

# **LEXINGTON-MIDDLESBORO, KY**

## **TRAVEL DIRECTIONS TO/FROM FREE PARKING AT BMS**

### **LEXINGTON/MIDDLESBORO, KENTUCKY**

#### **TO BMS**

There are several routes available from the Lexington area to Bristol.

(1) From Lexington, travel south on Interstate 75 to Knoxville, then follow the Knoxville directions to BMS along eastbound Interstate 40 and northbound Interstate 81.

(2-3) From Lexington, travel south on Interstate 75 and exit off at Kentucky Exit 29 (US 25E) at Corbin, Kentucky. Travel south on US 25E (a four-lane roadway) to Middlesboro, Kentucky. Go through Middlesboro and enter the Cumberland Gap Tunnel. Before entering the tunnel, you must choose one of two options depending on the direction one wants to travel from here – either via south on US 25E or east on US 58. One must choose before entering the tunnel, as no lane changes are permitted inside the Cumberland Gap tunnel.

To continue south on US 25E, go straight after exiting the Cumberland Gap Tunnel and proceed through Harrogate and Tazewell over Clinch Mountain to Bean Station. At Bean Station, one can continue south on US 25E to Interstate 81 at Exit 8 in Morristown and thence to BMS (see the Morristown directions), or one can turn onto northbound US 11W through Rogersville to Kingsport and thence on to BMS (see the Kingsport-Rogersville directions).

(4) To continue east through Virginia from Middlesboro, get in the right lane before entering the Cumberland Gap tunnel, as one cannot change lanes once inside the tunnel. As soon as you emerge from the tunnel, take the exit to eastbound US 58 towards Jonesville, Virginia.

Continue east on US 58 (which is mostly a four-lane roadway with a few two-lane and three-lane stretches) over two mountains through Jonesville (do not take US 58A in Jonesville; stay on US 58; they are not the same route) to Duffield, Virginia. In Duffield, you will come to a traffic signal at the intersection with US 23; turn right to continue on eastbound US 58. Go past the entrance to Natural Tunnel State Park and stay on the four-lane bypass around Gate City. Go through the traffic signal on the Gate City bypass into Weber City, Virginia. Go under the railroad bridge and get in the left lane. At the next traffic signal, take a left turn to follow eastbound US 58, southbound US 421 and Virginia State Route 224 (going straight will keep you on southbound US 23 where there is an extensive work zone for a bridge replacement at the North Folk of the Holston River with only one lane of traffic in each direction). Immediately get in the right lane as you cross a concrete four-lane bridge. At the far end of the bridge, a left turn will take you along eastbound US 58 and southbound US 421, while going straight through will take you along Virginia State Route 224 towards Kingsport. Even though the sign says a left turn along eastbound US 58 will take you to Bristol, stay straight on to State Route 224 (east of here, US 58 is very winding that could be difficult for larger vehicles, and is the

slower way to BMS). In a few miles, you will cross the Tennessee state line and Virginia State Route 224 will become Tennessee State Route 93. Continue on State Route 93 and get in the right lane when it becomes a four-lane roadway. At the interchange with US 11W, exit and take northbound US 11W at the bottom of the ramp (a left turn) towards Bristol. You will pass a shopping center with Target in it on your left; once you pass that shopping center, stay in the right lane. In a few miles, you will come to the signalized intersection with Highway 394. Take a right turn onto eastbound Highway 394 towards Interstate 81 at Exit 69.

At the Exit 69 interchange with Interstate 81, go under the Interstate 81 bridges (this is where you appear on Diagram D2). Go through the community of Blountville. Go under the US 11E bridges. Stay in the right lane. Go through the traffic signal at Tennessee Highway 390, staying in the right lane. To go to Speedway Parking, take a right turn at the next intersection (White Top Road); Speedway Parking is the first driveway on the left. To go to Whitetop Creek Park, continue straight on Highway 394 past the Dragway Entrance and take the next right onto Sportsway Drive at the Copperhead Entrance. Go south on Sportsway Drive about 2,000 feet and Whitetop Creek Park is at the end of the road.

### **TO MIDDLESBORO/LEXINGTON**

You will not be going back to Middlesboro or Lexington the same way that you came in. Westbound Highway 394 is the heaviest-traveled of all the post-race routes. The route below is a few miles longer, but takes less time because the volumes are less and the speeds are much higher. The route back in the Bristol area is shown on Diagram D12. The White Top Route will get Speedway Parking patrons back to Highway 394. From Speedway Parking, turn left onto eastbound White Top Road along the White Top Route. Go east on White Top Road, following the TO 81 signs, and turn left onto eastbound Vance Tank Road. At the STOP sign at Broyles Lane, do not turn onto Broyles Lane; keep going straight on Vance Tank Road. After passing a railroad signal on the right, turn left to go up the concrete ramp of Sweet Knobs Trail to its eastern intersection of Highway 394. You must turn right onto eastbound Highway 394 in the right lane.

