

PREPARED?

First, you have to physically prepare for the ride, check that the bike is in good order. Make sure you have not taken any drugs (prescription or otherwise) or alcohol that may interfere with your skills. Dress for the conditions, it sounds simple, but the cold can wreak havoc on your mindset, as can the heat.

Have somewhat of a game plan. Know what direction you want to go and have a backup plan just in case. Make sure all the little “honey-do” and chores are done, nothing ruins rides more than guilt that something “couldn’t wait.”

Be mentally prepared for the bumps that occur along the road. Giving into road rage is not wise or advisable. It can only cause a worse situation. Do not ride beyond your mental preparedness. You can easily become mentally exhausted. Mental exhaustion is extremely dangerous. Ever become drowsy while driving. Motorcycles are not forgiving beasts... Know your limitations both physically and mentally before you go out. Never allow peer pressure to endanger you.

Finally make sure you are in good spirits. A fight with your love one can frazzle your nerves. Never ride angry or upset, likewise never ride as a passenger with an upset driver. Especially if you are mad at each other, it makes for a long ride.

Ride with people who have similar styles as you do. A trip can be ruined by someone who rides gas tank to gas tank when you stop every 100 miles. Plan for fuel and food stops along the way. You should be able to enjoy the ride at your own pace. Remember once the ride is no longer fun it’s time to head home or find a motel. Motorcycling is 90 percent mental and 10 percent physical. Live long and ride safe.