

PMBC Tour de Flagstaff July 14 – 16, 2016

Hi fellow PMBC riders and all my cycling brothers and sisters !!! This is Bob Litchfield and I am planning another great Tour de Flagstaff ride in the cool pines and lakes around Flagstaff, Arizona on and around Lake Mary Road in July. With valley temperatures well into triple digits in July, you will enjoy riding in the cooler climate around Flagstaff with expected highs around 77 and expected lows around 50. The routes we will be riding will be at around 6700 to 7400 feet elevation.

The ride weekend will be Friday July 14th, Saturday July 15th and Sunday July 16th. We will have 3 planned rides – one on each of the 3 days. See the details down below. We will also have some maps and directions to a couple additional ride routes in case you want to try those instead of the planned club rides. Cost and sign-up information is at the bottom.

Lodging:

There are several options for lodging. Since the planned rides will start and end at Lake Mormon Lodge, that would be the best place to stay. Lake Mormon Lodge is away from the city and out in the forest just off of Lake Mary Road about 28 miles southeast of Flagstaff. It is cool and peaceful there, and you just may see elk and deer as you are driving or riding around. They have cabins that range in several sizes, hotel rooms, RV camping and tent camping. There is also a full service restaurant, pizza parlor and a bar with live entertainment there. The best reason for staying here is because this gives us 3 different ride routes that start and end here, so you don't have to drive anywhere in the morning just to get to the ride start.

The cabins and hotel rooms fill up fast during the summer because it is a popular getaway from the valley since it is so cool and peaceful up there, ***so make your reservations ASAP!!!*** I have reserved 2 RV spots and 5 rooms/cabins at the Lodge; please be sure to tell them you are with PMBC when you make your reservation. Their phone number at the lodge is 928-354-2227. They don't always answer so leave a message, but keep calling back, as they are not always quick to respond to voice mail. You can check them out on the web at www.mormonlakelodge.com. Many of their cabins are new and some of the older ones have been remodeled and fixed up. They are all nice and cozy with full amenities. A good idea is to get several folks to go in together and share a cabin. As I said, the cabins come in several different sizes.

Also note that they have a lot of weddings at Mormon Lake during the summer. When they have weddings booked, they put a blanket hold on all the cabins until about 3 weeks prior to the wedding. You can put your name on a waiting list for the cabins, or you can look at other lodgings. There are several Vacation Rentals By Owner (VRBO's), Bed-n-Breakfasts and other rental options right there in Mormon Lake and up and down Lake Mary Road. You are more than welcome to check with me (see my contact info at the end of this document) and I can help coordinate lodging with folks looking to rent a multi-room house/cabin.

If you do not want to, or cannot get a room at Mormon Lake Lodge, you should be able to find one at the many hotels in Flagstaff. It is only 28 miles away so you could stay in Flagstaff and drive to the lodge to join us for the rides.

I will be staying at the RV campground at Mormon Lake Lodge in my RV. This will serve as ride head quarters. The campground is just across the street from the cabins.

Directions:

You have 2 easy routes out of the valley to get to Mormon Lake Lodge / Flagstaff. The simple way is to take I-17 north out of Phoenix all the way to Flagstaff. Just as you are entering Flagstaff, you will exit off of I-17 onto Lake Mary Road and go to the right or east. It should be about 26 or 27 miles or so to Mormon Lake Road which will be on the right. Take the second Mormon Lake Road. Either one will get you there – the first one takes you around Mormon Lake, and

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the second one takes you more directly to the lodge. This should take you around 3 hours from Tempe.

The other route would be to take Hwy. 87 or the Beeline Highway up through Payson, Pine and Strawberry, and then turn left onto Lake Mary Road when you get to the Happy Jack area. Stay on Lake Mary Road for around 28 or 30 miles and then turn left onto Mormon Lake Road. The lodge will be down a mile or so on the right. This route should also take around 3 hours from Tempe.

