



Best of Backroads 2021

JANUARY 2022 Vol. 28 No. 1



1ST PLACE BIG CITY GETAWAY 2021 • BARBER VINTAGE MOTORSPORTS PARK
 6030 BARBER MOTORSPORTS PKWY, LEEDS, AL 35094
 205-699-7275 • WWW.BARBERMUSEUM.ORG

In a year that had such a tough choice with this category, the Barber Vintage Motorsports Park was still the clear winner.

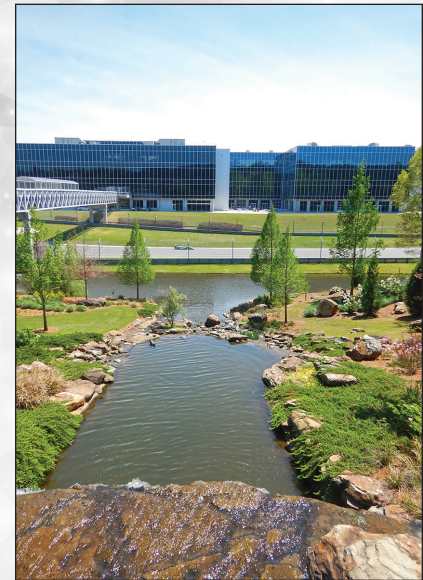
If you love motorcycles & riding, and cars & driving and are a motor-head of any sort then you **MUST** visit Barber. It is hands down the ultimate museum and facility of its type on the planet Earth.

Five full floors, 144,000 square feet of exhibit space, and with 650 machines on display (They have twice that) this museum will rock your motorcycle-loving world!

But, wait kids, there's more. They have a state-of-the-art 17 turn, 2.3-mile road course as well that is used by so many for testing and track days as well as Indy-Series and MotoAmerica motorcycle racing.

Each Fall the Barber Vintage Festival brings together classic racers from around the nation and the world as well as one of the greatest classic and historic motorcycle shows you will ever experience.

With all this, and being overwhelmed by it all, there was never any doubt that the Barber Vintage Motorsports Park raced to the top of the podium for Big City Getaway 2021!



We're Outta Here 2021

For us at Backroads Central, nothing is finer than a few days on the road. Discovering little hideaways, comfortable inns, and lodges that seem to be on fantastical roadways and seeing big smiles when riders roll up to their doors? Well, for us that is a big part of why we do what we do. Here are our Top Three for We're Outta Here in 2021...



SECOND RUNNER UP • VINE COTTAGE INN
 7402 SAM SNEAD HWY, HOT SPRINGS, VA 24445
 540-839-2422 • WWW.VINECOTTAGEINN.COM

The Virginian county of Bath is yet another splendid region this state offers and along Route 220, also called the Sam Snead Highway, you will find a sign that will always get our attention: "Riders Welcome." That be us!

Owners Tammy and Dave Hahn, along with their son Tim and their staff run a delightful bed & breakfast called the Vine Cottage and riders are really welcome. The rooms are comfortable and the inn itself convivial. Hey, they have an ice cream window open on the weekends – it doesn't get more friendly than that. Add into this mix that the Vine Cottage is found along some seriously fun Virginia pavement and you have a true keeper that easily made a home with us at Backroads and the Best of...



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FIRST RUNNER UP • TAPOCO LODGE

14981 TAPOCO RD, ROBBINSVILLE, NC 28771 • 828-498-2800 • TAPOCO.COM

The Tapoco Lodge came from a suggestion from our friend and fellow rider Rob Mitchell. Rob is a soft-spoken gentleman; so, when he strongly suggests something, we usually listen. Rob was right on the money with the Tapoco Lodge.

You will find this place, once owned by ALCOA, on Route 129 along the Cheoah River, sitting on 120 acres in the lush mountain region of the Nantahala National Forest. Oh, yes... right between the Cherohala Skyway and the Tail of the Dragon – so the riding does not suck, okay?

The lodge has a good number of rooms and some very comfortable cabins as well. The lodge's restaurant serves great lunches and dinners – which you can enjoy on the deck overlooking the river which, on the weekends when they open up the dam, can be wild to see.

We truly enjoyed our stay and seemed to be on a roll the weekend we were in the region. For as comfortable as the Tapoco Lodge was, sitting here as the first runner up, the next night was even better for us as we spent it at...

1ST PLACE WE'RE OUTTA HERE 2021 • TWO WHEELS OF SUCHES

1915 GA-60, SUCHES, GA 30572 • 706-973-1671 • TOWHEELSOFSUCHES.COM

We have been doing the Best of Backroads for many years now and this is the first time our first and second place BoB destinations, for WOH, have come back to back for us on a trip.

No wonder why so many riders and car enthusiasts pilgrimage to this region. It offers the best riding in the United States.

Big statement, we know. But we'll stand by it.

Enjoying and welcoming riders is wonderful – but catering just to the two-wheel enthusiast is spectacular. Especially if you are found at the end of one of the best roads in an area... Wolf Pen Gap!

Two Wheel of Suches is a combination motorcycle campground and lodge that has a number of very comfortable cabins available as well as some rooms in the lodge itself.

Owned and operated by Bill Johnston, a true riding enthusiast himself, we found TWO to be everything riders could want when traveling in this rich riding locale.

The place is a magnet for riders near and far and race day Sundays see good gatherings of riders to take in MotoGP, WSB, or MotoAmerica.

You will be hard-pressed to find another facility that offers what TWO of Suches offers and does so well.

This place is an excellent choice for a base camp for groups of riders, maybe from the northeast (hint, hint) to spend a few days exploring northern Georgia as well as the twistalicious roads of North Carolina and Tennessee.

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