

2007 USA FOUR CORNERS MOTORCYCLE TOUR

*Log Book, Maps, Pictures, and Smart-Ass Comments from the MotoTour
2007 USA Four Corners Motorcycle Tour*

By

Lance Kovel

www.MotoTour.us

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Introduction

This is the log book from the 2007 USA Four Corners Motorcycle Tour. The entries were translated from my handwritten log book that I maintained during the nearly 12,500 mile tour. The tour was ridden under the guidelines of the Southern California Motorcycle Association's (SCMA's) USA Four Corners Motorcycle Tour. For a brief synopsis of these guidelines, please visit the [main page](#) of this tour, or SCMA's website.

This log book is organized by day, with the exception of the How to Use this Log Book and the Preface sections which give some general information about this log book and some general information regarding the overall tour.

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Preface

It all started a few years ago when a friend of mine stumbled upon the Southern California Motorcycle Association's (SCMA) USA Four Corners Tour website. After reading the description of the tour, I thought to myself that I would definitely do it someday. At the time, the tour got put on the back burner, as I was in the planning stages of an Arctic motorcycle tour.

Jump ahead nearly five years and thousands of miles later, and the timing for such a long tour was perfect. I sent in my \$90 registration fee and started to outfit my BMW R1150GS Adventure for asphalt riding - a major task since I had primarily been riding dirt with it for the past two years.

My largest modifications consisted of:

- A Jesse Luggage Odyssey top box to match my Jesse side bags;
- An Aeroflow windscreen;
- Metzler Tourance dual sport tires - better suited for asphalt than my TKC-80 knobbies; and,
- A XM radio to break the monotony of thousands of miles of asphalt.

As with all well planned trips, I was installing my modifications right up until minutes before departing on my tour. I figured there would be no better test than the upcoming 12,000+ miles of my tour.

I was planning on taking around 30 days to complete this tour - plus or minus a week. To plan that far ahead on a motorcycle is asinine. Weather, roads, wild animals, and mechanical problems can throw a wrench into any plan, so I opted for a very general approach to route planning.

Obviously I had to pass through the four corners of the USA. My wife was meeting me in Seattle in five days, so that kind of dictated that I had to ride west first. Given the 21 day tour time limit imposed by the SCMA put me in Key West, Florida on Memorial Day weekend - so that meant I had to make it to Key West in less than 19 days if I wanted to beat the holiday traffic on the single road in and out of the Keys.

Working with these restrictions, I sat down and made a list of things and places between the four corners that I wanted to see. I didn't worry about how or when I would get there, as I planned my route on a daily basis. I figured I would ride any extra miles needed as my deadline for reaching the fourth corner approached. As I've learned from all my previous tours, I always seem to meet people on my trips who have great advice on places to see and roads to take; another reason for planning my route on a daily basis.

Overall this method worked perfectly, and I had plenty of time to see everything I wanted to see, plus more. More importantly, not having to commit to a specific schedule or route kept this ride true to the art of motorcycle touring; having the freedom to take a side-road on a whim, or stay in cool town I never knew existed, were just some of the things that are a part of the larger reason of why I ride in the first place. Some of the coolest places in the world cannot be found on maps.

One aspect of this tour that I never really got used to was being in populated areas. This was a significant change from my typical tours that aim at going to remote places far away from anything. It was an odd feeling knowing that gas and food were almost always available within a hundred miles. Pulling up in front of a shopping mall on my GS, decked out in my riding suit, with a months worth of gear strapped to my bike made me feel very strange (and I'm sure I looked very strange to the local shoppers). Luckily I was able to ride into some more-remote areas along several stretches of the tour, which helped keep the ride interesting.

This tour started in early May, which in the northern latitudes is basically late winter/ early spring. As a result, I had a little snow to contend with. If you are reading this log in advance of your own four corners tour, be aware of this early starting date, as your weather may be better or worse depending on when you leave.

With all that said, I hope you enjoy my story...