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The Club Planned Rides:

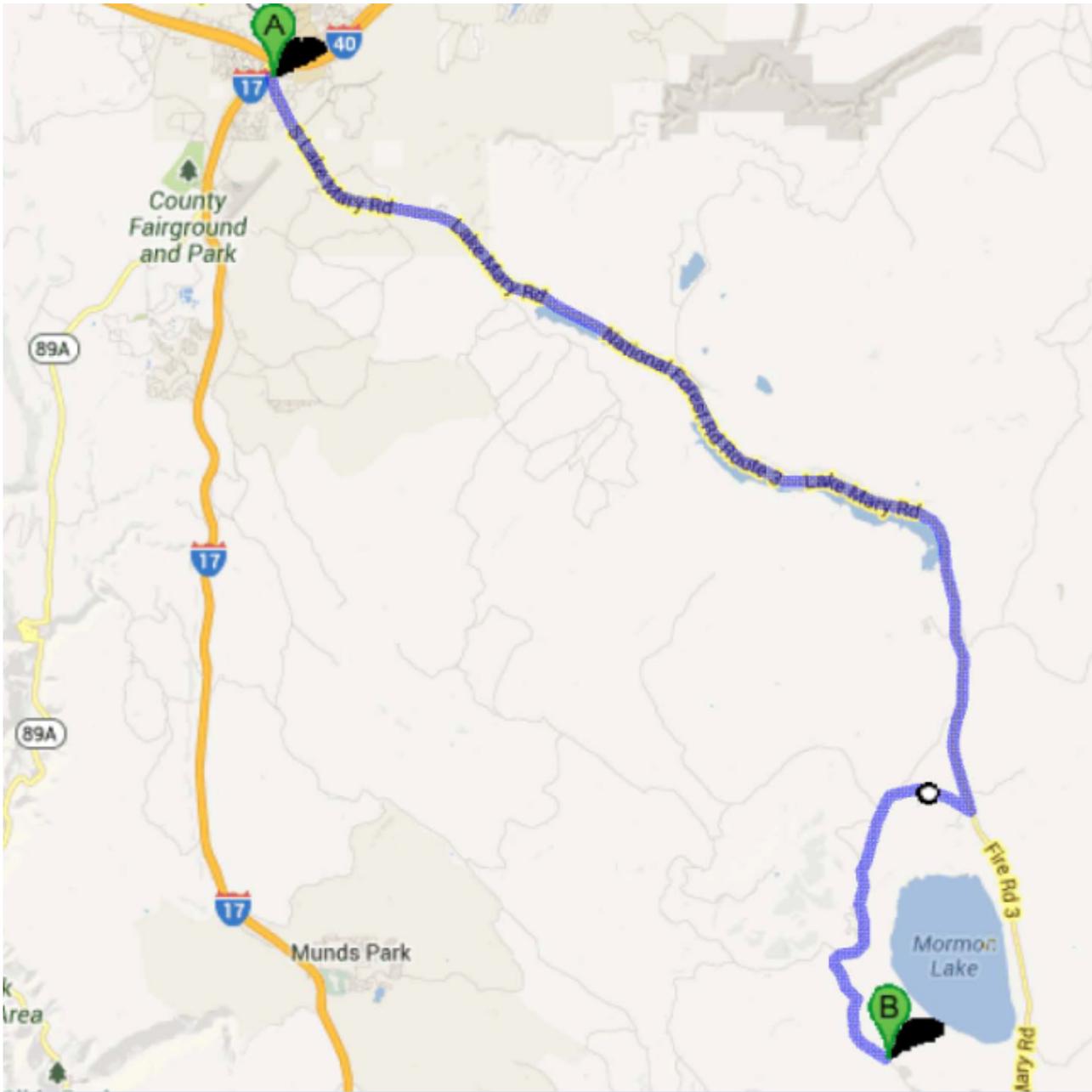
Ride 1: For those who can make it up there Friday afternoon, the first ride will start around 4 PM and will be a 17 mile ride around Mormon Lake. This is a very scenic ride through the forest with a good chance to see deer and elk. It is a hilly ride with several moderate climbs and one big climb.

