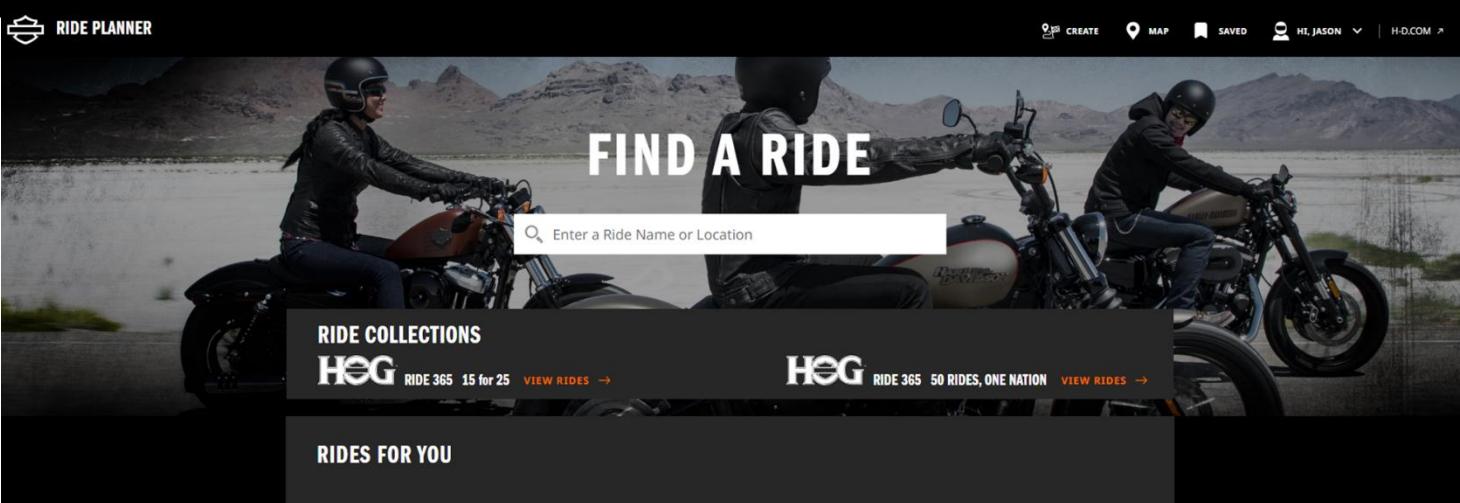


2025

Introduction to: Harley Davidson Ride Planner



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7/19/2025

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Harley Davidson Ride Planner tutorial

Introduction

I first used the Harley Davidson ride planner in 2015 and thought it was just terrible and too difficult to use, and most often just created a ride plan on the bike. A lot has changed in the last ten years and I would like to share with you what I have learned.

It is my intention to give you enough information and classroom training that you become the master of this great tool.

Establish account

Go to the Harley-Davidson Ride Planner <https://maps.harley-davidson.com/> and establish your account.

Terminology

GPS - or Global Positioning System, is a satellite-based navigation system that provides location, velocity, and time synchronization data to users anywhere on Earth. It is owned and operated by the United States and is just one part of the Global Navigation Satellite System (GNSS) as shown in Figure 1.

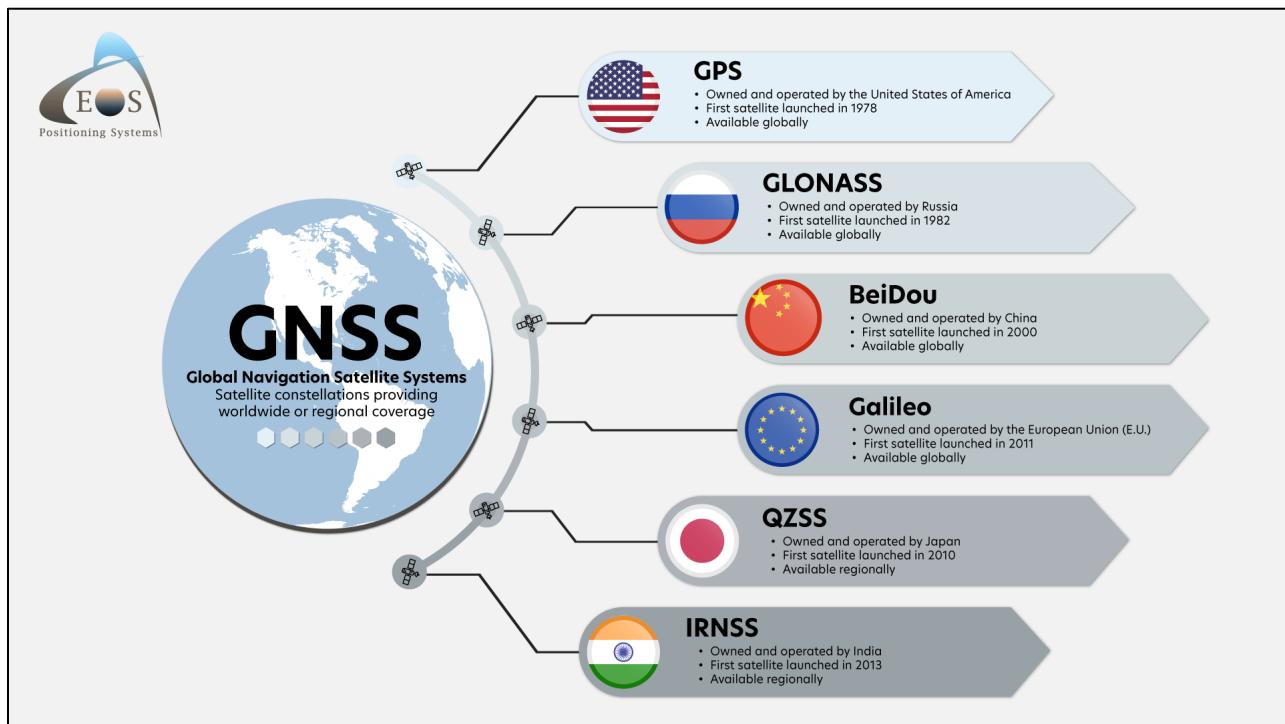


Figure 1 The greater GNSS constellations. (image courtesy: <https://eos-gnss.com/knowledge-base/gps-overview-1-what-is-gps-and-gnss-positioning>)

It uses a network of satellites orbiting the Earth to determine a user's position, and it is widely used for navigation, tracking, and mapping purposes.

