

Pig Trails

Go for the Roads!

By Crazy AI #55

Riding season is upon us! Whether you're planning a day ride or that next weeklong vacation, it's all about the roads! The roads are the personality of the ride. When the roads are twisty it makes your adrenaline flow! When you hit the rolling hills you can't help but relax. My favorite roads are the ones that the trees have grown in a way that forms a tunnel of green that blankets over the road. Also the roads that run right along the cliffs that make you feel like you're riding a roller coaster that twist and turns through the hill side! Sometimes the roads are so twisty you feel like you're riding on the back of a coiled rattlesnake. Awesome bridges always bring on incredible sights. Whether its over a river or one of our beautiful lakes, you always feel like turning around and making one more pass just to take it in one more time. How about the road that travels straight up a hillside where you know the crest is right up ahead. When you finally hit the top the view will take your breath away! When you can look out and see forever! Mountain roads going down the other side always gets the blood flowing. When you know you have to balance the act of using the brakes and using the gears to make it safely down the hill. Believe me you don't want to ride the brakes for too long. I did this once and to my surprise the brakes went away! In Texas the roads can change very quickly from one corner to the next. One minute you feel like you're in the mountains and the next minute you're in those endless fields of grain! Enough said, let's go visit some of these kick ass Texas biker treats!

Let's start in North Texas and work our way South. Starting from Muenster go north on FM 373 To Bulcher then turn

south on FM 2382. This is only around 35 miles of road but the changes will blow you away. It's one crazy road that has you twisting and turning through the hills one minute. Then it rides along a ridge where you can see for miles and miles and ending up coasting through mellow sweepers that zip back and forth through fields of grain that are ten feet tall. Be sure and run back into Muenster and hit Centers Restaurant for German Sausage and a frosty mug of beer!

Now let's go south just a few miles to the city of Jacksboro. From this point on you only need to know one magical number! FM 4, near Fort Richardson State Park (a Points Across Texas destination)! This road stacks up in my book as one of the best roads in the whole state of Texas! It simply has it all... from twist and turns that will scare the crap out of you, to country canvases that only a painter could imagine! There is a part of this road that will make you feel like your right in the heart of the hill country. As it snakes down the hillside there is a guard rail on one side where the cliff drops 150 feet to the other side that the cliffs go straight up! The road only goes in a straight line just long enough to get you through some of the coolest little country towns around. Then it's right back to rock and roll! Hang on for 85 miles of pleasure till you reach the historic city of Granbury. Visit the Square while you're there for some homemade ice cream at the soda shop.

Who wants to go to the hill country? I do! I do! It's easy to find awesome roads when you get anywhere near the Hill Country but I like to find those little treats bikers only

dream of! Well I found one and here it is. In the little town of Ingram right outside of Kerrville is Highway 39. This baby is the treat of all treats. This road never stops going back and forth; right then left, right then left! I love it! The best part about this road every time it switches directions it hops back and forth over the south fork of the Guadalupe River. I found myself singing. "Over the river and through the woods, to Grandmother house we go!" No I didn't. Ok, yes I did, but don't tell anyone. Along this road are some great sites to take in. You can stop and see Little Stonehenge outside of Waltonia. Some dude had way too much time on his hands. It's still pretty damn cool! There is also the spillwayDam for Lake Ingram. If the water is flowing it makes for a really cool site to see.

A long time ago I was showing a friend of mine a cool road on a map when he made the comment that the road on the map was only one inch long. You never know what lies ahead until you cover each and every road on the map one inch at a time! Some of those inches have provided me with more pleasure on a bike than you could ever imagine! One thing I always say is get off the freeway. Get off the bigger roadways. Get you a map and find those little treasure treats that will show you the true Texas country that's just waiting to be explored. Slow down and take it all in. Stop and smell the roses or the bluebonnets! Find the time to pet a cow or check out our great Texas Longhorn Cattle. And always remember the adventure of riding is to ride another day! Just twist the throttle and let the roads take you away!

