



WYMONT CHALLENGE
- THE AB EDITION -

RIDE GUIDE

Absaroka-Beartooth Challenge 2021

WELCOME

The WyMont AB Challenge is a new ride, limited to 30 riders. It's a little smaller this year due to pandemic uncertainties, but this ride will most likely remain a ride under 50 people. In years to come, it will continue to be a Wyoming-Montana ride (WyMont) and explore different mountains and plains that expand some of the burliest places crossing the two borders in just a few short days.

BASICS OF THE WYMONT CHALLENGE

This route is going to test your abilities with long climbs, distance and changing temperatures. You'll be starting at 5,500 feet elevation and top out at about 11,000 feet. Montana and Wyoming are known for dramatic changes in weather and temperature - wind, hail, snow, heat... you'll be challenged beyond the saddle. So please be sure to stay stocked with full water bottles, drink often, stay fueled with food and electrolytes and eat well. Speaking of eating well, we will have breakfast, lunch and après bike food by local chefs and restaurants. Many of them cyclists themselves who like to eat well!

If you live at a lower elevation, your body will be adapting to your new high elevation environment – 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.

We will be supporting riders in groups using vans stocked with water, electrolytes and snacks for between meals. We will have three on route with “groups” of riders – front pack, mid and final pack. We will have a mechanic in camp. And hopefully, we'll be out to ride with some of you as well!

Packing weight is 40 lbs. Please be thoughtful of those hauling your gear. It's three days on a bike and we know bike clothes don't weigh that much so leave your 3 pairs of jeans home, stick to the packing list. See more about packing on the next page. Thank you in advance for helping us out



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
- 2-3 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 in a van in order to be picked up and brought to the finish. Zip lock, old stuff sack, etc.

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*

*Denotes not necessary but recommended. Please keep bags to 40 lbs. or less. We have to deliver these to hotels and pick them up. Thank you in advance!

ARRIVAL

Flying In

Please let us know if you need assistance getting from Billings airport to Red Lodge for the start or finish. We'll do our best to get you to and from Red Lodge.

Driving In

If your driving to the event, parking will be near the Alpine where you will check in. The Alpine will also be the finish line. We'll hand you directions to parking once you check in.

EVENT CHECK IN

Ride packets are picked up at Alpine Lodge (Yellow Start Star), Wednesday, August 18, 4-6 pm. Be sure to check in and you should have filled out all of your information for your check in prior to August 16.

Your luggage tags will match the hotel you've been assigned.