Ride 2: On Saturday morning we will roll out from Mormon Lake Lodge at 7:30 AM. The ride route will take us out to Lake Mary Road where we will head west toward Flagstaff. There are lots of rolling hills, some great descents, but some good climbs as well. Lake Mary Road has a great bike lane. The Lake Mary Chevron & convenient store just before you get back to I-17 on the corner of Lake Mary Road and Walapai Dr. will be our halfway point and our turn-around point. We turn around there and head back out to Mormon Lake Lodge. The total ride will be 55 miles. If you do not want to do the whole 55 miles, you can always turn around prior to the designated turn-around point. There is one convenient store along the route closer to the Flagstaff side which can be used as a rest stop if desired. If we have any non-riders who want to volunteer to do a rolling SAG stop for us, then we will pick up some drinks and snacks and setup a SAG stop out of the back of someone's car or truck. Otherwise, no SAG stop. The ride is very scenic with forests and lakes and green meadows surrounding the route. Maps will be provided.

Here is some technical information about the ride and a route map:

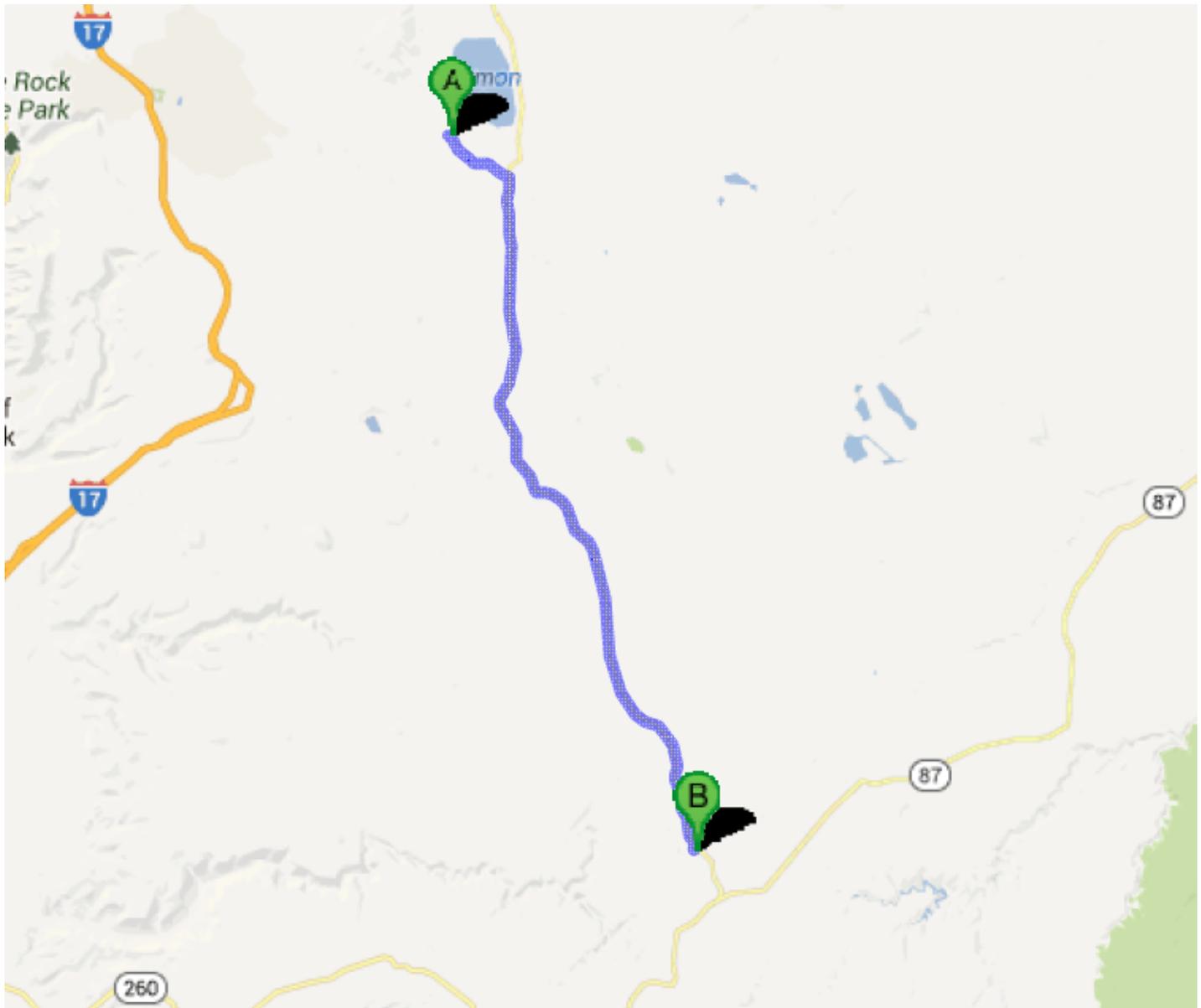


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Ride 3: On Sunday morning, we will again roll out from Mormon Lake Lodge at 7:30 AM. But this time we will head east on Mormon Lake Road away from Flagstaff. This route will be very similar to the Saturday ride, except that there are