# RFTW - Central Route - Camping Info (as of 03/25/2024)

**General:** Camping has been a part of Run for the Wall from the very beginning. In the beginning, riders would often tie a tarp off to their motorcycle and throw a bedroll underneath! Although most riders choose the convenience of motels on the ride, the cost can be prohibitive for some riders. Most camping locations along the route are free or donated, which can make the cost of a 10 day ride more easily achievable. It is desirable to do some motorcycle camping BEFORE trying to do this on RFTW. Sleep is important to maintaining individual endurance during this 10 day ride, and campers should do the utmost to get as much sleep as possible! Reconnoiter the campgrounds on Google Map or Google Earth before you leave home and print out your own maps using the addresses provided for each location.

**Weather:** It usually rains (or snows) somewhere along the route. Some camping locations have inside space to get out of the weather. But make sure your tent is watertight. Plan on setting up and taking down in rainy weather. Have a Plan B to find a motel or share a room if the weather gets really bad!

**Packing:** Think backpacking. Keep everything small and light. If carrying on the bike, use a small 1 or 2 man tent and lightweight groundcloth, lightweight sleeping bag (suitable for various temperatures) and an air mattress for comfort. Keep clothing to a minimum or plan to do laundry along the way (which cuts into sleeping time). Trailers pulled behind the motorcycle can make packing a lot easier and quicker than lashing everything down to a motorcycle.

**Time:** Plan on additional time in the morning to take down and pack your gear. Getting up and getting ready to go will NOT be done leisurely while sipping your morning coffee! An additional 45 minutes or so may be required after wakeup to make it to the morning rally point. Also... most of the camping is located some distance from the morning rally point, so take that into consideration. Gas up the night before so that you don't need time to find a gas station. Practice setting up and taking down (and time yourself) in advance.

**Electrical Power:** Cellphones, Sena headsets, GPS' all usually need to be charged each night. Some campgrounds have outlets available and these are noted by location. An extension cord / multitap comes in handy sometimes. Plan on bringing a backup power supply for those locations that don't have power.

**Toilet Facilities:** All of the campgrounds have some sort of toilet facilities available, but some locations will have porta potties. Always best to carry your own TP in a Ziploc bag in your saddlebag on the Run, anyway!

### Locations:

Orientation and Gathering – May 12-14, 2024 - Ontario, CA Location: Prado Park, 16700 Euclid Avenue, Chino California Phone: (909) 597-4260 Reservation Required: Yes. Use website. Note that only certain sites allow tents with stakes (due to underground irrigation) Distance to Host Hotel: 13.6 miles, 30 minutes Website: <u>https://parks.sbcounty.gov/park/prado-regional-park/</u> Camping Fees (as of 01/05/22): • Non-refundable camping reservation fee – \$7.00 per site.

- Non-refundable camping reservation ree -57.0
- With hookups \$ 40.00/unit/night.
- Per Person over 6 per camping unit: \$5.00/person/night.
- Senior Citizen (62 years and older), Active Military, Veterans & Disabled camping valid Sun. Thurs., excluding holidays & special events. \$5.00 discount per night.'

Showers: Yes (coin operated – bring quarters)

Laundry: No

Electrical Power: Yes, outlets on posts at each site as noted on website. (continued)

# Orientation and Gathering - May 12-14, 2024 - Ontario, CA (continued)

**Special Notices:** 

- Website is somewhat difficult to navigate. Hit the red "Reserve Now" button to access the reservation system. Then hit the tan colored "Go Camping" at the top of the page. Then on the left side of the page, select "Prado Regional Park". Then input the dates and hit "Show Available Sites".
- Not all of the campsites allow tents due to irrigation system. I camped at Site 30 because it was closest to the toilets and showers and allowed tents.
- There is a locking gate and you will need to get gate code from the Park Office. Get there before closing at 5P!

Pros: Quiet and remote. Large campsites with tables

Cons: Somewhat long ride from campground to host hotel through some interesting locales (you will swear you are lost). Not a lot of choices for food in the area, use Google Maps to find restaurants.

Day 1 – Wednesday, May 15, 2024 – Williams, AZ

Location: Community United Methodist Church, 127 W. Sherman Avenue, Williams, AZ 86046 Phone: (602) 318-7169 (Arizona State Coordinator - Steve Andros)

Reservation Required: No

Distance to Host Hotel: 1 mile, 6 minutes (and... about the same to rally point)

Website: http://www.communityumc-williamsaz.org/

Camping Fees: None

Showers: No. Showers available at Love's Truck Stop

Laundry: No

Electrical Power: Yes, outlets in Fellowship Hall, Kitchen and other locations within building. None outdoors.

