



DAYTONA BIKETOBERFEST 2026 GROUP RIDE



THE ORMOND SCENIC LOOP

*A Gray Beard Biker Group Ride
Saturday, October 17th — Daytona Biketoberfest 2026
Sponsored by Lottie Bell's BBQ*

Ocean miles on A1A, a Texas-style BBQ lunch, then Old Florida: tidal marsh, oak tunnels dripping with Spanish moss, a 1830s sugar plantation burned in the Second Seminole War, and a live oak that was already old when the King's Road came through. Then we follow the Halifax River home and finish on Main Street. Relaxed pace, lots of photo stops, no interstates.

STAGING	RIDERS MEETING	KICKSTANDS UP	RIDE ENDS
Houligan's parking lot, across from the Speedway	11:00 AM	11:20 AM sharp	Main Street, about 3:00 PM

Where to find us: Houligan's Speedway, 1725 W International Speedway Blvd, right across the road from Daytona International Speedway. We meet in the **front of the parking lot, closest to International Speedway Blvd**. Houligan's opens at 11 AM if you want a drink or a bite before we roll.

The Day at a Glance

Time (approx.)	Stop	Time here
11:00 AM	Riders meeting, Houligan's parking lot	20 min
11:20 AM	Kickstands up: Speedway Blvd east, then A1A north	Rolling
11:50 AM	Lunch: Lottie Bell's BBQ, Ormond-by-the-Sea	About 1 hour
12:50 PM	High Bridge Rd and Walter Boardman Ln	Rolling
1:20 PM	Bulow Plantation Ruins Historic State Park	20 min
1:55 PM	The Fairchild Oak, Bulow Creek State Park	10 min
2:15 PM	Dummett Sugar Mill Ruins	5 min
2:20 PM	Old Dixie Hwy past Tomoka State Park	Rolling
2:35 PM	South along the Halifax River: Beach St and Riverside Dr	Rolling
3:00 PM	Ride ends on Main Street, Daytona Beach	

Times are planning estimates. Rally traffic can stretch them. We regroup at every named stop.



Know Before You Go

- **Fuel:** No planned fuel stop. Arrive at staging with a full tank.
- **Fees:** Bulow Plantation Ruins is \$4 per vehicle, so every bike pays. Pay by QR code at the entrance. Everything else on the route is free. Lunch is on your own tab.
- **Pace:** Relaxed sightseeing. This is a photo ride, not a race.
- **Walking:** Short walks only. Boots are fine everywhere on this ride.
- **Cameras:** We're filming for the Gray Beard Biker channel, including a BBQ review at lunch. If you'd rather stay off camera, tell Zachary at the riders meeting.
- **Get your action shot:** Rally photographers are normally out along this route, so this is a great chance to get a professional photo of you on your bike. Keep your spacing clean and your head up, and give them a wave when you see them.

SINGLE-FILE SECTIONS

WALTER BOARDMAN LANE is narrow, with barely room for two cars to pass. THE BULOW PARK ROAD is about a mile of one-lane, hard-packed dirt under the oaks, used by traffic in both directions. On both: single file, slow and steady, easy on the front brake, and watch for oncoming cars. Back to staggered only when the leader signals.

BIKETOBERFEST SATURDAY

The Loop is one of the rally's signature rides, so expect other groups on the road and in the parking lots. We move as one unit through stop signs and turns. Leave room, be patient, and follow the sweep's lead when parking.

RIDE NOTES

If you get separated, don't chase the group. Ride your pace to the next stop in this guide and we'll be there. GPS apps route differently, so follow the leader, not your screen. And always: ride your own ride.

THE MORNING | The Speedway, the Beach, and BBQ

Staging: Houligan's, Across from Daytona International Speedway

ETA: 11:00 AM meeting | Time here: 20 min

Before there was a speedway, Daytona raced on the sand. The famous Daytona 200 motorcycle race started in 1937 on a beach-road course here, running down the hard-packed beach and back up a public road. The Speedway opened in 1959, and the Daytona 200 moved inside to its infield course in 1961. That makes the Speedway across the road the bridge between Daytona's two racing eras.

This weekend the Speedway is a Biketoberfest hub, with motorcycle racing on the road course, the official Biketoberfest Welcome Center, and the Motorcycle Marketplace of vendors.

The shot: The group lined up in the Houligan's lot with the Speedway grandstands across the road.

Good to know: Fill your tank before you arrive. The meeting starts at 11:00, and we roll at 11:20.

A1A North: The Birthplace of Speed

ETA: 11:20 AM | Time here: Rolling

We run north on A1A, which Florida officially named the **Jimmy Buffett Memorial Highway** in 2024, fifty years after his album *A1A*.



As we cross Granada Blvd in Ormond Beach, look right toward the sand. On March 26, 1903, the first timed automobile speed trials were run on this stretch of Ormond Beach. Alexander Winton's *Bullet No. 1* took on a Ransom Olds car called the *Pirate*, and two days later Winton won the Ormond Challenge Cup by a fifth of a second. That's how Ormond earned the title "Birthplace of Speed." Henry Flagler's Ormond Hotel stood nearby, and its guests included Henry Ford, Harvey Firestone, Thomas Edison and John D. Rockefeller.

