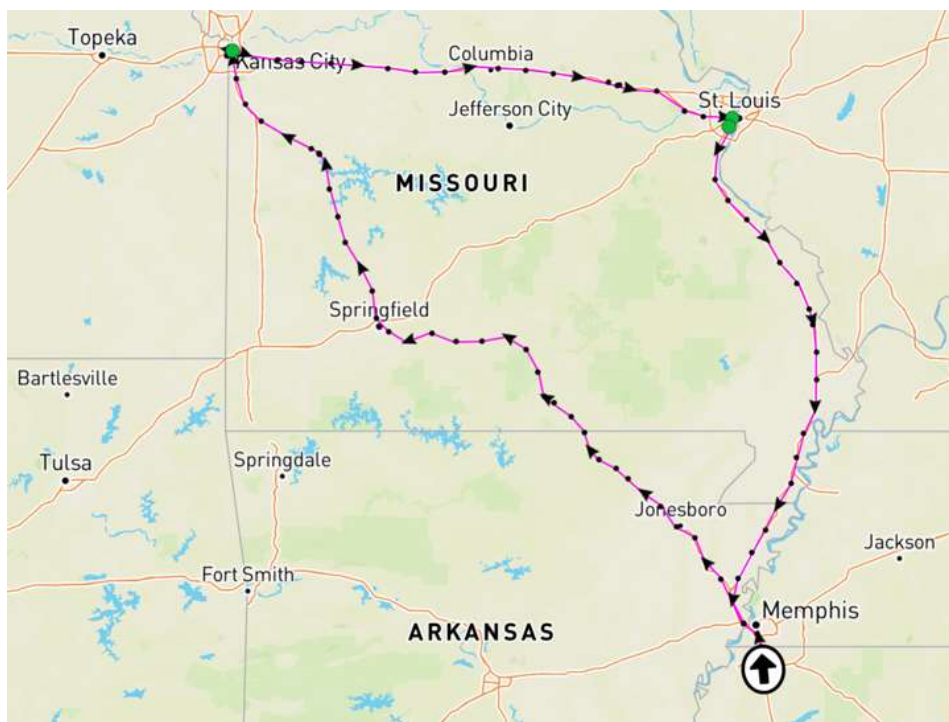


BBQ 1000 Silver



Memphis – Kansas City – St Louis – Hernando 1,018 Miles

What do you do when you are craving some BBQ? You ride 1,000 miles to sample BBQ from each of the top three BBQ cities in the nation! And, you do it in one day!

The Iron Butt Association (IBA) is an organization dedicated to long distance motorcycle riding! They offer a plethora of different long-distance challenges for anyone to attempt.

When I read about the BBQ challenge, I thought what great way to attempt this challenge than to visit Memphis, Kansas City and St. Louis as destinations!

Iron Butt Association (IBA) Rules:

Bar-be-Quest Rides – For Meat Lovers- Vegans need not apply

This ride celebrates the long-distance rider's favorite RTE theme.

ALL rides must start and end at a non-national chain restaurant with the word "Barbeque" or "B-B-Q" or "Bar-b-que" or some other spelling of the word.

*Bar-be-Quest 1000 SILVER - Eat at 4 barbeque restaurants - 24 hours***

Each meal must be at least 200 miles apart.

***We recognize that few if any BBQ restaurants are open 24/7, we will permit one WILDCARD to be used in place of the photo of you eating some BBQ. To use the wildcard, you may take a picture of your bike in front of a closed BBQ restaurant, not closer than 200 miles from any of your other pictures, and supply a DBR from that city*

You may take any route you like.



2:57 am Wildcard Start

Back in July, a new friend, Chris O'Neal, became interested in completing an Iron Butt ride. I had the BBQ 1000 on my short list of IBA rides to attempt. So, I asked Chris if he was interested in this ride. He was! The next thing was to find a date that would work for both of us. Sept. 11, 2021 was the day!

Our strategy was to start at Memphis BBQ Company in Horn Lake, MS (a Memphis Suburb), then ride to Kansas City for our first meal, on to St. Louis for our second meal, then finish up in Hernando, MS with our third meal. To fit all

these locations in during business hours, we needed to leave at 3:00 am. This plan worked perfect!

