

TeamStrange Gran Turismo Grand Tour 2024

April 1 through November 15, 2024

The Gran Turismo Grand Tour is simple. According to Wikipedia, Gran Turismo means Grand Tourer, a type of car “designed for high speed and long-distance driving, due to a combination of performance and luxury attributes,” implying “material differences in performance, speed, comfort, and amenities between elite cars and those of ordinary motorists.”

This Grand Tour will celebrate Grand Touring by giving you the opportunity to visit motorsports tracks on your motorcycle. There are no classes, no geographic restrictions, no extras, no locales, no requirements other than it's a motorsports track (as we define it), and you have to document each visit with a photo of a sign at the track identifying the track and including your motorcycle and your rally flag.

Your entry includes a Grand Tour flag and sticker. Entry fee is \$50 for one or two up. GT flags and stickers will be mailed around March 15, and thereafter, upon sign up.

Finishing will earn you bragging rights and an Official Gran Turismo Grand Tour finisher pin.

The top finisher (based on total tracks successfully documented) will be declared the "Gran Turismo Grand Tour Gran Campione" (or "Gran Campionessa" if female) and will receive a commemorative plaque to document this amazing feat. We're also going to declare Regional

Champions in the U.S., Canada, Australia, and the Rest of the World, who will also receive (lesser but still nice) commemorative plaques.

To be a finisher you must visit 25 motorsports tracks between April 1, 2024, and November 15, 2024, and properly document each visit.

Gran Turismo Grand Tour Scoring Rules:

You score by collecting photos of your motorcycle and your rally flag and a Sign showing that you are at a Motorsports Track.

What's a Motorsports Track? It's a place where motor vehicles are raced.

A **motor vehicle** is a car, motorcycle, tractor, go-kart, snowmobile, or any other wheeled or tracked, motor-driven, land vehicle operated by a person on or in the vehicle.

- The motor may be internal combustion, electric, steam, or any form of power on or in the vehicle.
- Things that are *not* motor vehicles include boats, airplanes, human-powered bicycles, horse-drawn carts or chariots, roller coasters, RC cars, electric bumper cars, a person on roller skates with a rocket strapped to their back, and the toy cars at amusement parks that are drawn along a track by external means.

Racing is just that – competing. The motor vehicles may race each other, against the clock, or for distance.

- A concours or car show is not a race (unless there's also a race).
- Cars being driven at a manufacturer's proving ground is not racing (unless a race is held there).
- Cars being driven around a private race course at a track day is not racing unless there is some sort of competition (and we can tell from the Sign that there is competition).
- Go-karts being driven around an amusement park course is racing.
- Bonneville Speed Week is racing.
- An autocross competition in a parking lot is racing (but you may have a problem finding a Sign to prove it).
- The Iron Butt Rally is not racing.

A **Track** is the physical location where motor vehicles are regularly raced, are sometimes raced, or were raced in the past, that can be documented with a Sign.

- A racetrack is a Track.
- A fairground may be a Track if there is a Sign that says there is racing.

- A go-kart track at an amusement park may be a Track if there is a Sign that says so and if you can get a photo of it with your motorcycle and your flag.
- A historical marker for a former racetrack counts if it is unambiguously clear from the historical marker that it is the location of a former racetrack.
- A street circuit or race held on public roads counts if there is a Sign or historical marker that identifies it as a Track where motor vehicles are raced or were raced.
- But you can't just submit a photo of, say, the Tunnel that the Monaco Grand Prix runs through, unless there's a Sign that says it's part of the Grand Prix course.
- Note that if you want to use something non-permanent like a road course or a fairgrounds race track, any Signs available and your ability to provide the proper documentation may depend on what happens to be there at the time you visit. We make no allowance for being there at the wrong time and won't hear any explanations. If you travel to the Isle of Man to use the TT as one of your locations, and you don't do it during the time of the TT, and you can't find a Sign that says this is where the TT happens, you may be sad.
- Each Track counts once. For example, there are multiple gates at Road America; we'll only count one.
- Separate Tracks in the same town are counted separately.
- Current and former versions of the same Track count separately if they are in different physical locations and are separately identified with Signs (e.g. the original road course in Elkhart Lake and the current track at Road America).

