

2026 Rider Safety Training



Easy Rider Tenerife

Canary Islands Survival Guide To Motorcycling.

01 CHAPTER 1 EVERYTHING IS YOUR ENEMY

A Personal Introduction

Before we begin this course, I want to tell you a little about why I believe so strongly in what you are about to learn.

I have been riding motorcycles for more than 35 years.

Over that time I have ridden in some incredible places and experienced just about every type of road condition imaginable. I have ridden motorcycles throughout the United Kingdom and across America, including busy cities, high-speed highways, mountain roads and some of the most challenging traffic conditions a rider can face.

But there is one place that I enjoy riding motorcycles more than anywhere else in the world.



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LET'S KEEP YOU ON THE ROAD TO HEAVEN.

How To Survive on Two Wheels in The Canary Islands.

The roads here are simply incredible. The scenery is breathtaking. The mountain roads are world class and offer some of the best riding experiences available anywhere.

But surviving here is different from simply riding safely.

The Canary Islands present a unique set of challenges that many riders underestimate.

Tourists.

Hire cars.

Changing weather.

Mountain roads.

Heavy traffic.

Drunk pedestrians.

Animals.

Blind junctions.

And countless other hazards that can appear without warning.

One lesson that riding has taught me over the years is this:

Everything is your enemy.

Even the things that don't move.

A lamppost standing on the side of the road may seem harmless. Yet every year riders hit fixed objects because they lost concentration for a split second. The lamppost didn't move. The rider did.

When you put your helmet on, you should become Iron Man.

You should switch on every sensor you have.

You should see every danger.

Every vehicle.

Every pedestrian.

Every side road.

Every blind corner.

Every possible escape route.

You should constantly have a little voice in your head asking questions.

What is that vehicle about to do?

Has that driver seen me?

What happens if that pedestrian steps into the road?

Where can I go if everything goes wrong?

01 EVERYTHING IS YOUR ENEMY

How To Survive on Two Wheels in The Canary Islands.

Drivers reversing blindly.

Pedestrians stepping into the road.

Groups of people walking out from behind parked vehicles.

Every one of these situations had something in common.

The danger was visible before it happened.

The rider simply had to recognise it.

That brings us to the single most important lesson in this entire course.

Self-awareness.

As soon as your head goes into your helmet, switch on your awareness satellite.

This is what will save your life.

Not horsepower.

Not expensive riding gear.

Not rider aids.

Awareness.

Expect everything from everyone.

Expect mistakes.

Expect surprises.

Expect the unexpected.

Because if you are prepared for danger, you have a chance to avoid it.

The moment you drop your guard, switch off your awareness and stop looking ahead, you can find yourself waking up surrounded by machines in a hospital bed wondering what happened.

Ride alert.

Ride aware.

Ride like everything is your enemy.

Because sometimes it is.



The First Rule of Motorcycle Survival

Assume everything around you is trying to hurt you.

Not because people are malicious.

Because people are distracted.

Drivers:

- Don't look properly.
- Misjudge speed.
- Forget indicators.
- Use mobile phones.
- Panic under pressure.
- Make poor decisions.

A rider who assumes danger survives longer than a rider who assumes safety.

The objective is not to become fearful.

The objective is to become aware.

When you learn to identify danger before it develops, you dramatically increase your chances of getting home safely every single time you ride.

Key Learning

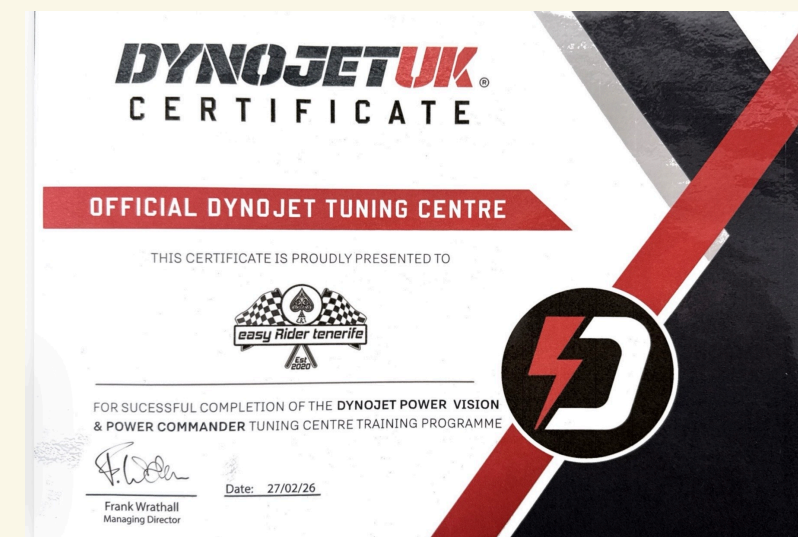
Learn to constantly scan:

- The road ahead
- Your mirrors
- Side roads
- Junctions
- Pedestrians
- Road surfaces
- Escape routes

Good riders react.

Great riders predict.

And the riders who survive longest are usually the riders who saw the danger before everyone else.



Exercise 1

List as many dangers as you can identify when riding a motorcycle.

Examples:

- Cars
- Hire cars
- Diesel spills
- Gravel
- Potholes
- Dogs
- Pedestrians
- Blind bends
- Parked vehicles
- Wet roads

Continue until you can think of no more....

The purpose of this exercise is to train your brain to recognise hazards before they become accidents.

THE TOURIST

One of the most unexpected dangers I have found in the Canary Islands is not the roads.

It's not the potholes.

It's not the trucks.

It's not the traffic.

It's the tourists.

Over the years I have come to class the tourist as one of the wild animals of Tenerife.

Now before anyone gets upset, I don't mean that in a disrespectful way.

I mean that tourists can often be completely unpredictable.

And as we learned in Chapter 1, unpredictability is one of the biggest dangers a rider can face.

Tourists can appear from nowhere.

They can suddenly step into the road without looking.

They can stop in the middle of a footpath to take photographs.

They can stand in the road trying to capture the perfect holiday picture.

They can wave at motorcycles, shout from the roadside, or become distracted by things that local people no longer notice.

I've seen tourists walk straight into the path of motorcycles because they were looking at Mount Teide instead of the road.

I've seen them run across roads unexpectedly.

I've seen them stand in dangerous locations just to take a photograph.

I've even seen tourists climb onto parked motorcycles because they wanted a holiday picture.

The reality is that tourists can create hazards both on and off the road.

The best way to deal with this danger is to avoid it whenever possible.

Unfortunately, in Tenerife that can be easier said than done.

The island is one of Europe's most popular holiday destinations, and many of our roads, towns and viewpoints are filled with visitors throughout the year.

My advice to my own sons when they were learning to ride was simple.

Avoid the busiest tourist areas whenever possible, especially during peak season.

If you must ride through them, increase your awareness and reduce your speed.

Tourists can become even more dangerous when they are driving cars, riding mopeds, or using electric scooters.

Many are unfamiliar with the roads.

Many are distracted.

THE TOURIST

Some may even be under the influence of alcohol.

This combination can create highly unpredictable situations.

But the danger is not limited to towns and resorts.

Even on quiet mountain roads we can encounter tourist-related hazards.

One of the most common examples is at viewpoints.

A vehicle may suddenly stop without warning.

A car may pull out unexpectedly.

A driver may become distracted by the scenery and forget about the traffic around them.

A passenger may open a door into the road without checking.

If you know the road ahead contains viewpoints, scenic stops or popular photo locations, slow down and prepare for the unexpected.

The most important thing to understand is this:

Tourists are living inside a holiday bubble.

They are excited.

They are distracted.

They are looking at things that you stopped noticing years ago.

Their attention is often focused on their holiday experience rather than the risks around them.

As riders, we cannot change that.

What we can do is recognise it.

If you learn to identify tourist behaviour early, create space around it, and anticipate unexpected actions, you will dramatically reduce your chances of becoming involved in an accident.

View them as unpredictable wildlife.

Give them space.

Expect sudden movements.

Never assume they have seen you.

And always keep your Awareness Satellite switched on.

In the remainder of this chapter we will look at practical ways to identify tourist hazards and discuss the techniques experienced riders use to safely navigate Tenerife's busiest tourist environments.

Volcano Hunters Safety Check

☐ Awareness Satellite ON

A Rider's Introduction

Hire cars can be one of the biggest warning signs to anyone riding a motorcycle in Tenerife. If you happen to be behind one, next to one, or anywhere around one, you should immediately recognise that you may be sharing the road with a potential danger.

