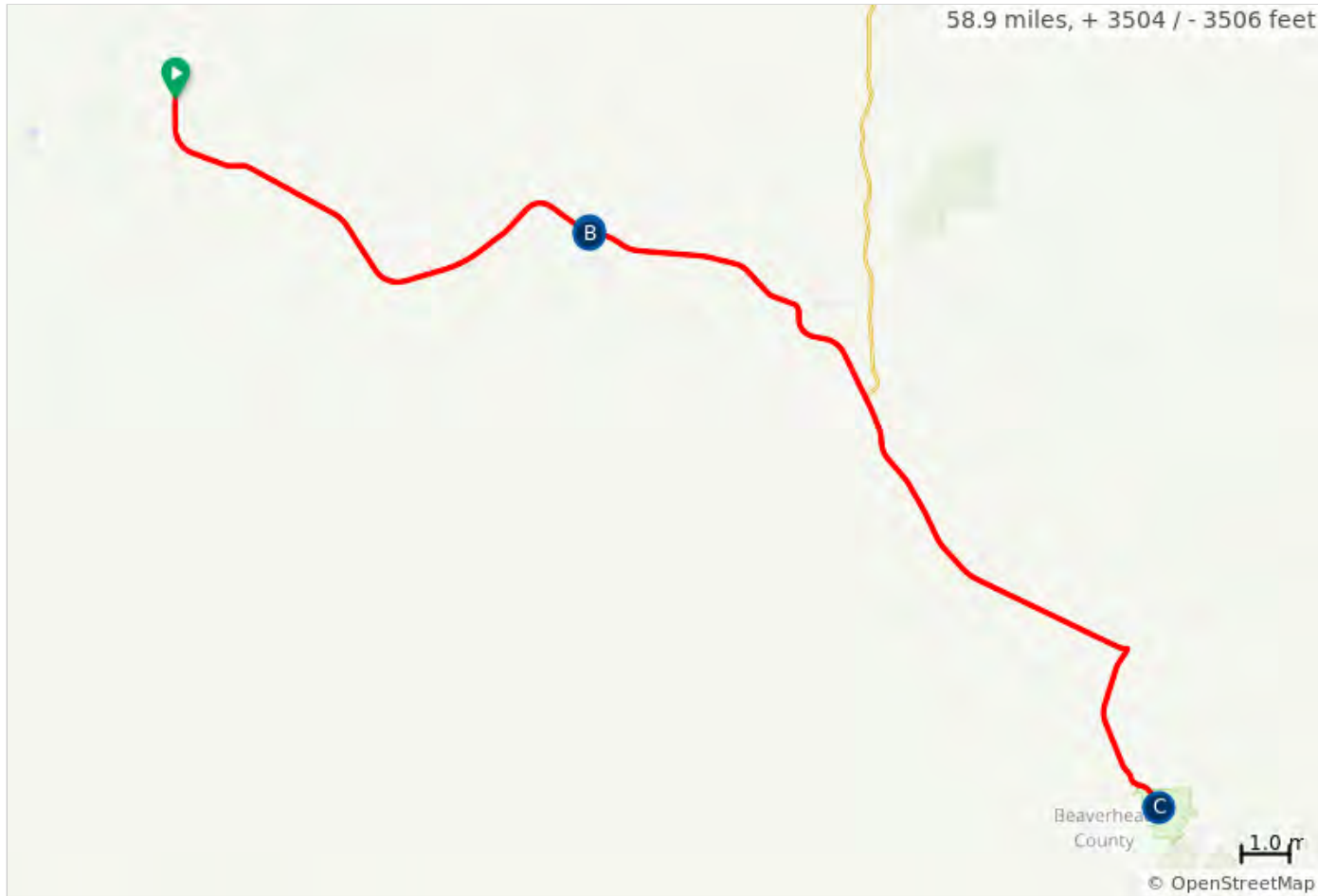
# MRT Day 1: Butte to Jackson



- A. Ramsay 9 miles
- B. Mill Creek Pass 29.5 Mi
- C. Fish Trap 53 miles
- D. Wisdom - Lunch 72.5 miles
- E. Jackson Hot Springs 90.5 miles



