

Feel Like A Great Ride Close To Sacramento?

Take state route 16 from the corner of Folsom Blvd near Howe Avenue. This is a nice ride but not challenging except to keep the speed limit down. This is patrolled by the CHP continuously. Once in Rancho Murieta continue about 11 miles to Carbondale Road and the fun begins. After 3.7 miles one of the best roads in the area is a left turn which is Irish Hill Road. Watch for a couple of sweeping off camber right hand turns near the middle but the road is smooth and for the most part CHP free. At the bottom, at the corner of Michigan Bar lone Road, if you want, go back up the hill. It is even more fun going up. Or not.

If you decide to continue, turn left onto Michigan Bar lone Road and at .7 miles turn right onto 5 Mile Road and continue on that, crossing Highway 88 and on into Buena Vista. A good place for a potty break and a quick refresher.

Once refreshed go south on Buena Vista Road and follow it to Chile Camp Road and turn left. This is very twisty at times and again not patrolled by the policia. After 3.6 miles, turn left onto Campo Seco Road and almost immediately turn left again onto Pardee Dam Road.

Pardee Dam Road takes you to a nice overlook of the lake and a vista point. At this point you embark onto another one of the most fun roads in the area. Pardee Dam Road becomes, after a merge, Stoney Creek Road and goes into Jackson. It is very twisty and with great overlooks of Pardee and, in the spring, vast expanses of green. At time you can see Rancho Seco and other surrounding lakes.

Once in Jackson turn right onto 49. Turn right. Have a burger at Mel's (a local legend) and take Highway 49 West to get back home. From Rancho Murieta this trip is about 50 miles and will take about an hour and a half of brisk driving (what else is there) and is well worth it. Have fun!