

# TeamStrange Butt Lite Grand Tour Rules



(updated March 5, 2021)

TeamStrange Grand Tours are all about having another excuse to go out and ride your motorcycle to new and unusual places. In this year's Grand Tour, we're giving you the opportunity to ride an even Lighter version of the infamous Butt Lite Rally.

For those unfamiliar with Butt Lite, it was the tastes great, less filling version of the famed Iron Butt Rally, an 11-day, 1000-miles-per-day test of motorcycle and rider endurance. Butt Lite was created by Adam Wolkoff and the late Eddie James of TeamStrange Airheads and Minnesota 1000 fame. The first Butt Lite was held in 1999 and was 5 days long. Over the years it varied from 5, to 6, to 7 days, during which riders would ride over 1000 miles per day, through heat, cold, rain and wind, on a giant cross-country scavenger hunt to visit places weird, wonderful, and twisted. Adam and Eddie put on Butt Lite 1 through Butt Lite IIIII. After Eddie's passing, Lisa Erbes, Bart Bakker and David E.B. Smith picked up the ball and ran with it, putting on Butt Lite 6IX through IX. Butt Lite X was to be the last Butt Lite Rally, in the summer of 2020, but it was postponed and then cancelled because of the pandemic. TeamStrange promised riders a taste of what they missed, and this is it.

In this Grand Tour, you will have the opportunity to ride to Butt Lite bonus locations just as if you were riding in a real Butt Lite rally. Because riders never got to ride Butt Lite X, we've included (almost) all the bonuses from that rally. And because the bonuses in Butt Lite X were mostly in the western U.S., we're also including the bonuses from Butt Lite IX, which was mostly in the eastern U.S. (And for those not in the U.S., we have something as well). The good news is, you'll have more than 6 days to get to these bonuses!

If you ever wondered what it was like to ride in a rally like Butt Lite or the Iron Butt Rally, this is your chance to try it out, or get some practice, without the pressure of time and mileage.

Your entry includes a Grand Tour flag and sticker. Entry fee is \$45 for one or two up. GT flags and stickers will be mailed around April 1, and thereafter, upon sign up.

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## Butt Lite Grand Tour Rules

Finishing will earn you bragging rights, an Official Butt Lite Grand Tour finisher pin, and entries in the prize pool. Finishers will receive one entry into the prize pool for each bonus they visit.

Because of the ongoing pandemic and the unsettled situation in which we find ourselves with regard to travel, at this time we don't intend to officially rank riders on bonuses collected and we don't intend to award trophies based on finishing positions. This might change – we hope it does - and if it does, we'll let you know.

To be a finisher you must visit at least 20 bonus locations between April 15, 2021, through November 15, 2021, and document your visits.

For convenience, the list of bonus locations is divided into 5 parts – Leg 1 and Leg 2 of Butt Lite IX, Leg 1 and Leg 2 of Butt Lite X, and non-US bonuses. You can go pick and choose any of these you like from any or all of the 5 parts of the bonus list.

To make it like a real Butt Lite, we've also provided data files with the coordinates of all the bonus locations.

The bonus lists and data files are located here:

[https://www.dropbox.com/sh/u6z6661542495mb/AACeMPhgJVrc\\_-O9ehycMTeUa?dl=0](https://www.dropbox.com/sh/u6z6661542495mb/AACeMPhgJVrc_-O9ehycMTeUa?dl=0)

### **Butt Lite Grand Tour Documentation Rules**

1. You must physically ride your motorcycle to each location you claim.
2. You must document your visit to each location with a photo (or two).
3. You should read the bonus instructions carefully and closely. There will be different requirements for different bonuses.
4. This being Butt Lite, there will be many bonuses that you can't ride your motorcycle directly to. Many bonuses will require you to get off your motorcycle and walk to the bonus object, or to go inside a museum or other building to find the object.
5. Each bonus must be documented with a photo of the bonus object, with your rally flag, and a photo of your motorcycle at or near the bonus, with your rally flag.
6. Sometimes you'll be able to get the bonus object, your motorcycle, and your flag, all in the same photo, in which case you only need one photo. Sometimes you won't be able to – such as when the bonus object is inside a building – and then you'll need to submit two photos, one of the thing inside the building, with your flag, and another photo of your motorcycle outside or near the building, with your flag.

