

April 6th, 2003 Sunday Shop Ride - Davenport Cliffs Seascape Picnic
8:30 - Coffee & Doughnuts, 8:45 Ride Meeting, 9:00 Ride Out

This is a street ride, OK for less experienced riders, but perhaps a little challenging for absolute beginners. The distance is less than 100 miles, and the roads are all small secondary roads, no freeways at all. There are places for two or three brief stops before lunch in Davenport, then we'll have a direct ride back to Alices's, where the ride will terminate.

Lunch Destination: The Headland cliffs in Davenport, just off Hwy 1 south of Pescadero).

It seems like spring is finally on us, and the rides are getting bigger and bigger. This presents problems getting everyone fed in a reasonable time, so we are making the next ride an optional picnic ride (weather permitting). This ride takes us out to the coast via Highway 9/Hwy 236 through Big Basin, up Jamison Creek and down Bonnie Doone Road to the coast. Then we head up the coast on Hwy 1 and have a leisurely picnic snack lunch at Davenport on the ocean side of the road. If you haven't brought some nice treats or snacks to eat & share, you can always go across the road to the Grey Whale Cafe or the coffee shop and order a lunch. After lunch, we'll head back over Swanton Road and Gazos Creek Road to Pescadero/La Honda/84 to Alice's and back home. If the weather is bad & rainy, we might eat in the Grey Whale or up the road in Pescadero, and I may cut off the section through Big Basin and Swanton, but these roads are fun rain-or-shine, and the worse the weather, the more exciting the ride. If it is stormy, I'll bring a saw and a rope so we can clear the road of branches and trees. Most of the route, except for Hwy 9 and Hwy 1 is made up of two-lane roads, tight and twisty, great for riding practice.

Here's the route:

Leave Mountain View and head up San Antonio and out to Foothill Expressway - Stevens Canyon Road - left on Redwood Gulch Road - right on Highway 9 West - cross Skyline - Highway 9 West to 236 (Big Basin State Park/stop and regroup at Ranger Station) - right on Jamison Creek Road, left at top - right on Pine Flat Road - turns into Bonnie Doone Road to Highway 1 north to Davenport. Remember to park on the west side of the road if you are going to picnic. This is a primitive area, I don't think we'll necessarily find tables and such, so bring a blanket or something to spread out. Be very careful at the cliff edge, it is a sheer drop and not fenced.

Start out with your tank full, your tires checked, with proper attire for the weather and a bike which is safe to ride. Be prepared to help your fellow riders

with any problems on the road. The weather is unpredictable, so be equipped to ride in the rain, cold & fog. It is no fun to ride when you are cold and wet.

Ride within your safe limits, 75% of your comfortable maximum rate of speed at most. I also suggest that you practice the basic smooth-riding exercise of riding with minimal use of brakes, lots of engine-braking, and maximum attention to smooth riding technique and proper line through the corners. Riding this way is a great skill-building exercise; it holds your attention and keeps your speed at a reasonable level. The skill set you learn at modest speeds is the same skill set that allows you to ride much more quickly on the track. We absolutely discourage fast or reckless riding on these rides. Remember to take care and pay attention to the riders around you. Your safety, and the safety of your fellow riders is paramount!

Ride Safely!

Kari