



INTERNATIONAL MOUNTAIN BICYCLING ASSOCIATION

August is IMBA EPICS Challenge Month

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(Boulder, Colo. August 1, 2017) Throughout the month of August, the International Mountain Bicycling Association (IMBA) is calling on mountain bikers everywhere to join in a celebration of rugged trails by riding their nearest [IMBA EPICS](#) route, and/or nominating their favorite backcountry singletrack experience for this special designation.

An IMBA EPICS ride is a demanding, mostly singletrack experience in a remote, backcountry setting. EPICS are at least 20 miles long and both technically and physically challenging. The 37 current IMBA EPICS can be found in almost every region of the U.S. plus Australia, Canada, Iceland and Wales. These rides serve to offer inspiration and should be on every mountain biker's bucket list.

IMBA is encouraging mountain bikers get out on the trails and enjoy these special rides in the month of August. Tag #imbaepics on social media through August 31 for a chance to score swag. Don't see your state represented? [Nominate your favorite ride](#) through August 31 for EPICS designation.

For more than a decade, the EPICS and Ride Centers designated through the IMBA Model Trails program have become iconic mountain bike destinations that influence communities across the country and the world to raise the bar on great places to ride. Local mountain bike groups have often leveraged their local IMBA EPICS as event locations for fundraising and community building, and as a way to secure dollars and volunteers to keep their favorite adventures alive.

EPICS include routes like Armstrong to Strawberry near South Lake Tahoe, a 38-mile, black-diamond point-to-point ride with 4,600 feet of climbing and 6,600 feet of descent that one rider called "a symphony of singletrack." If that's not remote or long enough for you, try the 96-mile Maah Daah Hey trail in North Dakota, the 77-mile Black Canyon Trail in Arizona, or the 36-mile rowdy and grueling Rothrock Ride in one of Pennsylvania's state forests.

IMBA thanks the many IMBA chapters, other trail groups and land managers that support these special rides.

Get out there and explore! See the complete list with ride information and maps provided by [MTB Project](#).

#imbaepics