



### OMMRA Information Bulletin March 2000

From Paolo Volpara on Tuesday, March 28, 2000

Comments, suggestions, ideas, question: [volpara@home.com](mailto:volpara@home.com)

To receive or to send to riders friends the Bulletin just drop an e-mail request.

Visit OMM site at: [www.ommriders.com](http://www.ommriders.com)

Dear Friends,

Back to Turkey after six week of travelling in USA covering mainly Florida, South Louisiana and South-East Texas.

I had the opportunity to be in Daytona at the beginning of Daytona Bike Week 2000, to be in New Orleans during Carnival and in Houston at the closing of Rodeo Week.

A very interesting trip with time to examine the motorcycle world of the south States. I was negatively impressed by the monotony of the biker's panorama. To us they all looked like pathetic copies of Easy Riders. Sleeveless, black leather jacket with a lots of pins, T-shirt and gym shoes seems to be the standard protection for the pro-bikers. Ridiculous plastic helmets barely covering the top of the head and reminiscent of Nazi headgear are the ultimate fashion. A trailer to carry the bike to the show is extremely popular.

I am sure this is the norm limited to the South States and we saw few BMW and Gold Wing riders properly equipped and riding hard. Still the contact with the bike world of USA is better done in my opinion via the catalogue of [Riderwearhouse](http://Riderwearhouse) or [Roadgear](http://Roadgear).

- From Roadgear I ordered a pair of Ultra-Gloves after a bad experience with BMW winter Gloves. We rode for 4 hours under severe rain wearing the "BMW Cordura Gore-Tex-Winter" and both Cemil and I had hands wet and cold in the first hour. This bad situation convinced me to try the Mansoor Shafi [mansoor@roadgear.com](mailto:mansoor@roadgear.com) products. On Saturday March 18 I rode for over five hours in appalling rain with snow and low temperatures. Not only the gloves kept my hands dry but also I completely forgot to switch on the heated grips. The only (small) problem appears when taking off the gloves: one has to be careful not to reverse the internal lining. Two others items in the catalogue have been positively tested in recent trips: a Sport Touring Tool Pouch is now replacing the inadequate tool set of my Kawasaki and an Adventure Map Holder is extremely useful to keep map and notes visible during our trips. The Roadgear Service is of top quality: they replaced free of charge a shipment that probably got lost in the postal Turkish disorganization.
- I took with me to USA the one-piece suit Roadcrafter now over a decade old. While there, the Aerostich people of Riderwearhouse replaced all Velcro and most of the

zips battered by ten years of daily use in the hard environment of Istanbul and Turkey. The suit is now “as new” and it is a splendid proof of the quality products of Andy Goldfine people. Aerostich Roadcrafter and Darien are, without doubt, the best available gears for serious riders and I am very pleased to see that in Turkey more and more bikers follow my suggestion and shops with this catalogue.

