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## Ten (Plus One) Places To Drive Your Miata

Thinking about a long drive in your Roadster? Mazda put together a list of ten great areas to visit in your Miata. For those who can't make a cross country journey, we've added one that we think isn't a bad cruise at all. Enjoy!

1. Albuquerque Balloon Fiesta - *Albuquerque, N.M.* The International Balloon Fiesta has grown to become the largest balloon event in the world. Put the top down for the entire first week of October, when the skies above Albuquerque are transformed from their normal brilliant blue into a kaleidoscope of color.

2. Highway 1 - *California Coastline.* The southern portion of this winding road takes drivers past the old Malibu Pier and glorious Zuma Beach. Further north, in Cambria, not far from San Simeon and Hearst Castle, Highway 1 offers vistas of sea lions lazily sunning themselves on the beach below.

3. Interstate 84 - *Portland, OR.* Convertibles were made for the pristine air of the Pacific Northwest, which is best enjoyed along Interstate 84 as it cuts directly through the awesome Columbia River Gorge, with its spectacular waterfalls and rocky crags. Along I-84, relive Lewis and Clark's approach to the Pacific Ocean.

4. Ardy & Ed's Drive-In - *Oshkosh, WI.* Enjoy a real blast from the past at this authentic 1950s drive-in restaurant, with food still served the way it was served when it opened in 1948. Car hops roller skate your order to your car, while your favorite 50s and 60s tunes play in the background. Ardy & Ed's serves up big frosty mugs of real draft root beer and other old-fashioned soda fountain favorites.

5. Texas Hill Country - *Central Texas.* In the heart of the Lone Star State, Route 16 wanders from San Antonio through cowboy country into the beautifully rugged Texas Hill Country. With Lyle Lovett or Willie Nelson crooning on the stereo, your car's top must go down along a stretch of Route 470, which winds its way through hills where wildflowers and wildlife abide in harmony.

6. Daytona Beach, FL - Drop the top and cruise 16 miles of beautiful hard-packed beach front on the warm Atlantic Ocean alongside hundreds of other cars, trucks, golf carts and all-terrain vehicles in memory of the original Daytona 500 Speedway. If you're really adventurous, go in February during a Speed Week!

7. U.S. 1. - *Florida Keys.* U.S. 1 links a chain of subtropical isles that arc off the tip of Florida. South of the town of Marathon, U.S. 1 crosses the spectacular Seven Mile Bridge, one of the world's longest bridges. Seemingly made for a convertible, it offers sweeping views of the open Atlantic and the Gulf of Mexico.

8. Portland Head Light/Ft. Williams Park - *Cape Elizabeth, Maine.* Portland Head Light is the oldest of Maine's 66 lighthouses. Built during Washington's presidency it is the most photographed lighthouse in America. Longfellow wrote several lines of his poems while sitting at his favorite spot near the base of this tower.

9. Blue Ridge Parkway - *North Carolina to Virginia.* There are certain roads that scream for a convertible, and nowhere is a case better made for just that than the Blue Ridge Parkway. This 469 mile road that connects Shenandoah and Great Smoky Mountains National Parks offers both beauty and adventure at every turn.

10. Mazda Raceway Laguna Seca - *Monterey, CA.* Nestled in the hills overlooking the picturesque Monterey Peninsula lies one of the most historic race tracks in the country. Spend some time enjoying the racing action, or park under a wise, old cypress tree with a copy of Steinbeck's Cannery Row.

11. Brown County - *Indiana.* Cruise twisty roads in our "hills of brown", visit Nashville and its artists, enjoy fine cooking with fried biscuits, stay at a B&B in historic Story, Indiana. You can make this a day trip or spend the weekend!

(Article courtesy of <http://media.ford.com/mazda/>)

Don't forget to visit the club website for up to date information and more! <http://indymiata.org>