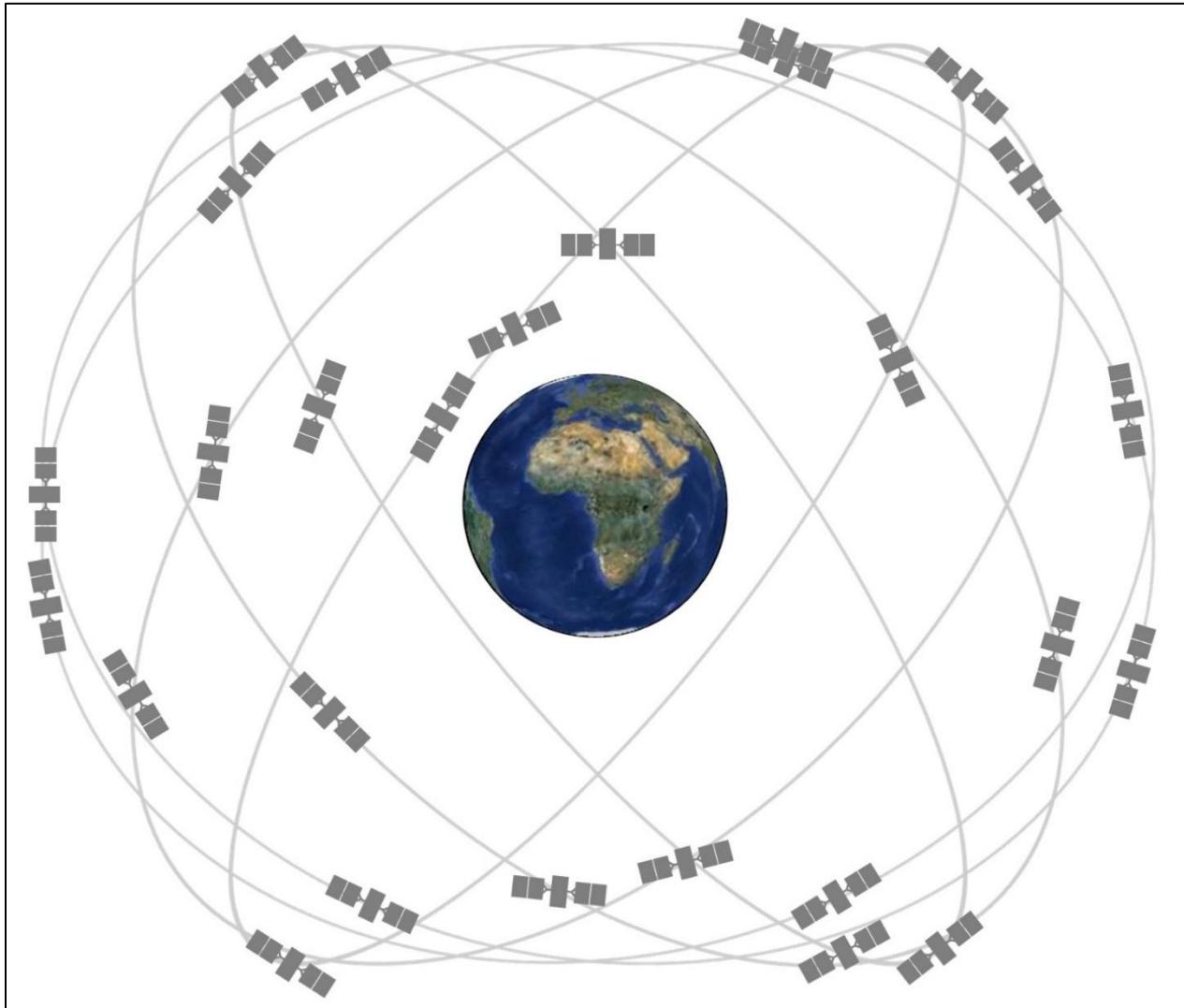


Figure 2 GPS constellation with 28 of the Orbits shown. (image courtesy: <https://www.gps.gov/multimedia/images/constellation.jpg>)

The Global Positioning System (GPS) constellation currently has 31 operational satellites orbiting the Earth. While the system is designed to have 24 operational satellites, there are typically a few extra as backups or in testing. These satellites are distributed in six orbital planes, ensuring global coverage. Figure 2 depicts the GPS constellation and orbits.

GPX - or GPs eXchange Format, is a data format commonly used to store GPS data like waypoints, routes, and tracks. It's essentially a text file (XML format) that can be easily shared and used across different GPS devices and software. Think of it as a universal language for GPS data.

GPX files can contain various types of GPS information, including:

- **Waypoints:** Specific locations marked on a map (latitude, longitude, and potentially other data like names or descriptions).
- **Tracks:** A sequence of GPS points representing a path traveled, often used for recording a hike or bike ride.
- **Routes:** A planned path consisting of a series of waypoints.

How it's used:

- **Sharing:** GPX files allow you to easily share routes and locations with others, even if they use different GPS devices or software.
- **Navigation:** Many GPS devices and navigation apps support importing and using GPX files for guidance on trails, routes, and more.
- **Mapping:** GPX data can be imported into mapping software to visualize and analyze your adventures, plan routes, and share your experiences.

