

Blue Ridge Parkway & Bourbon Trail: Appalachian Curves Tour (M-ID: 424)

<https://www.motourismo.com/en/listings/4249-blue-ridge-parkway-and-bourbon-trail-appalachian-curves-tour>



from €5,495.00

Dates and duration (days)

On request

14 days

07/11/2024 - 07/24/2024 14 days

07/10/2025 - 07/23/2025 14 days

The Bourbon Trail Motorcycle Tour calls to take in the Appalachian Mountains and Kentucky: Follow our guides on a classic motorcycle tour along the Appalachian Mountains and the Kentucky Bourbon Trail.

A visit to the Harley-Davidson manufacturing plant, a visit to Bikeweeek in historic Gettysburg, the Blue Ridge Parkway, the Smoky Mountains, Skyline Drive, the Shenandoah Valley, Virginia, West Virginia, Ohio, Kentucky, Tennessee, North Carolina, the Bourbon Trail and countless curves are the highlights here.

Daily schedule:

Day 01: Flight to Washington D.C.

Flight with a well-known scheduled airline from your selected departure point to Washington DC (connecting flights possible). Upon arrival, your guide will be waiting for you at the airport and will take you to a nearby mid-range hotel. Depending on the arrival time, the first meeting and the tour briefing will take place in the evening, otherwise the next day. Overnight near Washington DC/Airport.

Day 02: Free time in Washington D.C.

The day is at your disposal today for an optional city tour of the American capital. The White House, Lincoln Memorial and Arlington are some highlights along the Potomac River. In the late afternoon, the motorcycles are taken over and the return journey to the nearby hotel takes place. Overnight near Washington DC/Airport.

TIP: City tour Washington D.C.

Day 03: York - Harley-Davidson® Factory - Gettysburg - Potomac River, 310 km

In the morning, the escort vehicle is loaded and you start

your motorcycle tour. The tour first takes you to the state of Pennsylvania and the city of York. There you have the opportunity for a factory tour in the Harley-Davidson® Vehicle Operations, you can experience up close how the popular Softail, Touring and CVO models are built together. After lunch you ride to nearby Gettysburg, where you will visit the "Gettysburg Bikeweeek" that is taking place there. The Battlefield Park, which commemorates the most famous Civil War battle of 1863 and President Lincoln's address, the Gettysburg Address, is also nearby. After a short ride you will reach Harpers Ferry in the evening, which is located directly on the historic Potomac River. Overnight stay in the Harpers Ferry area.

Day 04: Virginia - Seneca Rocks - West Virginia - Ohio, 510 km

In the morning you leave the small town of Harpers Ferry to travel through the winding Fort Valley to Seneca Rock State Park. Virtually the only mountain peaks in the eastern United States, these natural rock monuments are located within the George Washington and Jefferson National Forests. From here the route takes you along lonely highways through Virginia, West Virginia and Ohio to the Gallipolis area, where you will stay overnight.

Day 05: Ohio - endless hills - Kentucky Bourbon Trail, 310 km

Today's stage takes you through interesting hilly landscapes and the coal mining areas of the state of Ohio. Today's country roads are very varied, which again guarantees you a lot of riding fun. You cross the Ohio River just south of Cincinnati and reach the state of Kentucky, known for its horse breeding.

Today you start in Frankfort with the Bourbon Trail and, after checking in at the hotel, visit the world-famous Buffalo Trace Distillery in the afternoon. Their brands Buffalo Trace, Sazerac, Eagle Rare, Blantons and the legendary Pappy Van Winkle, which sells for 4000 US dollars per bottle, are well known in bourbon connoisseur circles. The overnight stay will be in the Frankfort area.

