



Victory

ROADS

Victory Riders Calgary NEWSLETTER

Writing-on-Stone campout finally happened

It took two tries, but the Club finally pulled off the camping overnighter at Writing-on-Stone Provincial Park.

The first planned trip was rained out, but four determined campers - **Prez John B, Drifter, Jamie McG** and newcomer **Trevor** - braved the elements for what turned out to be a great outing July 19 and 20.

Writing-on-Stone is a **UNESCO** World Heritage site located east of Milk River just north of the Montana border. The campground at the park was full, so our intrepid adventurers landed in the laid-back private campground in Milk River.

The ride started at Aldersyde Petro-Can and John B chose an interesting route down Highway 2 to **Fort Macleod**



Writing-on-Stone's unique rock formations are only the start of this amazing geographic, geologic and historic site, recognized by UNESCO.



It's a common misconception that Milk River is brown, dry and treeless.

and then south to **Cardston** for a gas stop under the watchful eye of an interesting collection of locals.

The route continued south, then east on **Highway 501**, through some historically interesting country, mostly **smuggling** routes for illegal whiskey going north for the fur trade and south for US Prohibition a **century** apart.

The group stopped at the ghost town of **Del Bonita** before beating it to **Milk River**.

The rain caught up with the group when they arrived in Milk River, so they sought shelter under the lush trees in the **campground**. After some debate, a site was chosen and claimed. The plan to visit the park that day went out the window when the rain came in. The group opted for lunch at the

Ride to Reynolds is Meet in the Middle

It's been a few years since we had Meet in The Middle, but that changes this year.

The **Ride to Reynolds** (museum in **Wetaskiwin**) will be Meet in the Middle this year. The Museum has set aside an area for Victory-only parking in the northeast corner.

Watch for directional signs to lead you there, and look for the **Victory display tent** and banners. Come and meet other Victory riders and show the rest of the motorcycle community that Victory is still strong and supported by its faithful owners.

Ride to Reynolds is an **annual event** open to all riders. The museum and other buildings on site are open and **admission is free** to riders.



Ride to Reynolds on Aug. 9 is a Victory get-together.

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Next Events

**Meet in the Middle/
Ride to Reynolds**
August 9

Kaslo Kurves
August 15-17
- See Facebook EVENT

Upcoming Rides & Events

No July Breakfast Meeting
Ride possible, check Facebook

Meet-in-the-Middle
August 9
See VRC Facebook Event

Kaslo Kurves
August 15-17
See VRC Facebook Event

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New members

Victory Riders Calgary now has 651 members, according to our Facebook site.

We had a whack of new members join recently, and most appear to be real people.

We had another fake "Victory garage" try to join; the fourth this month. It got binned and banned. Gatekeeper Joan is merciless.

Welcome to our new members:

- Mike Strom
- Darlene Impey
- Konstantine Jivotov
- Mike McGinnis
- Mohamad al hajj
- Suzie Q Silver-Berg
- Randy Tkachuk
- Jason Zander
- Jana Shears
- Jayden Longwell

Water? You want to see water?

On a trip to see water, Victory Riders Calgary ended up seeing way more water than we wanted to.

On July 5, Director Joan organized a ride to **Lundbreck Falls**. She had answered the call for more members to **put together and lead rides**. Response was good and the group of 11 bikes wasn't bothered by the small amount of **rain** falling at the start of the ride.



By the time the group got to Nanton and headed over the **Nanton Cut** to **Chain Lakes**, the rain was torrential.

The group pulled into the shelter at Chain Lakes to put on **rain gear** and out-wait the rain storm. Only the former happened.

The group decided to can the ride and head for the safe confines of the **Longview Saloon** for **lunch**. Rain was so heavy on the north part of **Highway 22** that it resulted in a couple of dangerous situations.

The saloon was a welcome refuge and by the time lunch was done, the skies had cleared enough that three of the members - **John B, Chris B and Drifter**, decided to do **Highway 40/Highwood Pass** and **Highway 1A** back to **Calgary**.



It wasn't the lunch stop that was planned, but the Longview Saloon made a warm and cozy refuge after a drenching ride.



Visibility at times got a little dicey on the road from Nanton to Chain Lakes.



The concession at Chain Lakes proved adequate for hiding out.



Some of the group continued on and bested Highwood Pass on Highway 40.

