

**Milwaukee rally**

The Milwaukee rally is "can't miss fun" and worth the trip ... ten reasons to get on the bike.

Nobody rolls out the red carpet for bikers like the people in Milwaukee. You will love your experience, let's make it better.

I have been to the Milwaukee rally every year for the last twenty years. I have been to every party and every dealership. The people who put this show on are professional and organized and put on one of the best shows/rallies in the country, they really roll out the red carpet for you. Most of the dealerships have free music all day every day and a lot of it is pretty damn good. All of the dealerships try very hard to entertain you. Each one will have things that are better but take the time and visit all of them.

Milwaukee is a beautiful city with a downtown area you can actually ride through and enjoy at night. The lake shore has Calatrava art structures, and the Harley Museum which by itself is worth a day's ride. Harley has a special party for HOG and museum members. Open 9 to 6. Entertainment for HOG members at the world famous summerfest grounds is usually worth the price. If you've been thinking of joining HOG you pick up some freebies by joining now. Old world Third Street and the German restaurants Milwaukee is so famous for are only a couple of blocks from the street parties on Water street Thursday and Friday. I'm not new to what's going on in Milwaukee. My goal here is to help you get the experience that will make the ride worth it. As far as specific lists, go to [Milwaukee rally .com](http://Milwaukee rally .com).

So you've check out the list and said "holy shit". Yes every dealership lists every last little thing they do during the rally. First let's discuss the crowds. In the non five year rally years the traffic is down a lot. What I mean is, every five years you hit a round five year anniversary number 100th in 2003, 110th in 2013, etc. absolutely do not let this deter you from going. The promoters of the rally and the dealerships put out almost the same effort for each year. Oh, Harley may not have some big presentment, and there won't be an anniversary painting by the famous artists but who cares you can't afford the painting and you won't get invited to the presentment. You will want to try to get to all dealerships. It's kind of a thing to do. If it were me I would start at Milwaukee Harley first thing. Buy their t shirt (hey you're in Milwaukee get the Milwaukee Harley shirt) and also pay 10 bucks for that little package they offer. You'll be assured of parking at the museum and a

plant tour if you want one. Milwaukee Harley won't have the outside vendor shopping that you want so don't waste the time at this stop. Shop in their store and visit one of the oldest dealerships in the world. From Milwaukee Harley just go a little north then east to highway 57 and north to Suburban Harley. These are my favorite people but they won't get the crowds that Hals and the House will. All right guys here's your chance to pick up some points with the gals. Hey it might pay off later. Take the ladies downtown Grafton to the gift shops. Better yet drop em off and go back to the dealership. They will love the shopping.

So now you are about 30 minute by highway north of downtown. If you want to go downtown get on highway 43 and don't get off until you get all the way to State St., Kilbourne, or 794 east. There really isn't anything for you on the way. Try to separate your activities between downtown and the other dealerships. The friggin highway traffic can be shitty and travelling across town is like any old major city. Lots of lights and slow. So now you're downtown and what to do in the afternoon or around lunch. Hey you can look up most restaurants yourself but two neat ideas for lunch are Real Chili the most unique bowl of chili anywhere and my choice would be the world famous "Conejito's" the best home grown Mexican in the midwest. If they are full up I also love Rudy's right around the corner.

The two dealerships that you will want to travel between and shop are Hal's and the House of Harley. By now you have picked up guide book for the rally and it will show you where to go. If you're sick of freeways you can actually get to these dealerships via surface or streets. They will have the best vendors and the largest quantity of them. The music will be good at both but Hals kind of sticks the band stand way in the back and half the people who go to Hal's don't know it's there. The House of Harley will also have good music and good vending. If they close the street in front of the House (call it the house if you want to sound local) they will have a good crowd. That's what it's all about isn't it we all want to go where most everybody else is going. You guys also know how these things go, there usually isn't much going on at these dealerships in the evening, so plan on going down to Water Street on Friday night. Yes I've talked up this rally as a good thing to do. Well, I have been to almost every rally in the United States. This one has more to do than 90 percent of the weekend rallies anywhere. My point is this rally in Milwaukee is really one of the best and loaded with free entertainment. We have it right in our back yard. Please visit "[bikerstravel.net](http://bikerstravel.net)" leave your comments and ask questions.

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**FROM THE DESK OF JOE WEIGEL:**

What a difference a climate makes! I took my '92 Low Rider to Orlando Harley to buy a new battery. Temp was 80 degrees. I was wearing jeans and a t-shirt. About 3pm, while at the Dealer, a group of about 30 returned from a "ride". Every one wearing a leather jacket; and most wearing chaps and gloves and boots. What do they do if the temp drops to 70 degrees?

**THE INDEPENDENT SHOP ASSOCIATION**