Why it's useful:

- **Interoperability:** GPX ensures that GPS data can be used across different platforms and devices, promoting seamless data exchange.
- **Flexibility:** It allows you to plan trips, track your progress, and share your adventures with ease.
- **Accessibility:** GPX files make outdoor activities more accessible by providing a standard way to share and use GPS data.

Explore HD Ride planner

Login screen

Once you have logged in to the HD ride planner, you will see something similar to Figure 3. There are a few things on this screen I encourage you to explore on your own. The key take away is that there are literally hundreds of ride plans available for you to use.

Do you remember Ride 365? Take a look at the ride collections section and note what it shows. It has a link for Ride 365 15 for 25 and a link for ride 365 50 rides one nation. Both links take you to rides that have already been planned and you can download them to go ride.

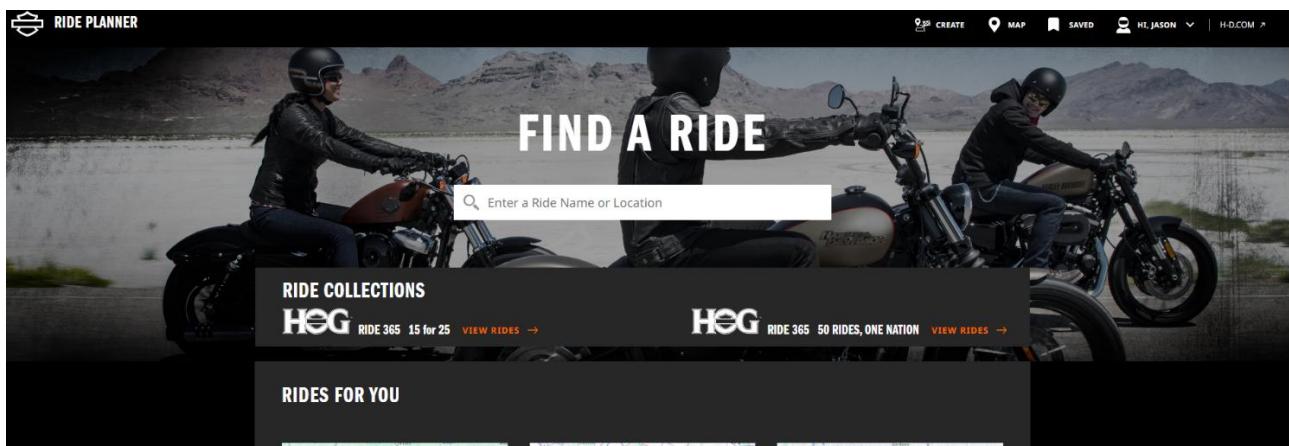


Figure 3 Ride planner login screen

15 for 25

Once you have logged in, check it out. Follow the instructions in Figure 4 and explore the ride plans for the 15 for 25 challenge. Make sure and click on “view as a list” too so you see the difference in how you can view this information.

