

JANE 2009 Magical Mystery Tour General Instructions

The 2009 JANE Magical Mystery Tour will be run entirely on paved roads and almost entirely on **back** roads. Main and Interstate highways are rarely used except as fast ways to get around congested areas or to link good back roads together.

In all cases the default at any intersection is to remain on the road you are currently following and in the same direction. We have tried to provide clarifying instructions whenever there might be ambiguity. The object is to provide a fun and interesting tour, not to get you lost.

For purposes of tour instructions, dirt roads, driveways, and dead ends do not exist. If the instructions say “take the third left” it means the third paved public road that has an outlet.

Tour Start

There is no fixed time schedule nor any timed segments of the Magical Mystery Tour. You are free to proceed at your own pace. However, be aware that the route is about 170 miles and is almost exclusively back roads. My Garmin map software indicates a travel time of a bit less than 6 hours. Add time for lunch, answering questions, and perhaps a little head scratching, and it will be a full day of driving fun.

We plan on the cocktail reception about 5:30 PM and dinner at 7:30 PM, so do your planning accordingly.

Prebble and I will be a Johnson's from 8:00 AM to 10:00 AM Saturday morning to hand out route sheets and see everyone off.

Route Sheets

Your route sheets will have six columns:

1. **Miles/Route:** This is the mileage from the previous *Route Instruction* to this *Route Instruction*. Each *Route Instruction* has a required route action (e.g., a turn), and possibly a question to be answered. Note that not every line of the route sheet is a *Route Instruction*. Some lines contain only questions to be answered or information on points of interest along the route and require no route changes. Only lines with mileages in this column are actual *Route Instructions*.

All mileages were determined by Garmin GPS and should be very accurate. We have not included cumulative mileages, as experience has shown that they are of little use because of the inaccuracies associated with individual vehicle odometers. Your mileage may differ from these readings, so use the first few legs to gauge the difference. In most cases there is more than sufficient information in the instructions to accommodate minor odometer inaccuracies.

2. **Miles/Info:** This is the mileage reference for questions that should be answered or simply for points of interest along the route. Each represents the distance from the feature in the previous line, whether a *Route Instruction* or just a question/information reference. See the example below for clarification.
3. **Look For:** This is a description of a landmark or feature for which to look, often including the side of the road to be watching. Note that any feature enclosed in quotes indicates that you are to look for a sign bearing the quote, not the object itself, i.e., “Jaguar” means look for a sign, not the car or the cat.

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Most landmarks will be associated with questions to be answered and/or route changes, but some may be purely for pointing out items of interest.

4. **Do:** This column indicates what to do when you reach the landmark/intersection included in a *Route Instruction*. A list of abbreviations used in these instructions is below. Note that for purposes of these instructions dirt roads (dirt will be visible from the lane of travel), driveways, and dead ends **do not exist**. Also, if the instruction contains a question but the **Do** column is empty, you are to continue straight ahead after answering the question.
5. **Questions:** The responses to these questions will be used in determining the awards at the end of the tour. More importantly, they may be used later in the route instructions, e.g., “left if the barn was red, right if it was green.” One procedural hint is for the navigator to read all the instructions early in the route to ascertain which questions are crucial for later route instructions.
6. **Answers:** Each answer will count toward the event awards at the end of the tour.

Here is a sample segment of a route sheet. It, along with the text that follows it should clarify the points above:

Line	Miles		Look For	Do	Question	Answer
	Route	Info				
1	0		Start: Jophnson’s	L		
2	0.5		Tiny’s Restaurant	Bear R at YT		
3		0.7	Statue on R		When was Joe Born?	
4		0.6	School on L		When Founded?	
5	2.4		Long rock wall on L	Turn L		
6		3.5	Note scenery to R			
7	8.5		“Jaguar”	Bear R		

Lines 2, 5, and 7 in the instructions above are actual *Route Instructions*. The mileages in the **Miles/Route** column of each of these rows indicate the total distance from the prior *Route Instruction*, independent of the **Info** miles that might be between them. Thus the Turn L at the Long Rock Wall instruction is 2.4 miles after the Bear R at YT instruction. The last route change instruction (Bear R) is at the 11.4 mile mark in the tour ($0.5 + 2.4 + 8.5$).