A **Sign** is something that unambiguously identifies what is or was at the location as being a Track.

- We'll accept signs, billboards, banners, historical markers, monuments, scoreboards, scoring pylons, or other memorials, as long as it's clear from the Sign that what's there is or was a motorsports track.
- The Sign must be at the location, not a nearby sign pointing the way.
- The Sign must clearly identify the location as being a motorsports track; a sign "Speedway Liquors" doesn't count just because it's in Speedway Indiana and thus near the Indianapolis Motor Speedway; you would need a Sign at the IMS.
- If we have to do historical research or if you have to explain anything beyond what the Sign says or if the Sign is not legible in your photo without computer enhancement, you will not get credit. If you have a Sign at the Ford Proving Grounds and you have to tell us that a race was held there in 1952 but the sign doesn't say so, you will not get credit.
- If we can't read the Sign in the photo, you will not get credit, so you want to do better than an out-of-focus low-resolution photo of a sign off in the distance.

- As a general rule of thumb, a Sign put up by the Track itself, or an official historical marker, will count; a sign that mentions a racetrack put up by somebody else, probably won't count.

Gran Turismo GT General Documentation Rules

1. You must physically go on your motorcycle to each location you claim.
2. You must document your visit to each location with a photo.
3. The photo must include (legibly) your Grand Tour flag, your motorcycle, and proof that you are at a motorsports Track in the form of a sign, banner, historical marker, or other monument identifying the track (for short, a Sign).
4. If you cannot get or do not have your flag, motorcycle and the Sign, in a single photo, you will not get credit for the photo. If the Sign is inside a building or museum and you can't get your motorcycle close enough to get a photo including your flag, your motorcycle and the Sign, you will not get credit for the photo. Our intention is for you to visit locations that you can actually ride to and photograph with your motorcycle nearby.
5. You must include your physical Grand Tour flag in each and every photo. No exceptions. It must be your physical Grand Tour flag – not a copy, not a duplicate. If you lose your original physical Grand Tour flag, you may not collect bonuses until you contact us and arrange for and obtain a replacement. We must be able to read the number on your flag in your photo.
6. Be safe and smart. If conditions or circumstances make capturing a photograph unsafe, a crime, or will result in a ticket or safety violation, do not take the risk. Find a safe alternative to capture your photo or skip the opportunity.
7. Our judges are simple folk. If your photo(s) is/are not clear or you do not document your photo(s) in a way that our scorers can understand, you will not score points. If one of the required items in your photo is too small or fuzzy or distant or dark for us to identify it, you will not score points.
8. You may obtain one and only one *Wild Card* for the entire Gran Turismo Grand Tour. What is a Wild Card? A Wild Card is a location for which there is not any of the acceptable evidence, or which is not on our list, but you make a compelling case for why we should give you points. If you document your visit and make a compelling case, we might give you points. What's a compelling case? It all depends on your creativity; this is your chance to break free from the constraints of the rules and live free. Points will be

awarded entirely at the discretion of TeamStrange and the bar is set very high. You can submit as many Wild Cards as you want (you miss all the shots you don't take), but we'll only give you credit for one. Given the looseness of the rules for this Grand Tour, it's hard to imagine what could be a Wild Card, but, why not?

9. You may submit your photos electronically/digitally or via the mail. Our first preference is that you send us a link to an online digital photo album such as SmugMug or Google Photos where all the photos are nicely captioned. Our second preference would be that you email us digital photos. Our least preference would be that you send us physical photos via mail. All digital photos (or links to digital photo albums) must be submitted to grandtour@davidebsmith.com. If you would prefer to mail your photos, please contact David E.B. Smith at grandtour@davidebsmith.com for the appropriate mailing address. Photos, disks, pen drive and anything else you mail will not be returned.
10. Submissions must be submitted or postmarked on or before November 16, 2024.
11. The TeamStrange Uniform Rules do not apply to this Grand Tour.

Q&A

1. **How do I find motorsports Tracks?** There are websites that have lists of them all around the world and in various countries.
2. **Do you have a list of motorsports Tracks? How many potential locations are there?** We don't have a list. We've done some internet searches and there are a lot. You should have no trouble finding at least 25.
3. **What happens if I get to where a motorsports track is supposed to be and it's gone?** It depends. If there is Sign there saying there was a motorsports track, we'll accept it. If the Sign is not there, you will be sad. There are some examples at the end of the rules.
4. **How do I know if I can get both my motorcycle and the Sign in a photo?** Google Maps Street View is your friend.
5. **Do I need to show the Track in my photo?** No, the Sign is the proof that you were at a Track. If you *can* show that you're at a Track, it may resolve any ambiguity in your favor.
6. **Can I use more than one motorcycle during this Grand Tour?** Yes.
7. **Can I use someone else's motorcycle during this Grand Tour?** It's OK with us if it's OK with them.
8. **Can I use a different motorcycle than the one I signed up with?** Yes.

9. **Can I use a sidecar rig, a trike, a Spyder, a Slingshot, or some other 3-wheeled vehicle?** Yes.
10. **Can I use a car?** No.
11. **Can I put my motorcycle on a train and transport it to bonus locations?** Yes, but only if you are James West and Artemus Gordon.
12. **If I'm riding two up, does one person have to be in every photo?** No, mostly we have two up registration so we know who gets two finisher pins. If you register two-up, you can take along a passenger or not; if you register solo, you can take along a passenger or not. If you registered solo and took a passenger to all the locations and you both want pins, let us know at the end of the tour; if you registered two up and your passenger refused to ride along to a bunch of trains and you only need one pin, let us know at the end of the tour.
13. **Can I take my motorcycle on a trailer to a location and roll it off and submit the photo?** You would be better off leaving it on the trailer and having a really entertaining story for a Wild Card.
14. **Do my flag and motorcycle have to be in each photo?** Yes, absolutely. Again, Yes, absolutely. (And the Sign too). We're going to be strict on this rule in this Grand Tour because we want you to have the rally mindset that your flag must be in every photo.
15. **Can I submit more than one photo of a Sign?** For credit, you will need to submit one photo that shows, in the same photo, the Sign, your motorcycle, and your rally flag (with the number legible). Additional photos may not help and may confuse us. We expect that you'll get close enough to the Sign so that it and your motorcycle and your flag are all visible and legible without us zooming in to the photo. But there is no penalty for submitting extra photos.
16. **Are there any limits on the number of Signs I can submit from any one town?** No. This is not last year's Grand Tour. You won't get credit for multiple Signs at the same motorsport Track, such as the various entrances for Road America, or all the corners at the Monaco Grand Prix. But you can get credit for *different* Tracks in the same town. We are informed, for example, that there are Signs at the current Charlotte Motor Speedway and a historical marker at the former location of the old Charlotte speedway. Same at North Wilkesboro. You can get credit for both the current speedway and the former location of the speedway (assuming you document them correctly). In Elkhart Lake, WI, there are a lot of signs at Road America and there is a series of historical

markers for the original road course; we would count 1 Road America sign and 1 original road course sign.

17. **What are the points per location?** Really there aren't any point values, you just have to visit 25 locations to be a finisher. If it helps, consider it one point per location.
18. **Do I need to imprint the date and time on the photo?** This is not the rally that required that, so no. But if you want to, OK.
19. **How do you want me to submit the photos – all at once, as I go along, in the cloud, in an email, etc?** We're pretty agnostic about this. If it works for you to submit photos in individual emails as you go along, OK, if it works for you to submit everything at the end, OK, if you want to send us a link to Google Photos at the beginning of the tour and just keep adding photos, OK. Most online photo albums or cloud services or file transfer apps we can figure out.

We will say that we think it's risky to send photos in individual emails, because they can get lost in transit, they can get misdirected into our Spam folder, and sometimes the photos you thought were attached to the email weren't attached, or are garbled, or are shrunk so as to be almost impossible to view, or are blown up so we can't see the entire photo.