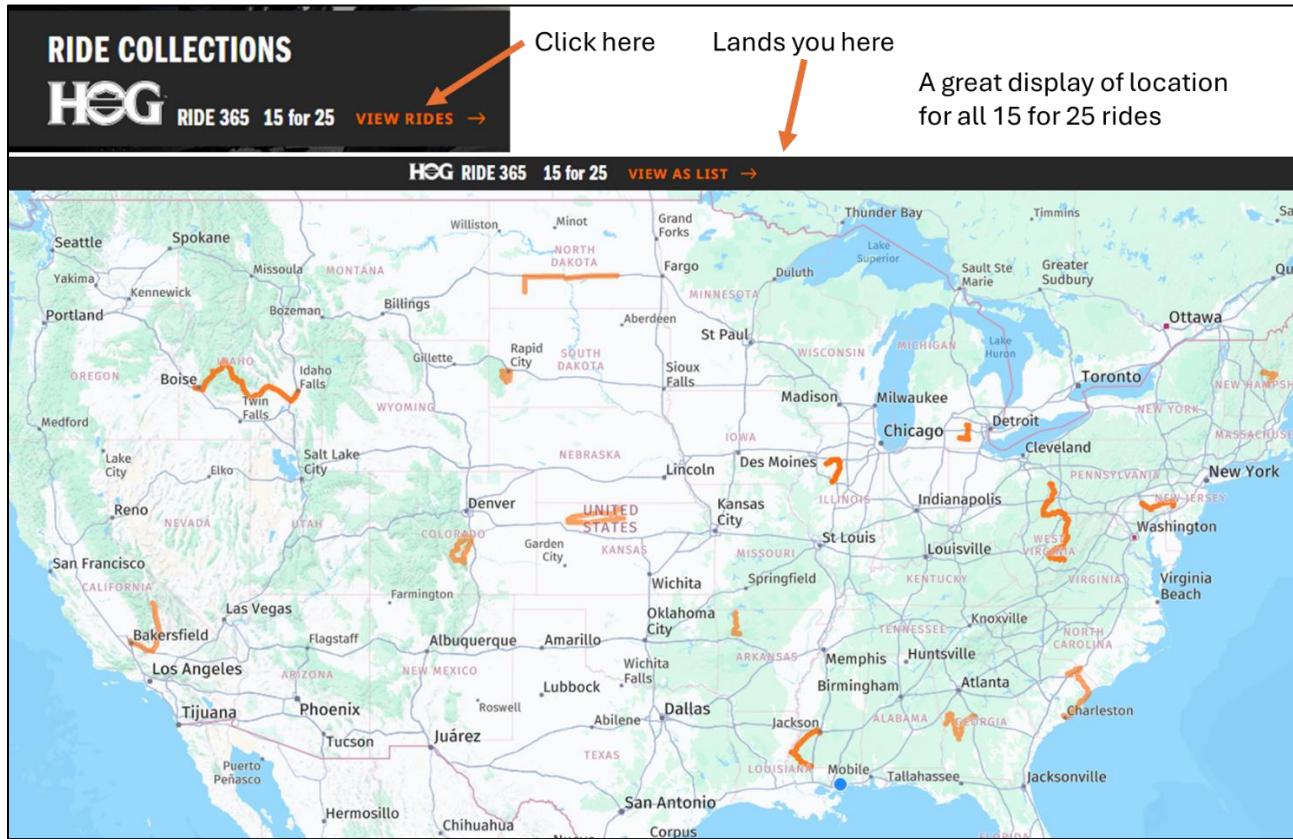


Figure 4 Planned rides for the 15 for 25 Ride 365 Challenge

50 Rides one Nation

Once you have logged in, check it out. Follow the instructions in Figure 5 and explore the ride plans for the 50 rides one nation. Make sure and click on “view as a list” too so you see the difference in how you can view this information.



Figure 5 Planned rides for the 50 Rides one Nation Ride 365 Challenge

Preview the rides

Zoom in to one of the rides from 15 for 25 or 50 rides one nation and click on it to select it to make it the active route. Figure 6 shows the visual difference in a selected and non selected route. Note that selected is a darker orange and has tear-drops for start and finish points. In this case, I have chosen Oark Café route because it is a 15 rides one nation stop via the Pig Trail scenic byway which is a 50 rides one nation stop.

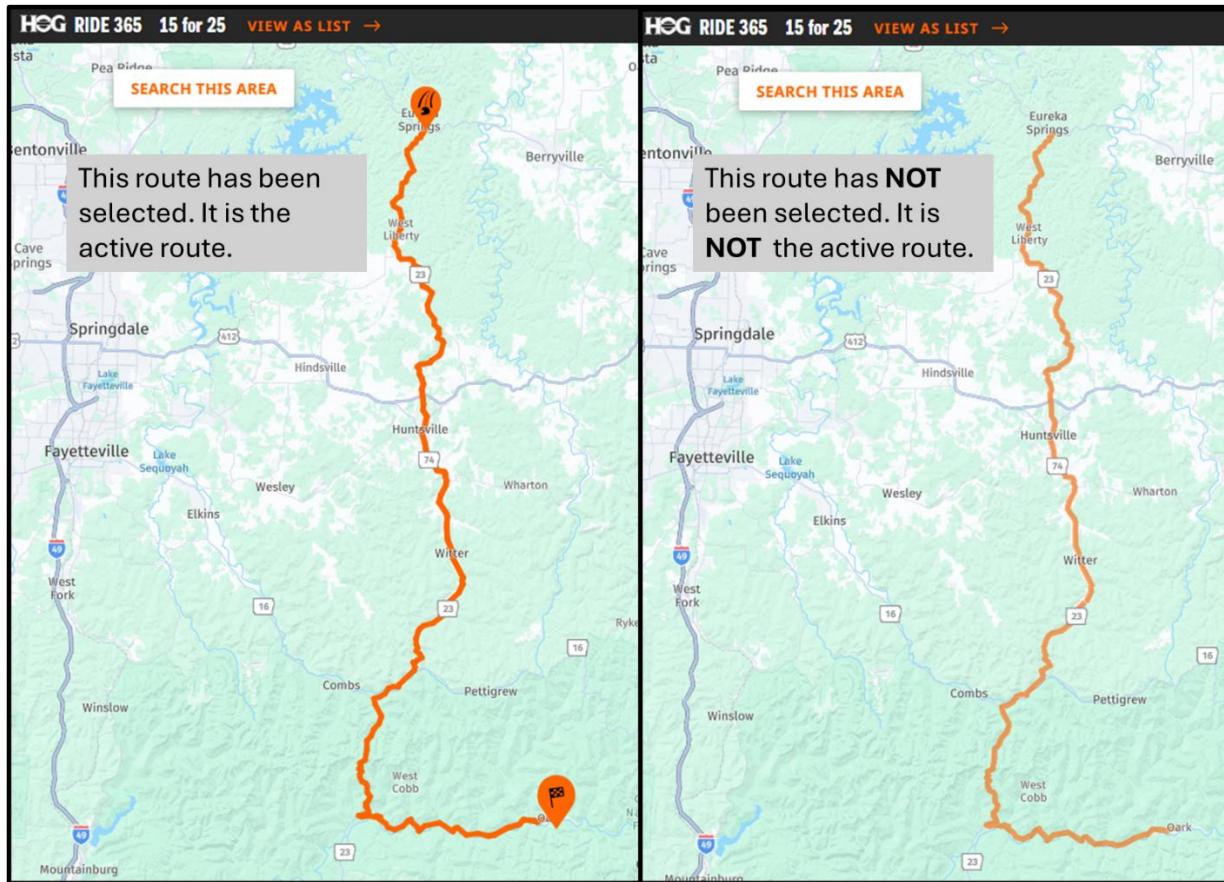
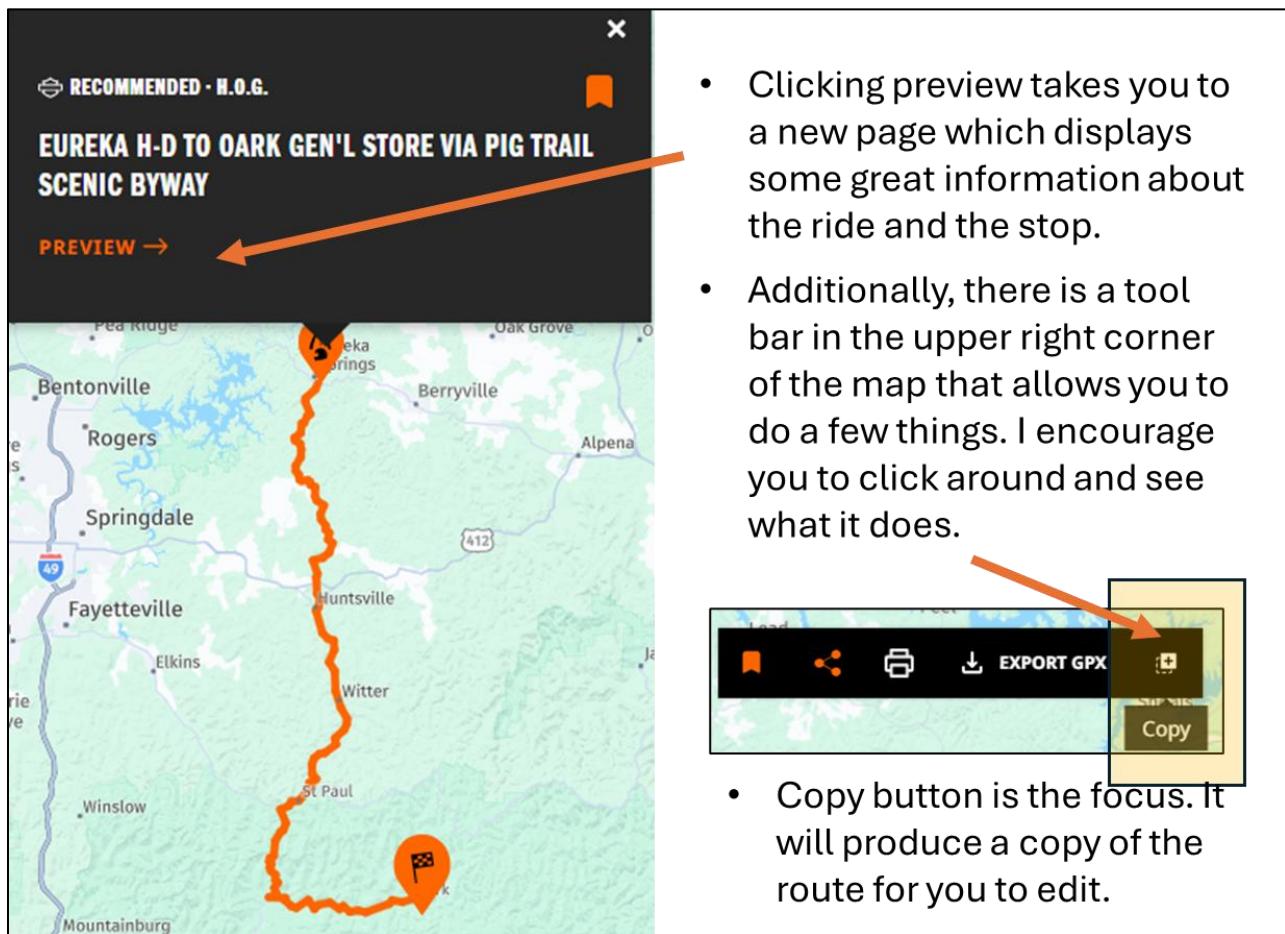


