

New this Year

The 2017 STIHL Tour des Trees route will have many of the same “poplar” elements of the past, and a few new exciting differences:

- This year’s route is a series of **looped rides returning to the same hotel** every night except August 3. How nice to be able to unpack and settle in one location for most of the week!
- For the first time in its history, the Tour will be **fully integrated with the ISA Annual International Conference and the ITCC**, and we’ll be staying at the same host hotel. Every night we’ll be able to engage with tree friends and colleagues, and they will have the opportunity to interact with and get more involved with the Tour.
- Partial-Tour riders receive the **same number of nights lodging as the number of days they are riding** (i.e., a 4-day rider receives 4 nights of double-occupancy hotel accommodations).
- This year all **payment transactions will be completed before LEAVING for the Tour**. Single rooms will be purchased at registration, and any shortfall on fundraising minimums will be automatically charged to credit cards on July 25, 2017. We hope this will allow for a smoother check-in process and start for the Tour for all involved.
- **Trail riding** will be a big part of the 2017 ride, as trails are the way we’ll be getting in and out of National Harbor, site of our host hotel. Trail riding means adjusting our pacing and the way we ride in groups, but it’s great to have this option in busy Washington, D.C.
- All riders will be required to go through a safety briefing and have their helmets and bikes checked before hitting the road. Riders who have done so will **receive a tag indicating they’ve completed safety training**, and this tag should be zip tied to their bike. With more partial-Tour riders this year than usual, this will allow Safety Committee members to quickly see who’s ready for the road.