Day 06: Bourbon Trail - Four Roses - Jim Beam - Heaven Hill, 150 km

Finally the time has come and after Buffalo Trace, the first main attraction of this tour, was already on the program yesterday, you will explore the Kentucky Bourbon Trail for the next two days. There are still around 20 distilleries in Kentucky producing over 200 different Bourbon Whiskey's and serving 95% of the global market. The first stop for you is the Four Roses Distillery in Lawrenceburg. From here we continue on small country roads to Claremont, to the Jim Beam American Stillhouse. This world-famous bourbon producer is the largest in the USA and offers you a very interesting insight into this old tradition on a tour. After the lunch break there you will reach your overnight accommodation in Bardstown, the small town is the Bourbon capital of the USA. There you will visit the Heaven Hill distillery in the afternoon. Tonight you have the opportunity for dinner at Talbott's Tavern to do a serious bourbon whiskey tasting.

Day 07: Bourbon Trail - Maker's Mark - Tennessee - Smoky Mountains, 395 km

You start this morning with the manufacturer Maker's Mark and the last bourbon distillery on this tour. This tour also differs from the previous ones, as each manufacturer goes its own way. Then we continue through the hilly landscape of Kentucky's. You will have your slightly later lunch break at the Daniel Boone National Forest, which is close to the federal border with Tennessee. You cross the north of the Volunteer State and reach Knoxville in the late afternoon, where you make a short stop at the local Harley® dealer. The remaining short stage takes you to Townsend in the Smoky Mountains. This location is in the Foothills and will serve as your base for the next three nights. In the evening we invite you to one of our legendary BBQ's in the Smokies.

Day 08: Foothills Parkway - Deals Gap - Tail of the Dragon - Cherohala Skyway, 325 km

Today's day tour takes you over what are probably the best motorcycle routes in Tennessee and North Carolina. The new Foothills Parkway, the famous Dragon Tail Highway 129 and the Cherohala Skyway are on the agenda. The first stop is on the new Foothills Parkway with its views of the Smoky Mountains. From there it goes on to the "tail of the dragon", on a route of 17 kilometers there are 318 curves that have it all. But watch out, the dragon has bitten many times and the Tree of Shame at Deals Gap Resort bears witness to the overconfident bikers. There you have the opportunity to get the proof in the form of a t-shirt that you also rode the dragon's tail. From there, back roads take you to the Cherohala Skyway, which winds and takes you up the crest of this section of the Appalachian Mountains. At the foot of the skyway, you should visit the local Harley® shop beforehand. End this full-day tour with a ride along back roads and a stop at Smoky Mountains Harley-Davidson® in Maryville. Overnight in Townsend.

Day 09: Bobarossa Saloon - the Rattler - Wheels Through Time Motorcycle Museum, 300 km

In the morning you leave Townsend and ride towards the Smoky Mountain National Park, past Gatlinburg you later follow the French Broad River and stop at a well-known biker hangout, the Bobarossa Saloon. From here it goes to the winding Highway 209, which is also called the Rattler (the rattlesnake) and is also one of the top motorcycle routes in the USA. In the early afternoon you reach Maggie Valley and here the most interesting motorcycle collection in the USA is on the program. Visit Dale Waxsler's Wheels Through Time Museum. In the afternoon you will ride a short distance over the Blue Ridge Parkway and continue through the Smoky Mountains National Park over the Balsam Gap Pass back to your starting point. Overnight stay in Townsend.

Day 10: Blue Ridge Parkway - Little Switzerland - Pisgah National Forest, 370 km

In the morning you will ride through the Great Smoky Mountains National Park again and follow the Blue Ridge Parkway through North Carolina, which is closed for heavy traffic. Many interesting viewpoints will lead you through the Appalachian Mountains to "little Switzerland", where you will have your lunch break. Over countless curves you will continue up and down the Pisgah National Forest, through the Blue Ridge Mountains of the Appalachians. Overnight in the Blowing Rock/Boone area.

Day 11: Blue Ridge Parkway - Mabrys Mill - Virginia - Appalachian Mountains, 420 km

Today is a tough day, you continue on the Blue Ridge Parkway, whoever thought yesterday that the cornering is enough will be surprised. You make the first longer stop at the Mabry Mill, the most photographed motif up here. You have enough time to look around this open-air museum. Around noon you reach Roanoke, one of the larger towns here on the Parkway, which is already in the state of Virginia. After lunch, continue your ride along the George Washington National Forest and through the Appalachian Mountains. Overnight in the Lexington area.