Special Notices: Parking lot is gravel and sloped, on street parking is allowed.

Pros: Close to American Legion Hall and morning rally point. Can camp either on the lawn in front or in back of church, or inside Fellowship Hall.

Cons: Not a lot of privacy in Fellowship Hall. Sorry, no adult beverages allowed... it's a church!

Day 2 - Thursday, May 16, 2024 - Gallup, NM updated 03/25/2024

Location: Red Rock Park - West Campground (adjacent to convention center) Phone: (505) 722-3839

Reservation Required: It is not necessary to call for reservation Sites 25-35 on inside of circle have been reserved for RFTW. It is up to us who are camping to work out how we use these sites. Since there may be up to 30 campers, we need to SHARE these sites among ourselves. Our sites will be marked as "reserved". We are NOT to use any of the other campsites. If you camp in other sites, be prepared to pay for that site. Thank you for your cooperation!

Distance to Host Hotel: 4.3 mile, 8 minutes (about the same to rally point)

Website: https://www.gallupnm.gov/207/Red-Rock-Park

Camping Fees: None. Free to RFTW

Showers: In the Restrooms

Laundry: No. Red Rock Laundromat next to hotels

Electrical Power: Yes, pedestals at each site.

Special Notices: Park has been remodeled in 2023/24 by the new Owner. Parking upon arrival usually is tight packed, so plan to carry your tent down to campsite to set up if you are blocked in. Please do not "tap out" of pack prior to parking. Staging has made an effort to allow bikes/trikes with trailers the ability to easily exit Pack.

Pros: Close to Convention Center where dinner is held.

Cons: Small space, fills up quickly, but should accommodate everyone. The campsites are soft sand. DO NOT ride your motorcycle into the campsites unless you want to get stuck in the sand! Please be considerate... if you make any "grooves" with your tires, PLEASE fix them! Also note that other campers may be at this location while we are there, and they will probably be walking through our sites to have access to the bathrooms.

Day 3 - Friday, May 17, 2024 - Eagle Nest, NM

Location: Golden Eagle RV, 540 Therma Drive, Eagle Nest, NM

Phone: (575) 377-6188

Reservation Required: Yes, call to confirm.

Distance to Host Hotel: 0.4., 9 minutes (due to highway traffic, about the same to rally point)

Website: https://www.goldeneaglerv.com/

Camping Fees: None. Free to RFTW

Showers: Yes

Laundry: Yes

Electrical Power: Yes, pedestals scattered throughout site.

Special Notices: Weather in Eagle Nest is unpredictable and snow often occurs during RFTW. Tent camping area is on the lower level, west side lawn BEHIND RV spaces at the base of the retaining wall. Club room is available in bad weather.

Pros: Close to dinner location and rally point. Owners are super nice people!

Cons: Small space for tents.

## ALTERNATE (New for 2024)

Location: Monte Verde RV Park and Campground, 3521 Mountain View Blvd. Angel Fire, NM Phone: (575) 377-3404

Reservation Required: Yes

Distance to Host Hotel: 10.9., 13 minutes (due to highway traffic, about the same to rally point) Website: <u>https://monteverderv.com/</u>

Camping Fees: Tents: 20.00/night plus \$3.00 fee plus tax (Ask for Military Discount – 10% Showers: Yes. Bathhouse with quarter showers \$1.00 (4 quarters) for the first 6 minutes, 2 additional minutes for every extra \$0.25 added.

Laundry: Yes. Pay Laundry, with 4 washers and 4 dryers (\$4.00/load)

Electrical Power: Yes, pedestals scattered throughout site.

Special Notices: Weather in Eagle Nest is unpredictable and snow often occurs during RFTW. There are no dedicated tent sites. Guests may book an RV site and set up a tent in sites 1 - 20 (site 1 is closest to bathhouse/restrooms) or 39-45. See Park Map on website. Sites are limited to 4 guests per site, with an additional \$5 per person added over 4 guests, up to 6 guests total per site. Guests can set up 2 backpacking tents or 1 large tent.