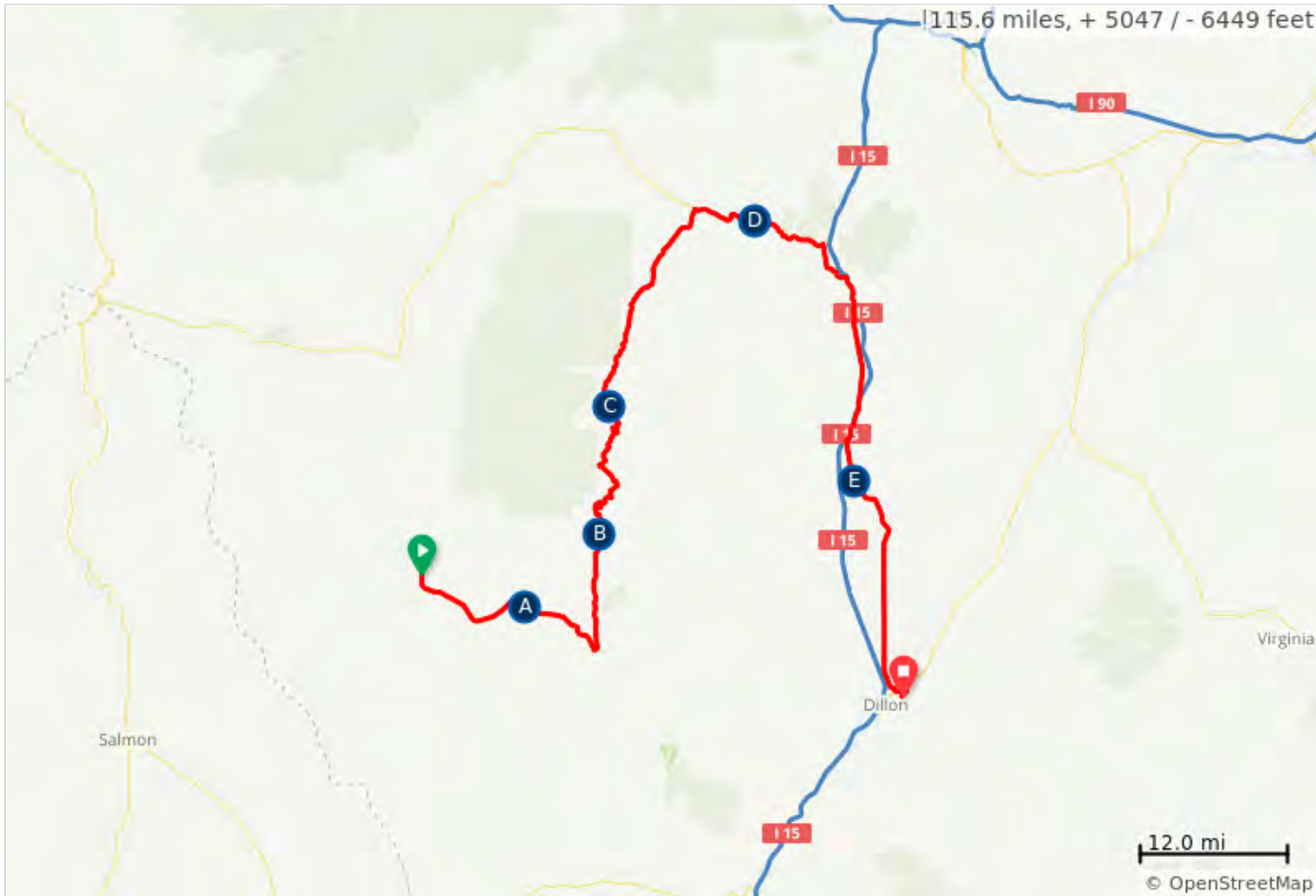
# MRT Day 2: Jackson to Bannack



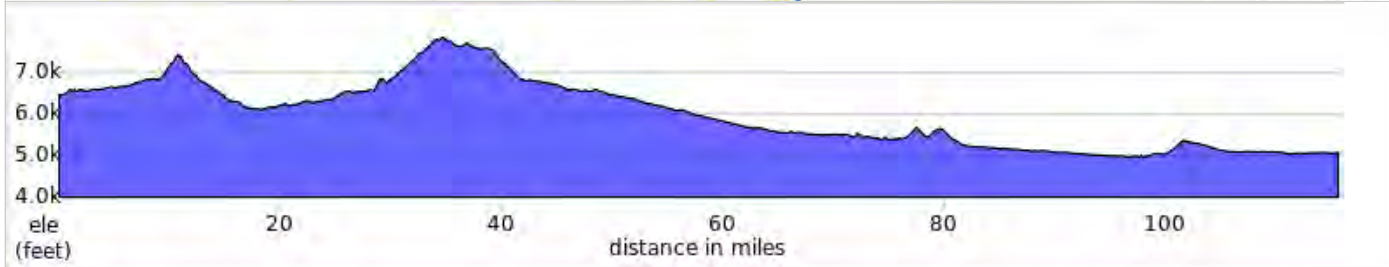
- A. Big Hole Pass
