

Interstate Rest Area Guide

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INTRODUCTION

The information presented in this ebook is designed to help you easily locate rest areas and welcome centers along Interstate highways. Understanding how the information is presented, and learning the difference between a mile marker and exit number, will aid you in using this ebook.

Mile Markers and Exit Numbers

Mile Markers

Mile markers, or mileposts as they are also known, are the vertical green signs on the edge of highways placed at one-mile intervals. Mile marker numbering begins at the most southerly or westerly point in a state. For example, if you enter Colorado from New Mexico, mile markers will increase as you travel north through Colorado. Likewise if you were to enter Colorado from Utah, mile markers would increase as you travel east through Colorado. California is the only state that does not use mile markers. Instead, they use a Post Mile system with numbering beginning and ending at county lines.

Exit Numbers

Interstate exit numbers are determined by one of two methods. The first, and most widely used, is based on the mile marker system. Using this method, the first exit number on an Interstate as you travel south to north or west to east is determined by its distance from the state line. For example, if an exit is located between mile markers 4 and 5, it is numbered as Exit 4. The next exit, if located at mile marker 8.7, would be numbered as Exit 8. Thus you would know that you must travel approximately 4 miles to reach the next exit. Using this method of exit numbering helps to determine the location and distance to a desired exit.

The second method of numbering Interstate exits is the consecutive numbering system, which means Interstate exit numbers begin at the most southerly or westerly point and increase consecutively as you travel north or east. Using this method, the first exit on an Interstate as you travel south to north or west to east is Exit 1. Each exit thereafter increases consecutively as Exit 2, Exit 3 and so on. Few states use this method of numbering Interstate exits.

California's Numbering System

As mentioned above, California does not use mile markers nor does it indicate exits with a number. This is changing, however. In January of 2002, California began erecting signs displaying exit numbers based on the mile marker system. Completion of this project is expected in 2008. The exit numbers and mile marker numbers used in this ebook for California are based on the new proposed numbers that California has assigned.

Rest Areas & Welcome Centers

Rest areas and welcome centers located along Interstate highways are presented in a chart. Depending on your direction of travel, you'll either read up the chart or down the chart. If you are traveling north or east, read up the chart. If you are traveling south or west, read down the chart.

Services located directly along an Interstate are indicated by their *mile marker number* surrounded by parentheses. Services located off an Interstate are indicated by their *exit number*. Sometimes you will notice (northbound), (southbound), (eastbound), or (westbound) after a rest area or exit name. This means that the rest area or exit is only accessible to northbound, southbound, eastbound, or westbound travelers.

Abbreviations

Below is a list of abbreviations used throughout this ebook.

| Abbreviation | Description |
|---------------------|---------------------|
| Bldv..... | Boulevard |
| CR | County Road |
| E | East |
| FM..... | Farm to Market Road |
| Hwy..... | Highway |
| I | Interstate |
| N..... | North |
| Pkwy | Parkway |
| Rd..... | Road |
| S | South |
| US | U.S. Highway |
| W..... | West |

Please Note

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ALABAMA

Interstate 10

Interstate 10 in Alabama runs east to west for 67 miles from the Florida state line to the Mississippi state line. Eastbound travelers should read up the chart. Westbound travelers read down the chart.

| Exit(mm) | Description |
|----------|--|
| (66) | Welcome Center (westbound) Restrooms, Phones, Picnic Tables, Vending Machines, Pet Walk Area, Handicap Facilities |
| (1) | Welcome Center (eastbound) Restrooms, Phones, Picnic Tables, Vending Machines, RV Dump Station, Pet Walk Area, Handicap Facilities |

Interstate 20

Interstate 20 in Alabama runs east to west for approximately 215 miles from the Georgia state line to the Mississippi state line. A portion of the highway from Birmingham to Mississippi is also I-59. Eastbound travelers should read up the chart. Westbound travelers read down the chart.

