

“Yosemite by Adventure Bike 2015”



Yosemite Valley “Tunnel View, this is what we see after riding through the tunnel”

Welcome to the **“Yosemite by Adventure Bike”** Adventure

This will be a great 4 day discovery ride around the Sierra Nevada mountains in California. Our route will take us through Sequoia National Forest, Kings Canyon National Park, Yosemite National Park, and several other national forests.

Enclosed you will find a daily description of the ride and associated plans.

You will also find an SD card for your gps unit. This card contains all the custom ride maps which have been created for the ride. You should install this sd card into your gps prior to the ride and check to see that it is working properly.

If you have trouble with your gps I will be happy to help you at the ride.

You will also find paper daily ride maps. These are to be carried with you as a quick reference to aid you in understanding your gps and the day's route options.

About the ride:

The ride begins Saturday at noon in Visalia, CA. Riders will meet at Alejandra's Restaurant (314 W Main St, Visalia) for lunch and a rider's meeting before the riding begins. The morning is open for riders to travel to the ride starting location. Whether riders are traveling from Southern California or the Bay area, it is about a 4 or 5 hour drive to get to Visalia. I realize that most riders will want to ride their adventure bikes, but some will want to ride their dual sport bikes too. So riders can either ride their bikes to the start of the ride or some may want to truck them and leave their trucks in the Visalia Airport parking area. Riders should make their own arrangements with the Airport ahead of time.

Riders will be spending the night in both Sequoia National Park and Yosemite National Park. In Sequoia, we will be staying at the Grant Grove Cabins "tent style cabins". The cabins include two double beds or two double beds with one twin bed, a shared central bathhouse, picnic table and wood flooring. NOTE: Tent cabins do not have heat or electricity. Riders should not need to bring their own bedding. In Yosemite, we will be staying at Curry Village, again in "tent style cabins." These are canvas covered tent-cabins. Cabins here consist of a wooden frame, wooden floor, and wooden door with four sides of canvas and a canvas roof and are equipped with beds and an electric light. Sheets, wool blankets, pillows and towels are provided and placed at the foot of the bed. Each of the cabins is equipped with a bear-proof storage locker. Riders should remember not to leave food in their bikes over night. Riders will be sharing the tents with other riders. Bring a good flashlight.

Riders will be eating in restaurants and in some cases on the trail. Riders should pack extra snacks as sometimes our food plans can fail.

Riders do need to pack and carry their own clothes and personal items. Riders should bring extra gear as the weather can vary greatly and be unpredictable during the ride. Riders should come prepared for cold and rain.

"When something goes wrong on a ride, would your riding friends say that you are more likely to need help or more likely to give help? You should be in the more likely to offer help camp. This ride is filled with riders that are more likely to give help, so most of the time the riders never need help."

This is an unsupported ride meaning there is no support truck following us. Riders should bring their own tools and items required to effect minor repairs and tire repairs. Come prepared to help others and the ride will turn out fantastic!

Saturday 5/30/2015 Ride151 Visalia to Sequoia National Park (Grant Grove)

Lunch Plan: Ride meetup at Alejandra's Restaurant (rider's meeting during lunch)

Ride length: Ride length is 84 miles, 153 miles with the Kings Canyon Scenic Byway

Gas Plan: First gas in three Rivers at 30 miles. Note: next gas is Day Two which could be up to 145 more miles depending on your ride option choices.



General Sherman Tree Sequoia & Kings Canyon National Park

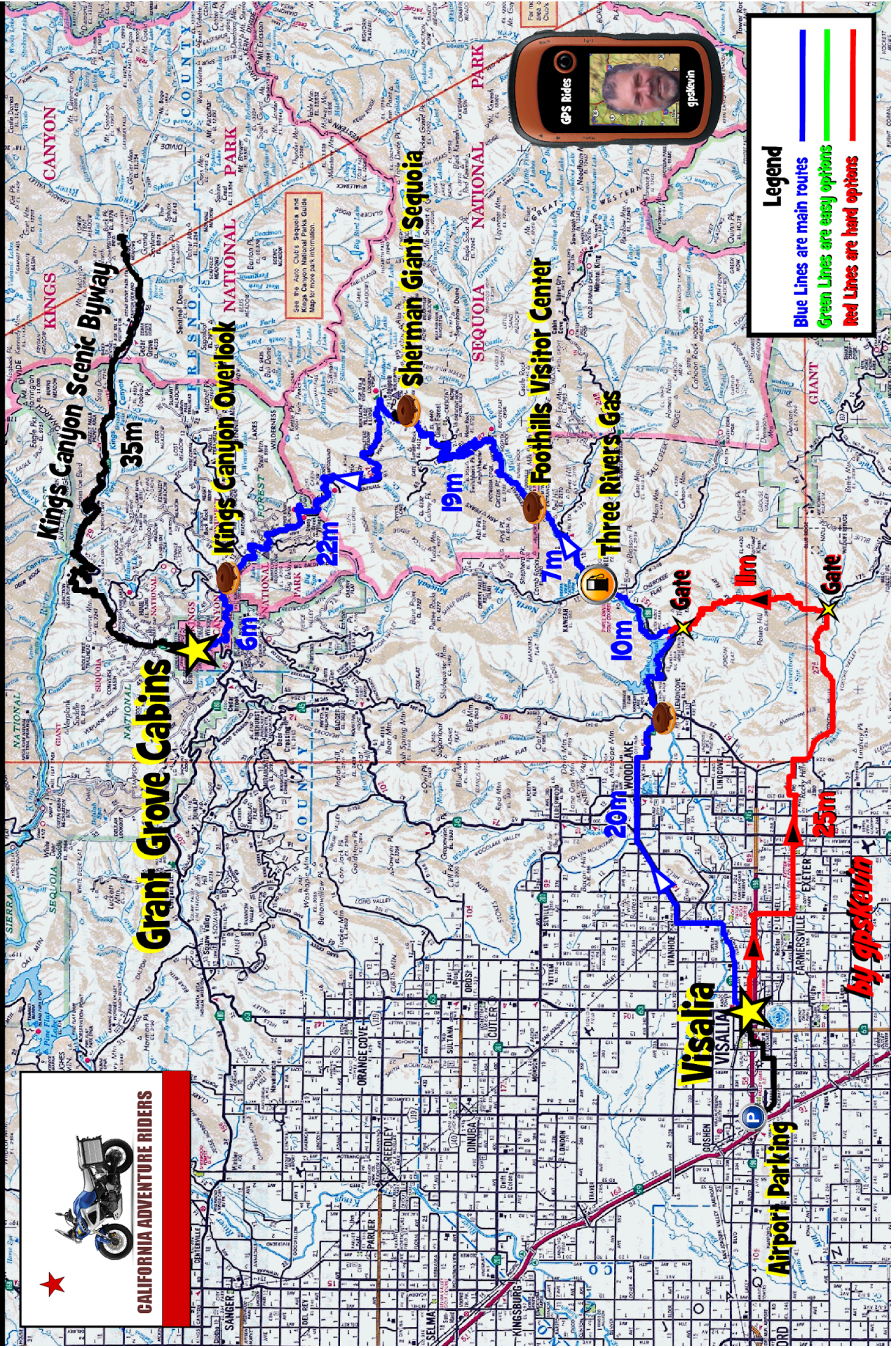
Description: After lunch we leave Visalia and riders have a main route choice of Blue or a harder Red route choice which takes an 11 mile dirt road across the foothills. This route is marked Red as it is untested and contains 2 gates. I expect the gates to be unlocked, but this is untried. The main Blue route takes us out of Visalia the back way and then intersects the main highway to Sequoia National Park. At the 30 mile mark, we will stop in Three Rivers and fill up with gas before entering the park. Next riders continue to the park entrance station. Riders will have to pay a \$10 entrance fee. The trip through the park is all scenic and relaxed. I have recommended three main stops but riders are welcome to explore the park in any manner they like. See the map to view the scenic recommendations. The stops are all marked with Donuts in your GPS. The ride ends at the Grant Grove area at the cabins, however there is an optional "Out and Back" Black route to explore the Kings Canyon Scenic Byway. I highly recommend this as it is spectacular. I recommend that riders try to manage their time so that they can fit this in near the end of the day.