- B. Big Hole Pass Summit 11 miles/48 miles
- C. Bannack State Park 30 miles



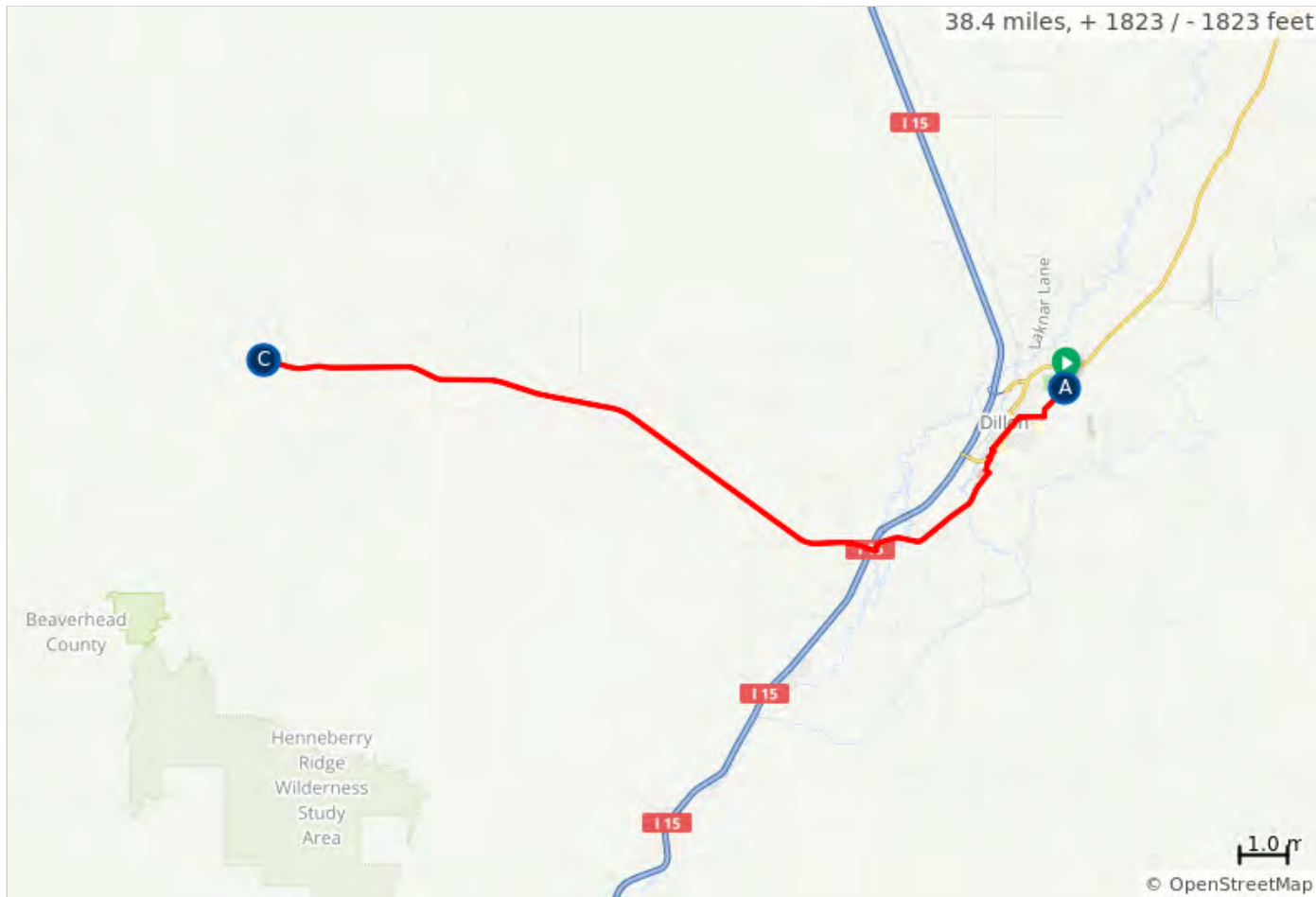
# MRT Day 3: Jackson to Dillon via Pioneer Scenic Byway



