

One of the Northwest's best!

Gran Fondo Kootenai

Saturday, July 1 – Sunday, July 2, 2017

Held under USA Cycling Event Permit 



Sanctioned by the Montana Bicycle Racing Association

Gran Fondo Kootenai is a 2-day, chip-timed, supported bicycle ride through the spectacular landscapes of Montana's remote northwest corner. You'll pedal lightly-trafficked scenic byways in the shadows of the Cabinet Mountains, cruise along serene Lake Kooconusa, and glide through the legendary Yaak Valley.

With an included Saturday-night stay, you can treat this ride like a miniature stage race or a quick, two-day tour. Hand us your extra gear at the start line, and we'll have it waiting for you at each day's finish. Simply enjoy the superb cycling, the beautiful surroundings and the great camaraderie.

Gran Fondo Kootenai provides many fine challenges; you can make it as competitive or as casual as you wish. Race it all-out, or have a leisurely spin – the choice is yours!

Proceeds from the event benefit charitable organizations in Libby, Eureka, and Troy, Montana.

The Courses:

Day 0: Kootenai River Road ride, 17 miles, 512' gain

We'll lead an optional, easy fun-ride on gentle roads which we don't cover during the regular fondo.

<http://ridewithgps.com/routes/14749897>

Day 1: Libby to Eureka, 76 miles, 4700' gain, 3 aid stations. Continuously rolling terrain with superb lake vistas.

<http://ridewithgps.com/routes/1307346>

Day 2: Eureka to Libby, 96 miles, 5900' gain, 5 aid stations. Stellar climbs and fun descents through lush forests.

<http://ridewithgps.com/routes/1309303>

Event Schedule: (all listed times are **Mountain Daylight Time**)

Day 1: Saturday, July 1

<i>Registration/check-in/gear drop-off</i>	<i>7:30-8:30 a.m.</i>
<i>Pre-ride meeting</i>	<i>8:45 a.m.</i>
<i>Start</i>	<i>9:00 a.m.</i>
<i>Dinner</i>	<i>6:00-8:00 p.m.</i>

Day 2: Sunday, July 2

<i>Breakfast</i>	<i>6:00-7:30 a.m.</i>
<i>Check-in/gear drop-off</i>	<i>7:00-7:45 a.m.</i>
<i>Pre-ride meeting</i>	<i>7:50 a.m.</i>
<i>Start</i>	<i>8:00 a.m.</i>
<i>Post-ride celebration</i>	<i>3:00-5:00 p.m.</i>

Support: Neutral mechanical support will be provided during and after each day's ride. Service vehicles will patrol the routes, but riders are advised to carry pumps/spares to avoid protracted waits for assistance. Nutritional support (i.e., snacks and fluids) will be provided at food/aid stations positioned along each day's route.

Rules: The courses will be open to motorized vehicles. Riders must obey the rules of the road – especially at intersections – unless otherwise advised by officials, course marshals, or law enforcement personnel. Riders must, at all times, stay to the right of the centerline. Participants must wear helmets and assigned numbers while riding.

Accommodations & Extra Gear: On Saturday night, we'll camp outdoors (or inside the gymnasium) at the Eureka High School. Showers and restrooms will be available. Riders should pack extra clothes, toiletries, a towel, and camping gear in a duffle bag. Overnight gear and clothing will be transported from start to finish each day. A limited amount of indoor lodging (motels and B&Bs) is available in Eureka – at participants' own expense – for those who don't wish to camp. We will transport gear to these ancillary locations, if requested.

Meals: In addition to the nutritional support offered during the actual riding portions of the event, in Eureka we'll enjoy a great catered dinner on Saturday night and a sumptuous breakfast on Sunday morning. As with the overnight accommodations, additional dining opportunities exist at nearby Eureka restaurants for those who desire or need other gastronomic options.

Awards: Top age-group finishers (lowest two-day combined times) will be recognized at the post-event celebration. All participants are eligible for draw prizes; you must be present to win.

Registration: \$200 entry fee for early registrants (through June 15), \$250 (June 16-June 29), \$275 on day of ride. Includes overnight accommodations, meals, gear transport, and support during the rides. Pre-registration deadline: 10:00 p.m. MDT, Thursday, June 29, 2017. Note: USA Cycling annual or one-day licenses are **not** required for this event. Register here: <https://gfkootenai.redpodium.com/gran-fondo-kootenai>

Directions: The Saturday start location is at the Libby Chamber of Commerce located at Fireman's Park, just off US Hwy. 2 (at Mahoney Road). Registration, check-in, staging, parking, water, toilets, etc. will be located there.

More Info: Additional details on lodging and meals, maps, answers to FAQs, and an entire event summary may be found at: www.gfkootenai.com

Questions? Contact John Weyhrich, (406) 241-2829 or gfkootenai@yahoo.com