not always bike lanes in this direction – but traffic is light so it should not be a problem. This route has heavy forest and has a couple of really big climbs, one of which we call “Widow Maker” !!! We will ride from Mormon Lake Lodge to Happy Jack Lodge which will be our halfway point and turn-around point. You can refuel on drinks and snacks and hit the restrooms at Happy Jack Lodge. That great descent that you encountered on the way out, turns into the “Widow Maker” climb on the way back, so be prepared !!! This route is also 55 miles. Again, if we get any non-riders who want to volunteer, we will setup a rolling SAG stop, otherwise, no SAG stop.

Below is a map for ride 3:



Optional Rides:

For those who want to do some different rides other than Lake Mary Road, here are a few options for you. You will have to drive to the ride start for these rides.

Optional Ride 1: Snowbowl Climb from Flagstaff

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DISTANCE 27.94 miles	Snowbowl Climb
BIKE RIDE	BEGINS IN: Flagstaff, AZ CREATED BY: Martin Ince
CLIMB 2,349.08 ft	DESCRIPTION: Big scenic climb from downtown Flagstaff to the Snowbowl ski area on the west side of the San Francisco Peaks. All paved roads, but be mindful of traffic on Highway 180. TYPE: Bike Ride

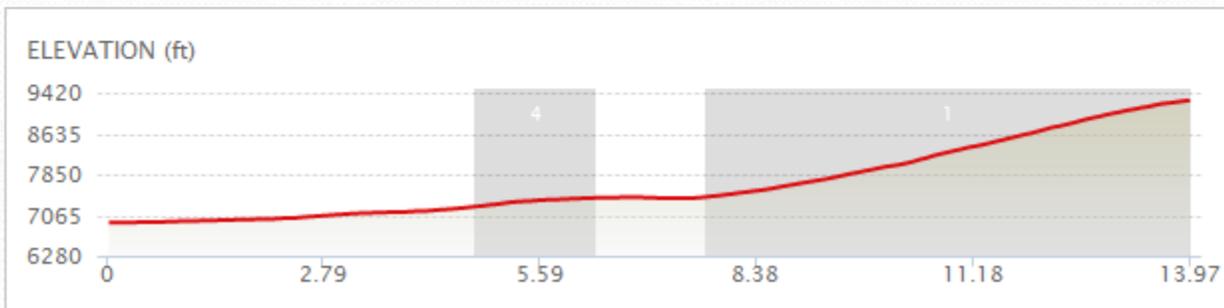
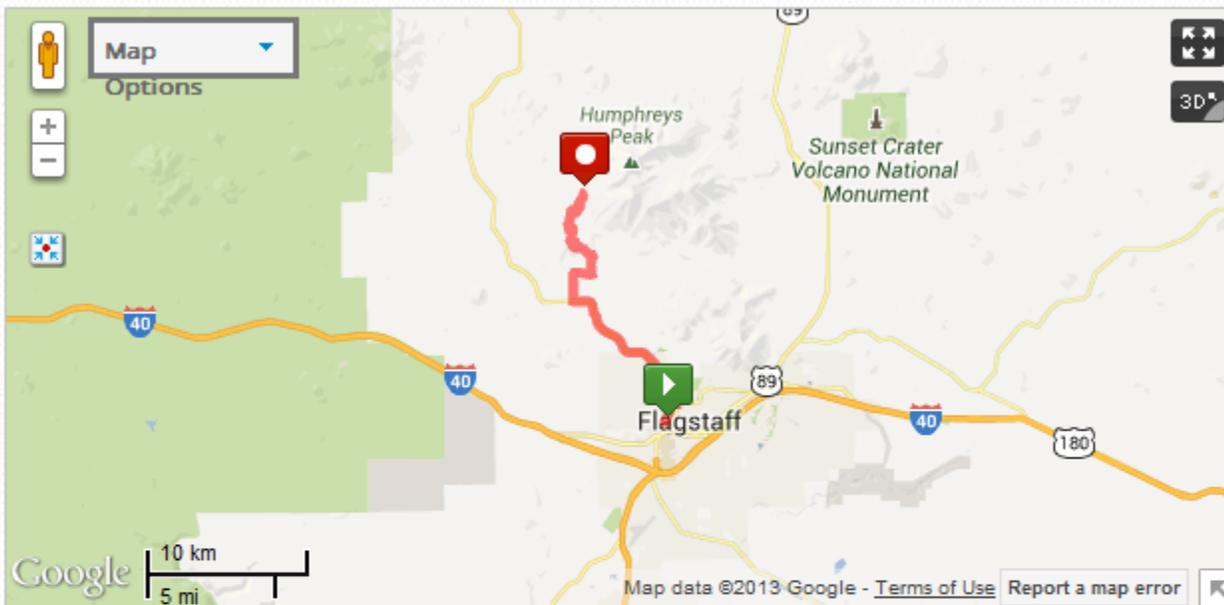
START ELEVATION 6926 FT	MAX ELEVATION 9364.0 FT	GAIN 2349.0 FT	CLIMBS ON ROUTE  1 1
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CLIMB DETAILS

