

**2008**



**April 30-May 4 2008**

***MINIS on***  
***THE DRAGON***  
Welcome Guide

# 2008 MINIS on the DRAGON

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## Event Hosts



# ***2008 MINIS on THE DRAGON***

Let's all thank the following contributors and supporters

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# 2008 MINIS on THE DRAGON

## Safety on the Dragon!

By and used with permission of Ron Johnson from [tailofthedragon.com](http://tailofthedragon.com).

Drive the Dragon at your skill level - don't try to push it or keep up with faster vehicles.

**STAY IN YOUR LANE**, There are videos available for sale that show vehicles cutting the corners and taking chances that might appear "fun" while sitting in your easy chair. BEWARE ! This style of driving on the Dragon can cost you dearly. The challenge of the Dragon is to take the many curves in the best line possible and both lanes IS NOT "the line". Drive Florida if you like to straighten out the curves.

Do NOT sightsee. The Dragon is to drive, not to watch the sights. On many runs I don't even see what is on the side of the road. I'm watching the roadway way ahead.



Look far ahead at the road, curves, bushes, other vehicles, etc. If you haven't seen the hazards right in front of you, you are going to hit them anyway, so you might as well pay attention to what you have time to avoid.

We have seen deer, bear, turkeys, and wild boar on the roadway. Be ready to brake and slow. When we say brake we DO NOT mean slamming on the brakes. That will get you

turned around in a hurry and it's no fun looking at where you've been at any speed.

Maintain a "safe zone". Keep a safe distance between you and the vehicle ahead of you. Watch your rear view mirrors for faster vehicles. If you see a faster rider/driver coming up behind you, pull over to the right of your lane, slow down just a little, and wave them around. It is much safer to let a faster vehicle around you than to try to outrun them. NEVER stay left trying to keep someone from passing you. NEVER pull off the road onto the shoulder unless it is at one of the pull-off parking areas. It may be illegal to pass on the Dragon, but I'll let a faster vehicle get around me to protect my safe zone.

There will always be faster drivers than you. Don't try to be the King of the Dragon. Drive the Dragon many times before trying to challenge it. Then you still need to respect it at all times.

DO NOT STAND ON THE BRAKES if you see danger ahead. You are much better off to tap the brakes and maintain control. Some 90% of the accidents on the Dragon are due to speed and then over-braking. If you see another vehicle coming at you in your lane, hug the white line in your lane. In all likelihood you can avoid trucks and trailers if you stay alert and watch ahead.

DO NOT be spooked by other vehicles. DO NOT make sudden avoidance moves. You might have to adjust your line to avoid a car, truck, or bike, but DO NOT lay on the brakes or turn off the roadway suddenly unless that is the only out you have.

Motorcycles might dent your car, but that is better than going off the bank and hitting a tree sideways. If a cycle is in your lane that is their mistake and problem don't let them force you into a worse situation for yourself.



Trucks are usually traveling at a very slow speed and you should have time to stop and back-up if you see one coming at you and taking the whole corner. Watch for signals from drivers/riders coming at you. Many times they will escort a big truck over the Dragon and wave a warning to you to pull over. DO NOT ignore these warnings.

# 2008 MINIS on the DRAGON

Avoid driving hard on the Dragon in heavy traffic times. Weekends from 11 am to 5 pm are the busiest. These are the times to lay back and enjoy watching the "show" go by.

The early mornings (before 11 am) and the late afternoons (after 5 pm) have the least traffic. ALWAYS stay 100% alert. You do not have the advantage of relaxing on the Dragon.

Make sure your vehicle is mechanically sound and that your tires are good. Plan to make several runs, the first is always a nervous one .... then you can have fun on the second and third.

DO NOT over-use your brakes. Use your gears and DOWNSHIFT. A good Dragon driver WILL NOT use a lot of brakes.

Focus - do not daydream. Watch the road, your mirrors, and pay attention to other bikes/cars/trucks. 99% of the accidents on the Dragon come from the following:

## **Too much speed, Too much brakes, Inattentiveness, Driving above your abilities**



Over the center and opposite white line!



Note the side of the road he's on!



# 2008 MINIS on THE DRAGON

## Important Information

### General

The Main Tent is pretty much the hub of all activities. You'll find registration, the info desk, indoor vendor area, eating area for Thursday and Friday dinners, and more. The areas immediately in front of the Adventure Center will be closed to through traffic Thursday through Sunday. This includes the parking lot and road immediately in front of the Adventure Center. *Note: The Fontana Adventure center may be referred to differently on different maps. Activity Center, Adventure Center, Hazel Creek Outfitter and Recreation Hall all reference the same location.*

### Registration

Registration pick-up will be taking place in or immediately next to the Main tent. Please be patient while trying to check-in. You only need your event badge in order to attend any dinner or event which you paid for. Given this if you are planning to attend the Welcome Dinner on Wednesday please allow some time to pick up your registration materials. If you aren't attending the dinner avoid the lines and come to registration for check in on Thursday morning. Also, please keep in mind that registration is manned by volunteers. We will work to keep the registration open as much as possible but the volunteers need to be able to enjoy the event as well. Given this please visit registration during the hours posted.

### Registration Hours

Wednesday: 2pm-5pm

Thursday: 9AM-12pm & 2pm-5pm

Friday: 9AM-12pm & 2pm - 4pm

Saturday: 10AM-1PM

### Vendor Scavenger Hunt

Each registration will contain a vendor scavenger hunt card. Fill these out completely by stopping by all the vendors and having your card signed/stamped. Turn in your fully completed vendor scavenger hunt card at the Info Desk and the first 150 people receive a special MOTD thank you! Completed cards will be added to a drawing for various prizes throughout the event. Please be sure to check the winner board at the Info Desk to see if you are a winner!

### If you are unable to attend but have registered

If you do not pick up your registration materials we will contact you after the event to arrange shipping. If after May 23rd we have not received a reply your registration materials will be donated to charity.

### Car Wash Areas

There will be two car washes areas at Fontana (*both are indicated on the Fontana map on page 26*).

Car Wash area 1 - Prima Wash Station

Hours of Operation (*refer to a staffed, fully-supplied wash station*)

Thursday through Saturday

9am - Noon & 1pm - 4pm

During the official Hours of Operation, the following will be supplied to all MOTD participants: Water, Buckets, Mitts, & Prima Mystique Auto Wash. **BRING YOUR OWN DRYING TOWELS.** In addition, staff will be available to answer questions and to demonstrate various Prima products.

MOTD participants are welcome to use the wash station at any other time using their own supplies. Car Wash Area 2 will be an unstaffed location.