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7. You must include your physical Grand Tour flag in each and every photo unless we specifically say you don't. It must be your physical Grand Tour flag – not a copy, not a duplicate. If you lose your original physical Grand Tour flag, you may not collect bonuses until you contact us and arrange for and obtain a replacement.
8. You may add a reasonable number of additional photos for clarity and validation.
9. Sometimes Butt Lite bonuses required you to purchase something at the bonus location. That's also true in this Grand Tour. In those cases, there will be additional underlined text that tells you what to do. Generally, we will want you to visit the bonus location, purchase an item, then take a photo of the purchased object on your rally flag – plus a second photo of your motorcycle (with rally flag) to show that it is at the location.
10. Sometimes Butt Lite bonuses required you to answer a question. That's *not* true in this Grand Tour. For those, we'll want you to take a photo of the object – a sign, historical marker, etc. - from which you would have answered the question. Follow the instructions in the underlined text.
11. We left the point values in the bonus listings for your information, but ~~crossed them out~~. There are no point values for bonuses on this Grand Tour. You might consider, though, that bonuses might have been assigned high points because they were places that we really wanted riders to go to, or because they were really hard to get to, or both.
12. If there are bonuses that are entirely ~~crossed out~~, such as a combo bonus or the rest bonus, such bonuses are not available on the Grand Tour. But we do encourage you to rest during the Grand Tour!
13. Be safe and smart. If conditions or circumstances make capturing a photograph unsafe, unlawful, unwise, foolish, or will result in a ticket or safety violation, do not take the risk. Find a safe alternative to capture your photo or skip the opportunity.
14. Our judges are simple folk. If your photo(s) is/are not clear or you do not document your photo(s) in a way that our scorers can understand, you will not score points.
15. You may obtain one and only one *Wild Card* for the entire Grand Tour. What is a Wild Card? A Wild Card is a location for which there is not any of the acceptable evidence, or which is not on our list, but you make a compelling case for why we should give you points. What would we like? The bonus listings should tell you. If you document your visit and make a compelling case, we might give you points. What's a compelling case? It all depends on your creativity; this is your chance to break free from the constraints of the rules and live free. Points will be awarded entirely at the discretion of TeamStrange and the bar is set very high. You can submit as many Wild Cards as you want, but we'll only give you credit for one.

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16. You may submit your photos electronically/digitally or via the mail. Our first preference is that you send us a link to an online digital photo album such as SmugMug or Google Photos where all the photos are nicely captioned. Our second preference would be that you email us digital photos. Our least preference would be that you send us physical photos via the mail. All digital photos (or links to digital photo albums) must be submitted to [blgt@davidebsmith.com](mailto:blgt@davidebsmith.com). If you would prefer to mail your photos, please contact David E.B. Smith at [blgt@davidebsmith.com](mailto:blgt@davidebsmith.com) for the appropriate mailing address. Photos, disks, pen drive and anything else you mail will not be returned.
17. Submissions must be submitted or postmarked on or before November 16, 2021.
18. *Because of the pandemic and government restrictions imposed in response, we will ask that when you submit your location photos, you tell us where they were taken and the date you were there. If we determine that you went out or visited a location in violation of a stay at home order, we won't count any such location. You can use the bonus code to identify the bonus.*
19. The TeamStrange Uniform Rules do not apply to this Grand Tour.

### Q&A

1. **I rode in Butt Lite IX, I have to go back to the same places?** You don't *have* to do anything. You have the opportunity to ride to all the bonuses you didn't get to in Butt Lite IX (if anybody got to 60 of the 300 or so bonuses in the rally, we'd be surprised). And you get to ride all the Butt Lite X bonuses.
2. **Some of these are bonuses from Riding to Hounds, do I have to go back again?** You don't *have* to do anything. We'll note that there was one year in which the Iron Butt Iowa sign was on three rallies and riders potentially could have gone there three times. We'll also note that in the 2005 Iron Butt Rally, we rode I-70 all the way across Kansas three times in one week. We have a high threshold for monotony and repetition.
3. **Can I make up my own bonuses?** Other than possibly one Wild Card, nope. Last time there was no list of bonuses, this time there is a list of bonuses.
4. **Is there a rule that I can only collect one bonus from any city or town?** There is no such rule. That was the last Grand Tour. You can collect any bonus that's on the list. If you were at the Butt Lite pre-rally riders' meeting, this where the rallymasters would ask you "What rally is this?" and the riders would shout out "Butt Lite Grand Tour!"
5. **Can I use more than one motorcycle during this Grand Tour?** Yes, as long as you ride it there.
6. **Can I take my motorcycle on a trailer to a location and roll it off and submit the photo?** You would be better off leaving it on the trailer and having a really entertaining story for a Wild Card.