Pros: Newer park in Angel Fire which is close to pharmacy, Dollar General and Gas station. Cons: Camping is in RV sites. However, it appears that there is grass adjacent to RV sites

### Day 4 – Saturday, May 18, 2024 – Limon, CO NOT CONFIRMED BY STATE COORDINATOR

Location: Limon KOA Journey, 575 Colorado Avenue, Limon, CO Phone: (575) 377-6188 Reservation Required: Yes, call or use website Distance to Host Hotel: 0.4., 9 minutes (about the same to rally point @ Limon HS) Website: https://koa.com/campgrounds/limon/ Camping Fees: approx. \$60, depending on site type selected. Showers: Yes Laundry: Yes Electrical Power: Yes, pedestals at site. Special Notices: Weather in Limon is unpredictable (tornadoes in 2021). Tent camping area allows up to 7 individuals. Make reservation on website. Pros: Lots of amenities... it is a KOA afterall! Cons: Be careful as to where you are asked to camp, DO NOT allow yourself to be "put in back". **ALTERNATE** Location: Limon Railroad Park, 1st Avenue between G and H Street, Limon, CO (39 degrees 15 minutes 42.10 seconds North, 103 degrees 41 minutes, 24.19 seconds West) Phone: (719) 740-8041, Charlie Kendrick (Rotary Club Secretary/Treasurer) Reservation Required: No. Distance to Host Hotel: 1.5 mi, 5 minutes (about the same to rally point @ Limon High School) Website: https://www.limonmuseum.com/ (continued)

Location: Limon Railroad Park (continued) Camping Fees: FREE Showers: Across the street Laundry: No Electrical Power: ?? Special Notices: This park is located 1/2 miles directly South of the High School on F Street. If you are coming from the motels/gas stations at the Freeway, 1st Avenue "Y's" off of Main at the curve going east. NEW restrooms (constructed in the last 2 years) that are across 1st Avenue from the park. There is a pavilion with a concrete floor which would provide some extra protection from the weather for tents. The parking along 1st Avenue is OK for pop-ups. The Rotary Club will be taking care of the permit for using the park overnight. Pros: No fee, close by (1/2 mile) to High School Cons: Possible train noise?? Day 5 – Sunday, May 19, 2024 – Junction City, Kansas Location: Sertoma Park, 900 E 6th St, Junction City, KS 66441 Phone: None Reservation Required: No Distance to Host Hotel: 1.1 miles, 3 minutes (about the same to rally point) Website: None Camping Fees: Free Showers: No Laundry: No Electrical Power: Yes, in Ramada and Toilet Building Special Notices: This is pretty primitive camping, but this park has the softest grass anywhere! Pros: Fairly quiet, however, there is a highway nearby. Cons: There is only one Ramada and the toilet room is pretty much "public city park" style.

Day 6 – Monday, May 20, 2024 – Wentzville, Missouri Location: Wentzville VFW, 1414 Hwy Z, Wentzville, MO 63385 Phone: (636) 639-1648 Reservation Required: No Distance to Host Hotel: 2.4 miles, 6 minutes Website: None Camping Fees: Free Showers: No Laundry: No Electrical Power: Yes, in VFW Hall Special Notices: Again, this is pretty primitive camping, but convenient to arrival and departure points Pros: Fairly quiet, however, there is a highway nearby. Cons: Porta Johns (and toilets in building when open).

Day 7 – Tuesday, May 21, 2024 – Corydon, Indiana Location: Harrison Co Fairgrounds, 341 S. Capital Avenue, Corydon, IN 47112 Phone: (812) 267-7471 Reservation Required: No Distance to Host Hotel: 2.3 miles, 7 minutes Website: http://www.harrisoncountyfair.com/ Camping Fees: Free Showers: Yes Laundry: No Electrical Power: Yes, on power pedestal Special Notices: Convenient to arrival point and FISH DINNER! Camping on grass or under cover. Pros: Quiet Cons: Primitive camping. Some distance to morning rally point. Day 8 – Wednesday, May 22, 2024 –Nitro, West Virginia Location: Across the street from Nitro City Hall, 2009 20<sup>th</sup> Street, WV 25143 (location added 02/03/2022) Phone: (304) 755-0702 Reservation Required: No Distance to Host Hotel: 7.8 miles, 12 minutes Website: <u>https://cityofnitro.org/</u> Camping Fees: Free Showers: Yes, at Fire Station next to City Hall Laundry: No Electrical Power: Unknown Special Notices: This camping is right next to where we park the bikes when we come in. . Pros: Large lawn area with street parking.

Location: Nitro Public Library, 1700 Park Ave, Nitro, WV 25143 Phone: ?? Reservation Required: No Distance to Host Hotel: 7.8 miles, 12 minutes Website: <u>https://cityofnitro.org/departments/nitro-public-library/</u> Camping Fees: Free Showers: Unknown Laundry: No Electrical Power: Unknown Special Notices: Toilet rooms should be open. Camping is currently noted to be in the parking lot. Pros: Fairly quiet at night. Cons: Primitive camping.

