

Ridereport Schwäbische Alb/Donautal:

Friday, 09/15/2006 Club evening of the Free-bikers Sonthofen. They talk about this and that. Werner says: Tomorrow I will ride again. We (my wife and I) had something else in mind and so we didn't go into the subject any further. Werner got into conversation with the others and a small group arose, which wanted to ride on Saturday, 09/16/06 under Oliver's leadership to the Schwäbische Alb.

Later in the evening - back home - I talked about it again with my wife, and we decided to go with them. On Saturday morning it was briefly clarified when and where we would meet and we could start.

6 motorcycles with 9 persons: Oliver with his Yamaha FJR 1300 as tour guide, Margret and Toni with their BMW GS 1200, Karin and Günther with their BMW R 1100 RS, Monika with her BMW GS 1100, Werner with his Yamaha FJR 1300 and my wife and I with our Honda Pan European met at Oliver's at 10:00 am. He then showed me briefly where to go and my first impression was: Great - can be fun!

At first we took the highway from Sonthofen to Immenstadt and further on towards Kempten. There was a lot of traffic here - in both directions (I wondered if there was something for free somewhere!). But soon we turned to the left towards Eckarts and we were alone(!) - not a soul in sight - so we could go on! At Niedersonthofen we turned left over narrow but fine roads to Hellengerst and on to Buchenberg. There we turned left again via Eschach and Kreuztal to Emerlanden - a wonderful motorbike route, really around curve surfing! We continued in the direction of Leutkirch. Arrived at the main road from Isny to Leutkirch, we did not turn north, but continued straight ahead to Urlau. A small village, which was the starting point for wonderful little side streets, some of which I had not known before. In Urlau, first a short left and immediately right again, Oliver did not know the way anymore and asked a woman at the roadside for the further way to Missen - we were right! Immediately we turned left again and drove via Missen, Winnis, Winterazhofen and Engerazhofen to Gebrazhofen - you've heard the places before? In Gebrazhofen first short stop. Here I could already confirm to Oliver that he had chosen a super track! Via Oberrot and Bremberg I went to Kißlegg and from there to Wolfegg. Here we could have visited the car museum of Fritz B. Busch.

Founded in 1973 in a 500-year-old outbuilding of the princely castle of Wolfegg and since then repeatedly extended and embellished, it now displays more than 200 classic cars and motorcycles in two buildings on four levels. It is considered one of the most beautiful and interesting private car museums in Europe. I myself have been there several times and can only recommend it to everyone - simply a great collection! But there was no time for us, because



the tour was going to be long - maybe next time. Our tour on small roads led us further via Bergatreute, Atzenreute and Reute to Aulendorf. From there via Blönnried to Altshausen and further via Eichstegen and Hoßkirch to Ostrach. In the direction of Krauchenwies we turned off via Rosna and Rulfingen to Sigmaringendorf and finally Sigmaringen. Here we could have visited the castle, but for us it was lunch time. Oliver took us to a small chinese snack in the city. Unfortunately there was construction work going on in front of the restaurant and the otherwise beautiful terrace was no longer usable. We went inside and had lunch - uh no, not all of us! Only Oliver, my wife and me, the others were deterred by the construction site in front of the building and went back to the motorcycles and the local restaurant. We met up again later - and on we went. From Sigmaringen first on the B 32 and B 463 towards

Balingen. But after a short time we turned off again and came to Storzingen. Oliver turned left to some houses and I thought - he knows somebody there and wants to greet him! But this was not so! He was just not quite sure about the further course and asked for the turnoff to Oberschmeien. After that was clarified a small, narrow road leads us again south to Oberschmeien. Oliver wanted to go back to Sigmaringen from there, but unfortunately the bridge there was closed! So we had to go back a short distance - again we asked for the way - and via Unterschmeien we reached the Danube valley. The Danube valley is simply a wonderful gem of German geography! The Danube has dug a deep valley here and meanders between steep rocks. The road also runs along the river in wonderful meanders and you can really "swing". But two buses shortly after each other prevented us from making good progress and so we were "slowed down" a bit. Behind Beuron (very beautiful monastery church, which is worth a visit!) we leave the valley again. Wonderful curve combinations lead us in direction Fridingen. On the way there you should definitely look from the "Knopfmacherfelsen" - Oliver didn't know this amazingly wise one before! So we also made this detour (I had pointed this out to Oliver) and then drove on to Fridingen. But before we said good-bye to Monika, who had to be back home until 18:00 o'clock for private reasons. Our tour guide took us on a round trip to the north. In Bärental he turned right - a short question about the right way - and we reached the Albhöhe via a small winding road. Behind Gnadenweiler, however, the further way was closed and we had to return to Bärental. From there we went via Nusplingen, Unterdigisheim, Oberdigisheim and Tieringen to Lochenstein.

The road from the north up here is a popular motorcycle route. Especially the "knee sanders" have their fun here. A "show bend" with parking at the last bend is the highlight of the route. We drove downhill and reached Weilstetten, where we turned left and via Dotternhausen we came to Schömberg. From here via Ratshausen and Hausen am Tann we reached Tieringen again. We turned right and then immediately right again in the direction of the "ski lift", I thought to myself - like others - where does he want to go again! The lane led over some hairpin bends through the forest up to the heights. There I went to Obernheim via farm tracks. Before the village, however, there is a motocross track on which some "artists" were still on the road. The shown jumps - remarkable! We watched a little and then drove to Obernheim. Here Oliver knew an extremely



small road, which led us back to Nusplingen in the valley. From here the way of the outward journey back to Fridingen and further via Buchheim and Bietingen to Krumbach (before that a coffee break!). From there via Sauldorf and Rast to Wald. Oliver's knowledge of the route didn't fail here either and we continued on small and tiny roads with wonderful curves via Hippelstweiler, Gaisweiler and Tautenbronn. The route led us via Großstadelhofen and Kleinstadelhofen (there are places that no one knows!) as well as Denkingen and Illmendorf, further via Illwangen and glassworks, then Azenweiler and Höge (great route!!!) and then Sießen and Hasenweiler. Via Horgenzell we came to Ravensburg. From here we stayed on the main line and came via Wangen and



Oberstaufen as well as Immenstadt back to Sonthofen. Before in Ettensberg we all said goodbye to each other.

The whole tour was almost 490 km long - without the loop north of Fridingen probably about 420 km.

We had good luck with the weather on the tour - all dry and sunny. Towards Sonthofen it looked different. From Oberstaufen on the road got wet and later on wet. Here it had rained from about 18:00 o'clock on - sometimes heavily, as we learned later. But we came back home dry - lucky!

Oliver, I can tell you one thing: You have put together a super great tour - just great! It is already said that I build many small and smallest roads into my tours - but you are in no way inferior!

The course of the tour:

