Tall Pines 200k

Permanent #91

A Permanent Brevet of 201 kms Time Limit: 13 hours, 20 minutes

Pre-ride Information—PLEASE READ CAREFULLY

This brevet is a "permanent." Being a "permanent" means it is a self-conducted ride with a date and starting time of the rider's choice. This brevet is sanctioned by Randonneurs USA, and counts toward its Distance Awards. If you are trying to earn the RUSA R-12 medal it can be ridden multiple times. In order to participate, you must be a current member of Randonneurs USA.

Route Description: This is a 125 mile loop ride with BIG climbs and BIG descents. The route starts in Camp Verde at an elevation of about 3000' and immediately climbs to 7200' in Flagstaff! After you refuel in Flagstaff (you'll need it), you'll encounter some "alpine" rollers before you embark upon one of the most fun descents in AZ. If you like to descend, the descent through Oak Creek Canyon and into Sedona will put a smile on your face for weeks. More big rollers will take to to Clarkdale and the base of Mingus Mountain. You don't have to climb Mingus (unless you want to). You can save that for another day. An easy roll will then take you back to Camp Verde. The total elevation gained on this route is about 8500'. A map of the route may be found here: http://ridewithgps.com/routes/1398245

A special note about this route. Most of the climb to Flagstaff is on I-17. That sounds worse that it is. There is a wide smooth shoulder, and if you leave early in the morning, traffic is actually very light. That said, it is an interstate highway and if that sort of thing turns you off, stay away from this ride.

Weather: This ride can be done year-round, but may be cold or disallowed in the winter months. Camp Verde can also be very hot in the summer. The summer temperatures in Flagstaff are generally mild and very pleasant. Summer storms are highly likely and riders should consider rain equipment at all times. When it does rain, the temperatures can drop 30 degrees nearly instantly. Be prepared! Winters can be extremely cold and snowy. But, Flagstaff is in an arid region and this ride may be available in the winter months – weather permitting.

Start Times: You can start this ride at nearly any (reasonable) time. The start/finish location has open hours of 6 am – 10 pm on most days. You should plan your start time accordingly.

Services: To buy food and drink along the route, you'll find stores at intervals of up to 30 miles, at most. The first long climb out of Camp Verde may require more than 2 large water bottles. There is a rest area enroute, but it seems to be closed quite often these days. You should plan accordingly. Other than that stretch, you should have no difficulties finding water and food.

Start/Finish Location: This brevet begins and ends at the Basha's in Camp Verde. The address is 650 W Finnie Flats Rd., Camp Verde, AZ 86322. (928) 567-4585. You'll need receipts from the **start and the finish**; the time imprint on each receipt is your verification or "control" (it is okay to have store receipts which show times a few minutes off from the official start/finish times).

Control Procedures: Stores and establishments along the route will be used to acquire proof of passage. Store receipts will be needed to show the time and date of passage. You can also ask for a store stamp at any control in lieu of a receipt, but if they do not offer one then you are expected to buy something to get a receipt. Have the clerk write the time upon your brevet card and initial it.

You can ride this permanent alone or in a group; if you are with a group that stays together the entire way, then only one receipt is needed for the group at each control (but everyone should mark their own cards with the time.) If the riders split up, they then need to get their own receipts. Tandem teams obviously only need one receipt for their team, not for each rider.

Each control has an opening and closing time. To get ride credit you must stay within these times, which are based upon the starting time and date you chose. Be aware that there may also be secret controls during this brevet, so stay on the route. If you should get lost or go looking for food, backtrack to where you got off-course, otherwise you might miss a secret control. Failure to sign in at a secret control means disqualification from the brevet. If there are any secret controls, they will be in plain sight and impossible to miss.

After the brevet, return your brevet card and receipts to the ride organizer. Sign the back of the card and make sure all the times are recorded on the card for each control. Put all the receipts and your card into an envelope and mail it to

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Regulations: During your ride, all the normal rules of randonneuring apply. Go to the RUSA web site to familiarize yourself with the regulations if this type of cycling is new to you. Here are some links:

http://www.rusa.org/brvreg.html http://www.rusa.org/prmreg.html http://www.rusa.org/permfag.html

You **must** begin your ride at the time you selected, and any secret control opening and closing times will be based upon that start time. If you are riding at night, be sure you have all the required lights and safety gear outlined in the regulations; anyone found to be riding at night without them will be automatically disqualified.

If you should fail to start, or end the ride prematurely, please contact the ride organizer as soon as is practical. We have RUSA matters to attend to whether or not you finish the ride successfully. Please be considerate and not endanger your future participation in future permanents by overlooking this essential detail. Thanks in advance for your cooperation.

If you have any questions, please ask.

Good luck and good riding! ©