Most hire cars are easy to identify.

Many have company stickers on the rear window, tailgate or doors. Many are white.

In fact, whenever I see a white car ahead, I automatically start looking for the sticker. My Awareness Satellite immediately switches on. In those situations, don't look at the vehicle. Look at the people inside. You may see passengers waving phones around. You may see maps. Children pointing excitedly out of the windows.

The driver looking left, right and everywhere except where they are going. Everybody inside looking slightly bewildered as they try to work out where they should be.

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Est 2020

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MOTOR HARLEY-DAVIDSON CYCLES

MOTO GUZZI

TRIUMPH

THE SECOND BIG BEAST

One of the biggest mistakes riders make when encountering a hire car is becoming impatient.

The vehicle is braking unexpectedly.

The driver is wandering within the lane.

The sat-nav is clearly winning the battle for their attention.

And the rider decides to solve the problem with speed.

They accelerate.

They overtake aggressively.

They undertake.

They force their way past.

Unfortunately, this is often the moment the situation becomes dangerous. The vehicle that has been driving unpredictably for the last five minutes may suddenly turn left just as you overtake.

It may suddenly move right just as you undertake.

It may stop.

It may swerve.

It may do exactly the thing you were trying to escape from.

Over the years I have learned that sometimes the best solution is not to fight the danger. Sometimes the best solution is to let it go.

Slow down.

Hang back.

Take a breath.

Pull over if necessary.

Allow the vehicle to move further away from you. Let a few other cars get between you and the problem. Then continue your ride safely. The road will still be there in five minutes.

Your destination is not going anywhere.

Sometimes tackling the problem head-on is exactly what puts riders into hospital. Remember that these drivers are not trying to cause problems.

Many have only just arrived on the island.

Many are tired from travelling.

Many are looking for accommodation.

Many are trying to understand unfamiliar roads while relying entirely on a sat-nav.

They are distracted.

They are confused.

And they are often overwhelmed.

THE SECOND BIG BEAST

Road rage helps nobody.

Shouting at a distracted tourist does not improve their driving.

Aggressive riding does not improve your safety.

Patience does.

Let's also remember that tourism is the lifeblood of Tenerife.

These visitors are important to the island.

The problem is not the tourist.

The problem is the situation.

And as riders, our job is to manage that situation safely.

My advice whenever you identify a hire car is simple.

Recognise it early.

Switch on your Awareness Satellite.

Create distance.

Give it space.

Let it make its mistakes far away from you.

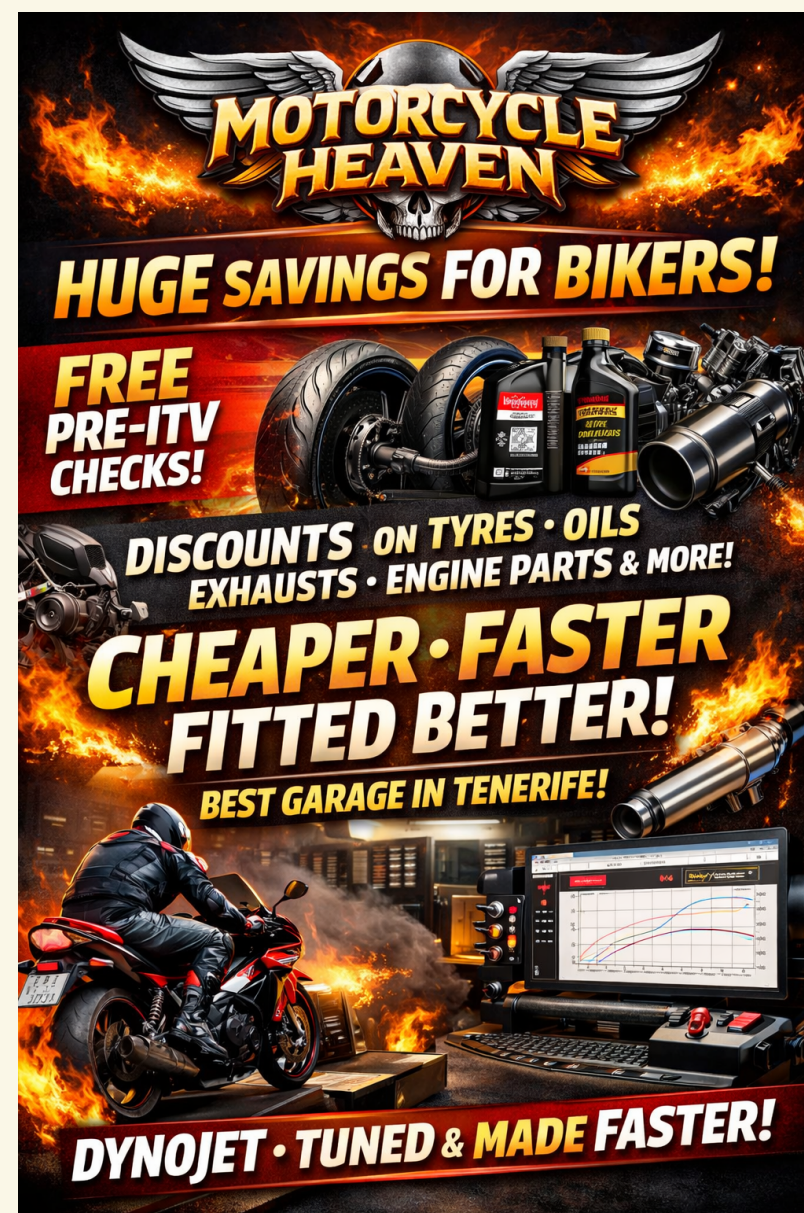
Then enjoy the road when the danger has disappeared.