# 2008 MINIS on the DRAGON

Fuel and Air (tires) are available at the following locations

Hellbender 28 Pitstop (#6 on Fontana Map page 26)

Deal's Gap Store/Crossroads of Time

**There is a 7 gallon limit.**

TUSKEEGEE MOTEL & CITGO STATION

2511 Fontana Road, Hwy. 28

Robbinsville, NC 28771

828-479-8464



## Deal's Gap Store

They have 14 different styles of t-shirts, maps, DVD's and all the famous dragon stickers, which show your friends that you have successfully navigated through the Dragon. (don't forget to check out the tree of shame too.) You can check out some of their great stuff at their online store at:

<http://www.homeofthedragon.com/>

Ben (the owner) has kindly asked if we could make sure we respect the motorcyclist that are the mainstay of his business year round and save the immediate parking in front of the store for them. He suggested that we could park on the grass and gravel areas across the street and save the pavement areas for the motorcycles.

# ***2008 MINIS on the DRAGON***

## Schedule of Events

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### **Wednesday April 30**

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#### **Vendor Installations**

Vendors will be offering product installations at the event. If you have a modification interest/need be sure to make your way around the vendor installation area to see what each vendor has to offer. Once you've decided, schedule an installation with them and try your car on the Dragon before and after your mod!

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#### **Welcome Dinner**

Time: 5:00 PM Wednesday April 30, 2008

Location: Adventure Center

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#### **MOTD Mixer**

Time: 8:00 PM Wednesday April 30, 2008

Location: Adventure Center Rec Hall

Come join in the Rec Hall after the welcome dinner to just hang out and mingle. This will be a great chance for all the folks are arriving late, dining off-site, to get together and mingle.

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#### **Cigar Sampling Salon**

Time: 8:30 PM Wednesday April 30, 2008

Location: Porch of the Adventure Center

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### **Thursday May 1**

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#### **Family Fun Drive to Gatlinburg *by Paul Penny (BlimeyCabrio)***

Time: 9:00 AM - 6:00 PM, Thursday May 1

Location: General Store Parking Lot

Join us for a scenic 2 hours caravan to Gatlinburg TN, where we'll have 4-5 hours to have lunch and explore Gatlinburg and then met up for a caravan back to Fontana.

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#### **Joyce Kilmer Forrest Drive/Hike *by David Lopez (cabriopilot)***

Time: 9:00 AM - 1:30 PM, Thursday May 1

Location: Old Registration Building Parking Lot

Join us for a 40 minute caravan over to the Joyce Kilmer Memorial Forest. There will stop for a group photo and then hike and explore the 2 mile trail. Then regroup and head back to Fontana or Robbinsville for lunch on your own. Hiking trail is rated for novices and is great for families and even small kids. Drive style: 40 minute family-oriented drive each way.

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# 2008 MINIS on the DRAGON

## Downtown Highlands and Lunch *by Aaron Granger (agranger)*

Time: 10:00 AM - 4:00 PM, Thursday May 1

Location: Base of Dam

Join us for a 2 hour caravan to the Historic mountain town called the Highlands. Then you'll have hours to explore the shops and have lunch. Then join the caravan home and run by 1, maybe 2 waterfalls on the way home via Wayah Road. Drive style: Brisk drive

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## Yokohama Tech Talk

Time: 11:00 AM, Thursday May 1

Location: Main Event tent

Tire and wheel basics for your MINI

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## Yokohama and Carbotech Tech Talk

Time: 1:00 PM, Thursday May 1

Location: Main Event tent

Thinking about upgrading your MINI? Get into the details with how things work with the pros from Yokohama and Carbotech.

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## Yokohama and Carbotech Tech Talk

Time: 3:00 PM, Thursday May 1

Location: Main Event tent

Dive deep into the nuances of wheel, tire, brake, and suspension design, application, and more. This session will feature some advanced topics and discussion but you'll come away with a wealth of information.

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## MOTD Block Party

Time: 4:00 PM - 7:00 PM, Thursday May 1

Location: Parking lot in front of Adventure Center

Come hang out with us in front of the Adventure Center as we socialize and check out each other's MINIs. Motoring Chix will be showcasing their balloon talents with some custom balloon creations and "Sparkle Tattoos".

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## Pasta Dinner

Time: 5:00 PM - 8:00 PM, Thursday May 1

Location: Event Tent

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## MINI Monte Carlo Night

Time: 7:30 PM - 12:00 AM, Thursday May 1

Location: Adventure Center

Highrollers, Shooters, Underdogs! Join us for Craps, Texas Hold'em, Roulette, Blackjack and Slots - You will feel like you stepped right into Monte Carlo as you join us for a night filled with fun and excitement, music, drinks, great friends and cool prizes! At the end of the night your "winnings" can be used to purchase raffle tickets for the "Chinese" auction of wonderful prize donations from our amazing sponsors! Tickets provide each attendee with \$25,000 in play money, an awesome Swag Bag, a minimum of 5 Chinese Auction tickets, and free non-alcoholic beverages all night long! Cash Bar will be provided by Fontana Village. *Please note: tickets will NOT be offered at the door.*

# 2008 MINIS on the DRAGON

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**Friday May 2, 2008**

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## Dragon Parade

Time: 8:00 AM - 9:00 AM, Friday May 2

Location: Meet at the base of Fontana Dam

Take a parade lap of the Dragon with hundreds of your closest Mini friends. Meet at the base of Fontana Dam, follow the directions of traffic controllers there, and roll out, in mass, for a leisurely drive of the Dragon. *Note: Please follow the directions of those providing traffic control and stay off the grass near Fontana Dam. Going into the grass for any reason can put the group photo and all future events at this site at risk.*

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## Heinzelmannchen Brewery Run *by Bruce and Sue (Professor Zoom)*

Time: 9:00 AM - 2:30 PM, Friday May 2

Location: Old Registration Building Parking Lot

Join for a 1 hour caravan over to the Heinzelmannchen Brewery in the mountain town of Sylva NC. Where you have a chance to take a tour and some taste testing, have lunch and return. Drive style: Brisk / Spirited drive

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## Historic Dillsboro & Lunch at the Jarrett House *by Barry and Robin (Snooter)*

Time: 10:00 AM - 3:00 PM, Friday May 2

Location: General Store Parking Lot

Join us for a one hour caravan to the historic town of Dillsboro NC, where will have lunch in the historic Jarrett house and then have the afternoon free to explore the quaint shops in town. Drive style: family-oriented drive.