A.	Big Hole Pass 11 miles
B.	Polaris - Grasshopper Inn 27 miles
C.	Grand Vista 43.5 miles
D.	Dewey Bar 68 miles
E.	Glen Bar 95 miles



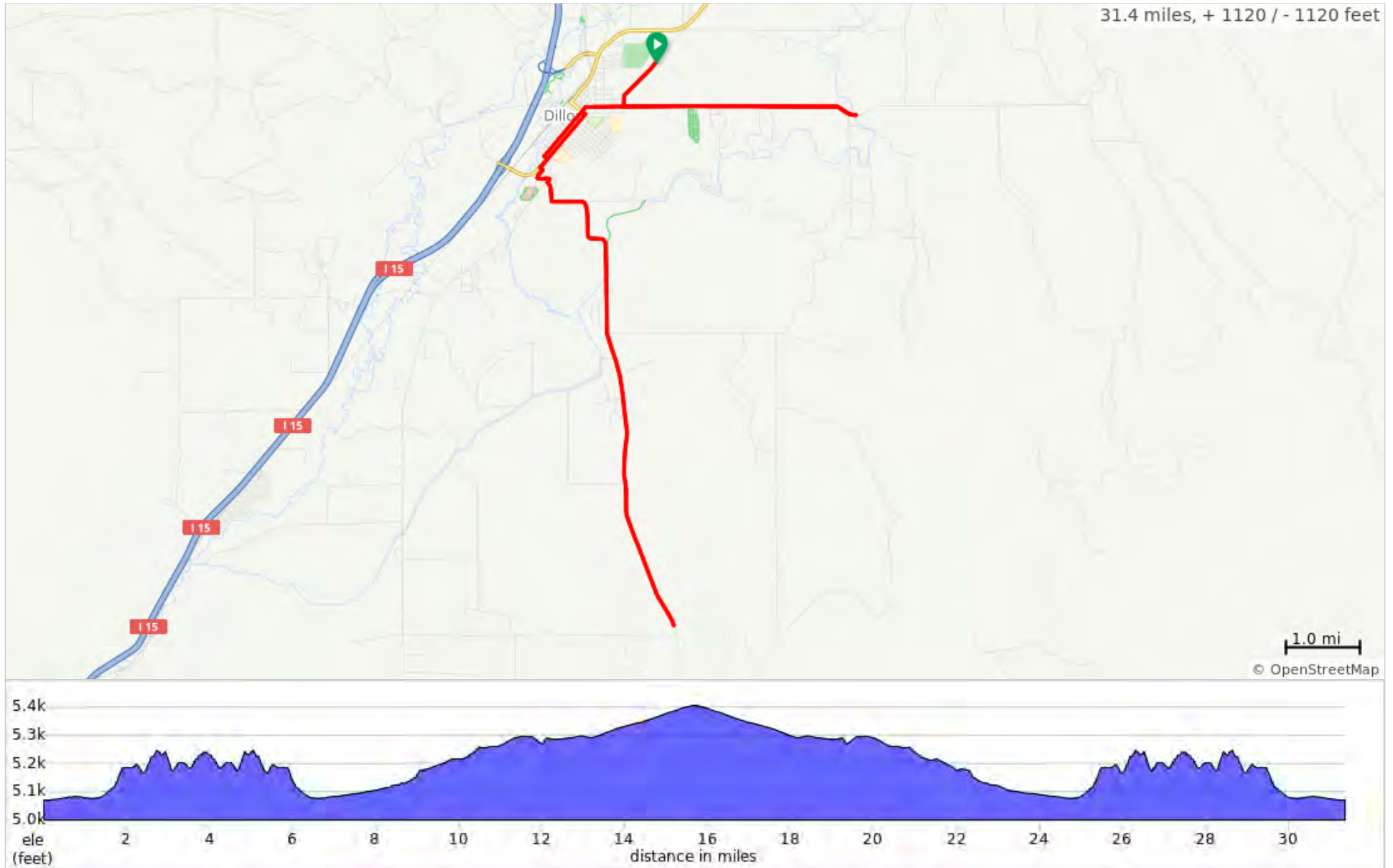
# MRT Day 4: Dillon Optional - Badger Pass