Figure 6 Left side shows a route selected. Right side shows no route selected.

Once selected, left click on the starting point for the route. This will display a little information about the route and is where you can begin to explore your options

Copy a ride 365 ride plan for editing

Figure 7 describes how to preview the existing track for Oark as well as how to copy it to editable track so you can change it to suit your touring needs. Figure 8 takes you straight to a copy of the ride plan, ready for you to edit.



The image shows a screenshot of the Ride 365 mobile application. At the top, there is a black header bar with the text "RECOMMENDED - H.O.G." and "EUREKA H-D TO OARK GEN'L STORE VIA PIG TRAIL SCENIC BYWAY". Below this is a "PREVIEW →" button with an orange arrow pointing to it. The main area is a map of a scenic route in Arkansas, starting from Eureka Springs and ending at Oark. The route is highlighted in orange. The map also shows other towns like Bentonville, Rogers, Springdale, Fayetteville, Elkins, Huntsville, Witter, St. Paul, Winslow, and Mountainburg. In the upper right corner of the map area, there is a toolbar with several icons: a bookmark, a share icon, a print icon, a download icon, and a "EXPORT GPX" button. To the right of the map, there is a vertical stack of buttons. The top button is a "Copy" button, which is highlighted with a yellow box and an orange arrow pointing to it. Below it are other buttons for "Share", "Print", and "GPX Export".

- Clicking preview takes you to a new page which displays some great information about the ride and the stop.
- Additionally, there is a tool bar in the upper right corner of the map that allows you to do a few things. I encourage you to click around and see what it does.
- Copy button is the focus. It will produce a copy of the route for you to edit.

