

GILA INNER LOOP SUPER TOUR DESCRIPTION

Come with us on a beautiful ride through the Gila Inner Loop. Enjoy wide-open vistas and riding through the pine forests. Hammer it or cruise it, the ride accommodates a wide range of riders and bikes.

The tour begins Saturday, May 13, in Silver City, NM and Sunday in Silver City. We pedal the Gila Inner Loop Scenic Byway, which has some moderate to steep ascents and descents through the Gila National Forest and crosses the Continental Divide two times. The altitude ranges from 5,800 to 7,500 feet and the terrain varies from arid rolling hills to evergreen forest. Motor vehicle traffic is low which makes the ride both safe and enjoyable. After leaving Silver City, we will pedal through historic Pinos Altos, past Signal Peak, the Ben Lilly Monument and on to Lake Roberts. We spend the night in the Gila wilderness at Camp Thunderbird. The next morning we ride down the Mimbres River valley, past the Chino open pit copper mine, and back to Silver City.

TOTAL MILES

Total ride is 73.5 miles (approximately 40 miles Saturday, 33.5 miles Sunday).

OPTIONAL MILES

Enjoy a 40-mile round-trip to the Gila Cliff Dwellings and Indian Ruins where you can experience a 1,550-foot pass with a challenging descent into the Gila Gorge to view the ruins. The view at the top of the pass is spectacular.

LODGING & PERSONAL ITEMS

Friday night: Silver City; make your own arrangements. Examples:

- KOA campground, 1-800-562-7623 or www.koa.com.
- Holiday Inn Express, 1-888-465-4329 or www.hiexpress.com.
- Motel 6, 1-800-466-8356 or www.motel6.com
- Econo Lodge, 1-877-424-6423 or www.EconoLodge.com
- Comfort Inn, 1-877-424-6423 or www.comfortinn.com

Saturday night: Camp Thunderbird; bring a sleeping bag (dorm-style bunks), pillow, soap and towel, change of clothes for the evening, rain gear, and expect cool weather at night. Camping outside is also OK, if desired. Hot showers are available.

MEAL ARRANGEMENTS

Bagels, snacks, water, sports drink, and fruit will be provided on the ride on **Saturday and Sunday**. Lake Roberts store has snacks, too. There is also a restaurant 5 miles from Camp Thunderbird.

Saturday post-ride snacks and drinks, **Saturday night** dinner, and **Sunday morning** breakfast will be provided by Camp Thunderbird.

SUPPORT

Support vehicles will carry baggage, SAG riders, and provide FOOD STOPS with fresh fruit, snacks, sports drinks, and water. PLEASE PACK LIGHT as space in the

SAG vehicle is limited (besides it is only a two-day ride!). If you or your bike needs ride or you would like to ride share to & from Silver City, please let us know.

EQUIPMENT

Bring a spare tube, patch kit, pump, and basic tools. All riders must wear an ANSI approved helmet. The NMTS recommends high visibility clothing and rear lights.

FEE INCLUDES

- ◆ Lodging at Camp Thunderbird Saturday night.
- ◆ Saturday post-ride snacks and dinner at Camp Thunderbird.
- ◆ Sunday breakfast at Camp Thunderbird.
- ◆ Fruit, drinks, snacks on the road (not literally).
- ◆ SAG support; we carry gear and weary cyclists.
- ◆ Maps and ride instructions are available in ride packets, available day of ride.
- ◆ League of American Bicyclists rider's insurance.
- ◆ New: non-member fee includes one year membership in the NMTS!

MEETING PLACE

Place: Walmart parking lot on Hwy. 180, on the east end of Silver City. Park and meet in the parking lot on the west side of the Walmart building.

Time: Saturday, May 13, 2017. Check-in starts at 7:30 AM, with the ride beginning at 8:00 AM. SAG vehicle leaves at 8:30. *PLEASE be on time.* Cars may be left overnight in the Walmart parking lot. Most riders will finish the ride around noon or Sunday.

SIGN-UP DEADLINE

Please sign up no later than April 26th. The ride is limited to 65 cyclists—sign up early! You will be notified by e-mail upon acceptance.

NMTS GILA SUPER TOUR SHIRTS

The Gila Super Tour Shirt is long sleeve, poly-dry fabric with a distinctive Gila Super Tour artwork on the back and a small NMTS logo on the front. Besides enhancing your designer-collection wardrobe, this shirt is also a great cool weather bike jersey (add a base layer on colder days. No one should be without one!) Order yours before April 26, 2017.

VOLUNTEERS

We are looking for individuals willing to help support the Tour, by helping with rest stops, driving SAG support, etc. If you are planning to ride the Tour and have a non-riding family member or friend who would like to come along, NMTS will waive the registration fee for anyone volunteering his or her time to support the Tour. Please contact David Olson, 505-239-0136 (M) or by e-mail at drolson5@aol.com ,

Please enclose a completed copy of this form for each person entered along with a check or money order for the **2017 GILA INNER LOOP**

SUPER TOUR. Make check payable to **New Mexico Touring Society**, and mail the completed form and payment to:

David Olson
8500 Greenarbor Rd NE
Albuquerque, NM 87122

For more Tour information (maps and description) or general information, see the NMTS website at www.nmts.org. Please feel free to contact David Olson by phone (505-239-0136) or email drolson5@aol.com for any questions.

REGISTRATION FEE IS NON-REFUNDABLE.

A ride waiver/release of liability form must be signed at check-in, before the beginning of the tour on Saturday.

I want a Tour shirt (check one) **Yes** **No** (no orders after Apr. 26)
Circle one: **SMALL MEDIUM LARGE X-LARGE XX-LARGE**

Do you plan to camp outside at Camp Thunderbird? **Yes** **No**

FEES

NMTS Member Registration	\$80	\$ _____
Non-Member Registration*	\$100	\$ _____
Late Fee (after April 26, 2012)	\$ 5	\$ _____
Gila Super Tour shirt	\$22	\$ _____
Total enclosed		\$ _____

*Includes NMTS single membership fee. Those electing to make family membership should add \$5 (please note on entry form).

NAME _____ **TELEPHONE** _____

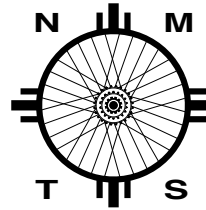
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CITY _____ **STATE** _____ **ZIP** _____

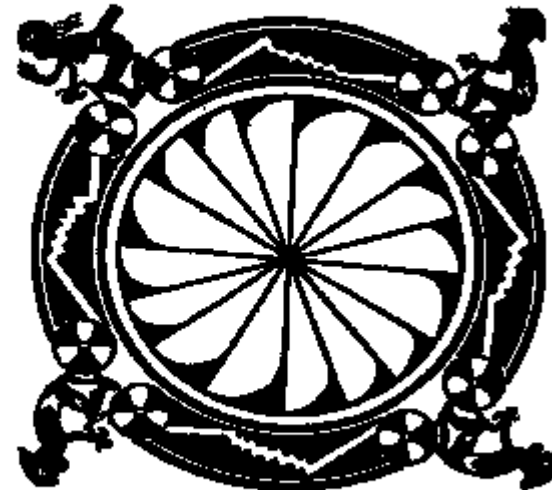
EMAIL _____

EMERGENCY CONTACT _____

TELEPHONE _____



**New Mexico
Touring Society**



**GILA INNER LOOP
BIKE TOUR**

May 13 & 14, 2017

**Join the fun. A scenic and challenging route!
Spectacular vistas! Saturday night entertainment and
prizes!! Friendly & fantastic support!**

Register by April 26, 2017