[Learn About Climb Ratings](#) | [Download Data](#)

Rating	Start/End Points	Length	Start/End Elevation	Avg Grade
1	4.73 mi/6.31 mi	1.58 mi	7235 ft/7402 ft	2.0%
4	7.73 mi/13.97 mi	6.25 mi	7433 ft/9263 ft	5.5%

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Optional Ride 2: Sunset Crater and Wupatki Loop

DISTANCE 45.35 miles	Sunset Crater and Wupatki Loop
BIKE RIDE	BEGINS IN: Flagstaff, AZ
CLIMB 2,627.95 ft	CREATED BY: marianneb
	DESCRIPTION: Grand Tour of the Sunset Crater and Wupatki National Monuments. Spectacular views. Ponderosa forest to the edge of the Painted Desert and back. Long straight downhill, and long gradual uphill. Good on a cool day. Allow time to stop and explore the Indian Ruins in Wupatki.
	STARTS FROM: park
	TYPE: Bike Ride

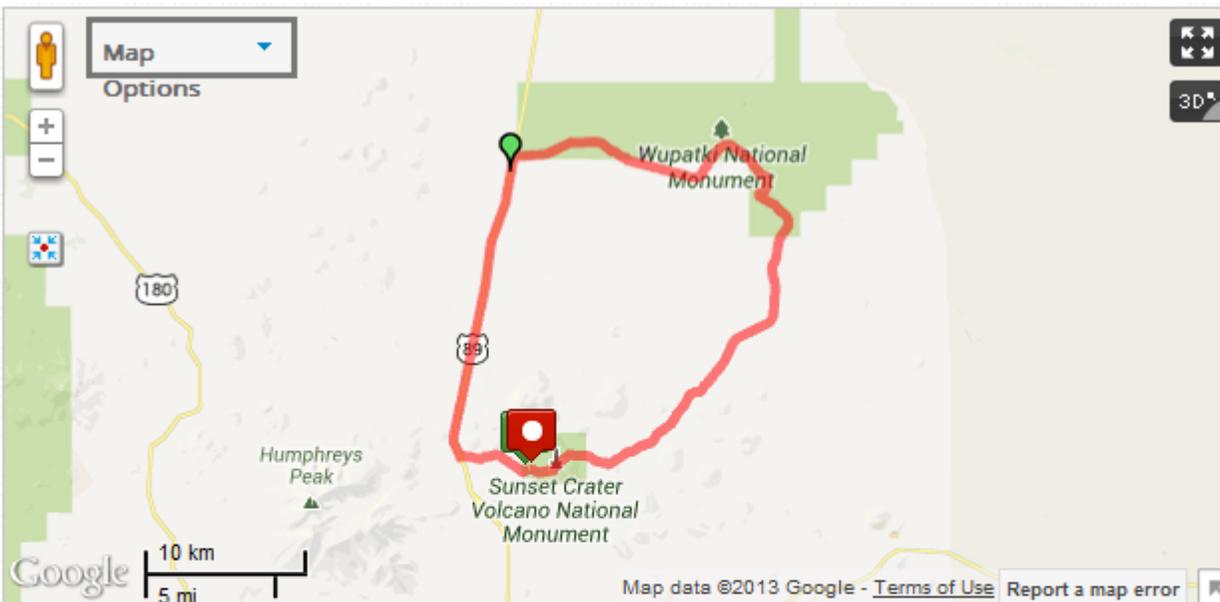
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START ELEVATION 6951 FT	MAX ELEVATION 7297.0 FT	GAIN 2628.0 FT	CLIMBS ON ROUTE 1 1
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CLIMB DETAILS

