

Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)
2018

What is Frontpack?

Please download the Frontpack app and the 2018 Tour of Minnesota route. You can download it on to your phone so you don't need cell service to use the map. Cool!

You can locate a link to the app on the web site at:

<http://www.tourofminnesota.com/route-1.html>

If you need help, check out the next update, there will be directions.

Can I still purchase jerseys, jackets and hats?

Yes, swag purchases can be made online at the same link.

<https://raceroster.com/events/2018/15834/2018-tour-of-minnesota>

What is the elevation for the route? Check out our Ride With GPS routes at

<https://ridewithgps.com/routes/26694660>

May I still sign up for the tenting service?

Sure, there is a link on our web site. You may contact Pork Belly Ventures at

<https://pkbelly.com/Event/register/TourofMinnesota2018>

Where do we leave our vehicles?

We will leave our vehicles at the Willmar Civic Center. We have arranged extra police surveillance during the week.

How is registration determined?

On a first-come, first-serve basis.

What is the maximum number of riders?

200, including 12-15 staff members.

How long does it take to fill up?

In 2017, five and a half days at 175. In 2018, one and a half days at 200.

Why are there already registrations prior to February 1st?

I had the directors and staff members register in advance to test out the registration system.

Is there a waiting list?

Yes, email the following info to drumminglibrarian@hotmail.com

1. Name first last
2. Cell number
3. Email address

Are helmets required?

Yes, at all times while on the bike. Even on the day off.

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Are the roads paved?

Yes, all the roads and trails are paved.

Are there elevation maps for each route.

Yes, you can locate them here <https://ridewithgps.com/users/344357/routes>

Is it hilly?

Visit link above.

Other maps available on our web page?

Yes. Google, Frontpack and print maps will be given out at check in.

If you want GPX files, you can download them at:

<https://ridewithgps.com/users/344357/routes>

Is there indoor camping each night?

No, there are the options of camping outside and staying at a hotel, for an additional cost.

What is the weight limit for the gear bags?

50 lbs. Two small 25 pound bags or one large 50 pound bag.
50 pound maximum total.

Are there showers?

Yes, each day from 2:00-10:00 PM. They will also be open on the day off.

Can we bring our own coolers?

No, we have plenty of cooler space but not a lot of extra space on the gear truck. We cannot accommodate 200 riders personal coolers.

Can we bring chairs?

If they fit inside one of your bags. We are not responsible for items bungee corded or strapped to the outside of bags. They need to be inside the bag.

We have a chair service.

Chairs are available for \$15.00 for the week. Details on the services page at <http://www.tourofminnesota.com/services.html> provided by Event Bike Ride Services. Please contact Glen at glenma21499@peoplepc.com

Is there a towel service?

Towels are available for \$15.00 for the week. Details on the services page at <http://www.tourofminnesota.com/services.html> provided by Event Bike Ride Services. Please contact Glen at glenma21499@peoplepc.com

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Will you arrange our hotels for us?

No, you may arrange your own for hotels. I will put a list of recommended hotels on the web page – these are the ones the Tour supports. We will deliver/pick up your bags for \$5.00 per day, riders will pay for this service in advance.

How much does it cost to shuttle gear to and from the hotels?

It is \$5.00 per day. You will get instructions in May on how to pay for and arrange shuttles for the tour. Payment in advance is required. I am sorry we can only take bags. We cannot shuttle bikes.

What if I am a really, fast rider, that likes to hammer?

If you want to set out in the morning and ride hard all day, you are missing the point of this ride. You can do it, if that is what you choose, but we ask that you leave with the group in the morning, not before.

Do we offer a tent service?

Yes, with Pork Belly Ventures. Details on the web page.
Available February 1st.

Do we offer massage service?

Yes, Glen Morey. Details on the web page.

Does the Tour fill up?

Yes, last year we filled up in about 5 days.

Is there an option to pay a partial payment or installments and pay the balance later?

No, payment in full at the time of registration.

Can we pay by check?

No, I am sorry, I cannot take checks for registration this year.

What is the pace of the ride?

It varies. We eat breakfast, head down the road to a rest stop for snacks/beverages, ride some more, have lunch, etc.

What time is breakfast?

6:00 - 7:15 AM. Bring your bag to the truck prior to breakfast.

When is lunch?

Varies depending on miles. Approximately 11:00-12:00

What time is dinner?

6:00 PM.

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Is there anything planned for the day off?

Nothing is planned by the Tour but there is plenty to do, wineries, breweries, great restaurants, plenty of lakes and other sites to see. We will get plenty of information in our bag at check in.

Is the course hilly?

The route has elevation profiles for each day and the entire week. What appears hilly to you is not hilly to someone else.

What kind of bike do I need?

We have had 24" wheeled bikes, fat bikes, mountain bikes, comfort bikes, touring bikes, cross bikes, racing bikes. What are you comfortable riding?

Do we get a jersey with our registration?

No, you will receive an Innovative Graphics commemorative t-shirt included with your registration.

May we purchase a jersey?

Yes, we will have Floravelo women's jerseys and Primal men's jerseys, long-sleeve jerseys, windbreakers and bicycle caps.

What does registration include?

The registration cost for 2018 will be \$499 and will include meals on riding days, 6 breakfasts, 6 lunches, 5 dinners, snacks and beverages on riding days, maps by Frontpack, Google Maps, print maps, painted roads, camping facilities, showers, gear transport to camping sites, sag vehicle support, bicycle repair service by Penn Cycle, and a commemorative t-shirt by Innovative Graphics. Riders will pay for meals on the day off and other items of interest along the route.

What is the cancellation policy?

TOUR OF MINNESOTA CANCELLATION POLICY 2018

Cancellations received on or before April 15, 2018 will be refunded the full trip fee less \$75. Cancellations received between April 15 and May 15 will be refunded the full trip fee less \$100. Cancellations received after May 15, 2018 will forfeit entire trip fee. All cancellations must be received by email which determines the date of the cancellation.

<http://www.tourofminnesota.com/route-1.html>

Can I bring my own personal driver along?

No, we are a fully supported ride with camping arrangements, showers, logistics, meals, snacks, beverages (water, Gatorade), bike repair service, gear transports, SAG support so there shouldn't be a need. If you still feel the need, your driver can join us but the cost of registration will be the full price. It actually costs the tour more to have an additional vehicle along because I have to insure that vehicle with the Tour of Minnesota \$1,000,000 insurance policy, approximately \$90.00 – 100.00 per additional

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vehicle (\$94.00 in 2017). Additional driver cost would be the full registration (\$499) plus cost to insure the vehicle with \$1,000,000 insurance coverage $\$499 + 100 = \599 .

Is there a meal plan if I have dietary restrictions?

Yes, select the correct meal plan during registration.

What are my options for shipping my bike, or renting a road bike for Ride Minnesota? I would contact Robert Melcher at Penn Cycle Woodbury. He is our mechanic for the tour.

Penn Cycle Woodbury

6415 Lake Rd

Woodbury, MN 55125

(651) 731-9458

<https://penncycle.com/storelocator/>

Other questions I got asked.

Can you design me a training plan? (below)

Can you plan us a week-long bike trip the week before/after the Tour of Minnesota? (below)

Can we camp at the facility a day or two early? Or stay a day late? (below)

Can you plan a weekend ride after the tour seeing the sights in Minneapolis? (below)

Can you arrange transport to the start/end from Minneapolis St. Paul International Airport? (below)

If I were to pursue all of these, I would never get to the Tour of Minnesota duties.

My mission is to provide the best bike tour experience in the state of Minnesota for the week of Jun15th – 22nd. If I get sidetracked with all of these other responsibilities, I would not be able to provide it. Our contracts and insurance are so specific that you are covered from the moment you check in at the Willmar Civic Center and until you complete the ride. I can't renegotiate a contract or extend the insurance without a great deal time, energy and cost.

When I can reach you if I have other questions?

I am a full-time teacher so I can't answer the phone during school hours. The best time to reach me is between 3:30-5:30 PM daily. 952-215-5056