

Title:

America The Beautiful: Exploring The Roads (And Trails) Less Traveled

Word Count:

597

Summary:

When you go off-roading, passenger and vehicle safety often rest on the toughness and durability

Keywords:

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Article Body:

Americans are known for seeking the roads less traveled and, in many cases, continuing to journey

For fans of off-roading, there are two considerations when taking to the dirt and rocks of off

Safety Tips

1. Inform someone of where you are going and when you expect to return.
2. Make sure your vehicle has plenty of fuel.
3. Ride at safe speeds for existing conditions.
4. Travel straight up and down hills-never traverse the face of a hill; it may cause your vehicle
5. Cross large rocks or other obstacles slowly, at an angle, one wheel at a time.
6. Cross ravines at a 45-degree angle.
7. Only cross streams at a designated fording point.
8. Never turn around on narrow roads, steep terrain or unstable ground.
9. Avoid stopping in tall grass or brush, which can be ignited by engine heat.
10. Reduce tire pressure to improve traction in tough off-road conditions.

It's the Ecology

1. Drive only where permitted.
2. Keep a trash bag in your vehicle and collect litter left by others.
3. Ride in the middle to minimize the widening of the trail.
4. Avoid slide slipping and wheel spin to prevent erosion.
5. Keep away from wildlife.
6. Steer clear of sensitive habitats: wetlands, meadows, tundra, etc.
7. Clean your vehicle after the ride to reduce the spread of noxious weeds.
8. Observe proper sanitary waste disposal.

Top Trails

To highlight some of the best off-road trails in the country, BFGoodrich Tires, in conjunction with the National Geographic Channel, has launched a new program, "Best Off-Road Trails in America." "Last year, more than 50 million people sought adventure through recreational off-road driving," says BFGoodrich. The program identifies five of North America's best trails. From desolate desert stretches to scenic mountain passes, the trails offer a variety of experiences. After a careful selection process, five of North America's "outstanding" off-road trails were chosen:

- &#8226; Black Bear Pass, near Ouray, Colo., is a picturesque trail nestled in the San Juan Mountains.
- &#8226; Pyeatt Draw, a scenic and exciting trail situated in Payson, Ariz.
- &#8226; Hell's Revenge, with its slick sandstone slopes, brings adventure to thrill seekers in the Grand Canyon National Park.
- &#8226; Historic Naches Pass, also known as the Longmire Wagon Train, takes off-road drivers on a journey through the Cascade Mountains.
- &#8226; Upper Tellico Trail, Trail #4, located in the Nantahala National Forest, is located in the Great Smoky Mountains National Park.

As a part of the program, BFGoodrich Tires will host several events at designated trails to highlight the beauty and challenges of off-road driving.

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