

# Harley Vacation



**3,016 Mile Route**

Every year since 2000, Karen and I have taken a motorcycle vacation (1 – 3 weeks long). We are fairly new to the Harley world, so this year Karen wanted to tour the manufacturing plant where our 2014 Ultra Limited was born. Immediately, I start planning a trip to Milwaukee, WI! And, while we were there, why not visit the HD Museum!

Well come to find out, HD bikes are not manufactured in Milwaukee! Who knew? Our particular model is produced in York, PA! So, I ask Karen, “Should we go to the museum in WI or the manufacturing plant in York, PA?” Karen responds “Why don’t we just do both!” (I love this girl!)

Typically, we leave Friday right after work. We can knock out 300 miles that evening and give us extra time during our vacation. This year, we decided to travel the last week of June. Since most of the trip would be in the northern part of the U.S., we should have fairly good temperatures. This was perfect! Temperatures were in the high 60’s to mid 70’s the whole trip! The exceptions were the Friday evening that we left and the Sunday when we returned!

The trip was planned well in advance. Luckily, the Harley Museum had a Bikes, Brats and Beer Tour available. Not only did we have a tour guide around the museum, but also around Milwaukee! It was great!



**Welcome to Wisconsin**

During our travels, we enjoy riding on ferries. A ferry ride from Milwaukee straight across Lake Michigan to Muskegon, MI would save us a lot of time and hassle (avoiding Chicago). Plus, it would give us a little break to let someone else do the driving!



**Ferry Across Lake Michigan**

In Michigan, we ride across the state and enter Canada in Sarnia, Ontario (Well, north of Detroit). We had a great ride thru Canada to Rocky’s HD in London, Ontario. The people at this dealership were great! They advised us to get off the expressway and travel some back roads the rest of the way to Niagara Falls. It was a great ride!

We visit Niagara Falls. This was our second time here. The first time was our first motorcycle vacation 15 years ago! It's still an awesome place! From here, we head south to Punxsutawney, PA.



**Niagara Falls**

Well off the beaten path, Punxsutawney is a quaint little town. It just so happened, the Groundhog Festival was in full swing! This huge event (about the size of Hernando's Water Tower Festival) took us about 15 minutes to walk thru. Next stop, York, PA.



**Punxsutawney, PA**

According to the York HD Vehicle Operations website, the day we arrived was the last Steel Toe Tour for 2 weeks and we arrived late that evening. A couple at the hotel told us they couldn't go on the tour since it was sold out months in advanced. The HD plant stops production for 2 weeks while they retool for the 2016

models. However, there is a small mock-up room that would be open to see the processes of how the bikes are manufactured.

We decided to get up early, eat breakfast and be at the HD plant when they open. Then, we would have the rest of the day to look around the York area. Luck was on our side! The HD plant didn't finish all their work the day before! They were running production! They were allowing the Steel Toe Tours to go on! And, since no reservations had been made due to scheduling the plant down, tickets were available! Yeah! We are some of the first in line! This was a very comprehensive tour that we thoroughly enjoyed!



**HD Plant in York, PA**

After the tour, we ride over to Intercourse, PA to see a large Amish community. This area has really gotten commercialized since we were here in 2005. Campgrounds

surround some of the Amish Farms with billboards that say "Come visit the Amish Experience!"



**Amish Country**

From here, we head for home. Along the way, we collect ABC's. We decide to go thru Ohio to collect the "X" in Xenia, OH.



**Xenia, OH**

It was a great trip! There's nothing like taking a motorcycle vacation! And, this year was no exception! The HD Museum was a great experience with a lot of history in it! Milwaukee was a great city to visit! It was an added bonus to see Niagara Falls again! Punxsutawney got us off the beaten path thru PA and the HD Steel Toe Tour was outstanding! We highly recommend this trip for everyone interested in HD!

## Harley Vacation

Day	Date	Route	Things to see	Daily Miles	Total Miles
1	Friday, June 26, 2015	Home to St Louis	Stay near St. Louis	290	290
2	Saturday, June 27, 2015	St. Louis to Milwaukee, WI	Milwaukee River Walk	402	692
3	Sunday, June 28, 2015	Milwaukee	Harley Museum Bikes, Brats and Beer Tour 11:00-2:30.	50	742
4	Monday, June 29, 2015	Milwaukee to Muskegon Ferry to Holland, MI	Milwaukee to Muskegon, MI Ferry leaves at 12:30 pm, arrives in Muskegon, MI at 4 pm. Stay in Holland, MI	35	777
5	Tuesday, June 30, 2015	Holland, MI to London, Ontario to Niagara Falls	Niagara Falls	411	1188
6	Wednesday, July 1, 2015	Niagara Falls to Punxsutawney, PA to York, PA	Punxsutawney Phil and Gobbler's Knob	330	1518
7	Thursday, July 2, 2015	York, PA to Intercourse, PA	Harley Tour Mon-Thurs 9:00am-2:00pm.	150	1668
8	Friday, July 3, 2015	York to Xenia, OH	Collect ABC's (Get the "X")	474	2142
9	Saturday, July 4, 2015	Xenia, OH to New Albany, IN	Visit family	158	2300
10	Sunday, July 5, 2015	New Albany, IN to Home		409	2709
			Planned Mileage		2709
			Actual Mileage		3,016