



March Midweek Drive

Wednesday, March 18, 2026

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I am a man who appreciates nice curves, so I thoroughly enjoyed our March 18th midweek drive. The route, designed and led by Dan Wilson, had plenty of hairpin, sweeping, and serpentine corners. Dan also ordered up fine weather. The calendar said it was still winter, but temperatures hit the low 70s and the cherry and magnolia trees were in bloom. And the roads were dry!

We ended the tour with lunch at the Power Station

Pub at Edgefield McMenamins. I asked some of the other drivers what was special about the morning's 106-mile ride. One said he liked the series of steep roller-coaster hills we encountered - he enjoyed watching the Porsches giving us a rooftop view as they climbed and a peek at undercarriage as they crested the hill.

Another noted that we seemed to have had the fortune of seeing every Multnomah County road crew doing their work. One of the flaggers whipped out a phone to film the parade of Porsches.

Another observed that the name of the drive

- Troutdale Loop - was apt because we kept doubling back on roads and intersections that looked familiar. We're blessed with so many good roads to choose from in the river gorges and foothills of the Cascades; why not try them all?

It could have been called the Sandy River Loop. We crossed it via four bridges, starting at the river's confluence with the





Columbia and climbing to the Marmot Bridge at River Mile 30, where the Sandy River is a wild mountain stream.

We turned around at Barlow Wayside Park. Just another 700 yards down the road and we would have been at the world-famous Sandy Ridge mountain bike park.

Our second rest stop was at the City of Sandy's Meinig Park. What appeared to be a parking lot is in fact the cover of a large underground storm water retention pond. That water flows to the Clackamas River; we were just 250 yards south of the ridge that separates the two watersheds.

These are some of the unique aspects of this drive. What it had in common with so many of our drives is the opportunity to test the fantastic handling of our Porsches, to admire the variety of fine cars (including a well-preserved 914 driven by Bob Patterson), and enjoy the company of good folks. My thanks to Dan Wilson and the other volunteers who made it possible. ■