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## The Devil's Triangle *by Dustin (AutoXCooper)*

Time: 10:00 AM - 4:00 PM, Friday May 2

Location: Base of Dam

This is a true driving tour, head out from Fontana and explore some great twisties with a 1 hour stop at Sonics for lunch in Maryville TN. Drive style: Spirited drive

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## Yokohama Tech Talk

Time: 11:00 AM, Friday May 2

Location: Main Event tent

Tire and wheel basics for your MINI

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## Yokohama and Carbotech Tech Talk

Time: 1:00 PM, Friday May 2

Location: Main Event tent

Thinking about upgrading your MINI? Get into the details with how things work with the pros from Yokohama and Carbotech.

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# 2008 MINIS on the DRAGON

## MOTD Car Show

Time: 1:00 PM - 5:00 PM, Friday May 2

Location: Parking lot of General Store

Come One - Come ALL - COME TO THE MINI's on The Dragon 1st of what we hope to be annual MINI Show. See it all, from gleaming prettier than new bone stockers to Maddest of the Mad Modders dripping with HORSEPOWER!! Classics too!!! 50 of the finest examples gathered on the lots below the Adventure Center for your amusement. Meet Celebrity Judges and brush with greatness. Friday, Friday, FRIDAY!! May 2nd from 1-5 in the afternoon. Be there! Classy Trophies to be awarded

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## Yokohama and Carbotech Tech Talk

Time: 3:00 PM, Friday May 2

Location: Main Event tent

Dive deep into the nuances of wheel, tire, brake, and suspension design, application, and more. This session will feature some advanced topics and discussion but you'll come away with a wealth of information.

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## Chili and Fry Bread Dinner

Time: 5:00 PM - 8:00 PM, Friday May 2

Location: Event Tent

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## Brew Swap

Time: 7:00 PM - 12:00 AM, Friday May 2

Location: Adventure Center

Trade your favorite brew from your part of the country while experiencing great brews from around the country. You must be 21 years or older to attend this event. Tickets will NOT be offered at the door.

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## Saturday May 3, 2008

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### Sunrise Drive through the Smoky Mountains by Aaron Granger (*agranger*)

Time: 6:30 AM - 10:30 AM, Saturday May 3

Location: Road in front of the Fontana General Store

This is a true driving tour. Explore the Dragon at Dawn and it's surrounding roads - fog very possible - may not be the best ride for passengers who are prone to motion sickness - Stop for gas and snacks 1 hour in + 2 stops for scenery, but this is primarily a driving event. Drive style: Spirited drive

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## Autocross

Time: 8:00 AM - 4:00 PM, Saturday May 3

Location: William Blount High School - Maryville, TN

East Tennessee Region SCCA has been kind enough to host another autocross for us this year. Like last year it will be held at William Blount High School in Maryville (about 1 hour from Fontana). Paid registration for the event is required.

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# 2008 MINIS on the DRAGON

## Tuckaleechee Caverns & lunch *by Carol Ann and David (lilruffcat & welshdragon)*

Time: 9:00 AM - 3:00 PM, Saturday May 3

Location: General Store parking lot

Join us for a 90 minute ride (including the Dragon) as we head to Maryville TN for lunch and then a tour of the incredible Tuckaleechee Caravans (about 1:20 minutes for the tour) and then return home. Drive style: Family-oriented / Brisk drive

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## Dragon Draggin

Time: 10:00 AM - 1:30 PM, Saturday May 3

Location: Adventure Center (aka Fontana Adventure Center Raceway)

The PittStop MINI Club is proud to present: The Dragon Draggin' races at Fontana. This is a Pinewood Derby-style racing event starring wooden MINI kits and 32 feet of hardwood-track excitement! The cars are truly Minis at only 5 ounces! (WHAT??!!? A good beer is at least 12!!) The kits will be available at Check-In so you can get started with aesthetic prep for the Drag Queen Car Show! Cost is just \$15 for each car. The fee includes a pre-cut car kit (further modification is encouraged!), your registration in both the racing and show events, chances to win some really GREAT prizes, the instructions and rule sheet, and a REALLY great time! HURRY, there are only 150 cars available and it's first-come, first-served!

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## Group Photo

Time: 10:00 AM - 11:15 PM, Saturday May 3

Location: Base of Fontana Dam

Come join your fellow MINIacs in our Annual Panoramic Dragon Photo. Even if you don't plan on buying a photo it is a really cool process to see. Watch our International Award winning photographer George Pearl line the cars up in a semi-circle then be hoisted in a cherry picker and use his hi-tech revolving panoramic camera. Don't worry about killing the whole day. If you get there by 10:30 AM you will finished and on your way by 11:15 AM.

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## Yokohama Tech Talk

Time: 11:00 AM, Saturday May 3

Location: Main Event tent

Tire and wheel basics for your MINI

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## Dragon Ice Cream Run

Time: 11:15 AM - 3:00 PM, Saturday May 3

Location: Base of Fontana Dam

I scream, you scream, lets all scream for some ice cream. Can I get a YEEHAW? I just spoke with the owner of the world famous Soda Pops ice cream shop and he'd love to have us come through again. We're shooting for an arrival of noon-ish on Saturday, May 3rd, leaving plenty of time to return for some Geocaching. The trip from Fontana Village takes about an hour...maybe a little less. Don't worry about being late, we'll save you some ice cream.

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## Yokohama and Carbotech Tech Talk

Time: 1:00 PM, Saturday May 3

Location: Main Event tent

Thinking about upgrading your MINI? Get into the details with how things work with the pros from Yokohama and Carbotech.

# 2008 MINIS on the DRAGON

## Little Dragons

Time: 2:00 PM - 3:30 PM, Saturday May 3

Location: Adventure Center

Calling all 5yr – 12yr olds attending MOTD! Last year was such a success, we decided to do it again! Yes, we are back for Little Dragons III! Sign-up and enjoy all these great activities and treats: Face Painting, Games, Prizes, Goody Bags, Dragon Egg Hunt, MINI Pine Derby Track (Decorate, Race & Take home your very own mini MINI!)

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## MINI Geocaching Meet & Greet

Time: 2:00 PM - 4:00 PM, Saturday May 3

Location: N 35° 27' 8.82" W 083° 48' 0.30"

Join us at N 35° 27' 8.82" W 083° 48' 0.30" for a great time meeting other MINI owners who have embraced the wonderful combination of geocaching and motoring. Of course those who want to learn more about geocaching, this is a great opportunity to learn about this fun activity first hand. Share tales about caching in your MINI. See if anyone has found a solution to the age-old dilemma: Do you stop when there are caches along a rally route? How have people used their MINI as a muggle distraction? What do you listen to first- White Roof Radio or Podcacher? I'm sure we'll share detailing horror stories, too. Participants will be provided a list of the local caches and we'll head out to hopefully find all the dragon's caches. Bring your own snack and drinks (non-alcoholic) to share.