Dinner Plan: We will informally meet at the Grant Grove Restaurant, walking distance from our cabins.

Lodging: Grant Grove Cabins

Yosemite by Adventure Bike Ride 151

Ride Length is 84 miles
Ride Option + 70 miles



Sunday 5/31/2015 Ride152 Sequoia National Park (Grant Grove) to Yosemite Curry Village

Breakfast Plan: You're on Your Own (YOYO): Grant Grove Restaurant again

Ride length: Ride Length is 210 miles

Gas Plan: First gas at 19 miles at Clingan's Junction Grocery, second gas at Cressman's at 63 more miles, third gas at Wawona at 102 more miles

Description: This day is a lot of back forest dirt roads. The Blue route is a mix of back paved roads and back dirt roads. The Green routes offer all paved options and shortcuts. The highlight or best section is the Blue part that contains the "Jones Store". This is a fun place to have a bit of a late lunch. It can be a long day so riders may want to take shortcuts. Unfortunately the best shortcuts come early in the day, so you are encouraged to think ahead and consider shortcuts early in the morning in order to get in the best part in the afternoon.



Famous "Jones Store" since 1800s. We will have pie here. Still in the family.

Riders will have to pay a \$10 entrance fee into Yosemite. After entering Yosemite, there is gas at Wawona. Then 25 miles into the park riders will go through a long tunnel. Once inside the tunnel your gps may quit working. As you exit the tunnel, riders should stop in the view area parking lot for one of the best views. This is marked as a donut stop but as your gps may not be working, riders should be aware and not miss this stop. Riders will meet in Curry Village to get their tent cabin assignments.