Good to know: Rally traffic and beach crossings. Stay staggered, keep your spacing, and watch for pedestrians.

Lunch: Lottie Bell's BBQ

ETA: 11:50 AM | Time here: About 1 hour

1452 Ocean Shore Blvd (A1A), Ormond-by-the-Sea. This is Texas-style barbecue smoked over mesquite wood brought in from Texas. Owners Brandell Campbell and Scotty Aycock started it as a food truck in 2020 and opened the restaurant in December 2023. It's named for Campbell's grandmother, who never let him and his brothers leave her house hungry.

Lottie Bell's is the **sponsor of today's ride**, so thank them when you order. Brisket, ribs and pulled pork are the headliners. Today is also a **Gray Beard Biker BBQ review**, so you may end up in the episode.

The shot: The plate before the first bite, and the bikes lined up out front on A1A.

Good to know: Everyone pays their own tab. It's a local spot, not a chain, so be patient with the kitchen.

MID-DAY | Marsh, Hammock, and the Plantation

High Bridge Road and the Ormond Scenic Loop

ETA: 12:55 PM | Time here: Rolling

We turn west off A1A at North Peninsula State Park and cross the Halifax River on the L.B. Knox Bridge, built in 1955. From there, High Bridge Road follows Bulow Creek through tidal marsh. It's the curviest stretch of the whole loop.

You're now on the **Ormond Scenic Loop & Trail**. Local residents pushed to protect these roads, and the Loop became a Florida Scenic Highway in 2007 and a National Scenic Byway in 2009. It strings together four state parks, marsh, maritime hammock and miles of beach.

The shot: Rolling footage along the creek, with marsh grass on one side and oaks on the other.

Good to know: The Knox Bridge is a drawbridge. If it's up, the whole group waits together.

Walter Boardman Lane

ETA: 1:05 PM | Time here: Rolling

About a mile of narrow two-lane through dense hammock of live oak, pine, cypress and palmetto. This is the Old Florida that existed before the condos, with Bulow Creek State Park trails running alongside.

Good to know: SINGLE FILE. Watch for sand and leaves in the shade.

Old Kings Road

ETA: 1:10 PM | Time here: Rolling

This road carries the name of the **King's Road**, the first graded road built in Florida. It began as a trail linking Timucua villages along the coast. The British turned it into a working road between 1763 and 1773 to serve the big coastal plantations, and U.S. Army engineers rebuilt it from 1828 to 1831. It ran from St. Marys, Georgia, down to New Smyrna. Plantations like Bulow's depended on it.



Bulow Plantation Ruins Historic State Park

ETA: 1:20 PM | Time here: 20 min

In 1821, Major Charles Wilhelm Bulow, a wealthy Charleston merchant, bought 4,675 acres along this tidal creek. Enslaved workers cleared 2,200 acres for sugar cane, cotton, rice and indigo. By the 1830 census, 197 enslaved people lived here in 46 cabins arranged in a semicircle around the main house. Their labor built and ran what became the largest sugar plantation in East Florida.

Bulow died at 44 and left everything to his teenage son, John Joachim Bulow, who had been schooled in Paris. On Christmas Day 1831, naturalist John James Audubon arrived and used "Bulowville" as his base for collecting birds for his book *Birds of America*.

Then came the Second Seminole War. John Bulow opposed the plan to force the Seminoles west of the Mississippi. When state militia marched onto his land, he fired a cannon at them, and he was taken prisoner. In January 1836, the plantation was burned, and the glow was reportedly seen from St. Augustine. It was never rebuilt. John Bulow died a few months later at 26.

What's left are the **coquina sugar mill ruins** (coquina is a stone made of compressed shells), wells, a spring house and the foundation of the mansion. The mill ruins are on the National Register of Historic Places.

The shot: The coquina arches and walls of the mill, framed by oaks and Spanish moss.

Good to know: \$4 per bike by QR code at the entrance. The park road is one-lane dirt, so ride it single file and slow. Restrooms are available. Some hiking trails are closed from storm damage, but the ruins path is open.

THE AFTERNOON | Old Dixie Highway

The Fairchild Oak, Bulow Creek State Park

ETA: 1:55 PM | Time here: 10 min

One of the largest live oaks in the South, estimated at more than 400 years old and about 70 feet tall. It stood here when the British built the King's Road, and it was standing when the Bulow plantation burned a few miles north. It's named for botanist **David Fairchild**, of Fairchild Tropical Botanic Garden fame, who admired the tree. It was named for him in 1955.

Bulow Creek State Park protects one of the largest remaining stands of southern live oak forest on Florida's east coast.

The shot: A group photo under the canopy. Climbing the tree is not allowed.

Good to know: Free admission, open 8 AM to sunset. Restrooms here. Some trails are closed from storm damage.