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## Yokohama and Carbotech Tech Talk

Time: 3:00 PM, Saturday May 3

Location: Main Event tent

Dive deep into the nuances of wheel, tire, brake, and suspension design, application, and more. This session will feature some advanced topics and discussion but you'll come away with a wealth of information.

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## Farewell Dinner

Time: 5:00 PM - 8:00 PM, Saturday May 3

Location: Event Tent

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## Midnight on the Dragon

Time: 11:00 PM, Saturday May 3

Location: General Store

If a long day of motoring and a full stomach from the Dragon Banquet do not cure your late night insomnia, come along and join us for some Midnight Dragon Slaying! This will be a fun, memorable, and especially kool time for sober and alert night-owls to stay up late and Wake the Dragon! Meet us at the General Store at Fontana Village Saturday night, May 4th at 11:00pm. We will depart Fontana at 11:15pm to zip down Hwy 28 to the Crossroads of Time (Deal's Gap) for a short break. Folks staying in Robbinsville or Tapoco may meet the larger group at Deal's Gap parking lot around 11:45pm. One minute after 11:59pm on Saturday, the clock strikes 00:00, the rally lights come on, and Dragon Slaying will begin. We will run up US-129 past the overlook to the gravel parking lot near Tabcat Bridge, enjoy the stars and moonlight for a bit, and then motor on back to our cozy beds.



# 2008 MINIS ON THE DRAGON

## HISTORY OF MINIS ON THE DRAGON

In May of 2003, the first group of Miniacs went to conquer the Dragon. Sixty cars in number and strong in spirit the first Dragon slayers were excited to come back and tell the rest of the world of their adventure. It was this group that ordained that the first weekend in May, they would return, bringing as many MINI friends as possible. The following year, 2004, the Dragon hosted approximately 150 MINIs and their families. With the Atlanta group hosting a welcome dinner, this "Second Dragon Coming" began with a bang. MINIUSA brought one of the first convertibles; there were no fewer than 3 classic Minis and many, many, MANY MINIs. The cry of "Oh, so you are \_\_\_\_\_?" could be heard all over the dinner. There was the first Chili Cook-Off, hosted by Clover Butte (MINIclo) and Patricia Babischkin (Babswife). There were drives organized by Smokey Mountain MINIs, including a Time, Speed, Distance Run. And few can forget "the party cabin." Another first for the second year was a Midnight Run - complete with glow-in-the-dark t-shirts.

Within a few hours of the last MINIs leaving the Dragon in 2004, there was the beginning of a plan, Let's do this again. Let's do more; let's have more fun; and most importantly, LET'S BRING MORE FRIENDS!!!

It is from these humble beginnings, we welcome you to the Dragon. For those who are making this trip for the first time, we welcome you and hope you'll be back many more times. For those of you who have been here before, welcome back and we hope that this year's pilgrimage is as wonderful as it has been before. And finally, to those original 60 who came that May, who keep coming back, who spawned and inspired this idea --Lead the way to the Dragon --- Let's Motor!

## FONTANA VILLAGE RESORT

Fontana Village is exactly that, a village. It was originally built to house the workers building the nearby Fontana Dam in 1942. This small town contained everything needed to support the workers building the tallest dam on the East Coast, a general store, school, post office, hospital, church, even a police and fire department. As you travel around the resort you can see these buildings, some of which are still in use today. The dam was completed in 1945, and in 1947 the village was turned into the largest resort in the Smokey Mountains.

## TAPOCO LODGE

The Tapoco Lodge was built in 1930 by the Aluminum Company of America (ALCOA) as part of their hydroelectric projects in Graham and Swain Counties. The Lodge was used primarily for company functions but the Cody family of nearby Robbinsville re-opened the lodge to the public in 1995. Tapoco Lodge is located at the North Carolina start of the The Tail of The Dragon, and just a few hundred feet from the Cheoah Dam a.k.a. Fugitive Dam, which was the backdrop for Harrison Ford's spectacular dive in the movie The Fugitive.

Both Fontana Village and Tapoco Lodge are close to some of North Carolina's great attractions, including: The Joyce Kilmer Memorial Forest, The Cherochala Skyway, whitewater rafting in the Nantahala Gorge, Fontana Dam, The Great Smoky Mountains Railway, Harrah's Cherokee Casino in Cherokee, NC, Cades Cove in the Great Smoky Mountains National Park, Fontana Lake, The Appalachian Trail, Tsali recreation area for horseback riding and mountain biking, and The Blue Ridge Parkway. Plus the area's roads are some of the most scenic in both North Carolina and Tennessee.

# 2008 MINIS on the DRAGON

## INFORMATION BOOTH

Have a question, need to find something, or need information on the start time of a dinner? Just drop by the Information Desk in the main event tent and you'll find helpful volunteers that will do whatever they can to help you out.

## EVENT COMMUNICATIONS

Last minute event updates and news will be posted out the Info Booth in the Main Event Tent. Be sure to stop by when you get a chance to keep up to date. For general communications between everyone attending, please monitor channel 7 sub-channel 21 on your FRS/GMRS radio. **Please use this channel only to get in contact with other members of the group, and refrain from playing music or having long conversations on 7-21.** Doing so effectively blocks its use and prevents others from using it.

In order to keep 7-21 clear for the group to use, it's best if you move your conversation to another channel instead of staying on 7-21. **If you just move to a different sub-channel you will still be using channel 7 and preventing others from using it.**

Please keep your radio on at all times while driving on The Tail of The Dragon and during the group drives. This will allow you to receive warnings about road hazards and to also relay them others.

## EMERGENCY INFORMATION

Given the somewhat remote location of the event, we'd like you to be aware of what to do in the event of an accident or other emergency. In addition cell phone coverage is between poor and non-existent for most of the area.

First if possible and depending on you're location, it's recommended you make you're way to either the Tapoco Lodge, Fontana Village, or The Crossroads of Time. Fontana Village has First Aid personnel at the resort.

Additional options if you're not on The Dragon but in Tennessee are the Monroe County Sheriff who can be reached at (423)442-3911 or the Tellico Ranger Station on the Tennessee side of the Cherohala Skyway, located at 250 Ranger Station Road, Tellico Plains, TN 37385 (423)253-2520

In North Carolina but not on the Dragon, the Graham County Sheriff can be reached at (828)479-3352 or the Cheoah Ranger Station on the North Carolina side of the Cherohala Skyway, it is located at 1133 Massey Branch Road, Robbinsville NC 28771. (828)479-6431

In addition there is a TVA Police station located at the top of the Fontana Dam near the Visitor's Center.