Day 12: Skyline Drive - Shenandoah National Park - Washington D.C., 340 km

In the morning you leave the Blue Ridge Parkway and take the more than 100 miles long winding Skyline Drive under your wheels. This is in the middle of the beautiful Shenandoah National Park and is also closed to heavy traffic. At lunchtime you will reach the well-known town of Front Royal. From there you only have a short leg back to your starting point. The motorcycles are handed over and transferred to the hotel. You can end the evening with a dinner together. Overnight near Washington DC/Airport.

Day 13: Return flight to Europe or tour extension New York

The morning is still free for you and it's time to say goodbye. During the day there will be a shuttle transfer to Washington, DC Airport and the return flight to your chosen departure point (transfer connection possible).

TIP: City Trip to New York or tour extension in Washington D.C.

Day 14: Arrival in Europe

Arrive at your chosen departure point in the morning. End of the journey.

- Subject to change without notice -

Countries	USA / United States of America
Category	Motorcycle Tour
Terrain	Onroad
Vehicle	motorcycle rent incl.
Tourguide / Coach	yes (guided)
Accommodation	Hotel / B&B or similar
Flight to / from	yes, incl.
Ferry	no, not incl.
Support vehicle (luggage/service)	yes
Level of difficulty	medium difficult
Customer payment protection	yes
* PRICING	Minimal without optional extras, see pricing

Pricing

per person for 2 persons in double room with 1 motorcycle	€5,495.00
per person for 2 persons in double room with 2 motorcycles	€6,995.00
per person in single room with 1 motorcycle	€8,195.00
Surcharge for Touring models with top case:	€200.00
Flight ex Germany (surcharge, starting at):	€100.00
Flight ex Austria/Switzerland (surcharge, starting at):	€200.00
-	
On request: alternative airports or package price excluding flight	
Optional: Model warranty for desired motorcycle (Please specify your desired motorcycle in the "Comments" field when booking).	€125.00
-	
ESTA (United States Electronic System for Travel Authorization) application service per person, including processing and ESTA fee:	€50.00
-	

ATTENTION: Prices for 2025 are available on request approx. 1 year in advance!

Included

Scheduled flight with a renowned airline in economy class from/to Frankfurt to Washington (connecting flights possible)

All European and American flight security fees

Kerosene surcharges as of 06/2023

Aviation tax for departures ex Germany

12 nights in good tourist/middle class hotels according to the itinerary

partial breakfast (mix of continental and buffet)

Motorcycle rental (BIG TWIN) for the indicated period incl. free kilometers and legal liability insurance

TOP PROTECTION: LDW/CDW insurance (exclusion of liability for accident/theft damage) WITHOUT excess

TOP PROTECTION: Exclusion of liability for tire damage

TOP PROTECTION: 2 million Euro additional liability insurance

24 hour German speaking hotline assistance

German speaking tour escort from/to Washington during the motorcycle tour by an experienced motorcycle guide

Escort vehicle with second guide during the motorcycle tour

Luggage transfer during the tour 1 piece of luggage at 23 kg each plus a small piece of hand luggage (we would like to ask you to refrain from using hard-shell suitcases because they lead to problems with transport in the support vehicle)

Welcome Dinner

Souvenir photo in DIN A-3 format

1 exclusive tour T-shirt/Polo per tour participant

Guidebooks and maps

Not included

Personal expenses

Hotel parking fees

Gasoline, oil

Motorcycle- and rainwear

Entrance fees for attractions or parks

Tips

Travel insurance etc.

Road Side Towing Assistance

Helmet rental

Everything that is not specified under features.

More details

Upon request:

All our guided tours can of course also be offered as self-guided tours, or they can be customized and elaborated for you. You will then receive enough maps and information material for such a tour as well as a detailed consultation. Please enquire!