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7. **Can I trailer my dual sport motorcycle to a nearby town on vacation, and then ride it to a location that's 20 miles away and collect the bonus?** As we said in this context, the test is, would you be embarrassed to stand up in a room full of your fellow riders and say what you did? Collecting a nearby bonus while you're on a vacation with your motorcycle sounds reasonable to us.
8. **Do the hours listed on the limit the time I can claim the bonus?** No. You don't have to tell us what time you were at the bonus and we aren't putting a restriction on when you can be there. Where we have hours listed, it's for bonuses that are inside parks or museums or cemeteries that have listed hours of closure. If you get there and find the place is open, you can try to collect the bonus. (Note that there is at least one of these where we were there after the listed hours and got pulled over by the police, so . . .) Keep in mind that if you go somewhere at night, we have to be able to see the object, your flag, and your motorcycle in the photo. But also see the next FAQs . . . .
9. **What if I get to a bonus during the hours listed and it's not open?** This is probably a good place to note that at least one of the Butt Lite rallymasters have personally been to all these bonuses but it might have been 4 or 5 years since we've been there. Also there is this pandemic going on and hours of things are completely subject to change without notice. We've done the best we can to update the hours of availability but we know that as things re-open, this will change. Unlike Butt Lite, you have several months to plan your visit to these bonuses, so for bonuses that have limited hours of operation, you should check before you leave home. So you're not restricted to claiming bonuses in the hours we have listed, but if you get to a bonus and it isn't open at the time we thought it would be, or at the time they said they would be, that's unfortunate. You can document that it was closed when you got there and submit it as a Wild Card, and we might accept it. Probably not unless there's a good hard-luck story.
10. **Can I use alternative proof that I was there, like in Butt Lite?** Maybe! If you get to one of the bonuses and it is gone or moved or burned down or inaccessible due to construction, you can provide alternative proof – for example, a photo of the burned-down building, and a photo of a receipt for a can of Coke from a nearby store to show you were there – and we'll consider it. We won't consider it, though, for bonuses that are there but closed.
11. **What about the bonuses marked "Daylight"?** In Butt Lite, some bonuses were "daylight only" because we wanted riders to only go there during daylight, or because we *didn't* want riders going there at night. During a 6 day rally, riders have to collect a lot of bonuses at night; during a grand tour, not so much. There is no really good reason for you to go to any of these bonuses at night, and you'll miss things if you do, but we won't enforce the "daylight" restriction on this Grand Tour.
12. **Do I need to answer the questions on the bonuses?** No. There is no score sheet on which to write your answer, so no. We left them in for fun and to give riders a flavor of Butt Lite bonuses.

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If there is a question, you are not required to answer it to claim the bonus – we will have added some underlined text to tell you what to do.

13. **Do I need to buy something to claim a bonus?** There have traditionally been Butt Lite bonuses for which you needed to buy an object somewhere, get a receipt, and bring it to scoring. For those, we're asking you to buy something at the bonus location and send us a photo of it (and sometimes the receipt) with your rally flag. So for these bonuses you will send multiple photos: one photo of the object (and maybe receipt) sitting on your rally flag (with the number visible) and one photo of your motorcycle with your rally flag showing you are at the location. Depending on the object and your photo skills, you might be able to combine these into one.

Unlike the actual Butt Lite rallies, you can keep any object you purchase as a souvenir, you don't have to turn it in at the end of the rally. We have a lifetime supply of Bonneville Salt Flats can coozys from a previous rally and don't want any more stuff.

