

TRAMONTIN HARLEY-DAVIDSON presents

WE'RE OUTTA HERE - a weekend destination

We're all about finding those special places to escape to.

With that in mind we are always searching for the next great inn, hotel or B & B. Well, sometimes the next great place finds us - or a friend. This month our diligent correspondent Byrd discovered what could be the most motorcycle friendly place in Vermont.

So let's ride along with him, cause we're outta here!

GRAY GHOST INN

290 ROUTE 100 NORTH • WEST DOVER, VT 05356 • 800-745-3615 •

WWW.GRAYGHOSTINN.COM

By Byrd

When I first received the letter inviting me to check out the Gray Ghost Inn I was surprised. Most hotels and motels barely tolerate motorcyclists, let alone invite them. The "bikers welcome" banners at Americade, Daytona, or Laconia usually mean your money is welcome, but show up during a non event weekend and you will probably receive the same old fish eye that motorcyclists got years ago when the merchants didn't realize what deep pockets we have. A "bikers welcome" bar usually contains camphor balls in the urinal, a patina of filth on the bar, and features dollar Buds and wet t-shirt contests for entertainment. But I digress. The Gray Ghost Inn is a delightful gem in the Green Mountains of Vermont. Operated by Carina and Magnus Thorsson, it has the old world charm you would expect from a charming Swiss Alpine Inn. Part of the ambiance is created by the worldliness of our hosts. Magnus comes to us via Iceland and Carina is Swedish, they both have experience in top NYC hotels. They have 3 lovely children and 2 affectionate dogs which explains why children and pets are welcome as well. Their Inn contains 26 individually appointed rooms - enough to house most motorcycle clubs.

It features a game room apart from the guest bedrooms so that those all night bull sessions won't disturb the early bed folks. They have a pool, hot tub, sauna, fireplace and all the fresh air and scenic views you could ask for. They

thoroughly enjoy the company of motorcyclists and it shows with the extras they provided us with. Magnus has laid out many self guided tours with stops and attractions to appeal to even the most jaded rider. In fact if you are looking for a few good rides while spending sometime in the magnificent state of they have a book with over 30 pre-riden motorcycle routes for your use. Pick one out and Magnus will happily print out one or a few copies for your riding buddies.

This is not your average bed and breakfast inn. They did their homework to provide us with a hassle free weekend and the expectations of many more to follow. And interestingly enough, there are no ghosts, at least not these days. The name refers to a dry fly fishing lure favored by Magnus, although there is a spooky ghost story attached to the property in the past. Magnus is quite a sportsman who enjoys hunting and fishing as well as riding.

When the day's riding is done park your bikes and enjoy a glass of wine (if you like) at the pool. There is even a guitar and piano for those musically inclined.

I hear publisher Rathjen did a great set a few weeks back.

My lady friend Janine and I give it 2 thumbs up. Check out their website, www.grayghostinn.com for rates, reservations and more information.



Rip & Ride[®] **GRAY GHOST INN**

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800-745-3615 • WWW.GRAYGHOSTINN.COM**

LEFT AT SR 21 - WINGDALE RD.

RIGHT AT SR 9 - CLOVE RD.

BEAR RIGHT AT SR 24 - CHESTNUT RIDGE

RIGHT AT RTE. 343

LEFT AT RTE. 22/343

RIGHT AT RTE. 44 NORTH

LEFT AT RTE. 7 IN CANAAN

RIGHT AT RTE. 102 EAST IN STOCKBRIDGE

RIGHT AT RTE. 20 EAST

LEFT AT RTE. 8

RIGHT AT RTE. 8A INTO VT

LEFT AT RTE. 112

P/U RTE. 100 NORTH

GRAY GHOST 8 MILES NORTH OF WILMINGTON, VT

JUNCTION RTES. 9/100

BEAR MOUNTAIN BRIDGE

LEFT AT RTE. 9D NORTH

RIGHT AT RTE. 301

BEAR LEFT AT SR 42 - FARMERS MILLS RD.

BEAR LEFT AT SR 30 - WHITE POND RD.

IMMEDIATE RIGHT/LEFT SR 30 - HOLMES RD.

LEFT AT RTE. 292

LEFT AT RTE. 55

RIGHT AT SR 32 - PLEASANT RIDGE RD.

RIGHT AT GARDNER HOLLOW

IMMEDIATE LEFT SR 32 - PLEASANT RIDGE RD.