Location: Ridenour Lake, Nitro, WV 25143 Phone: For issues/problems after hours, call (304) 951-2758 Reservation Required: No Website: <u>https://cityofnitro.org/attraction/ridenour-lake/</u> Camping Fees: Free Showers: Unknown Laundry: No Electrical Power: Unknown Special Notices: Shelters have electricity. Bathrooms are located in between General March shelter (1) and 20th Infantry Shelter (2), both Mens and Womens. A unisex bathroom is located across the dam by the Secret Agents shelter (4). Directions: From St. Paul's Church (Dinner Location), go east one block on 20<sup>th</sup> Street to 2<sup>nd</sup> Avenue, (this is where the bikes are parked). Go north on 2<sup>nd</sup> Avenue one block to 21<sup>st</sup> Street. Turn right (east) on 21<sup>st</sup> Street (which eventually turns into Blake Road) and go approximately 7/10 mile to Ridenour Park

Lane, turn right into park

Pros: Probably very quiet at night.

Cons: Primitive camping.

Day 9 - Thursday, May 23, 2024 - Lewisburg, West Virginia

Location: State Fair of West Virginia Campground, 891 Maplewood Ave, Lewisburg, WV 24901 Phone: (304) 645-1090, speak to Ellen at extension 228

Reservation Required: No, just find a spot and set up, we are expected.

Distance to Host Hotel: 3.7 miles, 9 minutes (from Fairfield Inn); 5.1 miles, 11 minutes (to Fairfield Inn). See "Special Notices" below.

Website: https://statefairofwv.com/

Camping Fees: Free

Showers: At bathhouses located in Parling Lot approximately

Laundry: BJ's Laundromat, LLC, 9575 Seneca Trail, Lewisburg, WV 24901, 9 min walk/4 min drive/ride Electrical Power: Power pedestals in designated campground area, possibly at bathhouses Special Notices: Route 219 splits around the fairgrounds near the Burger King and is one-way going southwest to the campground. Turn RIGHT (across the street from the fairgrounds) onto the road marked "Fairground Parking" to the bathhouses, or at "Campground" a little further down the road. Camping can be anywhere in the parking lot near one of the bathhouses (to be close to toilet facilities) or in the campground (with power hookups but no toilet facilities). There may be power available at the bathhouse. When leaving the campground to head back to rally point in the morning, you will need to continue southwest on Route 219 (one way) to rejoin the northeast road (one way) approximately 0.7 miles further down the highway near the McDonalds.

Pros: Large camping area, you can spread out!

Cons: Camping is open and unprotected, in a previous year, campers had to evacuate to one of the fairground buildings in the middle of the night due to severe weather.

Day 10 – Friday, May 24, 2024 thru Monday, May 27, 2024 – Washington DC Location: Arlington Assembly of God, 4501 N. Pershing Drive, Arlington, VA Phone: (703) 524-1667 Reservation Required: No Distance to Host Hotel: 1.3 miles, 7 minutes Website: <u>https://arlingtonag.org/</u> Camping Fees: Donated Showers: Yes (In the past, a trailer with 3 toilets and showers were provided) Laundry: Laundromat(s) nearby Electrical Power: Yes, inside building Special Notices: Camping is allowed through Monday, May 27 (Memorial Day). Pastor Lynn is a very gracious host. In the past, the church has provided shuttle bus to the Vietnam Memorial. Pros: Church provides meals in evening. Large lawn area with trees, fairly quiet at night. Cons: Can't really think of any!

Location: Lake Fairfax Park, 1400 Lake Fairfax Drive, Reston, VA Phone: (703) 471-5414, #0 Reservation Required: Yes, website Distance to Host Hotel: 16.2 miles, 22 minutes Website: <u>https://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/lake-fairfax</u> Camping Fees: Small Fee Showers: Bathhouse available. Laundry TBD Electrical Power: Yes, at selected sites Special Notices: Website is difficult to navigate. I have no experience with this campground Pros: TBD Cons: TBD

# RFTW – Central Route – Camping Info (as of 03/25/2024)

Location: Burke Lake, 7315 Ox Road, Fairfax Station, VA Phone: (703) 323-6600 Reservation Required: Yes, website Distance to Host Hotel: 19.8 miles, 32 minutes Website: <u>https://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/burke-lake</u> Camping Fees: Small Fee Showers: TBD Laundry TBD Electrical Power: Yes, at selected sites Special Notices: Website is difficult to navigate. I have no experience with this campground. Pros: TBD Cons: TBD

## END OF CAMPING INFORMATION

NOTE: This is a "work in progress". Some information is based on actual experience at these campgrounds and other information is gathered from research on the internet, including Google Earth and Google Maps. If you have any additional information, please contact Steve Andros – "U-Turn', Camping Coordinator at 602-318-7169 or <u>steve.andros@rftw.us</u>. Your help is appreciated in making this information up-to-date and correct.