We *can* tell you what makes our lives easier for scoring your submissions: if you put your rider number in the title of each email you send us. If you tell us if you're sending multiple photos of the same location, either in the accompanying email or in photo captions. If you send us a link to a cloud photo album like Google Photos or Smugmug or the like, that you check that the link works and that it will work for us without us logging in or downloading anything. If you send photos in emails, send one photo per email. For some online photo albums like Google Drive and Dropbox, you have two options – you can share via email or you can create a link and send that. It's better if you create the shared link and email that to us, rather than using the "share via email". We can handle either, but the shared link is easier.

We strongly recommend that at the end of the Tour, or whenever you give up if it's not at the end, you send an email to us at grandtour@davidebsmith.com to tell us that you're done and are submitting your photos and how you're submitting them. We may have 125 riders to keep track of and we are simple folk.

Also strongly recommended is that you tell us how many locations you're claiming, and even better, what they are. That helps *you* because we can double-check your count

against our count and determine if we counted right and got all your photos and give you the proper credit.

We don't score entries as the season goes along, because many riders submit everything at the end. If you send us emails or links during the Tour, we sort them by rider number (hence the need for the number in the email) and collect them for the end of the Tour. It is easiest for us (and hence better for you) if we can simply go to the list of emails or the online photo album, click through the list of photos while we count, and compare our count against your count.

And however you submit the photos, be sure we can see what's shown in the photo. Make sure before you leave a location that you have a photo that's in focus, not too dark, at a high enough resolution, and shows your motorcycle, your rally flag, and a Sign that is readable.

Questions? Ask grandtour@davidebsmith.com

Gran Turismo Grand Tour - Examples of Signs we will and won't accept:

Of course, your motorcycle and rally flag must also be visible in all submitted photos.

We would accept this Sign at the entrance to Great Lakes Dragaway (where the great ones RUN RUN RUN RUN . . .)



We would NOT accept this Sign that is directing you to Great Lakes Dragaway.



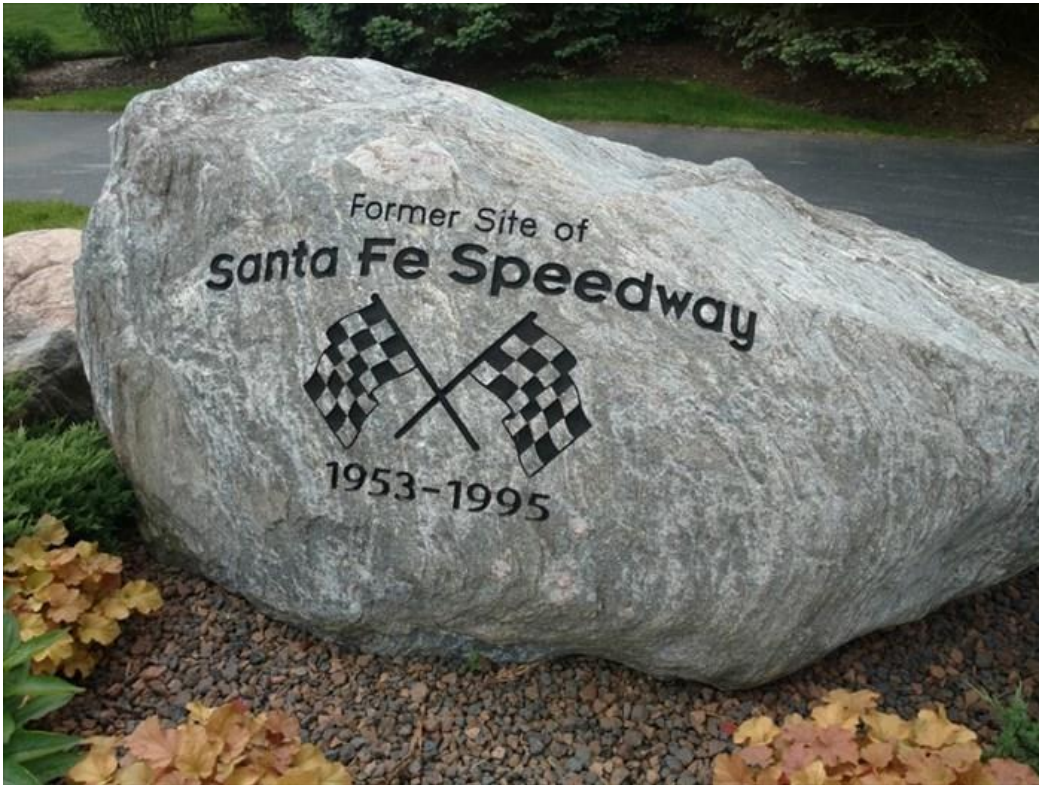
We would accept this Sign at the location of the Illiana Speedway, even though the speedway is closed.



