

Chincoteague Island and the Wallops Island Launch Facility

Saturday & Sunday, November 2nd & 3rd : 500 miles on 500cc in 2 days

It seems quite strange now, but a long, long time ago motorcycles were human sized. Unlike many bikes of the 21st century, if your bike fell over it was actually possible to pick it up by yourself. Back then, a 350cc motorcycle was midsized, and a 750 was more than any sane rider needed. A 450-pound bike was considered portly. Five hundreds were considered to be the perfect compromise: allowing for good economy, ease of operation, and enough performance to keep things interesting. Travel was done on surface roads as opposed to today's superhighways, which allowed for taking in the surroundings, and interacting with other travelers and local folks. All good stuff, and still do-able.

You're invited to 2 days of relaxed touring on the 1/2 liter machine of your choice:

1970 Triumph T100C Trophy

1972 BMW R60/5

1975 Suzuki T500

1976 Honda CB550K

1976 Honda CB400F

1976 Yamaha RD400C

1978 Honda CX500

1979 Moto Morini 500 Strada

1979 Moto Guzzi V50

1983 Suzuki GS550ES

It's best if you can arrive Friday afternoon or evening so we can get orientation done and load up your chosen bike. Stay here B&B style. Most of the bikes are equipped with electrical outlets for heated gear so bring it if you've got it, just in case. Bring your bathing suit too; one never knows exactly what the weather(or motel) may bring.

Remember that there are no windshields and no chase vehicle, so pack light. Each bike will have a large tank bag fitted and most have luggage racks as well.

We'll head south on Delaware Route 9 which is remarkable for its Delaware River scenery and utter lack of traffic. Downstate we'll stop for a tour of the Dover Air Base Air Transport Museum. It's free and there are some very cool displays including WWII combat gliders. After a lunch stop where typical Chesapeake Bay Cuisine may be sampled (the crabs are the best) we'll cross the scenic DelMarVa Peninsula and navigate The Olde Route to Virginia on tiny back roads with several short ferry hops. Finally, we'll cross a long bridge connecting the mainland to rustic Chincoteague Island where our motel rooms are ready: just the thing after a 250-mile day. A top-notch restaurant is a short walk away and yes, they also serve adult beverages.

On Sunday morning we'll leave late enough to catch the nearby Wallops Launch Facility Visitor Center just as it opens, then head north on the shore route. This will allow a stop at Asseteague Island where wild horses roam empty white beaches that stretch to the horizon. Next, we pass through 'Babylon' AKA Ocean City, MD where gambling casinos and high-rise hotels seem to flaunt Mother Nature. Finally, a twisty route through Delaware and Maryland farm country brings us again to Pennsylvania where a hot meal is waiting.

Join this ride and see why **LESS IS MORE.**