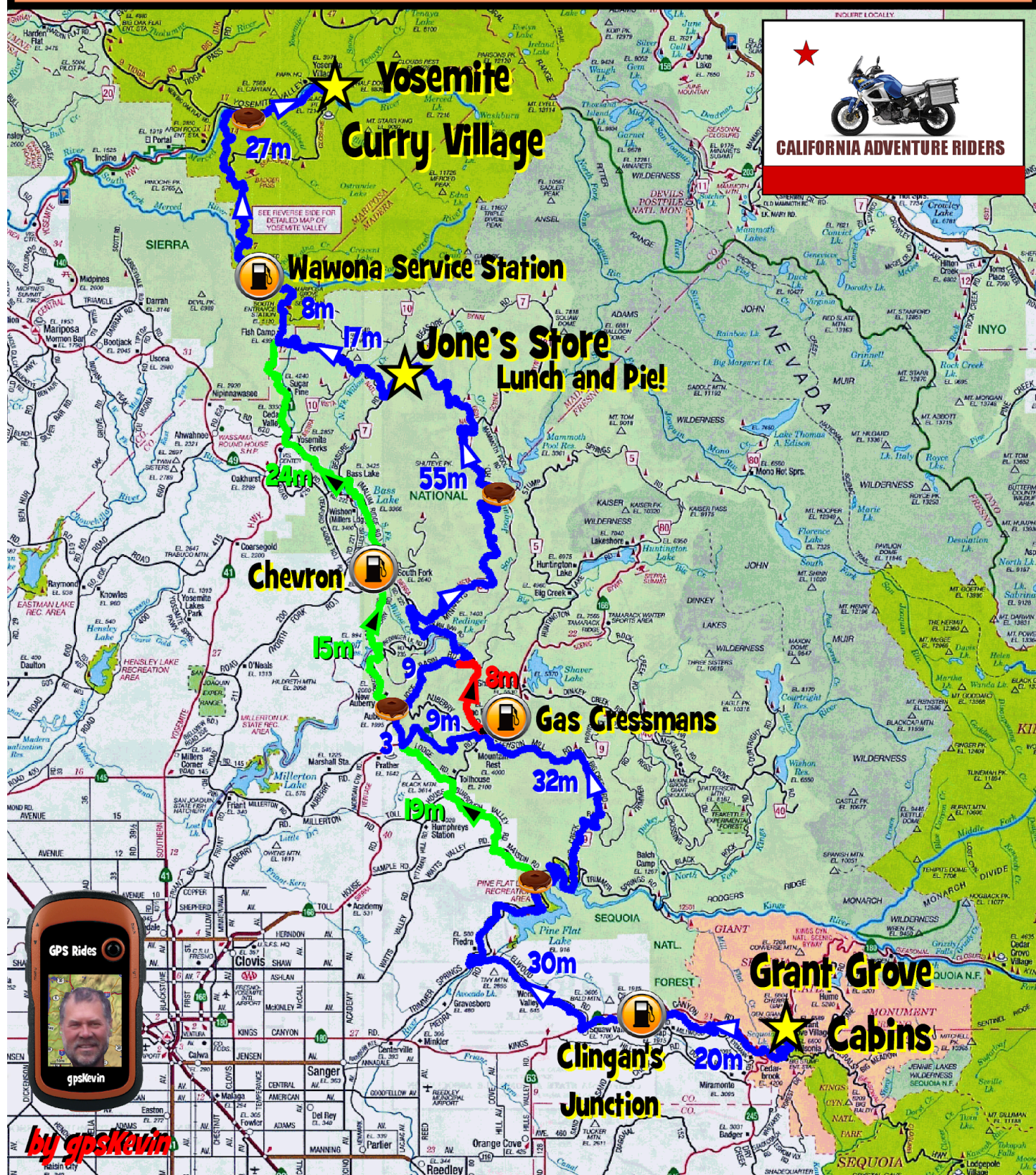
Lunch Plan: Jones Store and/or snacks

Dinner Plan: You're on Your Own (YOYO): Recommendation: "Curry Bar" Located on the Pizza Deck

Lodging: Curry Village Tent Cabins

ENJOY THE LOCALITY

CALIFORNIA ADVENTURE RIDERS



Ride Length is 210 miles

Monday 6/1/2015 Ride 3 Tioga Pass and Sonora Pass Loop

Breakfast Plan: YOYO (You're On Your Own) Recommendation: Coffee Corner in Curry Village

Ride length: Ride length is 260 miles

Gas Plan: First gas at 17 miles in Crane Flats, second gas in Bridgeport at 85 more miles, third gas at Crane Flats again at 145 more miles.

Description: This is a scenic, high mountains day. The ride starts with a stop for gas at Crane Flats only 17 miles out. Then the Blue route takes us up and over Tioga Pass in the morning, past Mono Lake into Bridgeport for lunch and gas. Try the burger place called "Jolly Kone".



