

# West Virginia Lunch Ride



**Hungry for a Hot Dog!**

I've heard of Hillbilly Hotdogs for years and wanted to visit one day. Well, another event that we had on the calendar was cancelled due to a COVID spike in Wisconsin. I had already asked for the day off, so where do I go? Hillbilly Hotdogs! That should be a nice ride this time of the year!

Let's see... 585 miles one way, so there and back would be 1,170 miles. That would be about 9 hours each way. If I leave between 2:00 – 3:00 am, I should get there at lunch time.

I was up just before the alarm was to go off at 2:00 am. I jumped in the

shower to wake up. Out the door and got my official start receipt at the local Shell station on Commerce street in Hernando. Start time: 2:38 am.

It was 54 degrees as I left Hernando. Warmer than I thought it would be this time of night. The temperature would slowly cool down to 42 degrees by sunrise. I added an extra layer over my Warm n Safe electric jacket liner. This extra layer helps retain the heat produced by the electric liner.

During a recent ride up in Minnesota, I only had the electric jacket liner under my Klim jacket.

When temps are in the lower 40's and upper 30's, the heat can bleed through the Klim jacket. So, I made note to add another layer to prevent this next time. This allowed the electric jacket to be much more efficient at a lower setting.

As I rode along I-269, I switched on the Clearwater Erica auxiliary lights. These babies light up the highway! Extremely helpful when there is no other traffic around. 40 miles later, I exited onto I-40 east and kept rolling!

Between Jackson and Nashville, TN, I did see a deer standing along the left shoulder of the interstate. She was wanting to cross the road. How did she get over in the median?? She had to cross the road at some point. Now, she is ready to cross back. And, there was quite a bit of traffic on the road now! Hopefully, she didn't cause an accident.



I enter the Nashville area between 5:30 and 6:00 am. I take the 155 loop around to I-65 north to avoid

all the downtown traffic. Once on I-65 traffic was thick but slowly thinned out the farther north I traveled. Near Bowling Green, the traffic thickened again. I was glad to exit onto the Blue Grass Parkway heading east, very little traffic! The sun was shining, and temperatures were warming up!

The BGP is a great road! The weather was awesome! I really enjoyed the ride to Lexington. You ride along part of the bourbon trail and through horse country. Some of the horse farms are just beautiful!

Riding through Lexington, I noticed this huge castle! What is that? Does someone live there? I GTS'd (Google That Stuff) it later. Turns out, it's a resort! (Hotel, restaurant, spa, etc.) Looks like rooms start at around \$500 a night!



After a few road changes to get onto I-64 east, I ride out of the blue grass rolling hills into a little more rugged country. A great day to be on the bike! I enjoyed the ride over to West Virginia! Hillbilly Hotdogs is only 20 miles from the state-line on the east side of Huntington.

I arrive at 12:45 pm Eastern time. I forgot that I would lose an hour. There were only a couple cars in the parking lot and another motorcycle. I park and walk around the area. This place reminds me of "The Shed" down in Ocean Springs, MS! The Shed is a BBQ place, whereas this is a hot dog place. Same concept! Dumpster diver decorations/ambiance. It's funky, but different. Places like this can have a charm about them or just be a junk pile. This seemed to have some appeal to it. Maybe it was the huge hot dog!



After walking around, I see the big hot dog. Since not many are here, I better park the bike by it now and get some pics. Glad I did! The place was booming with people by the time I left.

Since people were starting to arrive, I move the bike back to the parking lot and go order my food. There is a huge variety of hot dogs that can be ordered. They also serve hamburgers. I order two West Virginia dogs, breaded cauliflower, and some blackberry cobbler. The hot dogs included chili, mustard, onions and coleslaw.

I get my food and walk up to the upper deck to eat alone. Everyone else was gathering down below. I stay away from the crowds and enjoy the sunshine while I eat my hot dogs. I didn't care for the cauliflower. The cobbler wasn't that great either. Well, I really didn't come for the food! I enjoyed the funky place. The ride over is what made it worth the trip!