Figure 7 Button locations from preview mode; copy button location

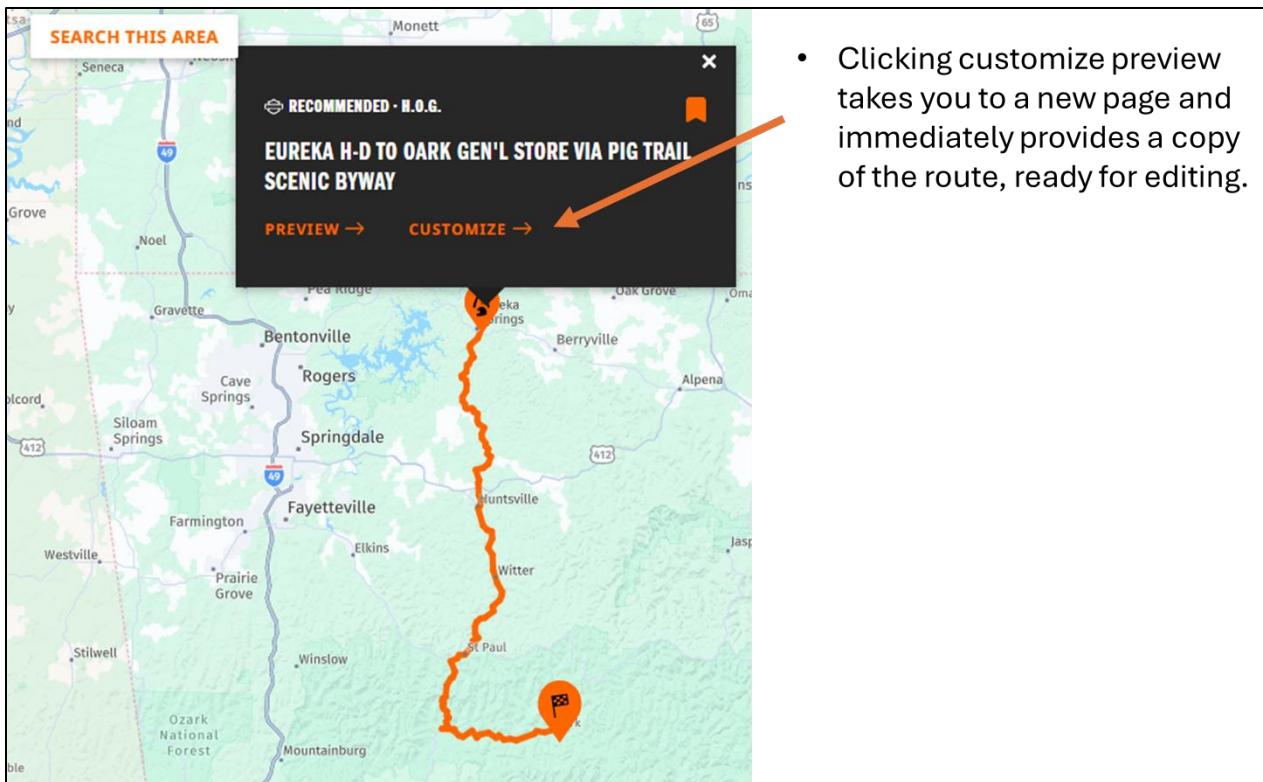
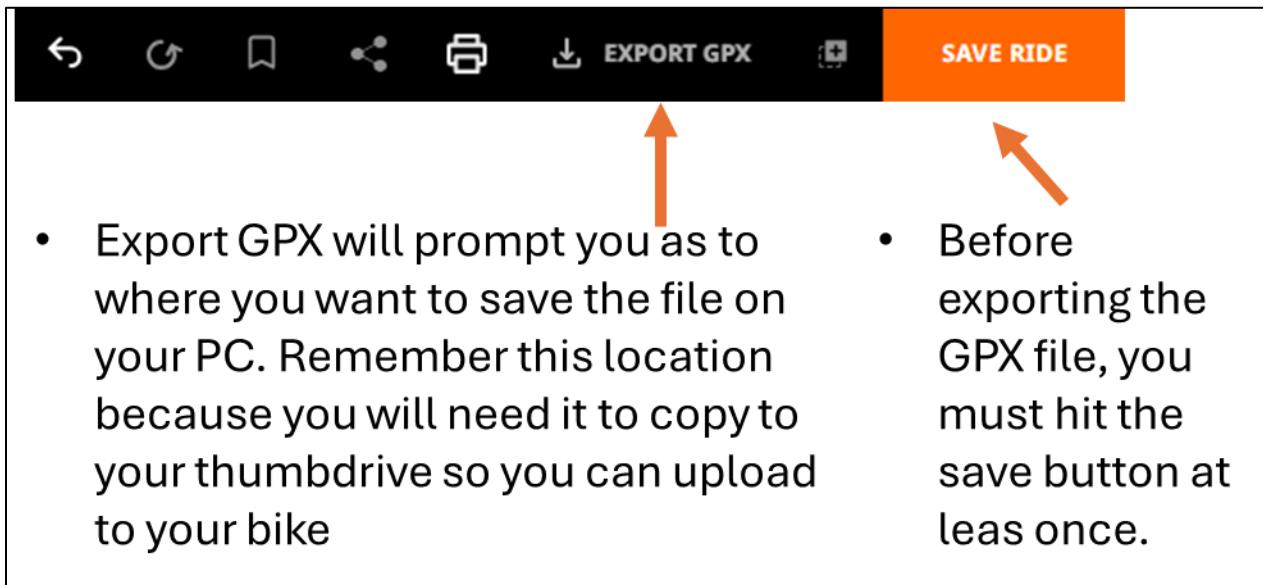


Figure 8 Click customize to go straight to editing.

Downloading the GPX file

Downloading the GPX file is pretty straight forward and the steps are displayed in Figure 9



- Export GPX will prompt you as to where you want to save the file on your PC. Remember this location because you will need it to copy to your thumbdrive so you can upload to your bike
- Before exporting the GPX file, you must hit the save button at least once.

Figure 9 Downloading the GPX file.