Tioga Pass, Hwy 120 Yosemite National Park

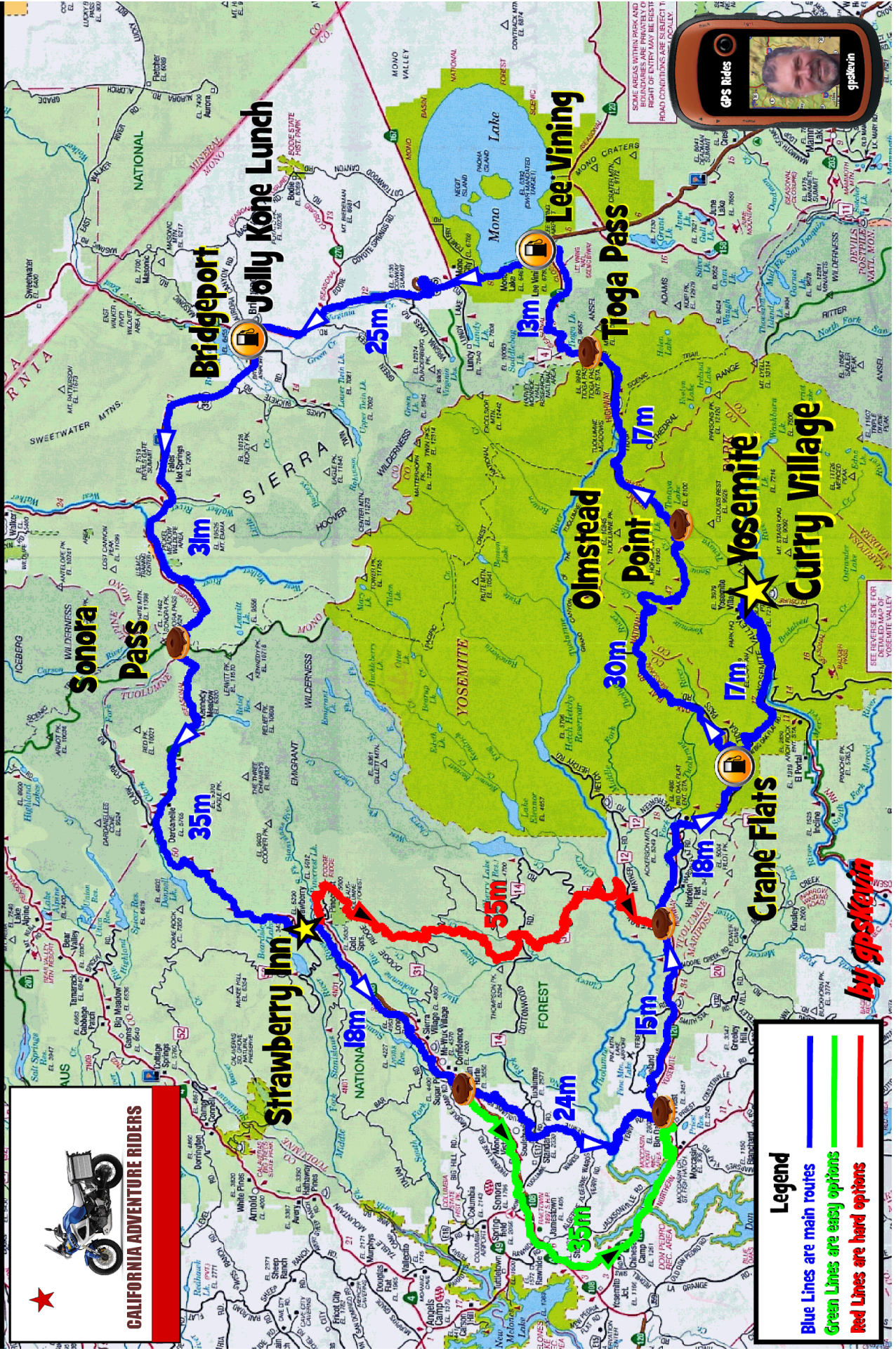
After lunch it is back over the mountains. We head over Sonora Pass and down to Strawberry Inn for pie or ice cream. After Strawberry there is a Red section that maybe should not be called hard. It is mostly narrow, paved roads and is a fantastic back way through the forest. The main Blue route is paved back highway then for 24 miles. It is narrow back roads across the lower forest. The route returns back to Curry Village.

Lunch Plan: Jolly Kone in Bridgeport

Dinner Plan: YOYO Recommendation: Curry Village's Meadow Grill

Lodging: Curry Village Tent Cabins (same place as last night)

Yosemite by Adventure Bike Ride 153 Ride Length is 260 miles



Tuesday 6/2/2015 Ride 154 Yosemite Curry Village to Merced CA

Breakfast Plan: YOYO (You're On Your Own) Recommendation: Coffee Corner in Curry Village

Ride length: Ride length is 84 miles to Merced, or add 107 to Visalia for Dual Sport route

Gas Plan: First gas at 16 miles in El Portal

Description: This is a short day as riders will be departing and heading home. The ride is to Merced and then riders have lunch and depart. The ride starts out by taking the main route out of Yosemite. Gas stop is at "El Portal." Twenty miles after gas, riders have one last Red option. This is the last back roads through the forest before we start across the farm lands. This should not be a difficult section. Riders can opt to stay on the Blue route which in the main route in the area. Riders wanting faster highway can take the green route.



