

MDAMRA NATIONAL RALLY TRIP 2018

For 2018, the Harley-Davidson family is trying a lot of new things. New H-D models, with the new Milwaukee 8 engines, a limited number of the new regional HOG Rallies, the new Touring Rallies, and the “Rides Home” to the milestone anniversary rally in Milwaukee. To join in the celebration of the 115th anniversary of Harley-Davidson and the 35th anniversary of Harley Owners Group, the MDAMRA is going to try something new as well by organizing our own “ride home” for all 11 chapters, together for one epic road trip!

The 8-day, roughly 2000-mile expedition will leave on Monday, August 27th and return on Labor Day, Monday, September 3rd. We will ride three days to Milwaukee, spend three days and four nights at the rally, and return home in two days, completely circling Lake Michigan in the process. The trip is designed for a large group, utilizing mostly highways and gas and food stops, at 1 to 2 hour intervals, with multiple locations from which to choose. There will be tolls along the way and riders should have an EZ Pass to ease group travel and save money. View the ride plan, [National 2018](#) by entering this text in your web browser: <http://bit.ly/2w1YyRF>.

Day 1 will start with individual chapter groups meeting at H-D of Williamsport at 10:00 AM for a 10:30 AM departure, gas tanks full and bladders empty. Avoiding the expense of the PA Turnpike, we will head out I-68, take a rest/gas stop in Grantsville, MD, hit I-79N in Morgantown, and take a lunch break in Waynesburg, PA. Waynesburg offers several fast food options as well as a few gas options for your convenience. Continuing north, we will head on to the Ohio Turnpike toll road, make a final rest stop at the Glacier Hills Service Plaza, and end the day, around 6 PM, in Elyria, OH. All around the Best Western Inn, are several options for dinner and fuel.

Day 2 gets a little more interesting as the toll road leads us toward Toledo where we turn to the north through Michigan. After a rest/gas stop in Ottawa Lake, we take an extended stop at Vehicle City Harley-Davidson in Flint, MI. This stop offers shopping at the dealership, fast food options for lunch, and gas options. Continuing north, after a rest stop in West branch, we make a second dealer stop at Zips 45th Parallel H-D, in Gaylord, where we may meet with some members of Huron Shores HOG. From there, we cross the Mackinac Strait (pronounced “mackinaw”), to Michigan's northern peninsula, over the historic Mackinac Bridge.

The “Mighty Mac”, when completed in 1957, was the longest suspension span in the world. At 8,614 feet, it is currently the fifth longest span in the world, the longest in the Western Hemisphere, and utilizes 42,000 miles of wire in the main cables. The total length of the bridge is 5 miles, rising to nearly 200 feet above the water, which is about 295 feet deep at mid-span.

We spend the second night at the Best Western Harbour Pointe Lakefront on the shore of Lake Huron. St. Ignace, MI offers several dinner options and gas is available about a half mile south.

Day 3 is all about the scenery, following the Lake Michigan Circle Tour route, along the shores of Lake Michigan on US-2, US-41, and M-35, Lake shore Drive, with a couple of rest gas stops along the way. A dealer stop at Vandervest H-D of Green Bay, offers more shopping, gas, and fast food options. From there we continue south, take a rest gas stop in Sheboygan, and head straight to Veterans Park in Milwaukee for the Welcome Home Party on Wednesday afternoon. It is a short, 13-mile ride West from there to Brookfield and the Sheraton, our base of operations for the rally.

Thursday, Friday, and Saturday will be up to the individuals or smaller groups for activities based on schedule and personal preferences. See the rally website, <https://motorcycles.harley-davidson.com/us/en/milwaukee-115th.html>, for full details. There is no charge for participating in the H.O.G. 35th activities; therefore, there is no need to register for the event. Instead, there will be many awesome benefits that H.O.G. Members will enjoy during the 35th Anniversary of H.O.G., but don't forget your membership card.

We head out toward home on Sunday morning. Utilizing toll roads and service plazas, we bypass Chicago, complete our loop of Lake Michigan, and spend the final night back at the Best Western Inn in Elyria. We backtrack the route and stops from day one for the final day and, in Hagerstown, MD, we will make a final stop as a group at the Pilot Travel Plaza on MD-63 where we say goodbye to friends, old and new, and split back into Chapter groups for the last legs home.

The estimated cost for this trip, including lodging for each night, tolls (with EZ Pass), and gas and food for the five traveling days is as follows (based on 45 mpg):

\$ 1,333.79	One person staying by themselves
\$ 1,541.79	A couple on 1 bike
\$ 1,762.60	A Couple on 2 bikes
\$ 881.30	One person sharing a room

A spreadsheet outlining the trip and expenses is available, as well as answers to any questions or comments about the trip, by contacting the trip organizer/planner, Don Goglio, Assistant Director at Williamsport HOG, at assistantdirector@williamsporthog.org. Below is all the information needed to make the hotel reservations for the trip. We have a block of 40 rooms at each hotel that will close by June 7, 2018.

Hopefully this will be a positive, memorable experience for all participants with the opportunity to make new friendships in our MD/DE organization that will carry over to our other gatherings, like HOGs at the Beach, the Crab Run, and other HOG Rallies throughout the years. Where should we go next year?

Ohio hotel:

Best Western Inn
636 W. Griswold Road
Elyria, OH 44035
440-324-5050

10 Kings, 30 Double queens
All rooms: \$71.99/night + taxes (\$ 81.17)

Monday, August 27th-28th (1 night)
AND
Sunday, September 2nd-3rd (1 night)
(2 separate overnight stays)

Must call hotel at: 440-324-5050

Use group/event name: American Motorcycle Association
National Rally
Monday, August 27th-28th (confirmation #1045)
Sunday, September 2nd-3rd (confirmation #1046)
(Contact name: Sue)

Michigan hotel:

Best Western Harbour Pointe Lakefront
797 N State Street
Saint Ignace, Michigan 49781
800-642-3318

\$142.00 + taxes (\$ 159.04)
Tuesday, August 28th-29th (1 night)

Following is the booking link which will take you directly to the group block and allow you to make the reservation. Or call us

directly here at the hotel, 800-642-3318 and simply provide us the arrival date and state that they are here for the AMRA 2018 Rally.

https://www.bestwestern.com/en_US/book/hotel-rooms.23154.html?groupid=U18PH1V6

(Contact name: Ronn Farr)

Wisconsin hotel:

Sheraton Milwaukee Brookfield Hotel
375 South Moorland Road
Brookfield, WI 53005
262-364-1100

\$129/night + taxes (\$ 145.90)

Wednesday, August 29th – Sunday, September 2nd 2018 (4 nights)

Use the link below or call 262-364-1100, press 2, and ask for the MD DE American Motorcycle Association or group code: MH28AA

A personalized Web site for MD DE American Motorcycle Association occurring August 29, 2018 - September 2, 2018 has been created. Guests can access the site to learn more about the event and to book, modify, or cancel a reservation from September 21, 2017 to September 4, 2018:

[MD DE American Motorcycle Association](http://www.starwoodmeeting.com/events/start.action?id=1709213733&key=DD22372) (OR copy and paste the following link into a web browser)
<https://www.starwoodmeeting.com/events/start.action?id=1709213733&key=DD22372>

(Contact name: Dick Bradley)