*You can download any of the ride plans, load them in your Harley Davidson GPS or your Garmin (or whatever you have) and then use them for navigation. The GPS will take you to the **START** point of the route. Once you are in the edit ride plan mode, there is a “reverse” in the lower left so you can reverse the route.*

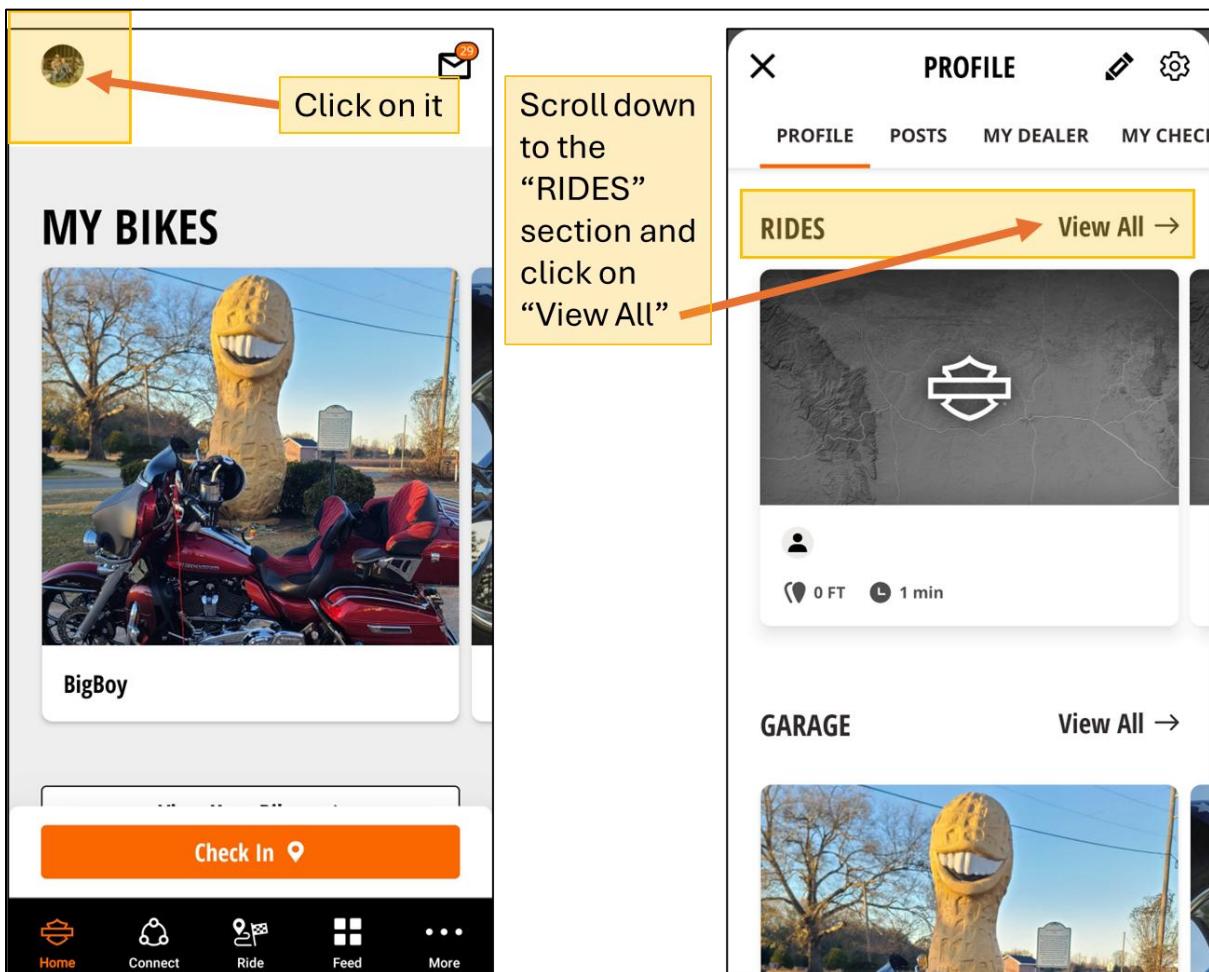
In the case of the Oark route and because I was coming from the south, I reversed the plan in order to hit Oark café first and then ride up Pig Trail to Eureka Springs.

Viewing Ride plans in the HD App

This is something I discovered recently. I know the logins for everything gets kind of old, but they are actually useful once you lose the confusion of it and get over the frustration.

If you don't have GPS nav on your bike or aftermarket unit, you can use your phone. If you did not save one of the pre-planned routes from the previous paragraphs, please go back and do so now so that you have something to open in the app.

1. Open the HD App .
2. In the upper left corner there is an icon or a photo. Click on it – this opens your profile.
3. Scroll down to the “RIDES” section and click on “View All”.



Clicking the “View All” lands you in the “MY RIDES” section. There are choices across the top. You should scroll and click through those choices and see what they are.

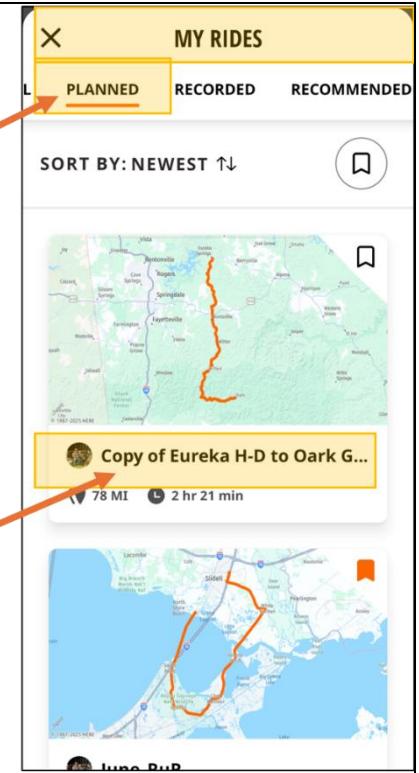
Notice in the image to the right that the route plan we just made a copy of and saved to our online login at HD Rideplanner.com is at the top of the list.