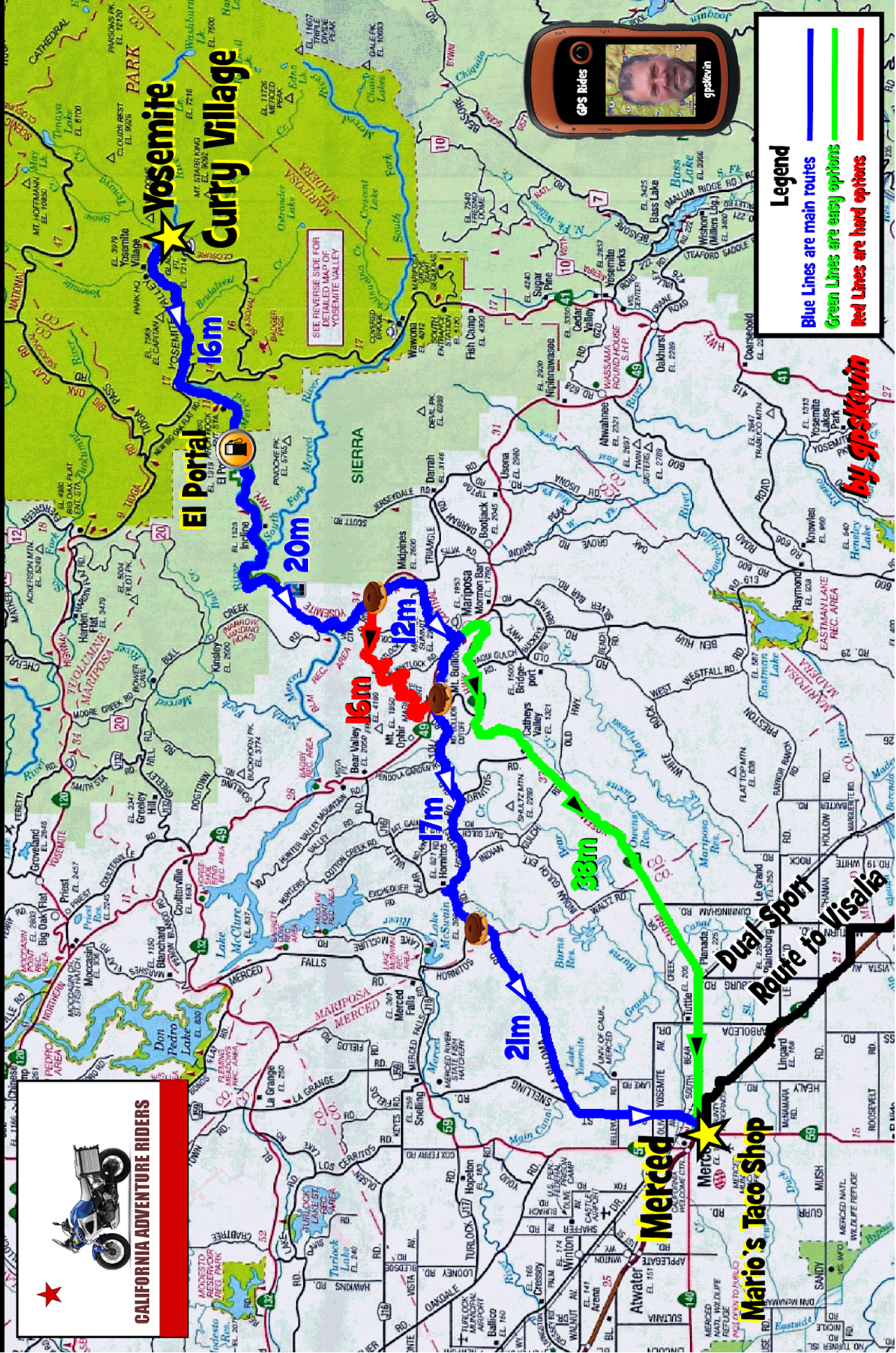
Ride's End, Mario's Taco Shop in Merced and the place to say goodbye to new riding buddies

Riders meet for lunch at Mario's Taco Shop (world famous) and depart after lunch. Riders on dual sport bikes wanting to stay off the freeway can take the Black route back to the airport in Visalia.

