



Frequently asked questions

DO WE HAVE TO RIDE BIG MILEAGES EVERYDAY?

No we don't cover big daily mileages on our tours and we do make fairly regular stops at nice viewpoints, or for coffee, a leg stretch and toilets / fuel. Our established routes are designed to cover on average between 100 and 200 miles daily (260 miles being our maximum on our UK tour). The Motorway network is only used on occasions for covering some distance over a short period or where there is no other alternative. We want you to see something of the regions that we travel through, not be hurtling past them at 90 mph all day long. At times the daily mileage may increase slightly, but this will only be due to diversions or other circumstances that are beyond our control.

WILL MY BIKE BE SUITABLE?

In many cases a bike of 600cc + which is capable of carrying luggage and a passenger where required will be suitable for the tours we conduct. This is due to the routes that we take and the pace that we ride at. We have had many different models from Hyabusa, to FZR 600 and GS1200's to air-cooled 850 TDM. Depending on the tour being run, I still use my GS 800 air-cooled BMW on occasions, which is more than capable of getting the job done. Please do not hesitate to contact us if you wish to discuss bike models and suitability.

WILL MY BIKE BE SECURE AND PARKED IN A GARAGE EVERY NIGHT?

We will always look to use hotels with secure parking arrangements and in many cases, other than in the UK, this will include garage parking. However, whilst parking arrangements are always as secure as we can make them, we will not have access to a garage every night and we advise carrying your normal securing devices with you.

DO YOU RIDE IN CONVOY?

No, and it's not a procession either, but the group does generally tend to ride together. However, we do always advise a safe separation distance between you and the rider in front and we don't like bunching up together as a flock. If the rider in front of you is in the distance, but you can still see them, that's good enough really, we don't want people colliding into one another because things suddenly stop quickly. If you do lose sight of the group or the rider in front, don't panic, they are usually only around the next corner behind other vehicles or stopped at a set of traffic lights. As we near our overnight destination we generally tend to re-group, if not already together, for everyone who wants to be led directly to the accommodation.

I HAVE NEVER RIDDEN ON A TOUR BEFORE AND I AM WORRIED THAT I WILL HOLD OTHER PEOPLE UP?

At Missed Adventures we cater for the abilities of all the riders who tour with us, so no one will be holding anybody up and no one gets left behind. Some riders will confidently move on ahead, others will want to ride at the back or with the escort and Missed Adventures is here for you in whatever capacity you choose. The tour is not a race and we want everyone to get the most that they can from it, especially riders who are doing this for the first time, it is a fabulously rewarding experience and we want you to enjoy it. For some people, riding with the escort throughout gives them valuable experience and helps with their confidence, particularly if they are new to continental motoring. We do travel on motorways, through towns, villages and in busy cities, but we don't race off and leave people behind. In fact once you get used to travelling on the right hand side of the road, riding in Europe can be much easier than in the UK due to the road layout, road network and at times the smaller traffic density. All we ask, for the sake of everyone on the tour, is that you are competent and proficient at handling the motorcycle you are using, taking into account the luggage and any pillion passenger travelling with you. We ask this, not only because we want you to enjoy it, but also because you do have a duty of care to yourself, other motorists and all the other riders who are on the tour with you.

ARE THERE ANY IMPORTANT DOCUMENTS THAT I NEED TO TAKE ON TOUR?

A full list of the necessary documentation required during a tour is provided on booking and there is further guidance in the terms and conditions section. However, please feel free to either telephone or e-mail us with any questions or concerns you may have. We are here to help and guide you all the way with the necessary requirements for any tour.

WHAT TYPE OF PEOPLE TOUR WITH YOU AND ARE THEY ALL FRIENDS?

All sorts of people tour with us from couples to individuals and complete strangers to friends who travel together regularly. At Missed Adventures we endeavour to make every tour a rewarding and enjoyable experience for everyone and we think you can only do that if everyone in the group mixes in together and gets on well. After all there is no 'I' in team and friendships are formed here that have a common bond and continue for many years afterwards, on or off tour. The age group generally tends to be between 40 and 60 years old, but the tour is open to anyone who is over 18 and we have had people come along to Northern Spain with us at 70 years of age.

WHAT CAN I DO ON A REST DAY DURING THE TOUR?