- Friends on our list ask me to recommend a book for travelling on motorbike. The best I found is Chris Scott “The Adventure Motorbiking Handbook” that you can find at [www.compass-star.co.uk](http://www.compass-star.co.uk) I also recommend (second time) to visit the [Whitehorse Press Catalog](#) where you can order the best books, maps and videos about motorcycling. Do not miss of Flash Gordon (real name) the book “Blood, Sweat & Gears”. A good mix of medicine, biking and humor. So good that my copy is with some friend who forgot to return it (this is a real appeal). Still on reading, keep visiting the OMMRA web site at the page Read and Ride. We will insert new articles soon and among them two good pieces from Dave Gorham: "I'm First, Now What" and "Gored By The Horns Of Complacency". Dave write in a very intelligent and passionate way: visit his [web site](#) and (if you cannot wait form the OMMRA site) goes to [www.ridehsta.com](http://www.ridehsta.com) and read ahead his contributions under “Safety”
- Feza Haznedar and Levent Baki (two of the founders of One More Mile Riders) are showing us what friendship and support mean among motorcyclist. Their dedication kept Richard and Christine (two English bikers circumnavigating the globe) on the road. Feza and Levent went all the way to welcome them in Istanbul and then arranged for the recovery of their bike after an accident near Ankara. Read the entire story at [Feza web site](#). On the globetrotters side Erin and Chris sent a note to OMMRA: they are now in Thailand preparing for a further push east. One of the most amusing travel [web-site](#) with good pictures of OMM friends
- Istanbul Motosiklet 2000 opens on March 30. The new bikes to see are the Kawasaki ZX1200R the fastest production bike And the new BMW 650 in the Paris Dakar version.
- You are probably tired of the banner on top of [OMMRA web site](#) announcing the report on Ionian Cities Ride coming... soon. We did the ride in November 1999 and I still did not find the time to compile a decent report. Please consider that I am totally alone in the writing department and I have little help from Sinan Sezer on the web-site compilation. The report will be there before the end of March together with the report on the second OMMRA ride. If you need road book for your summer trip in Turkey, Greece, Syria and main countries of Europe we have a decent database that can answer to your questions. One of the OMMRA riders has probably been there and if you mail us your request we promise a detailed answer.
- The Second 2000 OMMRA Ride took place the last weekend. We visited the beautifully preserved Temple of Zeus in Aizanoi, the polluted (in winter) but historical town of Kutaya, the beginnings of the Ottoman Empire at Sogut (Ertugrul Gazi Turbe) and from Eskisehir (Doryleum) we retraced the First Crusade road to Istanbul. Report coming soon but for the riders that want to repeat this trip in Spring (good roads, no traffic, nature and corners) here the log book:

Distance	Log	Instruction	Road
		<b>DAY ONE</b>	
0	0	Depart Istanbul Motorway Gate	100
70.4		At Eskihisar, take the ferry to	Ferry
70.4	40	Topcular take road	130
148.5		At Bursa - turn right onto	E90
155.2		At exit of Bursa turn left onto	16-61
233.1	220	At Harmancik - turn onto	230
		<b>Dikilitas Phrygian Tombs</b>	
267.2		At Tavsanlı lunch - bear right onto	43-78
		<b>Ryndacus Valley - Kocasu</b>	
285.5		At Orencik, turn left onto	43-55
318.5	342	At Çavdarhisar, stop	43-55
		<b>Visit of Temple of Zeus - Aizanoi</b>	
319.2		Turn left onto	240
365.2		Turn left onto	650
373.3	394	At Kütahya - Stop and Stay Hotel	650
Distance	Log	Instruction	Road
		<b>DAY TWO</b>	
413.6	0	Depart Kutaya	650
		<b>Vacidiye Medrese Museum - Citadel</b>	
447.3		Turn right onto	230
448.6		At Eskisehir, turn right onto	200 [E90]
		<b>Battle of Doryleum June 1097</b>	
492.1		Turn left onto	11 27
492.6		At Söğüt / Gordoserba- stay	11 27
		<b>Ethnographic Museum</b>	
		<b>Ertugrul Gazi (d.1281)</b>	
516.6		Turn right dir. Bilecik / Linoe	650
		<b>Veziir Han Caravanseray 1655</b>	
553.3		At Osmaneli / Lefke - stay on	650
		<b>Turbe of Ozman Gazi 1281-1324</b>	
559		Turn left onto	11 76
565.3		Turn left onto	150
582.7		At Iznik - Stop and Lunch	150
		<b>Drakon River</b>	
600.3		At Boyalica, turn right onto	595
627.3		At Karamürsel - turn left onto	130
641.5	306	At Topcular, take the ferry	Ferry
641.5		At Eskihisar	
711.9	343	Arrive Istanbul Motorway Gate	
	<b>737</b>	<b>TOTAL</b>	

**IF YOU WANT OT PASS NEWS ON THIS BULLETIN OR IF YOU WANT TO SEND IT TO SOME OF YOUR BIKERS FRIENDS JUST CONTACT ME AT**

[volpara@hotmail.com](mailto:volpara@hotmail.com)