

Arguably the best ride in California

By Chris Schmidt

Mattole Road

By the time you make your way down to the start of this road, you've already been through some eye-popping scenery and curves along Highway 101. What makes Mattole Road arguably one of the best rides in the Pacific NW, is that it's one of the few roads that are in comparison to the mecca of riding, the Dolomites.

The road starts in Ferndale, just off the Highway 101 across a bridge built in 1911. Ferndale itself is a quaint little town with some fabulous Victorian buildings and charming houses. If you plan it right, take time for coffee or lunch in this town, and make sure you gas up before going any further.

Once you start the trail, you'll probably be wondering what the heck I'm babbling about, as it's rough asphalt at best. About 10 kilometres in, you'll get to the ridge and start to see



Mattole Road in California

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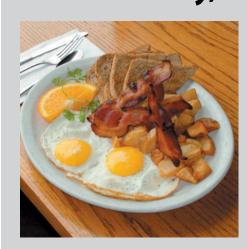
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Next Breakfast/Brunch Saturday, December 7



WHERE:

Crooked Goose Bistro 4136 Wilkinson Road Victoria

WHEN: 9:30 am



Clinton made a good overnight stop



Looking south down the Lost Coast

the vistas that are just the beginning.

Meander a little further, and the road disappears into a steep gully with tremendous views of the rock strewn beach, giant rolling waves and the endless Pacific Ocean. It's a little bumpy here, so keep your eye on the road and pull over to gander at the splendor. There's practically no traffic, so you may as well park on the left side of the road to get the best view.

Speaking of which, this section of the road reminds me of Wales. Poor asphalt, amazing views, strong winds and very damp.



The view from the beach

Along the water, you'll probably be stopping every few minutes to check out the rocky beach and enjoy the crashing waves. The local cattle are doing the same, so keep at least one eye peeled for the road crossing beef.

Shortly afterwards, the road meanders back up the valley into the hills and will wind its way along to the village of Pretoria. Great little spot to drive slowly through, because it's only about twice as long as your bike.



Holy Cow Batman, these trees are huge!

As you approach Honeydew, you have a choice of left or right. Go left, young adventurer, go left. Some more vistas await you after riding through some terrific switchbacks. But the best is yet to come. Toward the end of the trail, you are rewarded with a ride through the Humboldt Redwood Park. Here, you will feel like a Jedi knight on your speedbike, as you pick your way through the giants. Well worth the stops at the various hiking trails. Flat Iron Tree and Giant Tree are both spectacular!

The last portion of the ride is the Avenue of the Giants. Take this byway all the way down to Redway, then you can rejoin Highway 101 to take you to other amazing California rides. But undoubtedly, this one will be a highlight for you!









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PSS Announces the 2015 Schedule for Advanced Street Skills

The 2015 Advanced Street Skills events will be held at two locations in Washington;

- Pacific Raceways in Kent (June and August)
- The Ridge Motorsports Park in Shelton (July and September)

Advanced Street Skills provides riders the knowledge and ability to read their riding environment, correctly predict what a corner will do before entering the curve, improve cornering skills, and better negotiate proper entry and exit speeds. This is not a safety course, but by helping motorcyclists become better riders they ultimately become safer riders. All of the lessons and drills relate directly to riding on public roads whether for sport, touring, or just for cruising.

The drills and lessons taught were created to combat the most common reasons for motorcycle crashes and fatalities in Washington. The Advanced Street Skills event provides motorcyclists with the tools to better manage their speed (when, where, and how much) and improve their cornering skills. All of this is done in a controlled environment spread over a 2.25+ mile closed road course

Here in the Pacific Northwest and along the west coast, motorcycle crash research shows that the majority of single vehicle fatalities are the fault of the motorcyclist. One of the leading causes is 'lane errors' (examples are running wide in corners and colliding with trees, cars, guardrails) which is directly addressed through the Advanced Street Skills.

This is not a course for aspiring racers, rather it is for riders that prefer to spend their time riding in the mountains, down the coast or are just looking to become safer by improving their cornering skills. There are no special bike requirements or restrictions, no need to tape over lights or remove turn signals; you will ride what you ride every day.

Come join us and learn what S-M-A-R-T cornering is all about. To register for Advanced Street Skills call (253) 770-8888. Register before December 31st, 2014 and receive a \$30.00 credit.



Puget Sound Safety - (253) 770-8888 - Office Address: 10720 Woodland Ave E, Puyallup WA 98373 - www.pugetsoundsafety.com



Used winter projects are out there



Up for sale recently on Ebay was a 1956 BMW R69 Airhead. Recently serviced by Boxerworks in GA. The bike has stainless steel exhausts, a flanders side stand, Earls front end and tons of style. This bike turns heads where ever it goes. The R69 last ran 6 months ago after the service, seller has all the receipts.

Overall a very nice example of an increasingly hard to find machine Mileage: 11,942.

Club 2014/15 Event Schedule

Date	Event	Location
Sunday, December 7, 2014	Monthly Gathering	Crooked Goose Bistro
Thursday, January 1, 2015	TROC	Island View Beach
Saturday, January 3, 2015	Monthly Gathering	Log House Pub
Friday to Sunday, January 23 to 25, 2015	Vancouver International Bike Show	Tradex/Abbotsford
Sunday, February 1, 2015	Monthly Gathering	Chequered Flag
Sunday, February 15, 2015	MSF Rider Training	TBD
Saturday, February 21, 2015	Pot Luck – Chez Lucy's	620 Toronto Street
Saturday, March 7, 2015	Monthly Gathering	Log House Pub
Sunday, March 15, 2015	MSF Rider Training	TBD