- A. Southwest Montana Bike Camp 38.5 miles
- B. Badger Pass
- C. Badger Pass Summit 19.25 miles



# MRT Day 4: Dillon Town Option



MRT Day 4: Dillon Town Option

Num	Dist	Prev	Type	Note	Next
1.	0.0	0.0	📍	Start of route	0.7
2.	0.7	0.7	↑	Continue onto Oliver Ln	6.3
3.	7.0	6.3	↑	Continue onto Kentucky Ave	0.5
4.	7.5	0.5	←	L onto N Pacific St	1.1
5.	8.6	1.1	←	L onto Barrett Street	0.0
6.	8.6	0.0	→	R onto State Street	0.1

8.6 miles. +396/-338 feet

Num	Dist	Prev	Type	Note	Next
7.	8.8	0.1	←	L onto Southside Boulevard	0.2
8.	8.9	0.2	→	R onto MT 222	0.1
9.	9.0	0.1	←	L onto Blacktail Road	0.7
10.	9.7	0.7	↗	Keep R onto Blacktail Road	12.5
11.	22.1	12.5	→	R to stay on Blacktail Rd	0.3
12.	22.4	0.3	→	R onto State Hwy 91 S	0.1

13.8 miles. +339/-320 feet

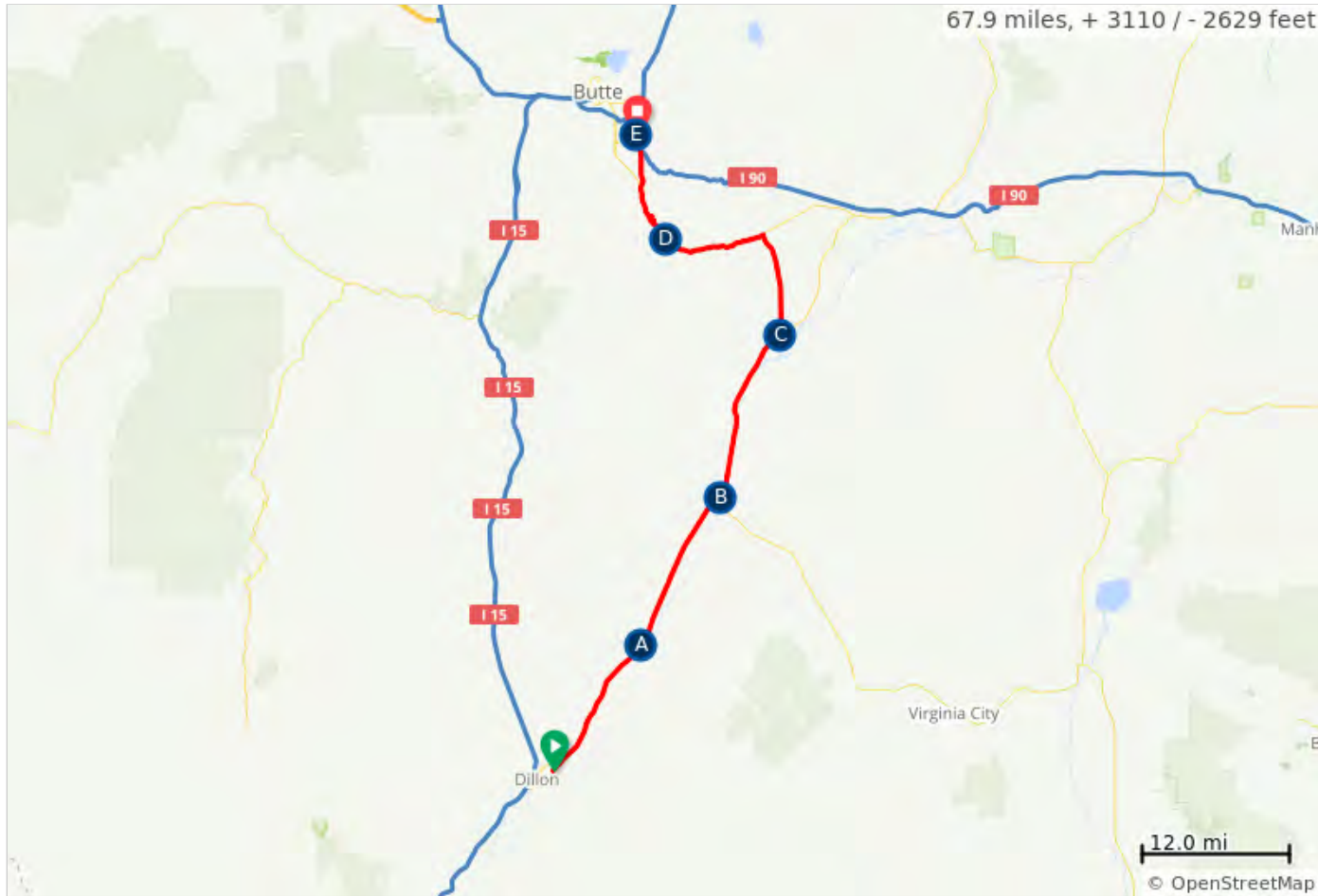
Num	Dist	Prev	Type	Note	Next
13.	22.4	0.1	←	L onto Southside Blvd	0.3
14.	22.7	0.3	←	L onto Barrett St	1.0
15.	23.7	1.0	←	L onto E Helena St	0.1
16.	23.8	0.1	→	R onto N Pacific St	0.1
17.	23.8	0.1	→	R onto Kentucky Ave	0.5
18.	24.3	0.5	↑	Continue onto Sweetwater Rd	6.2

2.0 miles. +0/-63 feet

Num	Dist	Prev	Type	Note	Next
19.	30.6	6.2	→	R onto Oliver Ln	0.1
20.	30.7	0.1	↑	Continue onto Overland Rd	0.7
21.	31.4	0.7	📍	End of route	0.0

7.0 miles. +0/-12 feet

# MRT Day 5: Dillon to Butte



- A. Beaverhead Rock 12.5 miles
- B. Twin Bridges 26.5 miles
- C. Waterloo 41 miles
- D. Pipestone Pass 58 miles
- E. Butte, High Altitude Training Center 64 miles