After eating, I walk around taking more pictures. Karen and I are fans of Diners, Drive-Ins and Dives. This place was featured on that show. I watched a clip on YouTube when planning the trip.



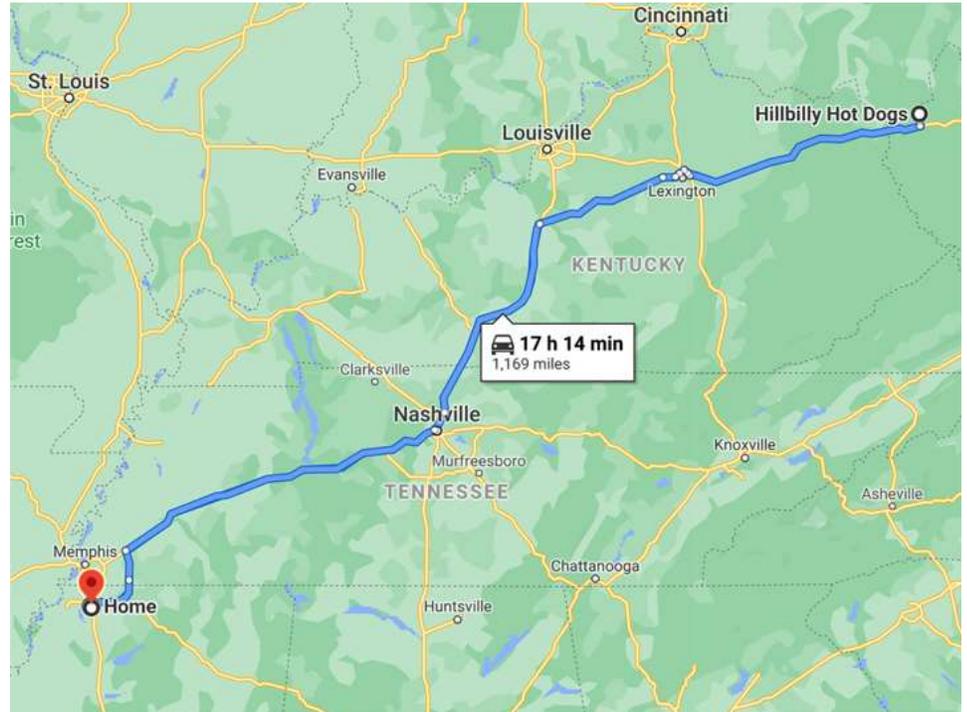
I was there for about an hour. By the time that I was ready to leave, the parking lot was full, and people were lined up to get food! A lot of motorcycles were here for a hot dog too!

As I head west, I cross over the Ohio River into Ohio. Nothing over there, so I make a U-turn and cross the river again before jumping on I-64 heading west.

Now, the temperatures were in the upper 60's with big puffy clouds in the bright blue sky! I retraced my route back to Hernando. I did stop at the Hurricane Mills exit on I-40 for dinner around 7:00 pm. I had a great meal at the Log Cabin restaurant. No Waffle House tonight! From here, I was only a couple hours from home.

The temperatures dipped down to 52 degrees after the sun went down. I arrived back in Hernando at 10:13 pm. 19 hours and 35 minutes from when I departed this morning! The odometer showed a total of 1,169 miles for today's adventure!

I do enjoy the long rides! It gives me a chance to enjoy some wonderful scenery and clear my mind! Moving meditation. The BMW has really turned into a great adventure bike!



### 1,169 Miles Roundtrip

#### Hillbilly Hotdogs SS1000 Ride Stats

Distance: 1,169 miles

Time: 19 hrs, 35 min.

Average Speed: 59 mph

Fuel Used: 35.996 gal

Fuel Mileage: 32 mpg

Low Temperature: 42°

High Temperature: 68°