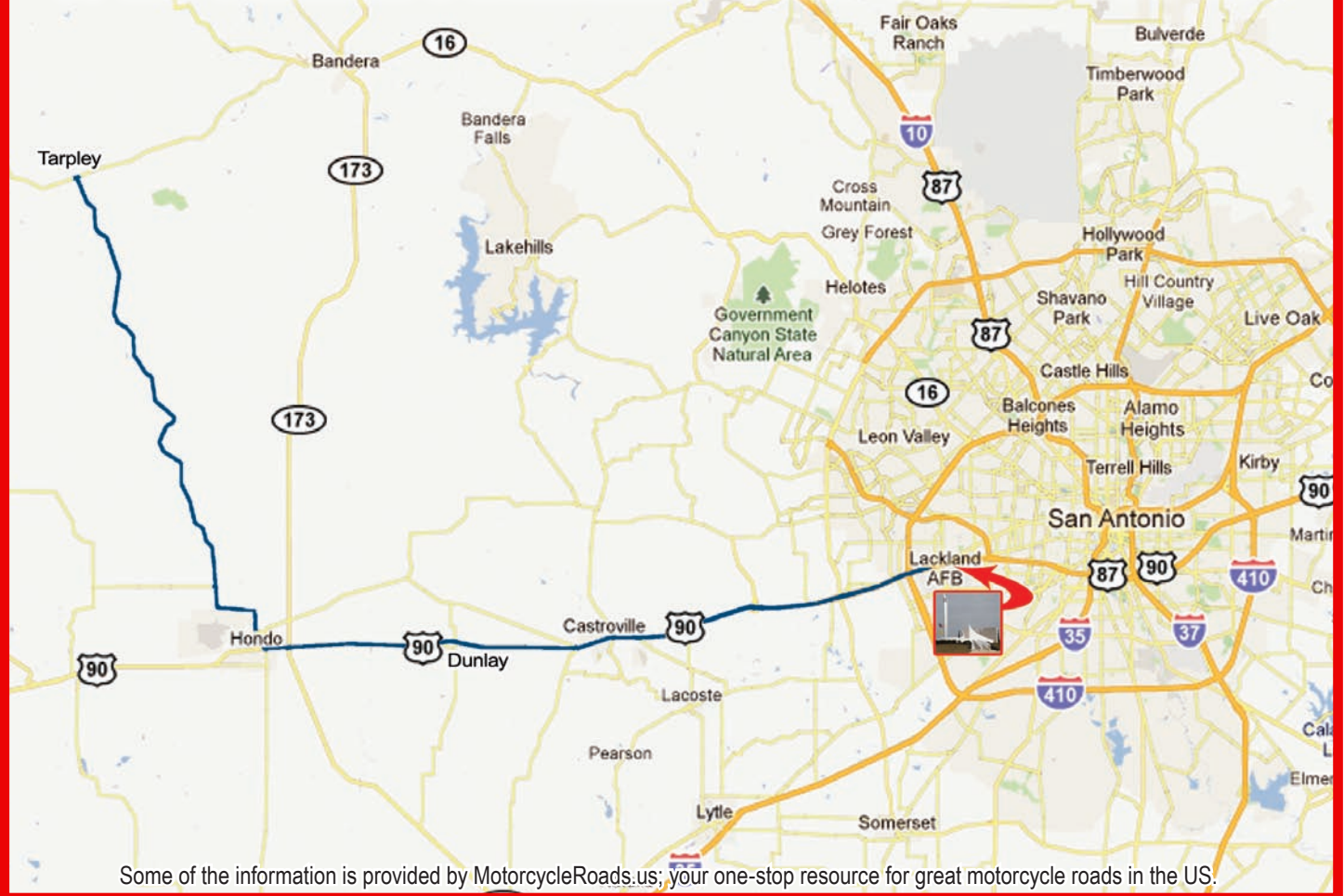


# 9/11 MEMORIAL - SAN ANTONIO



Some of the information is provided by MotorcycleRoads.us; your one-stop resource for great motorcycle roads in the US.

RIDE MAP

This month, we're dedicating our pages to the tragedy of 9/11. As such, we offer you this ride map. While it includes a few nice rides, the ultimate destination is the 9/11 Memorial in San Antonio.

We start the ride in Tarpley, about 65 miles northwest of San Antonio (12 southwest of Bandera). A small, but very charming town at the junction of Farm roads 462 and 470 on Williams Creek. While small, there is Mac & Ernie's Roadside Eatery. This used to basically be a shack on the side of the road offering good eats to weary travelers. You would walk up, order your food, and sit in the shade of the trees to eat or take it with you. After being featured in

the premiere episode of Diners, Dive-Ins and Dives (Food Network), they have upgraded and even added a dining room. The original shack is now the main entrance. They are known for their Cabrito Burger – a must try!

Take Farm road 462 South toward Hondo. This is the county seat of Medina, moving from Castroville in 1892. The word "hondo" is Spanish for "deep creek". The town's heyday was in World War II, when the Hondo Army Airfield was established on 3,675 acres of land there. The 600 buildings on the base were built in less than 90 days. The base itself shut was shut down in 1946, but civilian contract flight training and pilot screening programs continued.



There is no real connection between the city and the 1953 movie based on the short story "The Gift of Cochise" by Louis L'Amour. (The book "Hondo" was a novelization of the film, also written by L'Amour.) However, L'Amour spent some time in Texas after his family moved to Oklahoma and some theorize he picked the name up from here after all.

Out of Hondo, take Highway 90 East toward Castroville. You'll go through the small town of Dunlay. While there is nothing much to stop and see, it's fun to note that they hold the "most aliases" of Texas towns, with no fewer than six alternate names since the 1880's.



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# 9/11 MEMORIAL - SAN ANTONIO ... continued



Castroville, on the other hand, is worth a "stop-and-see". Full of history and historical markers. The town is named for Henri Castro (born in Bayonne, France to Jewish parents of Portuguese descent), with whom the Republic of Texas negotiated an empresario (land grant) contract in 1842. The small town became known as "little Alsace" – Alsace being a northeast France dialect of French. Castro set the town up based on European villages and visitors of the 1850's experienced more of a European feeling, rather than rural Texas. Today, Castroville is both a national and Texas



The memorial includes four structures representing the four planes used in the terrorist attacks. A 36-foot tall stainless steel tower with an eternal flame at the top sits opposite from the memorial

historic district. Many of the 97 historical American building can be seen on a walking tour. Also a good stop is the Henri Castro homestead and the Landmark Inn.

From here, you'll continue on Highway 90 East to San Antonio and the 9/11 Memorial commemorating the innocent lives lost that day. The memorial is located near Lackland Air Force Base, just inside Loop 410, exit West Military Drive and stay on the access/feeder road. You'll enter the New Life Christian Center grounds.

wall. The wall lists the names of all lives lost. Plans are in the works to list all additional terrorist victims since 9/11. In addition to the US flag, the flagpole located within the memorial flies a flag of the current Homeland Security advisory systems threat level.

The memorial was dedicated on the second anniversary, September 11, 2003. During the ceremony, six wreaths were laid within the walls for the Army, Marines, Navy, Air Force, Police Officers and Fire Fighters.



RIDE MAP

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