



FAQ's & SAFETY TIPS

Be sure to keep these tips in mind as you prepare for the ride:

- Helmets with chin straps fastened must be worn at all times.
- Be conscious of other cyclists around you and use standard hand signals to indicate turning or stopping. Communicate with others when you see dangers in the road.
- You are responsible for getting yourself safely through any intersections, so pay attention to the traffic around you.
- You will be riding on a US Highway 83 for a short distance as well as FM and County Roads. Traffic will be the heaviest on the US Highway 83. There will be a large shoulder for you to ride on.
- Slower cyclists should stay closest to the right edge of the road to allow room for faster cyclists to pass easily to their left. When riding on narrow roads, and especially riding up climbs, leave gaps in between cyclists for cars to pass safely.

1. Where can I find information on the routes for Saturday and the Time Trial on Sunday?

All the route information for all rides can be found at our website – tourdegap.com. All the routes are linked to the Strava routes and/or plot my route found on their website. ***THE ROUTES CLOSE AT 1:30 PM!***

IT IS YOUR RESPONSIBILITY TO KNOW YOUR ROUTE!!

2. How are the routes marked? The routes are marked by color:

Green = 11 mile route **Blue** = 50K Route **Orange** = 100K Route

3. Why is there a change to the 100K route?

Due to construction on US83 south of Bradshaw for about 4 miles, we had to come up with another route that would provide the 100K distance. As noted above, please see tourdegap.com for details. This 100K route will have two loops (22 miles per loop) of nice county roads. We will also have a timing antenna at the start of the 2nd loop that will verify that riders completed the entire route.

****Please note: Riders on the 100K course will be expected to pass the checkpoint at the 31 mile distance by 10:30 a.m. That is the intersection of Lemons Gap Rd & CR207. Riders will be redirected to turn left on Lemons Gap Rd after that time instead of completing the second loop. This is to ensure that everyone has the chance to finish before the course closes at 1:30 p.m.***

4. Is this a timed event? Yes, all 3 routes on Saturday and the Time Trial on Sunday are timed. You are only eligible for competition prizes if you complete the 100K course and the Time Trial.



5. **How do riders line up at the start on Saturday?**
100K riders first – departure at 7:30 am
50K riders second – departure at 7:50 am
11-mile riders last – departure at 8 am

6. **How do the riders line up at the start on the Time Trial on Sunday?** We will take your results from the ride on Saturday and position you in a list of slowest to fastest riders. Example: If you finished first in the 100K you will go last in the TT. If you finished last in the 11-mile ride, then you will go first in the TT.

7. **Can we have a sprint finish at the finish line?** The Tour de Gap is a bike ride not a USA sanctioned race; however, we know that there is enjoyment in crossing the finish line first! What has been done in the past, especially with those who race the 100K, is to have a designated point in Buffalo Gap to sprint to, i.e., the Buffalo Gap city limits sign and then the riders will align themselves in the 1-2-3 order as they cross the finish line back at the pavilion area. On the 100K course this year, the Buffalo Gap city limits sign is right before the curve at the railroad tracks.

8. **Will the roads be closed to traffic?** NO...at all times riders must obey traffic laws and ride on the right-hand side or shoulders of the road. Riders must follow the instructions of sheriff deputies, course marshals, and volunteers.

9. **How many rest stops will be on the course?** There will be three (3) stations along the courses stocked with food, water, and medical supplies. These rest stops are located at the following roads:
#1 FM613/Rode Ranch Rd/Lemon Gap
#2 FM173/US Highway 83
#3 FM186 @ Moro VFD

10. **Are there any railroad tracks on the course?** YES...all three routes will cross over a railroad track at the start and near the end of their routes.
PLEASE NOTE....IF THE RAILROAD TRACK CROSSING SIGNALS ARE LOWERED
*******DO NOT CROSS OVER THE RAILROAD TRACKS*****!!!!!!!!!!**



- 11. Will there be a feed zone for those that are racing the 100K route?** Yes, there is a designated area on the 100K route ***JUST WEST OF LEMON GAP RD ON CR207 (across from the yellow/green oil tanks).*** **PLEASE NOTE – YOU MUST PROVIDE YOUR OWN SUPPORT FOR THIS FEED ZONE! OUR VOLUNTEERS WILL NOT BE PROVIDING SUPPORT! THOSE SUPPORTING THE RIDERS MUST STAY IN THE FEED ZONE AREA ON THE SOUTH SIDE OF THE ROAD.** *The feed zone area will be marked.*



- 12. Will there be restrooms at the start/finish and at the rest stops?** Yes, start/finish area as well as the rest stops will be equipped with port-a-potties.
- 13. Are there mechanics on the course?** We highly encourage all participants to know the basic safety and repair skills, including fixing a flat tire. Be prepared and bring your own CO² cartridge/pump and extra tubes for your bike.
- 14. Where do I pick up my start number, timing chip and goodie bag?** Packet pickup will be held at Bike Town on Friday, July 23rd from 10:00 AM to 6:00 PM and on the morning of the ride July 24th.
- 15. Can I pick up my packet the morning of the event?** Yes, but please plan to arrive extra early in case there is a line. Packet pickup will be open from 6 a.m. until 7 a.m. on Saturday July 24th.



- 16. What type of bike can I ride for the ride on Saturday?** We suggest using a road bike as it is the best option to ride in groups. You can also ride a mountain bike, touring bike, or single speed (with two brakes). A triathlon bike is fine if you keep your hands on the brake lever while riding in a group. E-bikes are allowed. Those riding an e-bike will not receive any awards if they ride the 100K route.
- 17. What type of bike can I ride for the Time Trial on Sunday?** Since this is a time trial with riders being released one (1) minute apart, a time trial bike or a triathlon bike will be acceptable since you will not be riding in a group. E-bikes are allowed; BUT results will not be counted in the final placement list for any prizes/awards.
- 18. What should I wear?** Helmets with buckled chin straps are a requirement for all riders and must be always worn. Headphones of any kind are not allowed. We encourage you to wear cycling shorts/bibs with jersey since these provide the most comfort and support for the distance.
- 19. Will there be water or ice or Gator Ade at the rest stops?**
Yes, we will have all fluids there for the riders.
- 20. What is the weather like on the day of the ride?** As you are aware, we are in West Texas and it does get warm. The average temperature on July 24 and July 25 ranges from a low of 74° to a high of 95° with primarily southwest winds. The average # of days it rains in July is 3. So, it will be warm and dry!
- 21. What is the schedule for the weekend?**
Visit our website at tourdegap.com for details
- 22. Where can I see the results of the ride?** All the results from the 2021 Tour de Gap will be posted on our website (tourdegap.com) and will be posted at the pavilion near the finish line.



23. Where can I park in Buffalo Gap? There are numerous places to park in and around Buffalo Gap. The map outlines some areas close to the Pavilion/Registration area that you can park. **WE ASK THAT YOU NOT PARK IN THE CENTER AREA WHERE THE PAVILION IS LOCATED. WE ALSO ASK THAT YOU BE RESPECTFUL OF THE LOCAL HOMEOWNERS IN BUFFALO GAP AND THEIR PROPERTY. THANK YOU!**



Buffalo Gap Elementary School Parking Lot



NO PARKING Start/Finish - Pavilion area

Other Parking Locations