



Last chance to join the bulk tire order

The Bulk Tire Order is back on at Island Motorcycle Company and they are willing to compete with the rest of the Victoria Moto community.

That being said, to get your rubber for the coming riding season you can contact me at bwreddog@gmail.com or 250.652.0214. Please make other members aware of this tire order.

The sale will be finalized/ completed by February 28 so order early and DON'T miss this years order.



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Next Breakfast/Brunch

Saturday, March 2



WHERE:

Crooked Goose
4144 Wilkinson Road
Victoria, BC

WHEN:

9:30 am

Remember to RSVP if you're coming to give the restaurant an idea of how many people to expect for breakfast.



Tips for flying when you motorcycle tour

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Specializing in world-wide tours coinciding with MotoGP races or track days. Include track days after the race at Misano and Mugello. Arrive in Rome, Pick-up your Ducati, BMW or Moto Guzzi motorcycle and then spend 6 fantastic days riding the twisty roads in the heart of Italy and 2 days at the Autodromo del Mugello circuit to watch Vale and his MotoGP competitors put on a stunning show of speed, talent and craziness. Enjoy the endless curves, the historic small towns, the high mountain passes, the quaint little hotels, the food & wine and the Ducati Factory.

Also guided or self-guided tours of California, including the Best of Pacific Coast Highway 1, California Curvin, the Redwood Serpent Run

and more. The bike is ready, the GPS is loaded with all the local routes, your hotels are booked. All you have to do is show up and ride the best curvy roads in the USA. Ride when you want, with who you want.

And if you don't have the time to do one of their "Track & Tour" packages, lip away for a little MotoGP track time.

Such as their September 30 to October 4 tour with 3 Days Track Training on Catalunya with Troy Corser. That's 3 days on a BMW S1000RR with 2000€ damage deductible. Upgrades to slicks and warmers available. 4 nights three and four star hotels. All meals included. Airport pickup and transit to hotel and track



And as a special service to the Club, Leod Motorcycle Escapes will set up California tours using your own motorcycle. They lay out all the best local routes and food suggestions on a map, road book and in a Garmin GPX file. The hotels are expecting you. If you have your own machine it's as simple as loading the route file into your GPS and selecting the route. The special is "Brothers from the North" Route that can start and end in Medford OR. Mention it when you contact them.

Check out their website to see how they can make your next adventure a Leod Motorcycle Escape.

[Click here to connect to Leod Motorcycle Escapes](#)

Fly over the straight roads and the wet stuff

You want to ride the best vistas, the best curves and have thrilling adventures in far off lands. Perhaps you lack the time and money to scour the globe for decades on two wheels or maybe you just want to skip ahead to the good stuff. Also 2/3rds of our little rock is covered in water so sooner or later as a motorcyclist, you're gonna have

to fly. Leod Escapes founder Cat MacLeod worked in airfare and we book a lot of airfare ourselves for our guides. Here's our tips for fellow riders.

Principles not rules

There are so many variables in the marketplace for airfare that there really are no rules. There are however principles based on the balance of probability and even that doesn't conform to a

standard distribution. Advanced mathematicians put together the pricing algorithms to try to keep airlines running in the black and even they fail sometimes. So buying airfare is more about what you understand than a precise prescription of what you should do.

Good things come to those who plan ahead

Start looking at the airfare market about 10 months before you want to



Cheapest flight may not be the way to go

fly. Yes it's sometimes possible to get exceedingly cheap deals last minute but those are rare. Get familiar with the airlines that commonly service the route you are interested in.

At Leod Escapes we start poking around the airfare market as soon as we have tour dates. That can be up to a year in advance. We typically use kayak.com as it's interface is pretty good and they do a good job of aggregating airline fares and consolidator fares. We generally follow their advice on when to purchase because their fare forecaster is pretty good.