Chris and I both showed up at the Memphis BBQ Company a few minutes early. We parked the bikes in front of the building. I got out my tripod and took our required photo. Then, we rode across the street to the Exxon station for an official start receipt. Official start time 2:57 am. We jumped on I-55 north and headed out!

If possible, I like to plan the most difficult part of the ride at the beginning while I'm fresh. In this case, the route from Jonesboro, AR through Hardy, AR up to West Plains, MO would be a lot of curvy two-lane roads. After that, it would be mainly expressway or interstate the rest of the trip.

We made great time on this leg since it was early with not much traffic to slow us down. It was dark as we snaked through the two-lane roads. The temperature crept down to 64 degrees in the Ozarks. The heated grips came in handy!

We noticed an American flag display in Imboden, AR. Chris found out later it was a traveling display within the state for Arkansas Fallen Heroes. What a great way to recognize these soldiers!

Eventually, the two-lane roads turned into 4-lane divided highway, then I-49 north the rest of the way into Kansas City. Life was good!



Tribute to Fallen Heroes

Our first stop was Joe's Kansas City BBQ in Kansas City, KS, but it was too early! Joe's didn't open until 11:00 am and it was 10:00 am. Luckily, I had several backup locations in the GPS just in case. Second choice was Arthur Bryant's BBQ just a few miles away in Kansas City, Missouri. They opened at 10:30 am. We walked in at 10:36 am. Perfect timing!



Arthur Bryant's in Kansas City

We ordered our meal at the window and sat down, then took the required photos of us with our BBQ meals before eating. I had the burnt ends. They were awesome! Chris enjoyed his 3B sandwich of brisket, burnt ends and onion rings. Afterward, we took the required photos of the receipt next to our bike odometers. Next stop... St. Louis!

We jumped on I-70 eastbound. It was a beautiful sunny day! The temperature peaked at 88 degrees. Other than the typical city traffic, the 4-hour ride over to St. Louis was uneventful.

In St. Louis, we stopped at the BBQ Saloon. It was 3:30 pm. The bar was open, but food wouldn't be served until 4:30 pm. Again, good thing I was prepared with a couple other backups! Smoking Barrels BBQ was the next choice. Like before, the next location was only a few miles away.

Good for us, no one else was in the place at 3:30 in the afternoon. We ordered. When our food arrived, we took the required photos, then enjoyed our meal! I had the rib plate. The sweet sauce was excellent! Chris had the spicy chicken plate. Another good choice! We took the required photos of our receipts next to our bike odometers before leaving. We were making great time!



Smoking Barrels in St Louis

From here, we jumped on I-55 southbound. Again, the typical city traffic on the interstate. As we rode

out of the metro area, I-55 traffic thinned out. Ride on!

On the way to Hernando, I thought about our route. I wondered how the BBQ location changes might affect our mileage. So, I called Don Yates at home. I told him that I needed to know what Google Maps calculated the total distance from Memphis BBQ Company to Arthur Bryant's BBQ to Smoking Barrels BBQ to Uncle Bubba's BBQ in Hernando. Don looked it up and said it was 1,013 total miles. Awesome! Now, if Chris' odometer reads at least 1,000 miles when we arrive at Uncle Bubba's we'll be good to go. If not, we'll need to ride to Coldwater for a receipt and back to Uncle Bubba's to add another 12 miles. Fortunately, Chris' odometer was well over the 1,000-mile requirement. All is good!

Karen and Kathy (Chris' wife) were at Uncle Bubba's to meet us! We had a great time telling them about our ride! Plus, a band was playing as we sat outside and enjoyed our final BBQ meal. I had the BBQ chicken, while Chris had the sampler platter of burnt ends, rib tips and chicken wings. The food was awesome! Official end time 8:53 pm.

What better way to enjoy a BBQ ride than to go to the top 3 BBQ cities: Memphis, Kansas City and St. Louis! The weather was awesome all day! And, Chris became a new Iron Butt member! How cool is that!



Uncle Bubba's in Hernando

2019 BMW R1250GSA

Distance: 1,018 miles

Time: 17 hrs, 56 min.

Average Speed: 56 mph

Fuel Used: 30.114 gal

Fuel Mileage: 33 mpg

Low Temperature: 64°

High Temperature: 88°