[Learn About Climb Ratings](#) | [Download Data](#)

Rating	Start/End Points	Length	Start/End Elevation	Avg Grade
	1.76 mi/3.42 mi	1.66 mi	6,995 ft/7,260 ft	3.0%
	30.01 mi/43.07 mi	13.06 mi	4,932 ft/6,989 ft	3.0%



Optional Ride 3: Lake Mary Road starting in Flagstaff out to Mormon Lake Lodge and back to Flagstaff

Anyone staying in Flagstaff instead of at Mormon Lake Lodge who wants to ride beautiful Lake Mary Road but wants to ride from where they are staying in Flagstaff rather than driving to Mormon Lake Lodge to join the club ride, can simply start their ride on Lake Mary Road in Flagstaff and ride out to Mormon Lake Lodge, turn around there, and head back in to Flagstaff. This will be opposite of what the club ride will be, and we will pass each other out on the road in opposite

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directions (be sure to wave!!!) But it will be more fun if you join us for the club ride.

Meals:

There are several options for meals during the weekend. There is a full service restaurant and a pizza parlor there at Mormon Lake Lodge, or you can make the 28 mile drive into Flagstaff and patron one of the many restaurants in Flagstaff. Or... you can bring your own chicken, steak or burgers and come over to the camper with us and throw them on the grill and eat with us. We have full kitchen and grill so we are always cooking at the camper.

Saturday evening PMBC will be sponsoring our meal. It will be cooked at my camper in the campground and all are welcome to eat and hang out with us. The meal will be spaghetti & raviolis, meatballs, garlic bread and salad. Water and iced tea will be available but you might want to bring what you like to drink. We will start cooking around 5 PM and eat whenever it is ready. You are also welcome and encouraged to bring a side dish or desert and share with everyone.

Miscellaneous:

We have Blu Ray and DVD players along with two flat screen HD TV's and DirecTV capability so we may be watching movies after dinner at the camper Friday & Saturday night, or like last year, light up the bonfire and just hang out. We will also be able to view the Tour de France while there. All are welcome to join us. Also, Evening drives right around dusk and just after are great times to spot elk and deer wondering around. For some afternoon activities other than bicycle riding, Mormon Lake Lodge has horseback riding available and fishing in the local pond. There are a few hiking trails around, and the forests are full of service roads that are great for ATV riding, so if you have one bring it – we will most likely bring ours and make some afternoon rides.

Cost & Sign-up:

Please sign up through the PMBC Club sign-up online (www.PMBCAZ.org) or by contacting the PMBC, so we know how many riders are going to come join us on this great ride weekend and how much food we will need for Saturday night. My personal contact information is BobLZX12@cox.net or 480-544-3584 if you have any questions. Cost for the weekend is \$20 per person for PMBC members, and \$30 per person for non-members. For anyone signing up at the event, the cost will be an additional 10\$ per person. There will be sign-up sheets for each day's ride. All riders will be required to sign in to participate in the ride. As usual, helmets are required and ear phones are forbidden. Route information will be available prior to all the rides. Don't forget to wear your PMBC colors for the Saturday morning ride!!!