Because sometimes the smartest rider isn't the fastest rider.

The smartest rider is simply the one who gets home.

Volcano Hunters Safety Check

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THE DANGER ZONE

The tourist areas are where Chapters 2 and 3 come together.

This is where the tourists meet the hire cars.

And together they create one of the most dangerous places to ride a motorcycle in Tenerife.

Areas such as:

- Las Américas
- Los Cristianos
- Costa Adeje
- Puerto Colón
- Golf del Sur
- El Médano

all share similar dangers.

Not only do we have tourists and hire cars, we now add parking problems, traffic congestion, poor visibility and overcrowding.

These areas can be chaotic.

People shout from the roadside.

Pedestrians step into the road without looking.

Groups walk between parked cars.

People are distracted.

Some may be intoxicated.

Others are focused entirely on their holiday experience and completely unaware of what is happening around them. Meanwhile the roads are often packed with vehicles. One of the biggest dangers I see regularly is parking-related incidents.

Parking spaces are limited.

Drivers are searching for spaces.

Tourists are watching for spaces.

The moment one becomes available, everything can change.

I've seen two or three vehicles suddenly dive for the same parking space.

Cars crossing solid white lines.

Cars stopping without warning.

Cars reversing blindly.

Cars making emergency turns across traffic.

All because somebody spotted a parking space.

As riders we must expect this behaviour.

Never assume the vehicle ahead is travelling where it appears to be travelling. The driver may already be looking at a parking space on the opposite side of the road. The driver may already have stopped paying attention to everything except that empty space.

THE DANGER ZONE

One of the most important things you can do in tourist areas is make yourself visible.

Ride in a position where you can be seen.

Avoid hiding in blind spots.

Use your lane position wisely.

Wear visible riding gear.

Keep your lights in good condition.

And if your motorcycle can be heard, that's often an advantage too.

Visibility saves lives.

The more people notice you, the more time they have to avoid hitting you.

Keep your speed low.

Expect doors to open.

Expect vehicles to reverse.

Expect pedestrians to appear suddenly.

Expect scooters.

Expect taxis.

Expect delivery vehicles.

And most importantly, expect the unexpected.

The dangers do not stop when you park your motorcycle either.

Many riders are surprised to discover that tourist areas can create problems even when the engine is switched off.

Tourists often see motorcycles as part of the holiday scenery.

They may gather around them.

Touch them.

Sit on them.

Use them as props for photographs.

Most mean no harm.

But misunderstandings and confrontations can happen when people treat your motorcycle as a holiday attraction rather than somebody's property.

My advice is simple.

Avoid tourist areas whenever possible.

If you don't need to be there, don't be there. And when you do have to ride through them, slow down, increase your awareness and ride as though every vehicle, every pedestrian and every parking space is planning something unpredictable.

Because quite often, they are.

THE DANGER ZONE

Volcano Hunters Safety Check

- ☐ Awareness Satellite ON

Key Learning

Tourist areas combine multiple hazards into one environment.

