

## *Long Distance Motorcycling Checklist*

*by Steve Shulman*

We all face an important question when preparing for a long distance ride: What to pack? Its a hard question. On one hand, we want to prepare for fun, problems, cold mornings and blazing hot afternoons. On the other hand, we have limited space to pack it. Here's my checklist. It is based on my experience riding the Three Flags Classic, the USA Four Corners Tour and preparing for my 2013 True X Tour. You may not pack all of this, but it is here for your consideration. I recommend that you share additional ideas at the SCMA website's forum under "Knowledge Base > Road". We will publish this list from to time--adding your suggestions along the way.

### *Personal Items*

Prescription Medication  
Driver's License  
Bike Registration  
Passport  
SCMA Tour Paperwork  
Maps  
Address Book / Passwords  
Credit Cards  
ATM Card  
Cash  
Checkbook  
Medical Card  
Insurance Card  
Hotel Reward Cards  
Credit Card #'s & Lost #'s  
Reading Material  
Reading Glasses  
Book Light  
Stamps

### *Electronics*

GPS Locator  
Camera / Charger  
Video / Charger  
Cell Phone / Charger  
Computer / Charger  
iPod / Charger  
iPad / Charger  
Satellite Radio  
Thumb Drive  
AA/AAA Batteries  
DC Charger Plug  
CD Music

Cell Roaming package  
Spot setup & test  
GW GPS clear track  
log  
GW GPS load routes &  
waypoints

### *Riding Gear Essentials*

Helmet  
Cold Riding Jacket  
Light Riding Jacket  
Rain Jacket / Pants  
Riding Pants  
Thermal Pants  
Riding Boots  
Leather Gloves  
Weather Gloves  
Bandana  
Neck Warmer

### *Clothing Essentials*

Socks  
Underwear  
Walking Shoes  
Tee Shirts  
Collared shirt  
Jeans  
Shorts  
Swim wear  
Ball Cap

### *Toiletries*

Shampoo  
Soap  
Toothbrush  
Toothpaste  
Hair Gel  
Hair spray  
Hair Brush  
Cologne  
Shaving Cream  
Razor/Blades  
Q Tips  
Baby Powder  
Towel

### *Riding Essentials*

Drinking Water  
Earplugs  
Sunglasses  
Sun Block  
Lip Balm  
Roll of Quarters (tolls)  
First Aid Kit  
Erasable Marker for  
Windshield

### *Motorcycle Essentials*

Hidden Spare Key  
Tire Gauge  
Tire Plug Kit  
Compressor  
Fuses / Bulbs  
Leatherman  
Flashlight / Charger  
Toolkit  
Cleaning Towels  
Windshield Spray  
Cleaning Solution  
Communication Cords  
Bike Cover  
Velcro Straps  
Bungee Cords  
Zip Ties  
Zip Lock Bags

### *Camping Gear*

Tent and Spikes  
Sleeping Bag  
Pad  
Stove, Cooking Gear  
Pillow  
Toilet Paper  
Tissue  
KOA Card / Map

### *Last Minute Preparations*

Pay Monthly Bills  
Pay Insurance Bills  
Verify Canadian Insurance  
Check Cell Phone Plan  
Notify Credit Card Company  
Notify ATM Company  
Stop Newspaper  
Stop Mail  
Notify Neighbors  
Notify Security Company  
Turn-off, unplug, de-activate  
Update Trust, Will  
Oil Change  
Tire Change  
Check MC battery

### *On-the-Road Service*

Locate shops  
Schedule tire change\*  
Schedule oil change\*  
\*If projected mileage makes  
service necessary

### *A Final Note on Last Minute Motorcycle Service*

Complete major service at least a week ahead of your trip so that you can get at least 100 miles on your bike. Over the years we have seen a number of riders chasing corrective adjustments during a tour because of a servicing error back home. Give yourself time to make sure the service on your bike was done right.