1/2 double rooms are available upon request, subject to availability.

All prices include flight ex Frankfurt

Prices for other European departure points are available on request.

Connection program New York on request!

NOTE: This tour is aimed at the experienced biker and provides for a little extra mileage every day!

A major credit card is required

Minimum number of participants: 12 people

If the minimum number of participants is not reached, we reserve the right to cancel the trip up to four weeks before the start of the trip.

Important info:

The following types of motorcycles are available on request. Please let us know two desired types when booking. However, there is no guarantee for the type of machine. With the registration we need a copy of your driver's license and passport. All models come mostly directly from Harley-Davidson® authorized rentals™ partners and are current model years in top condition.

ELECTRA GLIDE® - ROAD GLIDE ULTRA® Very comfortable touring machine, air cooled Twin Cam Milwaukee Eight™ 107, 1750 cc V-twin cylinder engine, belt drive, 6 speed transmission, part ABS, windshield, 2 side cases, top case, AudioSystem. Particularly well suited for 2 people.

STREET GLIDE® - Comfortable touring machine for long rides, air cooled Twin Cam Milwaukee Eight™ 107, 1750 cc V-twin cylinder engine, belt drive, 6 speed transmission, windshield, 2 side cases, audio system. Well suited for 2 people.

HERITAGE SOFTAIL® - Classic touring machine for long rides, air cooled Twin Cam Milwaukee Eight™ 107/114, 1750/1870 cc V-twin cylinder engine, belt drive, 6 speed transmission, ABS, windshield, 2 side pockets. Especially well suited for 2 persons

ROAD GLIDE® - Comfortable touring machine for long rides, air cooled Twin Cam Milwaukee Eight™ 107, 1750 cc V-twin cylinder engine, belt drive, 6 speed transmission, windshield, 2 side cases. Well suited for 2 people.

ROAD KING®, LOW RIDER®, Sportster®, Indian motorcycles® as well as various other model variants are available on request!

Entry requirements:

To enter the USA/Canada, German, Austrian and Swiss citizens need a valid machine-readable European passport. In addition, an electronic entry form ESTA must be filled out at least 72 hours before entering the USA. You can find the link here: <https://esta.cbp.dhs.gov/> - Visa Waiver Program. (As of January 2009 - subject to change). As a non-German citizen, you may need a visa for entry into the USA/Canada.

A frank word among bikers: Depending on the tour we ride between 120 and 540 km per day in charming and beautiful landscape. The approximate daily number of kilometers can be found in the respective daily program. This may mean getting out early and arriving late on a few days. The motorcycle riding in a unique landscape is absolutely in the foreground, so a certain team spirit is in the first place is necessary here, as well as certain adaptation to the group. If you lean into it, you will surely experience the adventure of your life and have a lot of fun.

Travel conditions

The general travel conditions apply. These will be handed over to you by your booking office. If you have not received them, please inform your booking office or the tour operator before booking. They will then be sent to you immediately.

Distance: 3500 km

Minimum age: 18+

A note on entry (ESTA): The electronic ESTA entry procedure required for the USA has been subject to a fee since 08 September 2010. The fee for this is 21 US\$, payment is possible by credit card and Paypal. We recommend to do this here Official ESTA Application Website, U.S. Customs and Border Protection in German language, because there are many rip-off sites on the net. Please apply for this at least 3 - 4 months in advance, because in case of rejection, it takes some time to apply for a visa.

Road Side Towing Assistance (bookable with surcharge, please request) included: (1) Emergency Road Side Assistance. E.g. out of gas? Forgot to turn off the ignition, battery dead? No problem, the delivery is free of charge, only the costs for the gasoline or the battery have to be paid. (2) Emergency Towing Service. The bike breaks down with a self-inflicted (not covered by warranty) mechanical problem, e.g. diesel tanked, tire punctured, or accident? The bike will be picked up free of charge by a towing service and taken to the nearest garage or rental station that can take care of the problem.