No such thing as the cheapest fare

People always say they want the cheapest fare, until they see what they'd have to endure to get it. When the cheapest fare from San Francisco to Munich involves 30 hours of flight time with a 5 hour layover in Copenhagen and another 10 hours in Istanbul, suddenly that price isn't worth it. One of the reasons airfare is so complicated is everyone has different thresholds of what they are willing to pay. How much more would I pay to fly with Air New Zealand over United? How much more would you pay to fly KLM instead of WOW (Iceland's Low-cost Airline). Is a direct flight with 5 hours chopped off the travel time worth an extra \$400? Should I use my points and save \$500 but have to pay \$700 more for the flight? If you start shopping early,



you will face questions like these.

Your home airports, their home airline

Chances are there's more than one major airport within an acceptable drive time of your home. Smaller "secondary" airports have cheaper gate fees (what the airport charges the airline) and can play host to discount airlines. Do not overlook them. A business class seat on a discount carrier out of a secondary airport can be cheaper than an economy class seat on a major carrier out of a bigger airport. Airports and national airlines are heavily subsidized by tax dollars. As such, Alitalia pays less to park its planes in Rome than United Airlines. Lufthansa pays less than Delta to park a plane in Munich. Sometimes countries want your

tourism dollars and increase the incentives through subsidies to a national carrier. Even if the prices are the same, you'll generally get a better flight experience for your money via an airline based in the country you are visiting. You also have a better chance of arriving and departing from a nicer terminal with a better staffed customs desk.

Beware the codeshare

Airlines form alliances for a number of reasons. One of them is to try to get around the higher gate fees charged to "foreign" airlines. Airlines within the same alliance are not equal, so keep an eye out for that. For example, that Air New Zealand flight is actually "operated by United". This is called a codeshare and it can be disappointing if you're not



Consider best arrival times when booking



watching for it.

Airline Fares and Consolidator Fares

To help balance demand Airlines sell inventory under contract to wholesalers who promise a certain volume at a certain price. The tickets are just as valid, whether you purchase them direct from the airline versus through a third party. However if the prices are the same, buy direct from the airline. When push comes to shove in overbooked flights and other mishaps, direct bookers sometimes held in higher esteem.

Timing your landing

As tour operators we've seen clients make this mistake a lot. There are 24 time zones on the planet and the damn globe revolves at 900 mph. Pay close attention to the local times of your departure and arrival, that includes the date, as crossing the international date line can make

things fun. Consider that the best time to arrive in your destination is late morning to early afternoon, so you can check into your hotel and get a shower and then try to walk off a bit of that jet lag.

50 lbs of Fun

Checked baggage is limited to 50 lbs per bag. As a rider you'll discover that sport touring jackets and pants as well as track racing suits are more bulky than heavy. Still it is all about weight. Look for large lightweight cases or duffles bags with wheels. Don't count on luggage carts being available in your destination. Aside from issues of availability, they are often coin operated and usually when you arrive you don't have any local coins. When shopping for bags and cases, consider that there is another sport that frequently travels with very bulky gear... hockey players.

Your Supersuit is flying to

It's easy enough to replace shirts and a toothbrush but replacing motorcycle gear can be tough when you are forced to do it in a rush. So it's really vital that your gear arrives with you. Checking in early increases the probability that your luggage will make it on the plane. Avoid short layovers where your bags may not have the time to make it from one plane to the next. A good layover time is 2 hours. With taxiing time, getting everyone out, boarding time for your next flight, if you have less than an hour you will be running and your bag won't make it. Should your bag get misrouted, you want to make it is easy for people to discover it. Make sure your luggage tag is solid. Put a printed itinerary inside your bag and take a photo of your bag so you can show it to the appropriate personnel. Finally, avoid the temptation to ship your gear bag. Aside from the wary question of who is going to receive it, importing items into other countries is fraught with many variables and paperwork can sometimes hold things up considerably. You're the hero of your own story, keep your supersuit close to you.