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Writing-on-Stone overnighter

Sandstone Restaurant and a promise to return there for dinner. The rain let up long enough for the lunch trip, a liquor store run for essential supplies (the town drunk told the group to visit a place called Sturgis; they would like it), setting up the tents and a return trip to the restaurant for pizza.



She's not a waitress; she's a sports lawyer in Arizona. The campers were more than willing to believe her.

Taylor, the waitress, said she wasn't really a waitress, but a sports lawyer in Phoenix, Arizona, and the group was more than willing to believe anything she said.

Back at the campground, the group settled in, entertaining some locals who wandered by. Friendly town.



Writing-on-Stone has a very informative interpretive centre. Jamie checks out the meaning of the rock art.

In the morning, the group broke camp, hit breakfast at the Sandstone again; and, under non-raining skies, headed east **42 kilometres** to Writing-on-Stone.

The park hosts a world-class **interpretive centre**, telling the fascinating story of the area, both historically and geologically.

The river valley with its unique sandstone formations has been inhabited and a trade zone for **9,000 years**. It contains the greatest concentration of **rock art** on the North American Great Plains. There are over 50 petroglyph sites and thousands of individual drawings. The park was a North-West Mounted Police outpost from 1887 to 1918. There is also a huge number of rattlesnakes which not everyone in the group knew before camping.

The group decided to head for **Twin Butte General Store** for a late lunch, arriving there about 3 pm. Food was great as always.

While gassing up in **Pincher Creek**, the group saw dark clouds socking in the north, so rain gear was the order of the day. It came into use as the rain, feeling more like hail, hit on **Highway 22** and continued all the way home. But really, who cares if you get wet on the ride home?



Smugglers used Whiskey Gap for years.



Day 2 lunch stop was Twin Butte BBQ.



Jamie re-enacted some of the hey days of the ghost town of Del Bonita.



Those black clouds over Highway 22 promised a free bike wash.

How rides get names

The Writing-on-Stone camping overnighter was named the **Common Misconception Tour**.

It got the moniker during a lunch conversation when someone asked how to politely call out someone who is stringing a line of bike bullshit. Someone said, "Well you could say, 'it's a common misconception that....'" And the ride was named. After that, anything dubious became a 'common misconception.'



The latest shipment of Victory Riders Calgary swag arrived and was distributed in early July. A big Club thank you to member Darren W for again organizing and coordinating the ordering. Much appreciated.



Poker Chip collectors will get two more chances to add to their collections in August. Poker Chips are being produced for both the Meet-in-the-Middle/Ride to Reynolds and Kaslo Kurves. Thank you to Member Joan and her company A Second Time (asecondtime.ca) for providing these collectibles.



Someone asked if the 10,000 kilometre count has to start over if you change bikes. No, riding is riding (except bicycles or horses), so we're looking for the total you will ride this season, even if it isn't on a Victory.

2025 Ride & Event Schedule

July is almost done and hopefully so is the rainfall. We got nearly double the average rainfall for July, so with lucky August will be dry and sunny. We have Meet-in-the-Middle/Ride to Reynolds on August 9 and Kaslo Kurves on August 15-17. Make your reservations now.

