

Motorcycle Trip Checklist

By Fae Fisher

- ☐ Inspect your motorcycle.
 - ☐ Make sure both tires are properly inflated.
 - ☐ If suspect a tire will not last long enough for a ride, have it replaced.
 - ☐ Check if your cables (clutch and brakes) and controls intact and working.
 - ☐ Make sure your headlights (high & low beam), turn signals, and brake lights work.
 - ☐ Check everything from engine oil and coolant to brake fluid.
 - ☐ Ensure that the frame, suspension, chain, and fasteners are all secure and intact.
 - ☐ Make sure the center stand and/or side stand isn't cracked or bent, and that springs properly hold the assembly away from the pavement when stowed.
 - ☐ Check if shocks and fork springs and fork seals are in good condition.
- ☐ Motorcycle Equipment to Take
 - ☐ BMW Tool kit and BMW or VDO tire gauge: use it every day.
 - ☐ Extra wrenches and pliers (optional).
 - ☐ Duct tape & electric tape (partial rolls take less space).
 - ☐ Wire, hose clamps, fuses, silicone seal, misc nuts & bolts.
 - ☐ Bulb kit (BMW) or spare front, taillight & turn signal bulb.
 - ☐ Spare spark plugs (also points and condenser for pre-'81 twins).
 - ☐ Spare fuel filter (for K models only).
 - ☐ Spare float bowl gaskets or carb rebuild kit (for twins only).
 - ☐ Spare clutch cable (optional-inspect or change before leaving).
 - ☐ Shop rag and handiwipes.
 - ☐ Cargo straps & bungee cables.
 - ☐ BMW tire repair kit.
- ☐ Clothes and Soft Goods to Take
 - ☐ Cash and credit card, auto club card if you have one.
 - ☐ Current dealer list, insurance and registration cards, driver's license.
 - ☐ First Aid kit.
 - ☐ Several sets of earplugs for less fatigue.

- ☐ Sunglasses, extra visor, visor cleaner and rag.
- ☐ Sunscreen (For nose and arms, especially), aspirin, vitamins, bug repellent antihistamines if you suffer from allergies.
- ☐ Swimsuit.
- ☐ Towel (the "packable" travel towels take a lot less space), washcloth.
- ☐ Toothbrush, toothpaste, toiletries, toilet paper, soap & shampoo.
- ☐ Shoes & extra socks.
- ☐ Underwear, T-shirts (not too many--you can wash them).
- ☐ Sweatshirt, heavy wool shirt or sweater for warmth (or electric vest).
- ☐ Polartec or similar fabric vest, jacket, pants (excellent under a riding suit).
- ☐ Silk or polyester balaclava.
- ☐ Rain suit (not necessary if you have Gore-Tex suit).
- ☐ Rain mitts and rain boots/boot covers.
- ☐ Various gloves appropriate for the ranges of weather expected.
- ☐ Extra stuff sacks for organizing your gear.
- ☐ Light reading book, guidebooks.
- ☐ Maps and information about points of interest along your route.
- ☐ Camping Gear
 - ☐ Tent - as small and light as possible.
 - ☐ Tarp or ground cloth option.
 - ☐ Sleeping pad.
 - ☐ Inflatable pillow (optional but nice).
 - ☐ Sleeping bag.
 - ☐ Water bottle.
 - ☐ Small flashlight and extra batteries.
 - ☐ Extra candles and matches or lighter.