14. **Do I have to do these in any certain order? Do I have to pick one leg or one rally to do bonuses from?** No. You can pick any bonuses from BL IX Leg 1 and/or BL IX Leg 2 and/or BLX Leg 1 and/or BLX Leg 2 and you can do them anytime during the Grand Tour. We just didn't want to have a 200 page rally book.

Keep in mind while you're planning your route, the Butt Lite riders got the Leg 1 bonuses the night before the start, about 12 hours before departure, and they got the Leg 2 bonuses at the checkpoint, at the time of departure. So if you think this a lot of locations to plan, imagine getting a 50 page rally book and planning in real time to maximize points obtained over three days while finishing within the time window.

15. **What do I do with the bonus codes?** Nothing. If you want to use them to keep track of where you've been or as names for your photos, that would be great. It's possible, in fact likely, there are duplicate codes between BL IX and BLX.
16. **What's the deal with the data files? Do I need to use them?** No. The coordinates for all the bonus locations are provided in the bonus listings. Most Butt Lite riders like to use mapping programs such as BaseCamp or Streets & Trips to quickly plan their route, so we give them data files with all the coordinates so they can spend hours planning routes, not typing. They are helpful for trip planning and if you've ever thought you might like to ride in an LD rally, you can use these data files for practice.
17. **What if I'm in another part of the world and can't get to the U.S.?** We have a special bonus sheet for riders who are riding outside the U.S. If things change and you can get here to pick up U.S. bonuses, that would be great, and if things change and U.S. riders can get overseas to pick up those bonuses, that would be great too.
18. **I don't understand what I am doing at these bonuses!** Here's a couple of examples:

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15) Cassadaga, FL CAS 24 hours ~~280 points~~

Cassadaga is known as the Psychic Capital of the World, and has more spiritualists and seers per capita than any other town. It's also the subject of the Tom Petty song "Casa Dega", which is how it was brought to our attention. Thanks Kris!

Take a photo of one of the two pillars with the sign "Cassadaga Southern Spiritualist Camp" and a flower.

Cassadaga Rd/CR 4139 at Stephens St. Cassadaga is about 2 miles east of I-4, between exits 114 and 116.

Coordinates 28.96652, -081.23682  
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This bonus is located in Cassadaga FL, which is about 2 miles east of I-4, between exits 114 and 116. Specifically it's at Cassadaga Rd/CR 4139 at Stephens St, at coordinates latitude 28.96652, longitude -081.23682. It's there 24 hours. If you go there you will find two pillars which have a sign "Cassadaga Southern Spiritualist Camp" and a flower. You can take a photo of your motorcycle parked by the pillar with the sign, with your rally flag legibly visible. Or you can park down the block, walk to the sign, take a photo of the sign with your rally flag legibly visible, then walk back to your motorcycle and take a photo of your motorcycle with your rally flag showing you're in Cassadaga (maybe pointed toward the sign off in the distance).

Here's another one:  
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30) Brevard, NC WSB Mon-Sat 11 am - 5 pm; Sun 12 noon am - 5 pm. ~~360 points~~

Brevard is noted for its white squirrels, with as many as 1,600 of them residing in this cute little town. Apparently, Brevard's white squirrels originated in 1949 from an overturned carnival animal truck. These creatures became so prized that in 1986, the city council passed a law making Brevard a "sanctuary city" for squirrels. Other towns may claim to be white squirrel havens, but only Brevard hosts an annual festival in their honor.

~~Purchase any white squirrel-related item at the White Squirrel Shoppe and bring both the item and the receipt to the scoring table.~~ You may later keep whatever you purchase.

Take a photo of the item, your receipt, and your rally flag.

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2 W Main St.

Coordinates 35.23390, -082.73448

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This bonus, the White Squirrel Shop, is located in Brevard NC, at 2 W Main St, at the indicated coordinates. The White Squirrel Shop is open Mon-Sat 11 am - 5 pm, Sun 12 noon am - 5 pm (but you should verify the hours before you go). To claim the bonus, you must ride your motorcycle to the store, buy a white squirrel-related item (your choice, they have a lot of them), lay the item and the receipt for the item on your rally flag and take a photo, and then take another photo of your motorcycle near the store with your rally flag visible. You don't have to bring the item and the receipt to the scoring table because we crossed that out.