From Whitetop Creek Park, go north on Sportsway Drive and turn right onto eastbound Highway 394, get in the right lane, and go over the bridge at the Vance Tank Road interchange.

From either parking lot, the next Highway 394 interchange is at Tennessee State Route 358 (Weaver Pike); once you go over that bridge, get in the left lane. At the traffic signal with US 421, turn left to get to Interstate 81 (a right turn will get you there as well, but adds about 25 miles to the trip) by getting onto northbound US 421. Follow the signs to Interstate 81 along the following routes (there are TO 81 signs along the way):

- a. Continue north on US 421 (the street name will change to Virginia Avenue)
- b. Follow northbound US 421 as it turns left onto Maple Street
- c. Follow northbound US 421 as it turns right onto Pennsylvania Avenue
- d. Go through the traffic signal at Ash Street

- e. At the traffic signal at Anderson Street, the road curves so that a through movement goes onto the Anderson Street bridge over the railroad and a right turn goes onto northbound Pennsylvania Avenue. Go through onto the Anderson Street bridge and immediately get in the right lane
- f. At the end of the bridge, turn right onto northbound Martin Luther King, Jr. Boulevard and get in the left lane
- g. Go through the Shelby Street and State Street traffic signals; you are now in Virginia, but the street name is still Martin Luther King, Jr. Boulevard
- h. Continue straight on northbound Martin Luther King, Jr Boulevard towards Interstate 81
- i. Go through the West Mary Street traffic signal and get in the right lane
- j. At the next traffic signal (Moore Street/Oakview Avenue), turn right; in one block, you will intersect Lee Highway (US 11/19). Continue straight on northbound US 11/19 (Lee Highway). Get on southbound Interstate 81 from Lee Highway.
- k. Stay in the right lane on southbound Interstate 81 and cross back into Tennessee.

Once you cross back into Tennessee on Interstate 81, you have several options to return to Lexington. Routes (2), (3), and (4) below pass through Middlesboro.

(1) Go south on Interstate 81 to Knoxville and then north on Interstate 75 to Lexington. See the Knoxville directions for details.

(2) Go south on Interstate 81 to Exit 8 (US 25E); then travel north on US 25E through Morristown (see the Morristown directions for details), Bean Station, over Clinch Mountain, through Harrogate, and through the Cumberland Gap Tunnel to Middlesboro, and then continue northbound on US 25E to reach Interstate 75 at Exit 29 in Corbin, Kentucky; then go north on Interstate 75 to Lexington.

(3) Exit at Tennessee Exit 74B (the first exit past the Tennessee Welcome Center) onto southbound US 11W. Go will go past the Highway 394 traffic signal and into the city of Kingsport. Go through Kingsport and Rogersville and you will intersect US 25E in Bean Station, Tennessee. Turn onto northbound US 25E and travel over Clinch Mountain and through Harrogate and the Cumberland Gap Tunnel to Middlesboro, and then continue northbound on US 25E to reach Interstate 75 at Exit 29 in Corbin, Kentucky. Traveling north on Interstate 75 will take you to Lexington.

(4) Follow US 58 to reach Cumberland Gap Tunnel and Middlesboro, as described below.

Get off at Tennessee Exit 74B (the first exit after the Welcome Center) to get onto southbound US 11W. You will go past the Highway 394 traffic signal and into the city of Kingsport. At the interchange with State Route 93, take the exit onto northbound State Route 93 (the first right-side ramp). Continue north on State Route 93 as it turns into the two-lane Virginia State Route 224 as you cross the state line. When you intersect US 58, stay going ahead (as the roadway curves to the left) onto westbound US 58. Get in the right lane as you cross a concrete bridge and turn right at the traffic signal to follow

westbound US 58, northbound US 421, and northbound US 23. Follow this four-lane roadway along the Gate City bypass, past the entrance to Natural Tunnel State Park, and into the town of Duffield. At the first traffic signal past the entrance to Natural Tunnel State Park in Duffield, at the bottom of a long downgrade, turn left to follow westbound US 58 and northbound US 421. Go over two mountains to the community of Dot; here, US 421 turns right towards Pennington Gap and US 58 continues straight; stay on westbound US 58 through the town of Jonesville. Stay on westbound US 58 as you approach Cumberland Gap; a right exit will take you into the Cumberland Gap Tunnel (northbound US 25E) and the town of Middlesboro.

Take northbound US 25E through the tunnel and through Middlesboro to Interstate 75 at Kentucky Exit 29, and then north on Interstate 75 to Lexington.