



Sabie Xperience 2018

Day 1: 6 April 2018

Solo Challenge Option

Route Summary:

(This route is subject to change, as at 17 March 2018)

Spitskop Loop: To the Escarpment Edge and Back – “Your Eyes Will Burn”

Summary:

This stage starts at Floreat Riverside Lodge. (Calibrate your GPS to 1007m above sea level)

After warming up through the Sabie CBD, the participants race “hell for leather” for initial position on the fast tar downhill at 65km/hour before turning left into Sabie Star Chalets. The trail passes through Sabie Star Chalets to cross over the Spitskop Spruit, before the lung-busting technical climb past the beautiful waterfall. From there a jeep track takes them on to cross the R537 White River road over the railway line bridge at Spitskop Sawmills, and up to join the Team Lite and Extra Lite routes along the old railway line service road.

A drop down a great single track into the valley below to the first refreshment station at 17km, before a rhythm climb towards Spitskop mountain, then again down a steep single track, and another slippery flowing trail to the wet and dark culvert, to cross under the R537 White River Road. Then on an extended main road climb up to the Land Rover King/Queen of the Mountains at 1520m above sea level.

The route flattens out to take in some spectacular “On the Edge” grassland single track along the Escarpment rim to enter the new “Stonehenge” trail which weaves amongst some huge boulders before a series of plantation jeep tracks and single tracks pops out at the Land Rover Quarry Dam (with a view!) refreshment station at 42km and 1382m above sea level. The Solo Challenge riders may feed into the Team Lite participants at this stage for the climb back up to the cross-over at 1520m and an exhilarating “Scary Fast” ride down jeep track and smooth open road to Rietfontein and the public crossing (please take care – fast motorcycles!) over the R536 Sabie-Hazyview main road, and the last refreshment station near the Sabie River at 920m above sea level before grinding up the notorious “Scorpion Climb” of 250m over 3km up to the outskirts of Sabie, a single track to go past the Sabie Falls and finally back to the finish.

A word of advice on this route: **DO NOT BURN ALL YOUR MATCHES** on the initial climb up to Spitskop Sawmill from Sabie Star Chalets, and the climb up to King of the Mountain. Payback time will come on the “Scorpion” in the last 10km!

Quick Releases:

Start: Floreat Riverside Lodge: S 25 5.492' / E 30 46.298'

Total Distance: 65km

Accumulated ascent: 1650m

Tar road: 5km

Forestry Road: 19km

Single Tracks: 12km

Jeep Track: 28km

Railway Line: 300m

Three Refreshment Stations:

- 1) At approximately 17km, (S 25 9.052' / E 30 49.916') just before the climb up towards Spitskop mountain.
- 2) At approximately 42km (S 25 9.052' / E 30 49.916') at the Quarry Dam. Energy drink, Cola, ice and cold water, fruit and snacks.
- 3) At approximately 56km (S 25 4.794' / E 30 49.538) next to the Sabie River after the Hazyview road crossing. Energy drink, Cola, ice and cold water, fruit and snacks. Make sure you stop here. You need something in the tank for that final "Scorpion" climb.

Estimated Fastest Rider Time: 2 hours 50 minutes for the Solo Challenge

Accessible Spectator Points:

1. **No. 1** - As the riders pass up through Sabie CBD on Main Road towards the White River/Hazyview exit from Sabie. (S 25 5.856' / E 30 46.734')
2. **No. 2** - As the riders turn into Sabie Star Chalets – off the R536 Hazyview road. (S 25 5.580' / E 30 48.219')
3. **No. 3** - Near the railway bridge crossing over the R537 Sabie-White River road. Please do not park on the road, as this is extremely dangerous, especially in misty weather. (S 7.627' / E 30 48.480')
4. **No. 4** - At the culvert under the R537 Sabie - White River road where the riders' drop-off into and ride under the road, and then up a single track parallel to the road. Please park off the main road and away from the riders' path. (S 25 8.911' / E 30 69.526')
5. **No. 5** - At the Refreshment Station at the Quarry Dam. (S 25 9.052' / E 30 49.916')
6. **No. 6** On the district gravel road. The riders will approach fast from the front and turn into a jeep track. Please do not drive beyond this marshal point, as you will risk driving into approaching riders. (S 25 9.830' / E 30 50.576')
7. **No. 7** - Alongside the R537 Sabie to White River tar road just before it descends the Escarpment. S25 10'42.08" E30 50'35.04" Please park off the tar road.
8. **No. 8** - At the R536 Sabie – Hazyview Road crossing. Please park off the main tar road. This is a dangerous area to park with fast motorcycle traffic through the curves. (S 25 5.027' / E 30 49.617')
9. **No. 9** - At the Sabie Falls' parking area where the riders cross under the R532 Sabie bridge. S25 05' 17.2" E30 46' 43.7" (S 25 5.272' / E 30 46.720')

Please be extremely careful approaching these spectator points if riders are on the road! Unfortunately, the rest of the route is not easily accessible by car, or without unduly affecting the race.

Please do not drive into the Forestry areas or onto the route without permission.

No outside assistance is permitted, and riders will be penalized if they are linked to spectators in areas "out of bounds" to the public.