| Exit(mm) | Description |
|--------------------------------|--|
| (213) | Welcome Center (westbound) Restrooms, Phones, Picnic Tables, Vending Machines, RV Dump Station, Pet Walk Area, Handicap Facilities |
| ▼ I-20 and I-59 run together ▼ | |
| (85) | Rest Area Restrooms, Phones, Picnic Tables, Vending Machines, RV Dump Station, Pet Walk Area, Handicap Facilities |
| (39) | Rest Area (westbound) Restrooms, Phones, Picnic Tables, Vending Machines, RV Dump Station, Pet Walk Area, Handicap Facilities |
| (38) | Rest Area (eastbound) Restrooms, Phones, Picnic Tables, Vending Machines, RV Dump Station, Pet Walk Area, Handicap Facilities |
| (0.5) | Welcome Center (eastbound) Restrooms, Phones, Picnic Tables, Vending Machines, RV Dump Station, Pet Walk Area, Handicap Facilities |
| ▲ I-20 and I-59 run together ▲ | |

Interstate 59

Interstate 59 in Alabama runs north to south for 242 miles from the Georgia state line to the Mississippi state line. A portion of the highway from Birmingham to Mississippi is also I-20. Northbound travelers should read up the chart. Southbound travelers read down the chart.

| Exit(mm) | Description |
|--------------------------------|---|
| (241) | Welcome Center (southbound) Restrooms, Phones, Picnic Tables, Vending Machines, RV Dump Station, Pet Walk Area, Handicap Facilities |
| (168) | Rest Area (southbound) Restrooms, Phones, Picnic Tables, Vending Machines, RV Dump Station, Pet Walk Area, Handicap Facilities |
| (165) | Rest Area (northbound) Restrooms, Phones, Picnic Tables, Vending Machines, RV Dump Station, Pet Walk Area, Handicap Facilities |
| ▼ I-20 and I-59 run together ▼ | |
| (85) | Rest Area Restrooms, Phones, Picnic Tables, Vending Machines, RV Dump Station, Pet Walk Area, Handicap Facilities |

| | |
|--------------------------------|---|
| (39) | Rest Area (southbound) Restrooms, Phones, Picnic Tables, Vending Machines, RV Dump Station, Pet Walk Area, Handicap Facilities |
| (38) | Rest Area (northbound) Restrooms, Phones, Picnic Tables, Vending Machines, RV Dump Station, Pet Walk Area, Handicap Facilities |
| (0.5) | Welcome Center (northbound) Restrooms, Phones, Picnic Tables, Vending Machines, RV Dump Station, Pet Walk Area, Handicap Facilities |
| ▲ I-20 and I-59 run together ▲ | |

Interstate 65

Interstate 65 in Alabama runs north to south for 367 miles from the Tennessee state line to Interstate 10. Northbound travelers should read up the chart. Southbound travelers read down the chart.

| Exit(mm) | Description |
|--------------|---|
| (364) | Welcome Center (southbound) Restrooms, Phones, Picnic Tables, Vending Machines, RV Dump Station, Pet Walk Area, Handicap Facilities |
| (302) | Rest Area Restrooms, Phones, Picnic Tables, Vending Machines, RV Dump Station, Pet Walk Area, Handicap Facilities |
| (213) | Rest Area Restrooms, Phones, Picnic Tables, Vending Machines, RV Dump Station, Pet Walk Area, Handicap Facilities |
| (133) | Rest Area Restrooms, Phones, Picnic Tables, Vending Machines, RV Dump Station, Pet Walk Area, Handicap Facilities |
| (89) | Rest Area (southbound) Restrooms, Phones, Picnic Tables, Vending Machines, RV Dump Station, Pet Walk Area, Handicap Facilities |
| (85) | Rest Area (northbound) Restrooms, Phones, Picnic Tables, Vending Machines, RV Dump Station, Pet Walk Area, Handicap Facilities |

Interstate 85

Interstate 85 in Alabama runs north to south for 80 miles from the Georgia state line to I-65 in Montgomery. Northbound travelers should read up the chart. Southbound travelers read down the chart.

| Exit(mm) | Description |
|-------------|---|
| (78) | Welcome Center (southbound) Restrooms, Phones, Picnic Tables, Vending Machines, RV Dump Station, Pet Walk Area, Handicap Facilities |
| (44) | Rest Area Restrooms, Phones, Picnic Tables, Vending Machines, RV Dump Station, Pet Walk Area, Handicap Facilities |