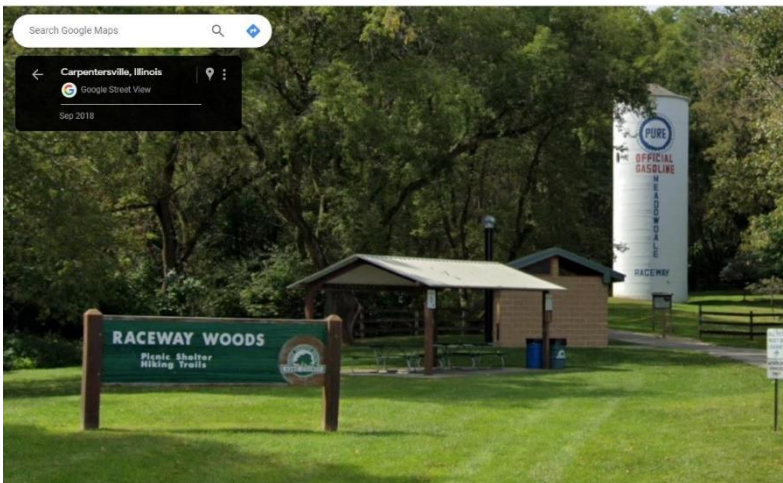
We would NOT accept a photo like this at the location of the former US 30 Dragstrip (Sunday Sunday Sunday), even though it's marked on Google Maps, because there's no Sign that says there was a Track there.