When entering a tourist area:

- ✓ Reduce speed
- ✓ Increase observation
- ✓ Improve visibility
- ✓ Expect parking manoeuvres
- ✓ Expect pedestrians
- ✓ Expect distractions
- ✓ Maintain escape routes
- ✓ Stay patient

The safest rider in a tourist area is rarely the fastest.

It's the rider who sees the problem before it develops.

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RECOMENDADO UNA VEZ AL AÑO

¡TODO A PUNTO!

TENERIFE'S ROAD BEASTS

The TF-1 and TF-5 are two of the busiest roads in Tenerife. They are the arteries of the island.

Every day they carry thousands of vehicles, tourists, locals, delivery drivers, buses, trucks, motorcycles and hire cars from one side of the island to the other. For many riders, these roads are simply a way of getting from A to B.

For experienced riders, they are environments that demand respect.

The TF-5 serves the north of the island and connects many of the major towns and cities. During rush hour it can become heavily congested and extremely challenging to navigate. With multiple lanes, frequent entries and exits, and a mixture of fast-moving and slow-moving traffic, it can quickly become confusing for both motorcyclists and drivers.

Add tourists and hire cars into the equation and you have the perfect recipe for unpredictability.

The weather in the north can also change rapidly.

One minute you may be riding in sunshine.

The next you may encounter heavy fog, rain or poor visibility.

During hotter periods vehicles can overheat and break down unexpectedly, creating hazards in live traffic lanes. When riding the TF-5, reduce your speed when conditions require it, limit unnecessary lane changes and find your space on the road as early as possible.

Most importantly, switch your Awareness Satellite fully on.

The TF-1 presents many of the same challenges. This is the main connection between Santa Cruz and the south of Tenerife and is often one of the busiest roads on the island.

Heavy traffic.

Congestion.

Roadworks.

Recovery vehicles.

Emergency services.

Accidents.

All of these are common sights on the TF-1.

While much of the road feels modern and open, it contains numerous entry and exit points where situations can develop extremely quickly. One of the most dangerous areas for motorcyclists is around motorway entry points. Vehicles are often attempting to join the motorway from very low speeds, and occasionally from a near standstill. You may be travelling at motorway speed while a vehicle ahead is trying to merge into traffic with little acceleration.

This creates a significant speed difference and can quickly become dangerous.

TENERIFE'S ROAD BEASTS

Whenever possible, create space around merging traffic.

Recognise the danger early.

Avoid becoming trapped beside vehicles entering the motorway.

Move safely and predictably.

The TF-1 is also a road where impatience can become a killer.

Heavy goods vehicles may be travelling slowly.

Traffic may build unexpectedly.

Lane discipline may disappear.

Drivers may become frustrated.

Never allow yourself to become part of that frustration.

Do not sit too close to vehicles.

Do not become trapped in blind spots.

Do not rush manoeuvres simply because traffic is moving slower than you would like.

Take your time.

Create space.

Maintain options.

One of the most important skills on these roads is correct overtaking procedure.

Every movement should be clear and predictable.

Drivers should know what you are doing before you do it.

The simple principle many riders learn remains as important today as ever:



Mirrors. Signal. Mirrors. Manoeuvre.

Use your mirrors.

Check your surroundings.

Indicate clearly.

Check again.

Then make your move.

A predictable rider is a safer rider.

Tourists and hire cars remain a significant hazard on both roads.

Drivers regularly miss exits.

Some cut across multiple lanes to recover from mistakes.

Others brake suddenly when they realise they are in the wrong lane.

In extreme cases, drivers have even been known to reverse on the hard shoulder after missing an exit.

Never assume common sense will prevail.

Expect the unexpected.

Don't be tempted to use speed as a solution either.

These roads are heavily monitored.

Speed cameras are common and fines are issued every day.

More importantly, speed reduces your time to react when things go wrong.

And on roads like the TF-1 and TF-5, things can go wrong very quickly.

My advice is simple.

Turn your Awareness Satellite fully on.

Stay visible.

Stay predictable.

Stay patient.

And wherever possible, stay away from traffic rather than trying to fight through it.

Because on Tenerife's road beasts, survival is not about being the fastest rider.

It's about being the rider who arrives safely.

