



CANADADRY

BERTIE SIMMONDS EXPERIENCES THE TRIP OF A LIFETIME WITH
ROCKY MOUNTAIN MOTORCYCLE HOLIDAYS AND DISCOVERS HIS OWN
TWO-WHEELED UTOPIA

Today is that Special Day. I'm living my dream where solid cretaceous rock and sweet-smelling pine has replaced the central reservation and foul-smelling carbon monoxide. I'm heading through the Monashee Pass somewhere between Kelowna and Nelson in beautiful British Columbia heading towards the Rocky Mountains.

I've always wanted to see the Rockies and now I'm on my way. The sun is warm on my leathers and beneath me my Triumph Tiger is purring contentedly. I'm part way through a 1700-mile seven-day trip through some of the most beautiful, unspoilt scenery on God's Earth. Many claimants have come forward for God's Own Country – New Zealand, Australia and even Yorkshire claim the title – but today I'm sure He is resident here.

My adventure started in Whistler, which is home to Rocky Mountain Motorcycle Holidays (RMMH). Formed over a decade ago, the company prides itself on its luxury motorcycle tours that are geared solely to the enjoyment of guests who want to ride some of the world's most beautiful roads with stunning backdrops, while staying at the best hotels and eating the most exciting cuisine that Canada and North America can offer. Stir into the mix a stunning array of Triumph motorcycles, such as the Triumph Tiger, Speed Triple and Sprint ST, and you have an intoxicating mix that adds up to the holiday of a lifetime.

On day one, we leave our excellent hotel astride a selection of Triumph's finest all set for our eastbound trip down the majestic Duffy Lake road. One thing that strikes you about Canada when you ride its roads is that it

seems the place is only sparsely inhabited. Small, charming towns materialise on our route and demonstrate that people do actually live up here, but it serves as a reminder that there are only an average of 2.5 Canadians per square kilometre. It gives a European a refreshing sense of the sheer size of the North American continent. Animals are not so hard to spot. More than once we've stopped to witness mountain deer, coyotes and we've even spotted bear tracks on one of our many scheduled stops.

Everything on this tour is luxury and nothing is too much trouble. Our guides are friendly, helpful and a mine of information on the local areas we're visiting. Here it needs to be explained why it's a luxury tour. All of the hotels we've visited so far have been some of the best I've ever visited and the food is simply amazing. Pretty much everything is paid for in the cost of the trip, and even half way through the journey my leathers

IT'S BEEN A HELLUVA TRIP, PERHAPS THE FINEST ROAD TRIP OF MY LIFE. I'VE FALLEN IN LOVE WITH CANADA, ITS SIGHTS, SOUNDS, FOOD AND PEOPLE. I DON'T WANT TO GO HOME AND I KNOW THAT OTHERS HAVE FELT THE SAME

were becoming even snuggler than they were before. The luxury even extends to a support truck so large it covers two time zones – it has to be that big as it's carrying our luggage, spare waterproofs and even spare bikes.

My fellow guests and I are constantly swapping machines. This is something unique to RMMH and something the guides encourage. Want to try the Tiger, but you booked the Speed Triple for the holiday? No problem. Want the guide's bike? Again, just ask, nothing is too much trouble for these guys. You can also ride at your own pace. Go ahead if you want, secure in the knowledge that the support truck and guide are right behind you.

Finally, on day four, the Rockies hove into view. You can't help but be impressed by the majesty of them. Born from a shallow tropical sea 500 million years ago, the Rocky Mountains form the backbone of the North American continent and dominate life for miles around. It's been a helluva trip, perhaps the finest road trip of my life. I've fallen in love with Canada, its sights, sounds, food and people. I don't want to go home and I know that others have felt the same.



WIN A ROCKY MOUNTAIN MOTORCYCLE TOUR



AN AMAZING PRIZE FOR MOTORCYCLE NUTS: 'WESTERN CANADA IN A WEEK' – A LUXURY SEVEN-DAY RIDE TRAVERSING THE STUNNING LANDSCAPE OF CANADA, FROM THE COAST MOUNTAINS TO ARID INTERIOR, PRISTINE LAKES OF THE KOOTENAYS TO THE MAJESTIC CANADIAN ROCKIES, CLOCKING UP AN AVERAGE 360KM DAILY...