Preparing for Thieving Spurious Associates

As frequent global travelers we've seen a lot of security lines. It's useless theater to provide the illusion of safety. The ever changing



Plan right to make your experience great



and completely different standards at different airports around the globe at least give it a sense of variety. What's more troubling than the

show you participate in, is the one that goes on with your checked bags. DO NOT leave expensive consumer electronics of any kind in your checked bag. You will undoubtedly be taking a camera or two with you, make sure the expensive hardware is in your carry on luggage. Things like knives, emergency roadside tools and such need to be stowed in your checked luggage but buried well inside helmets,

socks, boots and multiple zippered compartments. The TSA has taken a number of GoPro cameras and Leatherman tools out of our checked luggage over the years so we've learned. If they are going to take things out of your bag while searching it, at least make them work for it, bury those items deep.

The best way to see the world

This all seems like a bit of a hassle until you let the clutch out for the first time and take off down a foreign road. No cages, or cattle barges for you, you're a motorcyclist and your adventure starts now.

Letter to the Club...

Riders Wanted for BMW Connected App Testing

My name is Jennifer and I work for Testbirds, a crowd-testing company based in Munich (<https://www.testbirds.com/>). I'm reaching out to you because we are looking for passionate BMW riders who might be interested in testing and improving an app for BMW.

To be more specific, we are currently working with BMW Motorrad on testing and improving their Connected App. For this, we will be conducting several tests in the upcoming year. I am looking for BMW riders who are using the Connected App and are willing to contribute towards the further

development of it.

Participation will mean that testers can report bugs, evaluate or request features, and give some general feedback. Testers will of course be compensated for participating in tests, interviews etc., but more importantly will have a direct feedback channel to BMW and their App development team.

During the testing process, BMW will oversee your feedback, your requested features, the bugs you submit, and they will listen in during remote interviews we have planned.

To get more information or register to take part in the testing, interested BMW riders who currently have a TFT display on their BMW motorcycles can visit our site: www.testbirds.com/bmw.

I would be very grateful if you could pass this message along to your members or alternately if you could provide suggestions on how I might be able to do so in the most appropriate way. I'm happy to answer any questions you may have, and would really appreciate anything you could do to pass this info along.



Club 2019 Event Schedule

Date	Event	Location
Saturday, March 2, 2019	Monthly Gathering	The Crooked Goose
Sunday, March 17, 2019	Rider Training - Coffee & Conversation	Location TBD
Sunday, April 7, 2019	Monthly Gathering	Surly Mermaid
Thursday, April 18, 2019	Season Start	Island BMW
Saturday, April 20, 2019	Cow Bay Run	Cow Café in Cow Bay
Saturday, May 4, 2019	Monthly Gathering	Jake's at the Lake, Cowichan Lake
Sunday, May 19, 2019	Monthly Ride	Rampant Lion, Maple Bay
Sunday, May 27, 2019	Vancouver Island Ride to Live	The Local, 1205 Wharf Street
Sunday, June 2, 2019	Monthly Gathering	Shady Rest Pub, Qualicum Beach
June 15-16, 2019	Up Island Event	TBD - Need a Volunteer
Saturday, July 6, 2019	Monthly Gathering	Saltspring Island
Sunday, July 21, 2019	Ride to Brunch	Shirley's
Saturday, August 3, 2019	Monthly Gathering	Unsworth Vineyard, Mill Bay
TBD August, 2019	Hotsprings Rally	Nakusp, BC
Saturday, August 25, 2019	Club BBQ	Chez Randy
Sunday, September 1, 2019	Monthly Gathering	Timberland Pub, Ladysmith
Saturday, September 21, 2019	Monthly Ride	Port Renrew / Cowichan Loop
Sunday, October 6, 2019	Monthly Gathering	The Crooked Goose
TBD October, 2019	Annual Meeting	TBD
Saturday, November 2, 2019	Monthly Gathering	Spitfire Bar & Grill
Sunday, December 1, 2019	Monthly Gathering	1550's Pub

A Membership Dues Reminder to All...

If you haven't already paid your 2019 BMW RVI membership dues please complete a membership renewal form and forward it with your payment to Peter Juergensen. Alternatively you can hand it to Peter at the next breakfast meeting.

Please click [HERE](#) to download a copy of the Membership form from our website.