Dummett Sugar Mill Ruins

ETA: 2:15 PM | Time here: 5 min

In 1825, Colonel Thomas Dummett, a retired British Marine officer, assembled a plantation of about 2,000 acres here. His mill is believed to be the first steam-powered cane-crushing sugar mill in the area, and it made rum as well as sugar. Like Bulow's, it was burned in the Second Seminole War in 1836.

His son, Douglas Dummett, went on to become a Florida citrus pioneer. The ruins today are a wall of brick and coquina flanked by twin chimneys. Look for the historical marker: it misspells the name as "Dummitt."

The shot: The twin chimneys through the fence.

Good to know: Small roadside pull-off, no facilities. The ruins are fenced, so view them from the perimeter.



Old Dixie Highway and Tomoka State Park

ETA: 2:20 PM | Time here: Rolling

Old Dixie Highway carries the name of the Dixie Highway, the 1915-era auto route promoted by Carl Fisher to bring Midwesterners south to Florida. Today it's a moss-draped oak tunnel.

On the way south we pass Tomoka State Park, home of **Nocoroco**, a Timucua village site on the Tomoka River. A Spanish visitor, Alvaro Mexia, described it in 1605, and people used the site for thousands of years before that. The park's Tomokie Fountain sculpture, by Frederick Dana Marsh, depicts the local legend of Tomokie.

The shot: Oak-canopy rolling footage. This is the moss-and-shade stretch you came for.

THE RIDE HOME | Down the River to Main Street

Beach Street and Riverside Drive: the Halifax River

ETA: 2:35 PM | Time here: Rolling

Old Dixie becomes North Beach Street, and from here we follow the Halifax River south instead of cutting inland. As we cross Granada Blvd in Ormond Beach, we pass the heart of the speed era: the original Ormond Garage, known as "Gasoline Alley," was built in 1904 for the racers and mechanics working the beach. It burned in 1976, and a plaque marks the site at 113 E Granada Blvd, just east of the intersection.

Through Holly Hill, Riverside Drive runs right along the water, with the Halifax River Trail, riverside parks and fishing piers between us and the river.

The shot: Rolling footage with the river on your left: water, palms, and the bridges to the beachside.

Good to know: Neighborhood speeds and pedestrians along the river trail. Easy pace, stay together.

Main Street, Daytona Beach: Ride's End

ETA: 3:00 PM | Time here: Ride ends here

We cross the Halifax River on the Main Street Bridge and finish on Daytona's historic Main Street, one of the signature Biketoberfest spots and a rally tradition for Bike Week and Biketoberfest crowds alike.

The group ride officially ends at Main Street and A1A. Stay, eat, shop, and enjoy the rally.

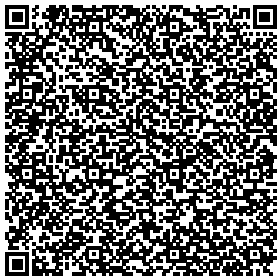
The shot: The group rolling across the Main Street Bridge, and the bikes lined up on Main Street.

Good to know: Main Street will be packed on rally Saturday, so park where you can and expect slow going. To get back to the Speedway, head west on International Speedway Blvd.



Turn-by-Turn

1. Leave the Houligan's lot and head **east on W International Speedway Blvd** through Daytona and over the Halifax River.
2. Turn **left (north) on N Atlantic Ave (A1A)**. Ride north along the ocean through Daytona Beach, Ormond Beach, and Ormond-by-the-Sea.
3. **Lunch:** Lottie Bell's BBQ, 1452 Ocean Shore Blvd (A1A), Ormond Beach.
4. Continue **north on A1A**, then turn **left (west) on High Bridge Rd**. Cross the Halifax River and follow the curves along Bulow Creek.
5. Turn onto **Walter Boardman Ln** and follow it through the hammock to **Old Dixie Hwy**.
6. Turn **right on Old Dixie Hwy** toward I-95, then turn **right (north) on Old Kings Rd S**. Watch for the Bulow Plantation Ruins sign and turn **right** onto the park road (dirt, single file).
7. Leave Bulow the same way. Turn **left on Old Kings Rd S**, then **left on Old Dixie Hwy** heading south.
8. **Fairchild Oak:** Bulow Creek State Park lot on Old Dixie Hwy, just south of Walter Boardman Ln.
9. Continue **south on Old Dixie Hwy** about 2 miles to the **Dummett Sugar Mill** pull-off (east side of the road).
10. Continue south past Tomoka State Park. Old Dixie becomes **N Beach St** along the Halifax River into Ormond Beach.
11. **Stay south along the river** through Ormond Beach (straight across Granada Blvd) and through Holly Hill on **Riverside Dr**.
12. Turn **left (east) across the Main Street Bridge** over the Halifax River and follow **Main St** to A1A. **Ride ends.**



Scan for the full route in Google Maps.

Once it opens, tap the three-dot menu, choose **Route options**, and turn on **Avoid highways**.

Route map and GPX file (Kurviger, Garmin, and other GPS apps):
graybeardbiker.com/rides

Questions on ride day? Text Zachary at 678.271.8870. Park hours and fees are current as of October 2026 and can change. Riders are responsible for their own fuel, food, fees and riding decisions.

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