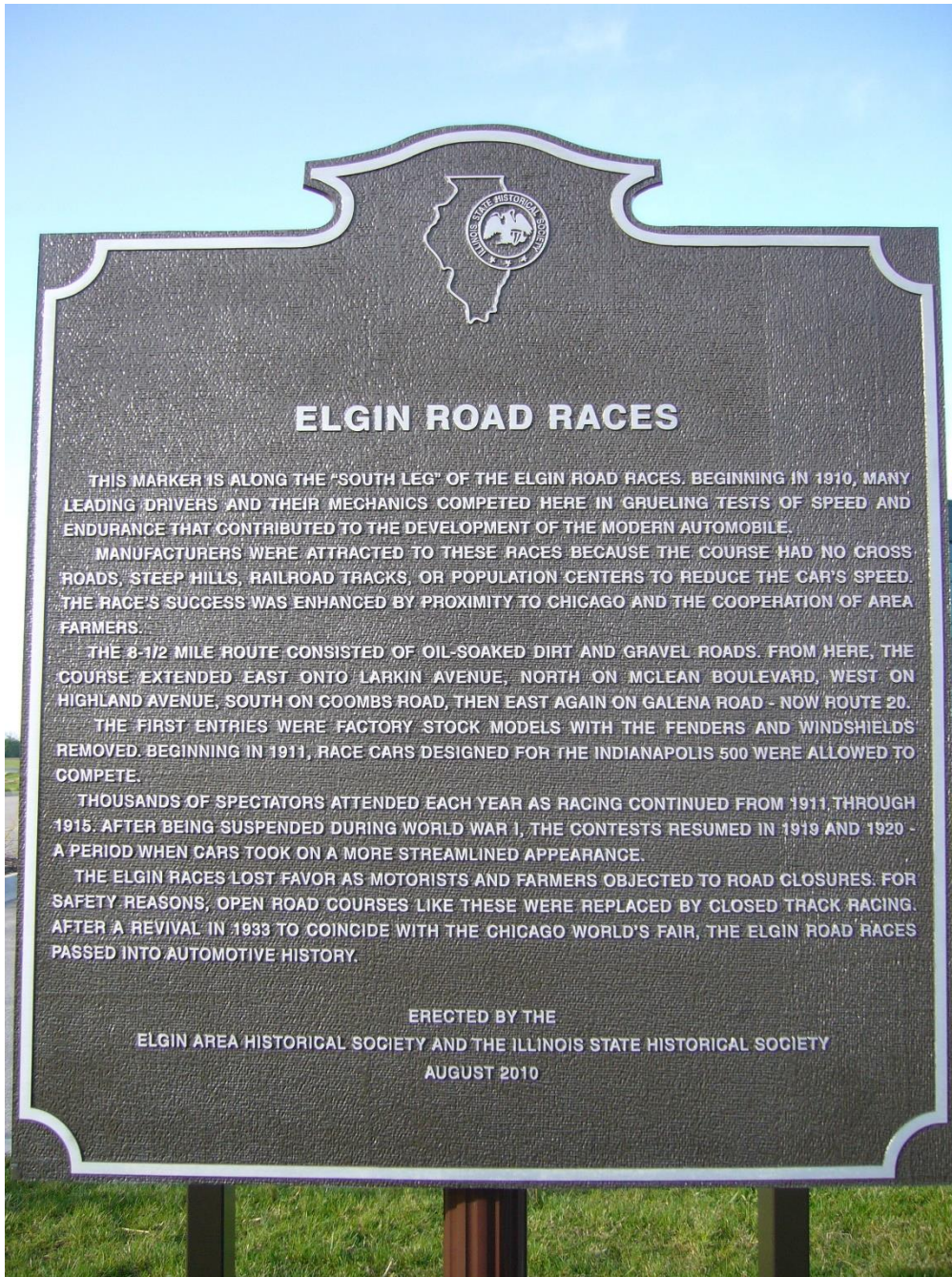
We would accept this monument at the location of the former Santa Fe Speedway



We would accept the tank monument at the location of the former Meadowdale Raceway that says "Meadowdale Raceway" but NOT just the sign at the other entrance that says "Raceway Woods".



We would accept this historical marker at the historic location of the Elgin Road Races



We would accept this historical marker at the site of the first road race in America (if you can get a photo of it with your motorcycle that we can read).



We would NOT accept this photo of the site of the former Raceway Park outside Chicago, even though we have personal knowledge that it's at the site of the Raceway Park track, and even though it says "Raceway Park", because we'd need extra information to know that.



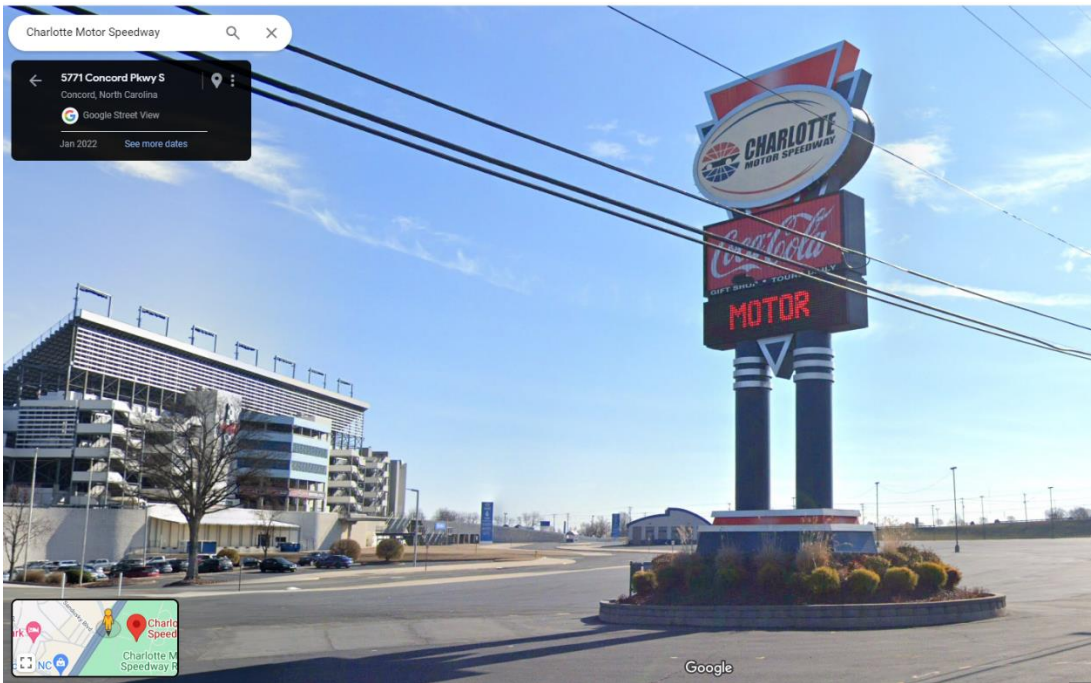
We would accept a photo of the Indianapolis Motor Speedway