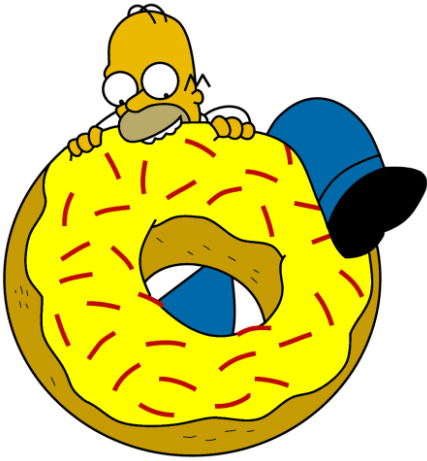
Lunch Plan: Mario's Taco Shop

Yosemite by Adventure Bike Ride 154

Ride Length is 84 miles
add I07 back to Visalia



Donut Holes: Are we doing Donut Holes?



This ride includes Donut Holes. Donut Holes are suggested as meetup spots for riders riding in groups. It is recommended that you join a group of riders and not ride alone. Ride groups should be 6 people or less. Using gps to navigate while riding in a group presents lot of new challenges and opportunities. First riders tend to ride at their own pace and often ride out of sight of the others in the group. Some riders may like to stop and take pictures and others simply like to stay out of the dust. When using GPS riders often unknowingly pass or change their position within the group. While the rider, say Jeff thinks Brian is in front of him, Brian is now behind. Jeff and both riders don't know that this change has occurred. What happens next

is Brian slows to allow Jeff to catch up and Jeff speed up to try to catch Brian. The gap between them get ever bigger and the riders may never see each other again. These situations can escalate into big confusion and issues.

To mitigate the group confusion this ride includes Meetup Points called Donut Holes. Donut Holes are big circles embedded into your GPS. These circles mark the spot that riders take a quick stop to check in with the other riders and verify that everyone is accounted for without issue.

When a rider turns up missing at the Donut Hole it is up to the group to decide to ride back to the last known sighting of the missing rider. Riders should not skip a Donut as the rest of the group may turn back looking for the missing person. This allows ride groups to catch issues early before they become big problems

As your riding group forms the riders should ask each other, are we doing Donuts? If your group agrees to do Donuts, then that means everyone is responsible ensuring everyone in the group is present at the Donut Holes. Stay on the Trail: Much of this ride borders Wilderness areas, in some places the ride cuts right through Wilderness area on road easements. So it is very important to stay on the route at all times

Reminders:

Check your GPS, do you need extra batteries?

Do you have gear to repair flat tires?

Other:

Riding in groups of more than 6 people is not permitted, so do not tell any officials that you are riding in a large group. And limit your group size to 6

About your GPS

This ride includes custom ride maps on a micro SD Card. Each days ride is a different map so riders must understand how to turn on and off each map. The steps to do this vary depending on which Garmin gps unit you have (and there are hundreds). Most work one of these ways below:

- **Alternate 1:** From the "Map" page select Menu. Then select "Setup Map" then scroll down and select "Select Map." Now you can scroll down and read the maps in your unit. You should find maps named for this ride. Now enable only the day of the ride that you want and you are done!
- **Alternate2:** Some GPS units (like Nuvi's) work like this. Select "Settings" then "Maps" then "Info" and now you should find the map named for this ride. Now enable only the day of the ride that you want and you are done!
- **Alternate3:** Some work like this. Select "Tools" then "Settings" then "Map" then "Map Info." You should find the maps named for this ride. Now enable only the day of the ride that you want and you are done!

If you are new to GPS or would like help with this, I am happy to set this up for you at the ride.

FAQ:

Q: I installed the SD Card, now how do I check my GPS to see if it is working properly?

A: See the ride on the GPS yourself. Turn on the GPS and zoom out to about 30 miles. Use the cursor to pan over to an area where you know the ride should be. Now begin zooming in. Wait for the gps to refresh it's screen as they can be slow. As you zoom in you should see the ride as a Wide Bold Blue line made up of arrows (Red and Green too) OK, good job, you did it right.

Q: I put the SD Card into my gps and now how do I find the Tracks or Routes?

A: No Tracks or Routes for this ride. This ride is based on Maps not Tracks or Routes. The ride just shows up in the display of your GPS unit. There are big bold lines that match the handout maps given for the ride.