**As a reminder, none of the drives are a race. Please drive safely, obey all traffic laws, and stay alert for changing road conditions.**

**Stay on your side of the  
yellow line at ALL times!**

# 2008 MINIS on THE DRAGON

## Some other Area Drives

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### The Cherohala Skyway

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The Tail of the Dragon isn't the only road in the area that draws riding and driving enthusiasts, the Cherohala Skyway is another of the regions more popular roads. Built along portions of a former Cherokee Indian trading route, this 40 mile road took over 30 years to build and cost \$100 million. However, the scenery on this winding two lane road as it travels through the Nantahala National Forest in North Carolina and the Cherokee National Forest in Tennessee (hence the name Cherohala) is said to rival what can be found on the Blue Ridge Parkway. Should you decide to take a trip on the Cherohala be prepared, while it may be warm in Robbinsville near the NC start of the Skyway, as the road climbs to its highest point at 5,390 feet the temperature can drop dramatically. Snow is common on the road from mid-November through April, especially in the higher elevations.

There are plenty of hiking trails and photo opportunities along the Skyway, but with the exception of rest rooms, there are no services available along the length of the road. Depending on the number of stops you take along the way, it can take between 90 minutes to 2 hours to travel the length of the Cherohala Skyway.

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### The Cherohala-Dragon Loop

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Looking for a scenic and challenging drive? Then take the full Cherohala Skyway, Tail of The Dragon Loop. This 115 mile trip will take you between 3 to 4 hours not counting any stops you may make along the way. The route has been provided by the folks who run The Tail of The Dragon website ([www.tailofthedragon.com](http://www.tailofthedragon.com))

Take 143 West from Robbinsville. The road can have moderate traffic, many road-patches, and hazards such as gravel/tree limbs on the roadway. This winding two lane road passes the BLUE BOAR INN and SNOWBIRD LODGE entrances before turning into the Skyway at Santeetlah Gap. The driveway into the Blue Boar is over a mile of gravel, so take this into consideration if you are making plans to visit there. The Snowbird drive is steep, but paved, with a gravel parking area. Hwy 143 improves at the beginning of the Cherohala at Santeetlah Gap.

The Cherohala climbs from 2,660 to more than 5,300 feet in the first 11 miles. There are some tight curves, but most can be traveled at the 45 mph speed limit with little difficulty. After passing the Santeetlah Overlook at an elevation of 5,390 feet you begin a series of downhill curves before reaching the Tennessee State Line. From here to Tellico Plains the Skyway is designated as Highway 165. The Skyway descends to its lowest elevation of 900 feet along the Tellico River. For a gas and food stop, visit the CHEROHALA MARKET located on Hwy 165 between Hwy 360 and US 68.

At Tellico Plains you have two options: One is to take a right on Hwy 360 just before downtown Tellico. This is a back road with little. The second option is to continue in to Tellico and take a right on Hwy 68.

If you take option one above you will come to Hwy 411. Take a right on 411 (a four lane divided hwy).

If you take option two above you will come to Hwy 411 at Madisonville. Take a right onto Hwy 411. There are some five miles of two-lane construction on this stretch.

Just after crossing the Little Tennessee River at Vonore you will take a right on Hwy 72. A couple of miles into this road you will get an awesome preview of the mountains where you will soon encounter the Dragon. **WARNING** there is a sharp turn about 2 3/4 miles after getting on 72. There have been some 30 accidents (cars and bikes) here in less than a year. You can see it coming if you are heading west, but traveling east it catches you by surprise. **SLOW DOWN.**

Continue on Hwy 72 to the stop sign (about 6 miles altogether). The wide, straight section invites high speed - watch out because this is a favorite radar trap for the local sheriff and TNHP. Take a right onto 129. Follow 129 along the Little Tennessee River for approximately 8 miles and you will enter the Tail of the Dragon where 129 leaves the river.

# 2008 MINIS on THE DRAGON

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## Hilltops and Hollers Drive

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For less traffic, do this drive on Friday. On Saturday there will be a large Spring Festival in Townsend with bluegrass music and lots of activities but considerably more traffic.

1. Leave gravel parking lot at Tabcat bridge going south on 129 for 2.9 miles
2. Right on Happy Valley Rd. for 8.0 miles
3. Hard right on Flats Rd. for .5 miles
4. Straight ahead at yield for 2.8 miles
5. Right on Butterfly Gap Rd after crossing earthen dam for 3.4 miles
6. Right at T on Butterfly Gap Loop (no road sign) for 1.2 miles
7. Right at T on Butler Mill Rd. for .1 miles
8. Right on Laws Chapel Rd. for 2.8 miles
9. Right on Payne Hollow Rd. for .4 miles
10. Left on Barb Hollow Rd. for .9 miles
11. Straight at stop onto Rocky Branch Rd. for 1.4 miles
12. Right at T on 321 (Lamar Alexander Parkway) for 6.0 miles
13. Left on one lane bridge for less than .1 mile
14. Left at end of bridge on Old Walland Hwy for 4.9 miles
15. Right on E. Millers Cove Rd. for 6.3 miles
16. Continue straight on Walden's Creek Rd. (name change, no turn for 7.0 miles
17. Right on Old Valley for .4 miles
18. Continue on straight Russie Gap for .3 miles
19. Right at T on 321 Wears Valley Rd. for 5.5 miles
20. Left on Lyons Spring Road for .9 miles
21. Continue straight on Metcalf Bottoms Rd. for 1.6 miles
22. Right on Hwy 73 Little River Road for 7.6 miles
23. Right on 73

Continue on in to Townsend (becomes 321). There are several choices in Townsend for lunch. Deadbeat Pete's is Mexican food, slow but worth the wait. Smokin Joe's is BBQ. You can eat alongside the river in either one of those restaurants. Several other choices and a grocery store are available along 321.

To return to the Dragon continue on 321 until you see Foothills Parkway. Follow Foothills Parkway to 129. Turn left to the Dragon.



# 2008 MINIS on THE DRAGON



## Highlands and Waterfalls

**Bridal Veil Falls** - 2.5 mi. east of Highlands on U.S. 64. Visible from the highway, which at one time routed traffic under the falls. Height 120 ft.

**Cullasaja Falls** - Visible from U.S. 64, in Cullasaja Gorge, 11 mi. east from Franklin, 9 mi. west from Highlands. Height 250 ft. Accessible by foot trail, a half-mile through steep, rough terrain.

**Dry Falls** - Located near U.S. 64, 3.5 mi. west from Highlands, 16.5 mi. east from Franklin. Paved walkway leads to falls from parking area. Walk underneath the 75 ft. falls.

**Glen Falls** - From Highlands, travel 3 mi. south on NC 106. Turn left on U.S. Forest Service Rd. with "Glen Falls" marker. One-mile trail to falls is **steep and rough**. Consists of three large falls, each dropping approx. 60 feet.

