



Great Ohio Bicycle Adventure

GOBA Digest #1

Welcome to the Great Ohio Bicycle Adventure (GOBA) 2024!
You're receiving this e-mail because you're registered for the 2024 ride.

Thank you for your continued support of the Great Ohio Bicycle Adventure - presented by Columbus Outdoor Pursuits!

As most of you know, we faced significant organizational and operation challenges in the past few years due to the pandemic. But, through your generous patience and support, we're confident that GOBA will be rolling for years to come!

Please listen to, read, and digest the updates and guidance we'll provide over the next few weeks. **We will try to set clear expectations for various components of the tour.** For example - we'll have some longer stretches between rest/food stops this year. And due to the very remote nature of our adventure, the availability of food choices might be limited. However, the cycling routes are beautiful and many of the rest/lunch stops will surprise and delight you.

We plan to ***e-mail you several times in the upcoming weeks before GOBA*** - look for:

- Basic preparation and GOBA "vibe"
- Basic itinerary
- More details for each host community, entertainment, food, etc
- More details about routes & attractions/food on the routes
- Final check-in procedures
- Final routes by June 12th (for download to GPS devices & printing at home)

GOBA check-in:

GOBA+1 & GOBA Weekend riders only - Friday June 14th – 3pm – 8pm.

All GOBA riders - Saturday June 15th - 7am - 8pm

Preble County Fairgrounds
722 S Franklin St, Eaton, OH 45320

The exact building & traffic flow map will be provided later.
Late Check-in will also be available Sunday & Monday

Basic preparation – please review these three webpages for procedures, guidelines, and tons of answers to all your questions on what to bring and how to survive. (click on the link)

1. [“How to GOBA”](#) – webpage includes basic guidelines...lots of them!
2. [“GOBA Camp Rules”](#) – webpage includes more details about the camping arrangements.
3. [“The Way to GOBA: Rider Handbook”](#) – A comprehensive handbook of operating standards, packing list, etc. This version is somewhat dated (from 2019), but contains a lot of relevant information.
4. Make sure your bicycle is in good working order.
5. Make sure your body is in good working order.
6. **Bring your cheerful disposition and adventurous spirit!!**

GOBA website update:

Columbus Outdoor Pursuits, the host organization for GOBA, is near completion of a much-needed website update! ***We expect to “flip the switch” to the new site next week.*** The links above will continue to point you to the new site after that happens. But, most importantly, you'll find ***GOBA information will be much better organized and navigable!***

The GOBA vibe – this is a good segue to explain one of the principal objectives and expectations of GOBA. ***This tour was created to introduce cyclists to often-unexplored regions of Ohio, and to allow these communities to showcase their unique offerings and warm hospitality.*** GOBA riders, in turn, provide economic support to the local businesses and organizations that roll out their hospitality. These local organizations (youth, adult, civic, church, etc) generate meaningful support for their local activities, and hopefully are left with a warm feeling for cyclists after we leave. As cyclists on the road, we can use all the love and respect we can generate...yes? ***So – support the local offerings*** for breakfasts on site, snack & lunch stops, and dinners at the local

eateries. When you see the compiled list of all the groups/organizations that have benefitted - you'll get the vibe!

The GOBA vibe - part 2 - Bring CASH! Lots of small, manageable denominations. Most of the local organizations will be swamped....serving a GOBA rider every 20 seconds for a crazy hour or so. **Assume that all your transactions will be in CASH.** (except for dinner restaurants in Oxford & Hamilton)

Basic Itinerary for the Week

Friday June 14: Eaton

- Check-in and set camp for GOBA+1 and GOBA Weekend riders

Saturday, June 15: Eaton

— Optional (must pre-register) Buckeye Bridge Ride presented by the Preble County 4-H group to support their Scholarship Fund. Saturday evening - Community Fun Festival in Eaton with food, games, attractions, and live entertainment.

Sunday, June 16: Layover day in Eaton (optional loops)

— 39 & 52, Loop to Lewisburg and Brookville (OH) with your first opportunity to find donuts.

Monday, June 17: Eaton to Oxford

— 36 & 54 miles, More donuts and a side trip into Indiana for the longer route. Family fun and entertainment at the GOBAville camp in Oxford.

Tuesday, June 18: Oxford (optional loops)

— 56 & 105 miles, Century day!! This is a challenging and beautiful loop into Indiana. You might find some shortcuts or other loops around Oxford. Salsa festival in Oxford Tuesday night.

Wednesday, June 19: Oxford to Hamilton

— 33 & 61 miles, Long route through Brookville (IN) and both routes visit the premier point of interest for the week - Pyramid Hill Sculpture Park near Hamilton. GOBA pays the entry fee and you'll be dazzled by this installation! Entertainment at the Urban Hub Brewery this evening.

Thursday, June 20: Layover day in Hamilton (optional loops)

— 37 & 64 miles, north through beautiful parks with covered bridges and great views. The pm rest stop is at a winery that serves BBQ! Thursday evening concert on the riverfront in Hamilton.

Friday, June 21: Hamilton to Arcanum

— 54 miles to the original home of the Tour de Donut. We'll provide a pasta feast and host the popular Talent Show in GOBAville. Oh, and there's a beer festival right next to camp!

Saturday, June 22: Arcanum to Eaton

— 30 miles, GOBA will provide a breakfast about 10 miles into the route. Then, its time to finish where we started.

Route details and mileages are approximate and subject to change. Final routes, attractions and food stops will be provided the week prior to GOBA.

2024 CAMPGROUNDS

- Friday, Saturday, & Sunday, nights, June 14-17: Eaton - Preble County Fairgrounds, 722 S Franklin St, Eaton, OH 45320
- Monday & Tuesday nights, June 17-19: Oxford - Tri Community Center Park 6025 Fairfield Rd, Oxford, OH 45056
- Wednesday & Thursday nights, June 19-21: Hamilton - Butler County Fairgrounds 1715 Fairgrove Ave, Hamilton, OH 45011
- Friday night, June 21-22: Arcanum - Ivester City Park, Park Cir Dr, Arcanum, OH 45304

Stay tuned for more in the coming days!

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GOBA is delivered by Columbus Outdoor Pursuits. We provide safe and full service bicycle and outdoor adventures that help build knowledge, experience and fitness that will create lifetime memories with friends.



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