4. Select the route you saved earlier.
5. You should get something similar to the image below:

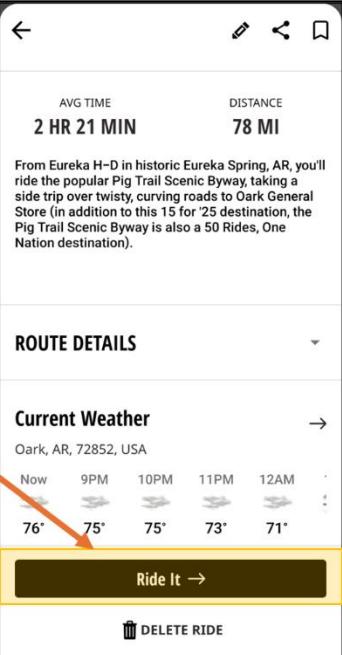


From the menus at the top, scroll to “Planned” and click it

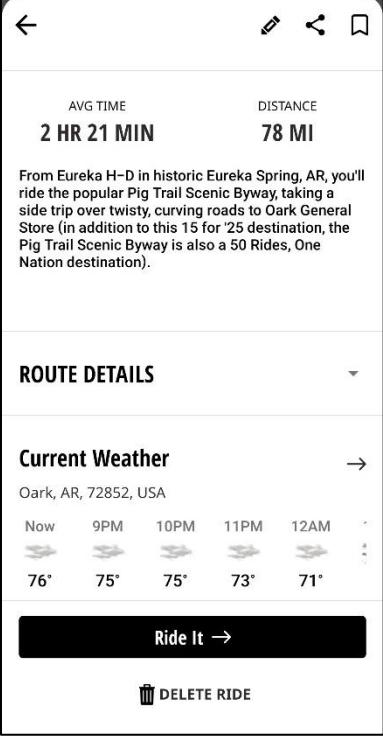
The first one on the list, should be the most current one. In this case it is the Oark ride I just copied over. Select this ride



6. Scroll down from the route to see more details. There is even a weather forecast at the destination.
7. Click on the Ride It button next and follow it like any other GPS. I do not think it has voice prompts though. I can't remember.



Click the "Ride It" button and follow the onscreen prompts.



From Eureka H-D in historic Eureka Spring, AR, you'll ride the popular Pig Trail Scenic Byway, taking a side trip over twisty, curving roads to Oark General Store (in addition to this 15 for '25 destination, the Pig Trail Scenic Byway is also a 50 Rides, One Nation destination).

ROUTE DETAILS

Current Weather

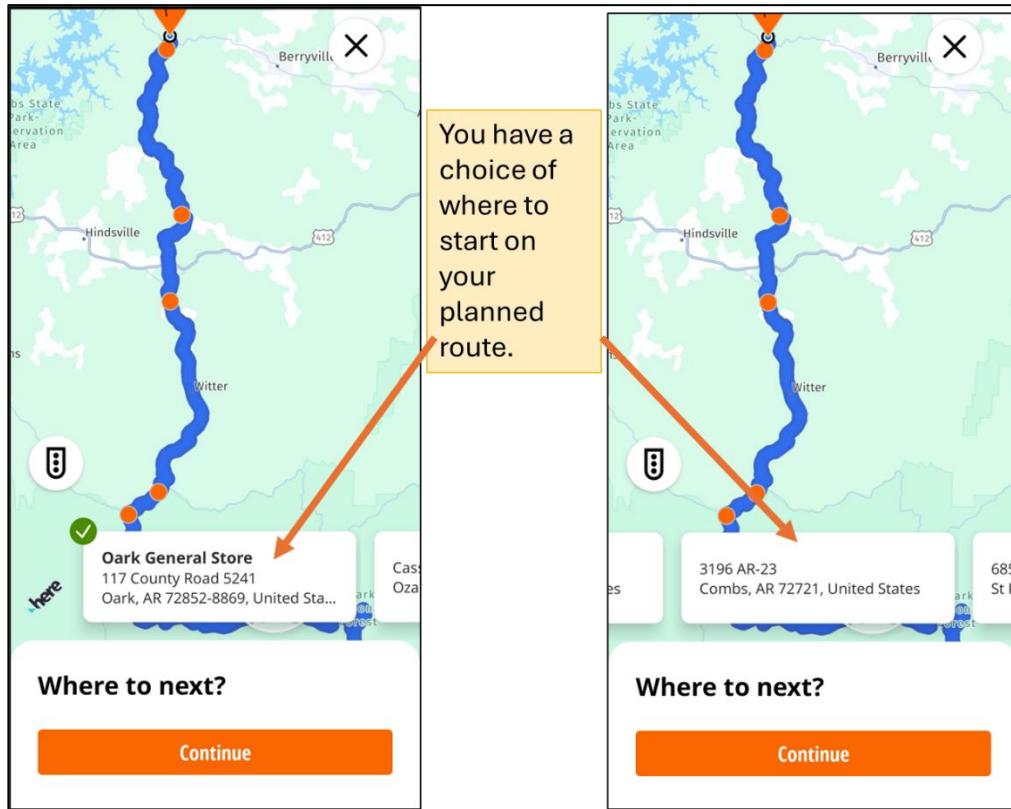
Oark, AR, 72852, USA

Now	9PM	10PM	11PM	12AM
76°	75°	75°	73°	71°

Ride It →

DELETE RIDE

Once you get to the last screen, before hitting continue – take note that you can select which waypoint in the route you would like to Navigate to (start with).



I would like to point out that however you choose to use the GPX file you can just pull up the plan and navigate to it. For Example, if you pulled up the Oark route and ran it, it would take you from your current location to the route starting point, in this case it is Eureka Springs and then down the pig trail to Oark.

Create your own plan



- *This is under construction and may only be taught or talked about in person.*
- *Create button*
- *Choose on road or off road*
- *Type in starting location. The system will find the store/business/address once you type it in, give it time.*
- *Importing a GPX*
- *Show on Map settings*
- *About **SEARCH THIS AREA***
- *Adding show on map locations to the route plan*
- *These buttons:*



- *These buttons:*



Importing a GPX file for editing or just having for your profile or archives