Whatever you like, it is your holiday. You can chill out, relax and stay at the hotel, using all the facilities available to you or jump on your bike and travel around the local region with us, on routes we have covered before. If you prefer, you can go off sightseeing or exploring by yourself, either on foot or with your bike it really is not a problem – you do what you want to do.

HOW MUCH MONEY SHOULD I TAKE WITH ME AND WILL IT BE SAFE?

For the first part of the question it really depends on what you want to spend, after all it is your holiday. All overnight accommodation and breakfasts are accounted for so you only need to budget for fuel, lunchtime snack or menu, bridge or road tolls, evening meal, (if not catered for in the tour layout) drinks and any entrance fees. The Euro or Sterling on our Scottish Highlands tour are the only currencies you will need. Some Euros in cash is always a good idea, but for safety purposes we recommend that any bulk amount for continental travel, takes the form of the Euro cash card or travellers cheques from the Post Office or similar outlet before departure.

WHAT TYPE OF ACCOMMODATION DO WE STAY IN?

We always look to book three and four-star hotels on all our tours, with two star being used very occasionally, when it is the only available option. We have used many of the establishments during tours in the past and we pride ourselves on the location and standard of the hotels that we use. In fact on occasions we have found quality two star hotels that have been as clean and comfortable as many four star ones, but please rest assured, we do take the quality and cleanliness of any establishment seriously, in order that you can expect to have the best possible stay there. Please see each tour itinerary for the graded level of accommodation.

WHAT HAPPENS IF I BREAKDOWN, HAVE AN ACCIDENT OR I AM TAKEN ILL?

It is a necessity when travelling with Missed Adventures that everyone on a European tour has full breakdown and personal accident/injury insurance cover. It is also a common sense idea to have this type of insurance when travelling in the UK as well. Most motorcycle insurance policies include European travel – usually for a stipulated maximum period (example is; 90 days of cover during your term of insurance). The higher the standard of insurance provider will usually mean the better quality of package around breakdown, accident, injury or illness repatriation. This means that you have the facility to get yourself and your motorcycle back to your home address in the event of anything unforeseen occurring. However, please do check with your insurance provider that this is the case, whether it is for accident and injury travel insurance or for breakdown insurance.

WHAT IS THE DRESS CODE AND WHAT DO PEOPLE WEAR?

On the bike you have your own choice and manufacturer of riding equipment. It does not have to be extortionately expensive either, just as long as it gives you the adequate protection when travelling, keeps you warm, or cool as the climate dictates and keeps you dry if or rather when it rains. Waterproof boots and clothing are essential items really, because the weather does not always favour people just because they are on holiday. Waterproof socks help, for heavier downpours or if your boots have seen better days and a spare pair of gloves is always a good idea and something I never travel without. For the evening, when relaxing at the hotel in the town or city, most guests try to travel light with a simple choice of smart casual eveningwear. Either some lightweight dress trousers, smart jeans or travel with both if you prefer. A couple of dress shirts and or T-shirts with a collar and a jumper for if the evening turns cool are always a good idea. Ladies evening wear will revolve around individual choice but something along the lines of the above items, maybe a summer dress and cardigan or light jacket will all come in handy and be more than suitable. Just remember you have to pack the bike, travel on it, park it and manoeuvre it – it is probably best to try and avoid bringing a double wardrobe on it.

HOW DO I BOOK ON A TOUR AND WHAT HAPPENS AFTER THAT?

In the first instance please browse the upcoming tours page and decide which tour suits your requirements if any. It is probably best to telephone or e-mail as soon as you have chosen the tour you are interested in. This helps to give you up to date information on the available space, whether you wish to book as an individual, a couple or as a group of friends. Once this is done and you are happy with the information provided, an allocated slot or slots will be given to you whilst we await your completed booking form. It is important to complete this as soon as you know you have the available time that coincides with the registered tour dates, especially if you are travelling as a group. We usually allow a maximum of three days to get the form to us, along with your deposit and then you can start making your plans in earnest. The information and confirmation that we provide for each tour booking will be sent out to you and you are free to maintain contact with us for anything that may crop up during the countdown to your tour. Please note that you have to keep track of the date for which final completion of your payment is due – we do not post out reminders, but again you can ring or e-mail for confirmation of this.