**Whitewater Falls** - At 411 ft., the highest falls in Eastern America. From Cashiers, take U.S. 64 east, 10 mi. to "Whitewater Road." Falls are located 10 mi. south on Whitewater Rd., near the NC-SC state line.

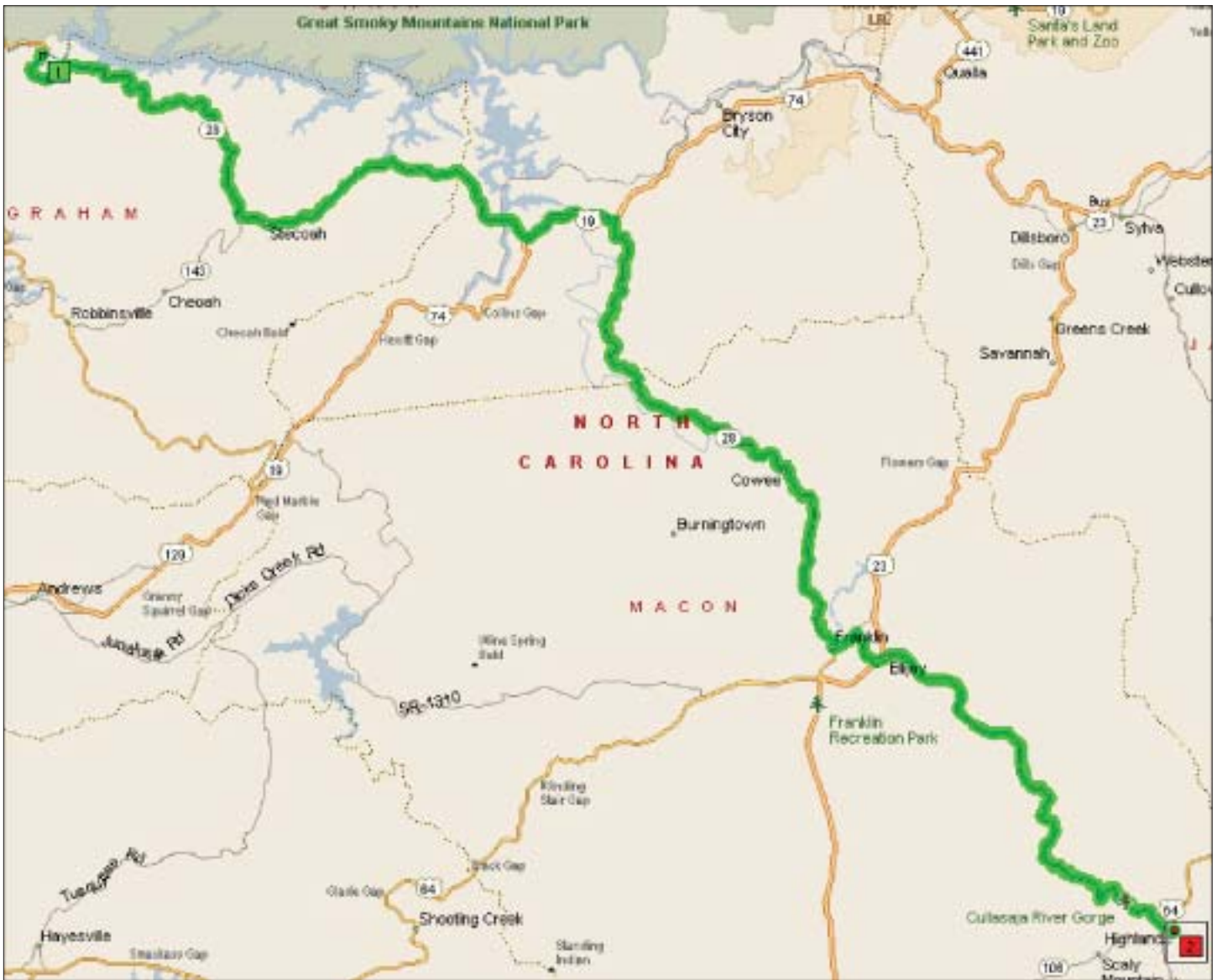
There's a great Deli in Highlands called Donleons Deli Cafe at 30 Dillard St.

Map and directions to Highlands on next page, then use the map above to explore.