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/routes/34377713>

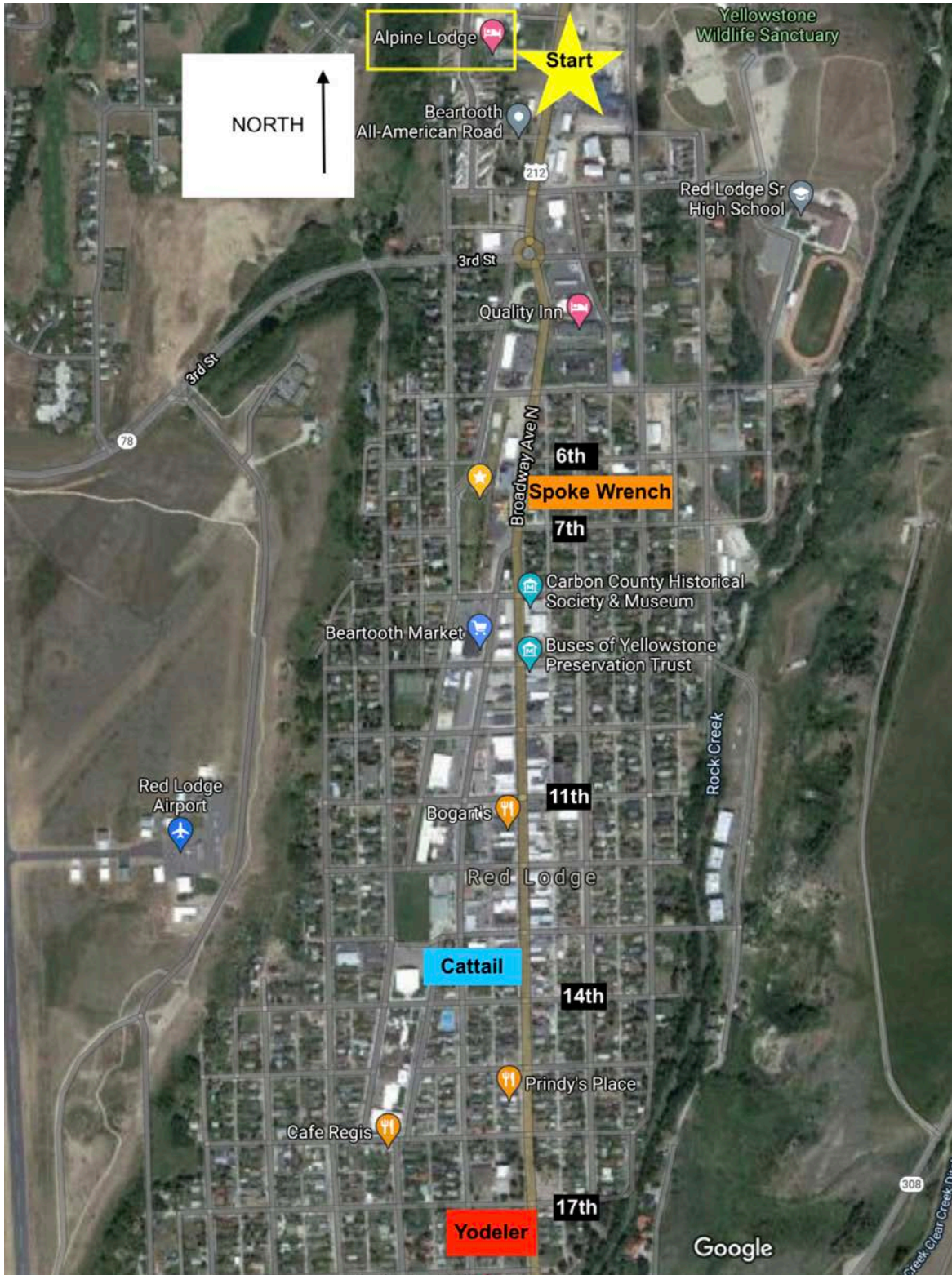
HOTELS AND LUGGAGE

We take care of your luggage to the hotels, you're finish area is the hotel area in Cooke City, Cody and Red Lodge.

In Red Lodge, let us know if you need a shuttle, otherwise you can use your car, walk or ride until the morning of August 19. We will not run shuttles in Cooke City. In Cody, we will help shuttle to dinner or other places. Your hotels are walking distance from coffee shops and the grocery store.

Tip: Bring a small backpack to put items in when riding and walking around.

MAP OF RED LODGE, MT



MEALS, HANDWASHING & CLEANLINESS

Thursday:

Breakfast: Cattail Bakery, 6 am – 7 am

Lunch: Beartooth Pass Summit, Samurai Sue's 11 am – 1 pm

Après Bike: Montasia, 1:30 pm – 5 pm

Friday:

Breakfast: Super 8, Bearclaw Bakery, 6 am – 7 am

Lunch: Chief Joseph Pass Summit, Samurai Sue's 11 am – 1 pm

Après Bike: Carter Mountain Motel, 307 Pizza, 2 pm – 5 pm

Breakfast: Breadboard, 6 am – 7 am

Lunch: Edelweiss Bar, Clark, WY, Samurai Sue's 11 am – 1 pm

Après Bike: Alpine Lodge Grill, 1:30 pm – 5 pm

By All Means Beer will supply après beer drinks along with your food. If you know Chad from Uberbrew, you know this is good beer. He is providing beer from his other brewery – not to be missed if you're a beer connoisseur.

We will have 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 exist. 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 (no 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, and respect people's bubbles.

Cycling is an outdoor activity but socializing, which comes with bike touring, draws us all a little closer. Thank you in advance for helping do your part while we get back in the saddle together!

ROUTE INFORMATION, SAFETY & MAPS

Yellowstone Amateur Radio 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. 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, radio support on route will summon EMS Systems on standby in Red Lodge or Cody. 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 Red Lodge except maybe a little in Cody where there is cell service. Except for Cody, the towns are small, the highways are the main drag 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 Red Lodge and Cody. Some WiFi in Cooke City. We recommend you unplug and just enjoy riding through Montana and Wyoming.

