



45th Anniversary Ride Along

Got Questions? Here's Your Answer!

Welcome to the 45th Anniversary Ride Along FAQ. Occurring only every five years, the Ride Along is one of the most popular and fun events for Pi Alphas. It is a chance to reconnect with your Pi Alpha brothers and the mission that has impacted all of our lives while paying it forward to continue this tradition.

How long is the Ride Along?

It is a 3-day, approximately 155-mile ride from Richmond, VA to Washington, DC. All participants will arrive in Richmond, VA on Wednesday, August 10 and arrive at the US Capitol on Saturday, August 13.

What is the Extended Ride Along?

You can add an additional 4 days on the front of the Ride Along and travel from Charlotte, NC (home of the Kelley A Bergstrom Leadership Center of Pi Kappa Phi) to Washington, DC. All participants will arrive in Charlotte on Saturday, August 6 and arrive at the US Capitol on Saturday, August 13.

What travel arrangements do I need to make?

If you are traveling to Richmond via airplane or train, you are asked to arrive by 2pm on Wednesday, August 10. If you are being dropped off, you are to arrive at the team hotel with a fully assembled bike by 4pm. Long-term parking will be available at the Richmond Airport for those wishing to leave their car during the Ride Along.

Most participants will depart on Sunday, August 14. Shuttles will be available to Washington Reagan Airport (DCA) and Richmond Airport (RIC) on Sunday morning. If you are taking the train, Union Station is a short walk from the hotel.

If you need to leave on Saturday, it will be best that you plan to leave after 3pm to give yourself enough time to gather your things after Arrival.

For those participating in the Extended Ride Along, you should arrive in Charlotte (CLT) by 2pm on Saturday, August 6.

All travel details must be confirmed by July 15 to allow staff time to coordinate event transportation.

Where will we stay each night?

There is no need for an air mattress and sleeping bag on this trip! Hotel accommodations will be provided each night. Each room will be double occupancy so choose your roommate wisely (or we can choose one for you)!

What all is included with my fundraising?

The Ride Along is a fundraiser first and foremost for The Ability Experience. The funds raised will provide shared experiences for the men of Pi Kappa Phi and people with

disabilities. We are also working on an aspect of the program to specifically fund future grants to the organization.

We also want the Ride Along to be an incredible experience to reflect your commitment to the mission of The Ability Experience.

Every participant will receive a special participant package prior to the event, which will include a special edition cycling jersey for cyclists and Ability Experience polo for crew, along with a team t-shirt and other AbEx swag! Your double occupancy hotel room each night and all your meals are also included. You'll also have all the good feels, knowing your support will create shared experiences between the men of Pi Kappa Phi and people with disabilities.

What all do I need to pack for the trip?

- All cycling gear (bike, helmet, shoes, extra jersey and shorts, bike light, tools, etc.)
- Outerwear (check the weather for any possible need of rain gear, etc.)
- Casual wear for after the rides
- Business casual wear for Friday and Saturday night dinners
- Toiletries

What bike should I ride?

We recommend riding a road, gravel or cyclocross bike. We do not recommend a mountain bike for this trip. Due to limited inventory, rental bikes in the Richmond and DC areas are not readily available at this time. You should plan to bring a bike with you (either your bike or rent one locally) and not rely on a rental bike in Richmond.

Most airlines currently charge a standard checked bag fee for bikes, making it easier to travel with bikes than in years past. Some bike shops may also help you coordinate shipping bike to the hotel or Richmond bike shop. If you plan to ship a bike, you must coordinate with Ability Experience staff to ensure you are shipping to the correct address and that it arrives in time. Bike boxes and packing materials will be available in Washington, DC to get your bike home.

Can my family join me on the Ride Along?

Yes, you are welcome to bring your family along to share in the experience. Additional fundraising will be required to have your own room each night and to cover the additional meals. Family members are welcome to find local attractions to visit during the day while the team rides or join the team at crew stops. They will be able to join in at all meals and programming during the ride.

Will we have a Friendship Visit during the Ride Along?

Yes, we are planning to have at least one Friendship Visit during the Ride Along. It will take place in Richmond and/or Fredericksburg.

Is there a way for my business/company to get involved?

There are sponsorships available for the Ride Along with opportunities for logo placement on cycling jersey, social media, event emails, special promo materials, and more. If this is something you think your company may be interested in, please contact Andrew Matznick at amatznick@abilityexperience.org.