Victory Riders Calgary Ride & Event Schedule 2025

Colour Code:	GREEN - VRC Events YELLOW - VRC Participation or Interest BLUE - Victory National/Regional	
26-Jan	VRC Meeting/ Brunch	Winkin' Owl Pub
January 31 - Feb 02	Calgary Motorcycle Show	Expo Centre
23-Feb	VRC Breakfast Meeting/AGM	NEW LOCATION: Red Crowns Pub, 523 Woodpark Blvd. SW
23-Mar	CVMG Swap Meet	Red Deer
30-Mar	VRC Meeting	Red Crowns Pub
April 3-7	Arizona Bike Week	Scottsdale
April 10-13	Edmonton Motorcycle Show	Edmonton YEGmotorcycleshow.com
April 25-28	Bull Head (Laughlin) River Run	Laughlin, Nevada (mayheminfo.com)
April 25-28	Route 66 Bike Week	Arizona
27-Apr	VRC Meeting	Red Crowns Pub
May	Awareness Ride	Calgary
03-May	Hoodoo Voodoo Blessing of the Bikes	Drumheller
19-May	Victoria Day Ride.	
25-May	VRC Breakfast Meeting and Ride	Red Crowns Pub
June	CJAY Kids Ride	Big Sky BBQ
01-Jun	Two Wheel Sunday	Calgary
June 13-16	IFK Kickstart Show	Calgary
07-Jun	Honour Ride	Blackfoot Motor Inn
14-Jun	Ride for Dad	Ralph's Motorsports, Balzac
June	Kids Cancer Care Motorcycle Ride	Calgary/Kootenays
21-Jun	For The Love of Motorcycles	Blackjacks Roadhouse, Nisku
29-Jun	VRC Meeting	Red Crowns Pub
July	Jasper Parkway Overnighter	
July 11-13	Bonedigger Bike Bash	Drumheller
July	ECL Choppers For Charity Hospice Ride	TBA
July 18 - 26	Two Hills Bike Week	Two Hills, Alberta
July 16 - 20	Western Canada IMRG Celebration	Kimberley, B.C.
July 25 - 27	CVMG Ponoka Rally	Ponoka, AB
27-Jul	VRC Meeting	Red Crowns Pub
July	VMC Regional Rally	TBD
Aug 01 - 10	Sturgis Rally	Sturgis, South Dakota
August	Kaslo Kurves	
09-Aug	Meet in the Middle/Ride to Reynolds	Wetaskiwin
August	Make-A-Wish Motorcycle Ride	Calgary/Highway 40/Cochrane
August	Bikes & Bombers	Bomber Command Museum, Nanton
23-Aug	12 Stop Ride for Recovery, Calgary	Calgary
24-Aug	VRC Meeting	Red Crowns Pub
01-Sep	Labour Day Ride	TBD
September	Victory Motorcycle Club National Rally	TBD
September	Calgary Motorcycle Toy Run	Calgary
September	Nanton Bomber Night Start Up	Bomber Command Museum, Nanton
21-Sep	VRC Meeting/Fall Colours Ride	Highway 40 - South to North
September	Victory Gathering	TBD
26-Oct	VRC Meeting/Ride Weather Permitting	Red Crowns Pub
October	CVMG Fall Swap Meet	Red Deer
23-Nov	VRC Meeting	Red Crowns Pub
December	VRC Meeting	Red Crowns Pub
Weekly		
	Leader's Ride	Ride Leaders' Call on time, place and destination
	Drifter's Ride	Lunch or "Coffee" Ride during the week
	Tuesday Bike Night	Twin Cities Saloon, Longview
	OBW Wednesday Bike Night	Big Rock Brewery, Calgary
	CVMG Vintage Bike Night	Thursdays, A&W Drive In, 16th Ave and 4th St. NW

Club Patches

Large - \$30
Small - \$5
Both - \$35
Coins - \$15



Red Rock Coulee - long ride for a unique site

By John B
President

I have a few friends who had visited Red Rock Coulee Natural Area. Based on their descriptions, I had to see it for myself.

My **expectation** of the area was a vast open coulee with giant red rocks scattered like round bales in a hay field, but this **wasn't exactly the case**.

Our route was a lot of major



Red sandstone boulders up to 2.5 meters in diameter are scattered throughout the area, creating an other-worldly scene. The sandstone rocks - 'concretions' in geological terms - have eroded out of the bedrock and are thought to be among the largest in the world.



The red rocks are a very **short walk** from the gate and cover a relatively small area of the 800 acres. Looking down from the top of the coulee at the treeless landscape, the '**fish out of water**' reddish-orange rocks appear to have been placed in their locations.

On the return route we traveled west on Hwy 3 to **Taber, AB** for lunch and rehydration in the 30° weather and a good time to remind future visitors to bring lots of **water and sunscreen**.

After lunch we headed northwest on a slightly **more scenic** route on secondary highways to **Lomond, AB** and on to **Vulcan, AB**. After a quick fuel stop we continued north on **HWY 24** towards home.



Facilities and interpretation are minimal at the 801 acre site.



And, of course, it was tagged.

highways through the southern Alberta prairies, approximately **625 kilometres of much the same view**. The Trans-Canada highway between **Calgary** and **Medicine Hat** is not the most exciting stretch of road, but it was the quickest way to **HWY 3** and **Seven Persons, Alberta**.

(Side note: Seven Persons is home to **Premium Sausage**, some of the best homemade sausage; reminds me of my dad's.)

Red Rock Coulee is 26 kilometres south of Seven Persons on **Highway 887** with roughly one kilometre of gravel to the parking area. In 1985, **Alberta Parks** designated the 801 acre parcel a natural area. It has **no facilities** other than a picnic table.