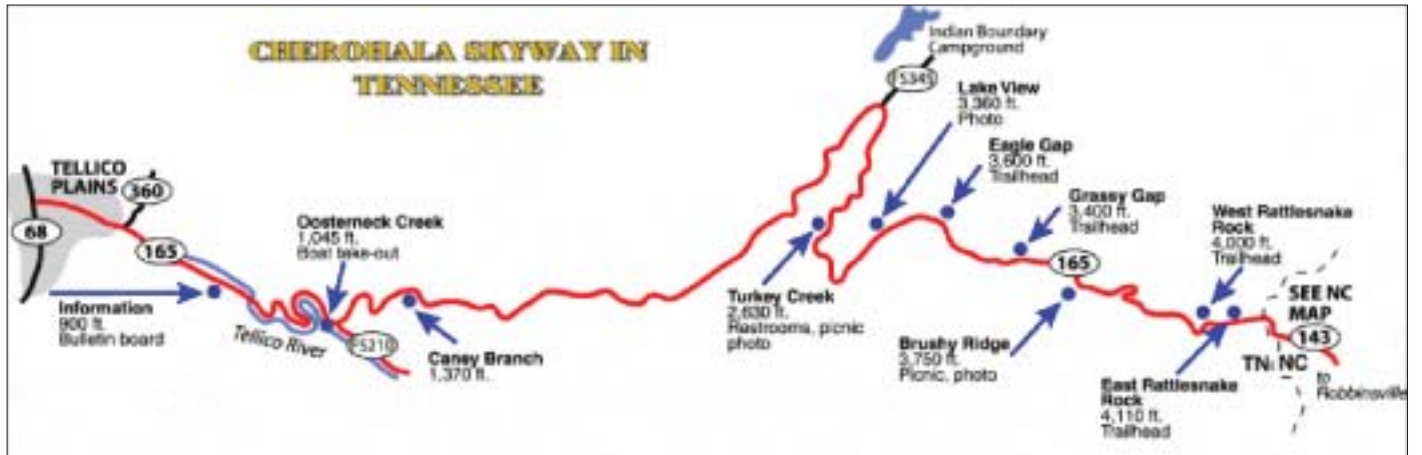


## Highlands and Waterfalls cont'd

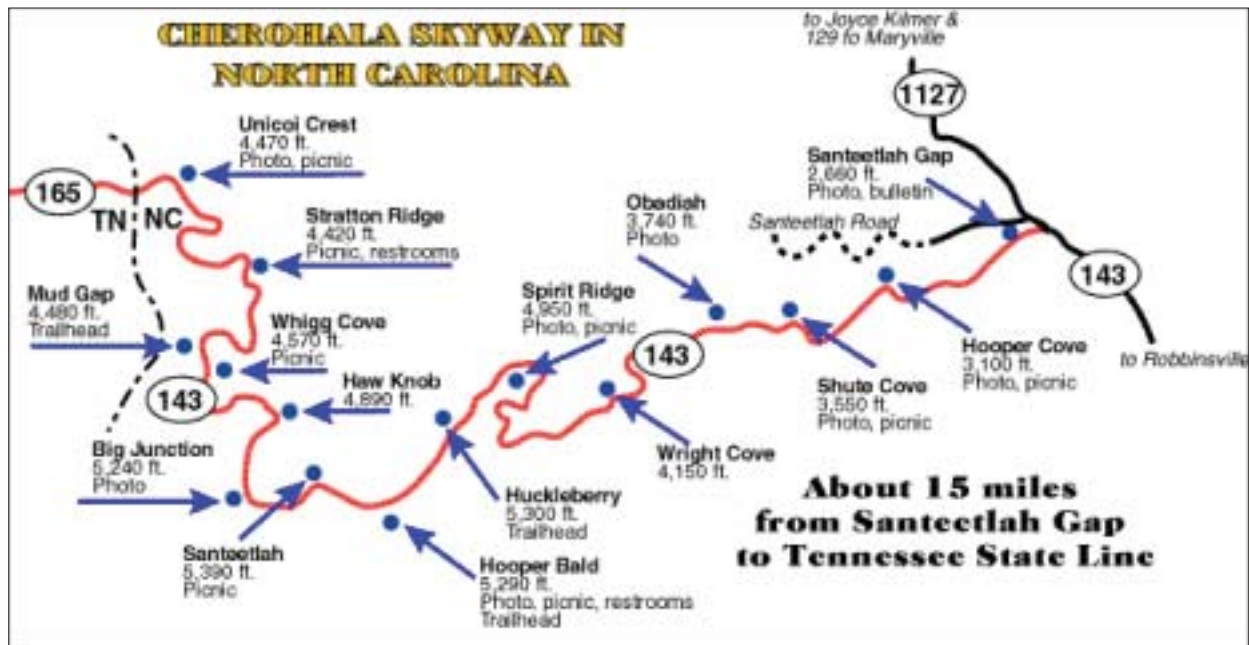
| Mile | Instruction   |
|------|---|
| 0.0  | Depart Fontana Village on SR-28 [Fontana Rd] (West) |
| 23.8 | Keep LEFT onto Local road(s)                        |
| 23.9 | Bear LEFT (East) onto US-74 [SR-28]                 |
| 26.0 | Road name changes to US-19 [US-74]                  |
| 26.9 | Turn RIGHT (South) onto SR-28                       |
| 47.7 | Turn RIGHT (West) onto US-441 Bus [SR-28]           |
| 47.8 | Turn LEFT to stay on US-441 Bus [SR-28]             |
| 48.8 | Turn RIGHT (South-East) onto SR-28                  |
| 50.1 | Road name changes to US-64 [SR-28]                  |
| 67.3 | Turn LEFT (North) onto US-64 [N 4th St]             |
| 67.3 | Arrive Highlands                                    |



Map used with kind permission of [www.tailofthedragon.com](http://www.tailofthedragon.com)



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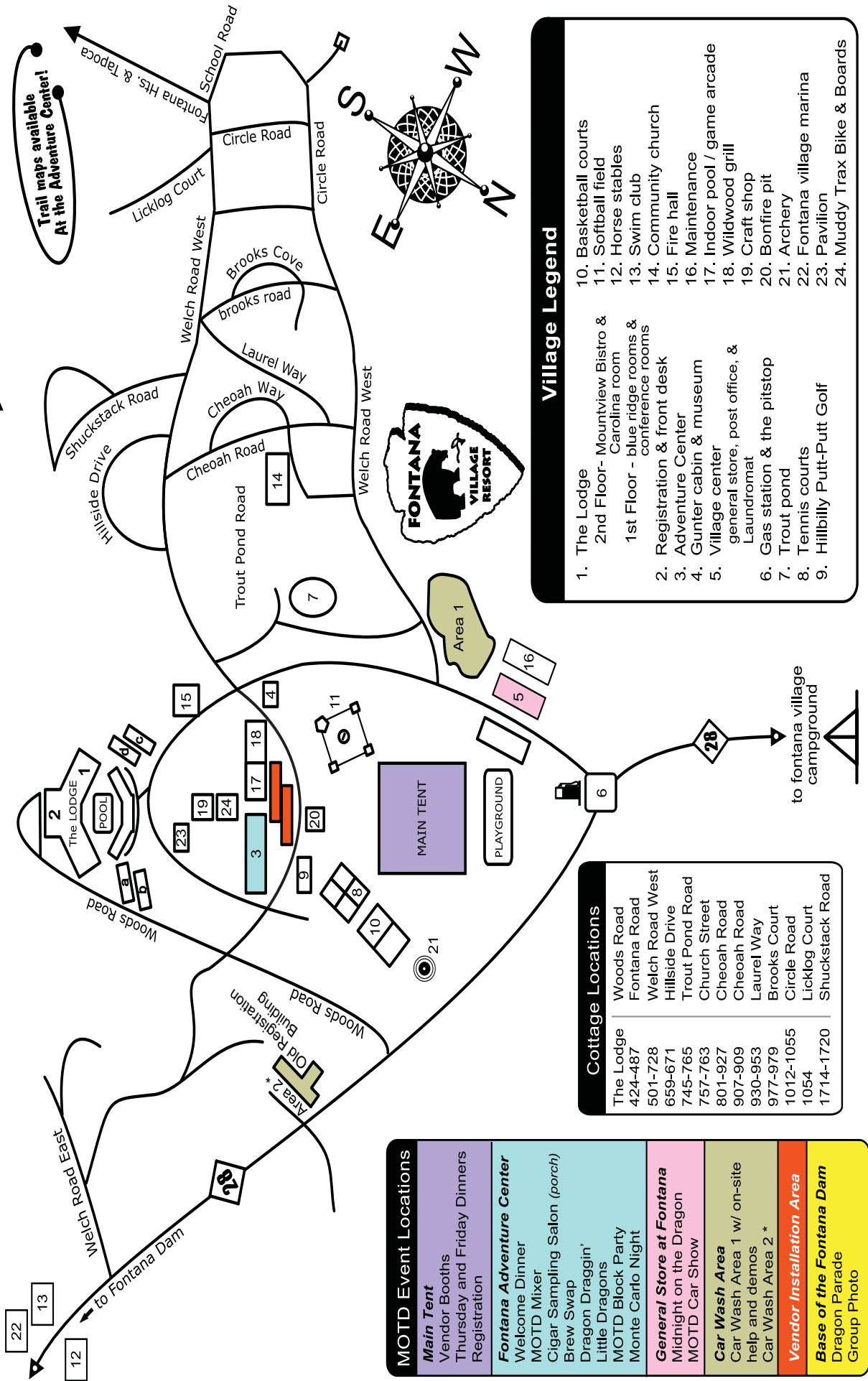