THE PRIZE INCLUDES:

- Bike rental for one rider and one passenger
- Shared upscale accommodation plus gourmet meals for two
- Motorcycle insurance, fuel and bike exchange option
- Guides, maps and airport transfers

*The prize does not include flights to Vancouver

Rocky Mountain Motorcycle Holiday owners are the Douglas family, who also fell in love with the roads, the scenery and then the company itself, taking over RMMH during 2006. Brandon Douglas is president and head guide, and was one of the original guides on the Rocky Mountain Tours. His brother Tyler is in charge of marketing, whilst his mother Diana is co-owner of the company. She fell in love with the area when she went on the tour as a pillion rider. She came back time and time again and eventually bought the company.

The ten tours that comprise the 2008 season cover most of Western Canada and the West Coast of the United States, even taking in a trip to Las Vegas in the 'Sea to Sin City' tour. Every year the company prides itself in listening to the feedback from the customers to introduce new locations and routes. The tours range from seven to 15 days and are priced between \$3,950 and \$13,950, not including flights. All prices are in Canadian dollars and there is a handy currency converter on the website so you can work out which trip best suits your pocket. Office Manager extraordinaire Libby can also help you find the best flights into Vancouver before your trip to Whistler and the RMMH HQ.

The best indicator as to whether you've got the formula right is if people keep coming back and currently around 30 to 40 per cent of people on the tours are returnees. After my week in the saddle with the RMMH crew I know why so many come back, and why the Douglas family bought the company. I may not be able to afford a takeover bid, but I'm already saving for my return visit. And you can't get a better recommendation than that.

For more details check out www.rockymtnmoto.com

Terms and Conditions: 1. The prize is open to all Triumph Magazine readers aged 18 years or over, except employees of Triumph Motorcycles Ltd, Rocky Mountain Motorcycle Holidays Ltd, and FMS Publishing. 2. The prize is the 2008 'Western Canada in a Week' tour, running twice in 2008 in late May/early June and late July/early August. The winner must redeem the prize on one of these tour dates, subject to availability, with bikes on a first-come, first-served basis. 3. The prize includes shared accommodation, gourmet meals, motorcycle rental, insurance and fuel, chase vehicle access for all luggage and spare motorcycles, guides, maps, and airport transfers for one rider and one passenger. Room taxes, service charges, any alcohol consumption, meals on off-days/transit days and other incidentals are not included. The winner must bring suitable bike gear and helmet. 4. In the case of a lack of tour availability or a scheduling conflict, the winner will be entitled to CAD\$9,200 credit with Rocky Mountain Motorcycle Holidays to redeem against another tour of equal or lesser value. If the winner chooses a holiday of greater value they will be responsible for paying the difference in cost. 5. The winner retains the option to upgrade the advertised prize to a longer tour or to include a second rider, an additional room or additional motorcycle by paying the difference in price from the prize, valued at CAD\$9,200. 6. Only one entry per person. 7. There is no cash alternative to the prize and it cannot be used in conjunction with any other offer. In the case of cancellation or where a lower value tour is redeemed, there is no cash-back alternative. 8. The closing date for applications is 14 January 2008. 9. The prize draw will be made on 19 January 2008 and the winner will be notified by post within seven days. 10. All entrants must agree to participate in any publicity. 11. Details of the winner will be available by sending a stamped addressed envelope to FMS Publishing, New Barn, Fanhams Grange, Fanhams Hall Road, Ware, Hertfordshire, England SG12 7QA. 12. Triumph Motorcycles Ltd, Rocky Mountain Motorcycle Holidays Ltd, and FMS Publishing will not enter into correspondence regarding any aspects of the prize. 13. Triumph Magazine reserves the right to amend, alter or withdraw the promotion at any time without prior notice.

TO ENTER SIMPLY FILL IN THE TWO SIDES OF THIS FORM AND POST TO THE ADDRESS LISTED OVERLEAF

TITLE _____

FIRST NAME _____

SURNAME _____

MIDDLE INITIAL _____

DATE OF BIRTH (dd/mm/yy) ____/____/____

TEL: (+int code) _____

EMAIL _____

STREET ADDRESS _____

CITY _____

COUNTY / STATE _____

POSTAL / ZIP CODE _____

COUNTRY _____

PROFESSION _____

WHICH MOTORCYCLE(S) DO YOU OWN?
(make / model / year)

_____/_____/____

_____/_____/____

_____/_____/____

WHEN ARE YOU INTENDING TO PURCHASE
YOUR NEXT MOTORCYCLE? (months)

WHICH TRIUMPH MODEL(S) ARE YOU
PARTICULARLY INTERESTED IN?

WHO IS YOUR LOCAL / PREFERRED
TRIUMPH DEALER?

WOULD YOU BE INTERESTED IN ATTENDING
TRIUMPH ORGANISED EVENTS?

YES NO