But we would NOT accept a photo of a business near the IMS in Speedway called Speedway or of streets that might be near the Speedway.



We would accept BOTH a photo of the current Charlotte Motor Speedway



AND we would accept the historical marker at the former location of the Charlotte Speedway



We would accept a photo of the marker for the first post WW2 road race in Watkins Glen



But we would NOT accept a photo of the Tunnel in Monaco that is famously part of the Grand Prix course (without a Sign saying so).



We would accept a photo from the Isle of Man TT Course that is clearly taken on the IOM TT course



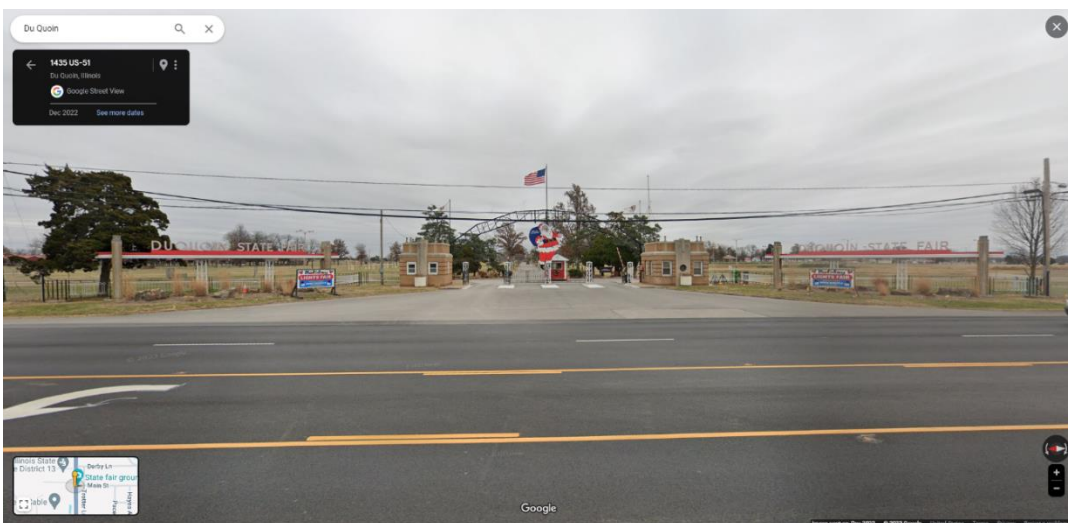
But we would NOT accept a photo from some random location that is along the course that doesn't on its face show that it's on a Track



We would accept this sign that identifies the Wilmot Speedway even though it is only a part-time activity at the Fairgrounds



But we would NOT accept a photo of the DuQuoin Fairgrounds that doesn't mention a Track, even though we all know there's a famous motorcycle race at the flat track there (but you may be able to find a different spot that mentions the track).



We would accept any of these Signs, including the giant boulder, at the Iowa Speedway







In Elkhart Lake WI there are numerous signs at Road America, we would count one for that Track.



And there is a series of historical markers for the original road course, we would count one of those, not more.