Lines 3 and 4 in the table above are questions to be answered. The first landmark (Statue on R) is located at mile 0.7 after the Bear R at YT *Route Instruction* or at cumulative mile 1.2 ($0.5 + 0.7$). The second landmark (School on L) is located 0.6 miles after the Statue or at cumulative mileage 1.8 ($0.5 + 0.7 + 0.6$).

Line 6 is for information only (scenery) and is at cumulative mile 6.4 ($0.5 + 2.4 + 3.5$).

Do not reset your odometer or distance calculations for any of the mileages in the Info column. Mileages in the **Route** column include the entire distance from the previous *Route Instruction* regardless of how many intervening **Info** lines there are.

Route Abbreviations

A number of abbreviations may appear on the route sheets. Memorize them (and/or take a copy of this with you):

Abbreviation	Meaning
L, R, Str	Left, Right, Straight
N, S, E, W	North, South, East, West
Rd, St	Road, Street
SS	Stop Sign
Bl Red, Bl Yel	Blinking Red, Blinking Yellow
SL	Stop Light
T	A "T" Intersection
Y	A "Y" (i.e., a fork or split)
YT	A "T" where the road splits around an island just before the stop (lots of these in New England)
NR	Numbered Route
FNR	Follow Numbered Route
FNaRd	Follow Named Road

FNR and FNaR mean that you should blindly follow the numbered route or named road referred to, through stop signs, stop lights, intersections, and whatever else, until that leg's mileage is up and the next landmark is sighted, then do whatever that leg's instruction tells you to do. Note that when executing a FNaR instruction a change , for example, from N. Main to S. Main is **NOT** considered a name change. You may also see something like "F(lower)NR," which means "Follow lower numbered (numerically) route if two route numbers coincide.."

Route Variations

The route sheets are not all the same! We have intentionally created variations to make the tour more interesting. As a result, blindly following another driver can be a very bad idea. First, you are assuming that the other driver is not lost. Second, even if the other driver is on his route, he may not have the same route sheet as you. If you ever get separated, you may be hopelessly lost since your route sheet may be totally irrelevant to your location.

If you want to travel the route with another participant let us know who, and we will make sure you receive matching route sheets.

Lunch Arrangements

Simply put, there are none. We have noted on the route sheets where there are lunch spots available that seem to be in the right area for a lunch break.

What to bring

- Full tank of gas – these are really country roads and there is not a gas station/convenience store every half mile.
- Bottled water or other beverages – ditto.
- A clipboard or other writing surface will prove handy.

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- GPS – Not particularly sporting, but it's up to you. If we have done our job well it won't be a lot of help anyway.

Safety Net

With your route sheets you will receive a sealed envelope containing full details and maps that will allow you to join everyone at the inn regardless of your navigational abilities. If you become hopelessly lost, allow yourself enough time to still get in on the evening's fun -- if you open your envelope you are bound to be part of it anyway. The route is not highly convoluted, but you can probably reach the inn within 2 to 2.5 hours via major highways from virtually anyplace on the route.

Evening Arrangements

The inn does have a dress code for dinner. Men are requested to wear long pants and a collared shirt and women should dress accordingly.

Dinner Menu

Dinner will feature a salad, appetizers, a wide choice of entrees and dessert. Entrée choices need not be made until the night of the dinner.

Sunday Breakfast

Sunday features a full country breakfast served from 8:00 to 10:00. It includes a wide variety of dishes including bacon, ham, sausage, any style of eggs, pancakes, French toast, quiche, etc. etc.