

Views & News from the Dragon & Skyway

Growing up riding in the Adirondack Mountains in upstate NY I learned to love those mountain curves. Earlier this decade my old riding buddy Jim asked me to join him on a trip to Deals Gap along the NC/TN border. Where's that, I asked. 318 mountain curves in 11 miles he said! When do we leave, I'm in! That was it, I was hooked on the Dragon & Cherohala Skyway after that 1st trip in 2002. By 2005 I had relocated from Fort Lauderdale to WNC and started trying to figure out how I could make a living riding my bike. After spending that summer Slaying the Dragon & Surfing the Skyway. I watched as several of my riding pals from Soflo bought vacation homes in the area. Duh, a light went on in my brain bucket. Maybe I could make a living selling vacation homes to bikers. Since then 17 of my riding pals from Florida bought vacation properties in the area. These folks are willing to travel 12 hours from South Florida just to Slay the Dragon, Surf the Skyway and Speed down the Blue Ridge Parkway. There might be something to this idea of mine. My Geezer Glide has since been converted into a floorboard-scraping, spark-shooting, testosterone fueled rolling office.

Do you riders in the Carolina's know how lucky you are? You have the best motorcycling roads in the world right in your back yard? If you haven't been here yet, what are you waiting for? If you have been here, when you coming back? It can be a day ride or come over and spend the weekend. Maybe you will get hooked like my pals and I and buy a place here. Riders from all over the world come here to Slay the Dragon. I have chatted with riders from England, Australia, France, Spain and all over the US and Canada in this area. Several years back I was at the "Rock Store", which is the hot west coast biker spot on the bluffs above the Pacific Coast Highway in Malibu, CA, The guy parked next to me who was from LA asked if I "Slay the Dragon" regularly. He had noticed my Dragon logo on my fender and NC plate. He said he makes an annual trip to WNC just to ride the Dragon.

So starting this month I am going to write about the Dragon & Skyway filling you in on the riding news from this world-class riding destination. I will be coaxing you up here, I will coach you thru the curves and I will cajole you to ride your bike somewhere other than just to bike night.

There are plenty of biker friendly businesses all around the Dragon and Skyway. Reviews and stories of those establishments will follow. Directions, side roads and secret spots will be revealed. I will tell you where

the waterfalls and views that will impress Miss Right are hidden. Maybe this will help you get her out for a ride as we like those curves too!
Next month is lesson #1 on Dragon Etiquette.

Till next month, Keep you head & eyes up and twist the throttle!

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