

**BIKING • SEA KAYAKING • HIKING • WILDLIFE TOURS** 

# **BICYCLE SAFETY & SAFE RIDING TECHNIQUES**

Please read this and bring it with you on your tour for reference.

### SAFETY GEAR FOR ALL RIDERS

- HELMET ALL RIDERS ARE REQUIRED TO WEAR A HELMET WHILE RIDING ON OUR TOURS
- To fit your helmet properly, move the strap adjusters to form tight triangles around each ear and lock the strap adjusters below the ear right over the jaw bone not below the chin. Next, tighten the chin strap so it is comfortably snug under the chin. A loose helmet may come off in a fall and provide no protection!
- GLASSES
- BIKE GLOVES
- BRIGHT COLORED CLOTHING BE SEEN & BE SAFE
- SUNSCREEN & LIP SCREEN
- WATER & SNACKS

### SAFE RIDING TECHNIQUES

- AVOID EXCESSIVE SPEED, WHICH IS THE PRIMARY CAUSE OF MOST SERIOUS INJURIES ON BIKE TOURS!
- RIDE AT A SPEED APPROPRIATE FOR THE ROAD & WEATHER CONDITIONS
- LOOK WHERE YOU WANT YOUR BIKE TO GO YOUR BIKE FOLLOWS WHERE YOUR EYES LOOK
- WATCH FOR CHANGES IN THE ROAD SURFACE ROCKS, GRAVEL, CRACKS, POT-HOLES, CURBS, ETC.
- CROSS R/R TRACKS, WATER BARS & ROAD GRATES AT A 90° ANGLE
- FOLLOW OTHER RIDERS AT A SAFE DISTANCE
- WARN OTHERS BEFORE PASSING THEM ON THE LEFT
- AVOID OVERLAPPING YOUR FRONT WHEEL WITH THE REAR WHEEL OF ANOTHER RIDER
- PACE-LINE RIDING IS DISCOURAGED
- WATCH FOR ANIMALS & PEOPLE ON THE ROAD
- DOGS YELL LOUDLY OR DISMOUNT & KEEP THE BIKE BETWEEN YOU & THE DOG AS YOU WALK AWAY

## **RIDING WITH TRAFFIC – BE ALERT!**

- RIDE LIKE YOU WOULD LIKE OTHERS TO RIDE IF YOU WERE THE CAR DRIVER
- RIDE SINGLE FILE
- RIDE IN YOUR 1-METER/3-FOOT ZONE ON THE RIGHT SIDE OF THE ROAD
- RIDE IN GROUPS OF 3-4 RIDERS & LEAVE A SPACE FOR CARS TO PULL IN AFTER THEY PASS
- SIGNAL YOUR TURNS RIGHT ARM POINTING RIGHT / LEFT ARM POINTING LEFT
- WATCH FOR CAR DOORS OPENING ONTO THE ROAD WAY
- HONKING IS COMMON TO LET YOU KNOW A VEHICLE IS ABOUT TO PASS OR TO SAY HI!

### **STOPPING**

- CALL OUT "STOPPING" TO WARN OTHER RIDERS
- ALWAYS USE BOTH BRAKES TO CONTROL SPEED AND TO STOP YOUR BIKE
- DOWNSHIFT TO A LOWER GEAR BEFORE YOU COME TO A STOP
- WITH CLIP-IN PEDALS ALWAYS UN-CLIP ONE FOOT BEFORE YOU STOP
- AFTER STOPPING, UNCLIP THE OTHER FOOT
- ALWAYS STOP TO THE SIDE OF THE ROAD OUT OF THE DRIVING LANE

# INTERSECTIONS AND ROUNDABOUTS

- REMEMBER, THE BIG VEHICLE ALWAYS HAS THE RIGHT-OF-WAY!
- AT INTERSECTIONS, IF YOU CAN SEE THE DRIVER'S EYES, THEY CAN SEE YOU!
- ALWAYS LOOK TO THE LEFT FIRST AT TRAFFIC INTERSECTIONS AND IN ROUNDABOUTS
- YIELD WHEN TRAFFIC IS ON YOUR LEFT IN THE ROUNDABOUT
- ENTER THE ROUNDABOUT WHEN IT IS YOUR TURN & SIGNAL YOUR EXIT

#### STAYING HEALTHY

- PREVENT DEHYDRATION BY DRINKING BEFORE YOU ARE THIRSTY & SIP OFTEN DURING THE DAY
- FOOD & WATER TAKEN TOGETHER HELP KEEP YOUR ENERGY UP
- SUNSCREEN REAPPLY WHEN NEEDED
- WASH YOUR HANDS AFTER USING THE TOILET & BEFORE EATING KEEP YOURSELF AND OTHERS HEALTHY
- DO NOT SHARE GLASSES OR WATER BOTTLES
- SAVE YOUR BACK & ASK FOR HELP WITH YOUR BAGGAGE
- STRETCH AFTER RIDING
- KEEP YOUR BIKE SHORTS CLEAN

#### REMEMBER, SAFETY IS NO ACCIDENT!