# 2008 MINIs on the Dragon Event Map



- ### Village Legend
1. The Lodge
  2. 2nd Floor- Mountview Bistro & Carolina room
  3. 1st Floor - blue ridge rooms & conference rooms
  4. Registration & front desk
  5. Adventure Center
  6. Gunter cabin & museum
  7. Village center general store, post office, & Laundromat
  8. Gas station & the pitstop
  9. Trout pond
  10. Tennis courts
  11. Hillbilly Putt-Putt Golf
  12. Basketball courts
  13. Softball field
  14. Horse stables
  15. Swim club
  16. Community church
  17. Fire hall
  18. Maintenance
  19. Indoor pool / game arcade
  20. Wildwood grill
  21. Craft shop
  22. Bonfire pit
  23. Archery
  24. Fontana village marina
  25. Pavilion
  26. Muddy Trax Bike & Boards

### Cottage Locations

|           |                 |
|-----------|-----------------|
| The Lodge | Woods Road      |
| 424-487   | Fontana Road    |
| 501-728   | Welch Road West |
| 659-671   | Hillside Drive  |
| 745-765   | Trout Pond Road |
| 757-763   | Church Street   |
| 801-927   | Cheoah Road     |
| 907-909   | Cheoah Road     |
| 930-953   | Laurel Way      |
| 977-979   | Brooks Court    |
| 1012-1055 | Circle Road     |
| 1054      | Licklog Court   |
| 1714-1720 | Shuckstack Road |

- ### MOTD Event Locations
- Main Tent**  
Vendor Booths  
Thursday and Friday Dinners  
Registration
  - Fontana Adventure Center**  
Welcome Dinner  
MOTD Mixer  
Cigar Sampling Salon (porch)  
Brew Swap  
Dragon Draggin'  
Little Dragons  
MOTD Block Party  
Monte Carlo Night
  - General Store at Fontana**  
Midnight on the Dragon  
MOTD Car Show
  - Car Wash Area**  
Car Wash Area 1 w/ on-site help and demos  
Car Wash Area 2 \*
  - Vendor Installation Area**
  - Base of the Fontana Dam**  
Dragon Parade  
Group Photo

# ~Atlanta Panorama ORDER FORM ~

**Bring filled out form to shoot and drop into order box. Simple.**

Please allow 2 to 3 weeks for shipping. Framed orders may take a little longer.

**Unframed** photo orders are sent *US mail*. All **framed** photo orders are shipped **UPS Ground** to a business or home address only! **We do not ship framed orders to post office boxes.** All taxes, S&H are included with pricing.

**Mini Cooper Fontana Dam Group Photo – Dragon 2008**

Approx. **5 foot LONG Panorama Photos:**

**Quantity Desired**

\_\_\_\_\_ **Photo** (Photo, S & H, and taxes) at **\$55 ea.**

\_\_\_\_\_ **Laminated Photo** (Lamination not done for framing)  
*Lamination of panoramic photos helps to enhance the image and protect the photo from rough handling or ripping. Lamination will also protect your photo from water damage.*

\_\_\_\_\_ **Laminated & Repositionable backing added.....**

\_\_\_\_\_ **Framed Panorama Photo with Plexi Glass** Get 2! *Office and Home!*  
 (Pictures are professionally framed behind Plexi in beautiful stained hardwood frame and come to you crated & ready to hang ... Cost includes everything!

BLACK BEAUTY FRAME Only.

\_\_\_\_\_ **8 FOOT LAMINATED MURAL PRINT ...The ULTIMATE!**  
*Absolutely Gorgeous in Every Way – Stunning!  
 Comes with repositionable adhesive backing!*

| <u>W/ PEOPLE</u>              | <u>W/O People</u>             | <u>Both Photos</u>                   |
|-------------------------------|-------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| \$ _____<br><b>\$55. ea.</b>  | \$ _____<br><b>\$55. ea,</b>  | \$ _____<br><b>\$95 for both!</b>    |
| \$ _____<br><b>\$65. ea.</b>  | \$ _____<br><b>\$65. ea,</b>  | \$ _____<br><b>\$115. for both!</b>  |
| \$ _____<br><b>\$75. ea.</b>  | \$ _____<br><b>\$75. ea</b>   | \$ _____<br><b>\$ 125. for both!</b> |
| \$ _____<br><b>\$195. ea.</b> | \$ _____<br><b>195. ea,</b>   | \$ _____<br><b>\$375. for both!</b>  |
| \$ _____<br><b>\$225. ea.</b> | \$ _____<br><b>\$225. ea,</b> | \$ _____<br><b>\$350. for both!</b>  |

**RECEIPT**  
(Tear off)

**Atlanta Panorama**  
 2139 Liddell  
 Atlanta, GA.  
 30324-4132

**Tel:**  
 404-872-2577

Photos only  
 \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Laminated  
 \$ \_\_\_\_\_ &  
 Repositionable Backed

**FRAMED...**  
 \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**8 FT. Murals**  
 \$ \_\_\_\_\_

May 3, 2008  
 Minis on the Dragon

**Method of Payment:** ( ) Cash , ( ) Ck., ( ) Credit Card: **TOTAL: \$** \_\_\_\_\_  
 We Take the following: ( ) Visa , ( ) MC, ( ) Amer. Exp., ( ) Discover

Credit Card # \_\_\_\_\_ **IMPORTANT!** Security Code # \_\_\_\_\_

Expiration Date: \_\_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_\_ Street # of Where Bill is Sent: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_

**MY PHONE # IS:** ( \_\_\_\_\_ ) \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_ **← WE MUST HAVE THIS!!**

**Sign x** \_\_\_\_\_

**\*SORRY... No P.O. Box Addresses for FRAMED photo orders without special approval! We ship UPS. Out of Continental USA, there will be additional shipping cost added!**

*Expect the delivery of your order within 3 to 4 weeks 😊*

*Please PRINT Your Own Address Label ...This is Where You Want Your Photos Shipped TO* →

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**ATLANTA, GEORGIA 30324-4132**  
 Tel. 404 / 872-2577 Fax 404/872-0548

**TO:**