Volcano Hunters Safety Check

☐ Awareness Satellite ON

FOREVER CHANGING

So far in this course we have talked about the obvious dangers of riding in Tenerife.

Tourists.

Hire cars.

Traffic.

Congested roads.

Motorways.

Busy tourist areas.

But as we move away from the crowds, away from the congestion and away from the busy coastal roads, we discover what many riders come to Tenerife for.

The mountains.

Some of the most beautiful riding roads in Europe can be found right here in the Canary Islands. Every time I ride them, I am reminded just how lucky we are.

The roads are generally well maintained.

The scenery is breathtaking.

The views stretch for miles.

And the landscape changes constantly.

I often describe riding through the mountains of Tenerife as riding through a living oil painting. One moment you're riding through pine forests. The next you're surrounded by volcanic landscapes.

Clouds roll through valleys.

Sunlight breaks through the trees.

The colours change.

The temperature changes.

The season changes.

And every ride feels different.

Even after more than twenty years of riding these roads, I still find every journey unique. But beauty comes with danger.

And sometimes the very thing that attracts us to these roads is the thing that catches us out.

The views.

The scenery.

The distractions.

The mountain roads of Tenerife are filled with twists, turns, switchbacks and blind corners. Some corners tighten unexpectedly.

Some corners open out.

FOREVER CHANGING

Others disappear completely behind rock faces and vegetation.

And while you're admiring the view, the road continues to demand your attention. One of the biggest mistakes riders make is forgetting that these roads are shared.

Tourists often underestimate the roads.

Hire cars can overshoot corners.

Drivers unfamiliar with mountain roads may drift into the opposite lane. A right-hand switchback can suddenly reveal a vehicle where you least expect it. And that vehicle may be on your side of the road.

We are often taught during our training to maintain a visible road position and use the road effectively.

But mountain riding requires additional thought.

Blind corners demand caution.

Road position must be chosen carefully.

Visibility must always be balanced against safety.

The mountain roads have their own rules.

And they don't forgive mistakes.

Another danger is what the mountains themselves leave behind. After storms and bad weather, the roads can change dramatically.

Rockfall is common, Loose stones appear unexpectedly, Branches and debris can be washed into the road, Mud and gravel can be carried onto bends.

The road you rode yesterday may not be the same road you ride today.

One of my favourite times to ride is after a storm has passed.

The air is clean.

The scenery is spectacular.

The views are unforgettable.

But those are also the days when I am at my most alert.

Because the storm may be gone.

The dangers it left behind are not.

Large buses and heavy vehicles also create their own challenges.

Many mountain roads were never designed for modern traffic volumes.

Some buses require most of the available road width to negotiate tighter corners.

Others may stop unexpectedly to allow oncoming traffic to pass.

It is not unusual to find a bus partially occupying your lane while navigating a mountain bend.

FOREVER CHANGING

Again, awareness becomes everything.

My advice for mountain riding is simple.

Enjoy the roads.

Enjoy the scenery.

Enjoy the experience.

Ride with friends.

Ride in groups.

Stop and take photographs.

Take in everything these incredible roads have to offer.

But never treat the mountains like a race circuit.

Because the mountains don't care how experienced you are.

They don't care how powerful your motorcycle is.

They don't care how many years you've been riding.

The mountains demand respect.

And riders who forget that sometimes find themselves inside an ambulance on the way to hospital.

Some never get the opportunity to ride those roads again.

Ride the mountains slowly enough to enjoy them.

And wisely enough to return home.

Volcano Hunters Safety Check

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A Rider's Introduction

After years of renting motorcycles to riders from all over the world, one thing has become very clear.

Many riders own motorcycles equipped with rider modes, traction control systems and ABS technology, yet very few truly understand what these systems are doing.

Some riders never use them.

Some riders use them all the time.

And some riders simply press buttons and hope for the best.

In Tenerife, understanding your motorcycle's riding modes can make a significant difference to your safety.

The Canary Islands are unique because of the dramatic changes in altitude and climate that can be experienced during a single ride.

A rider can leave the coast in bright sunshine and warm temperatures.

An hour later they may find themselves climbing through cloud, fog, rain and damp roads.

Continue climbing and they may suddenly emerge into clear blue skies once again.

It is not unusual to experience several different seasons in a single ride.

This is especially true when riding towards Mount Teide and the higher mountain roads. Because conditions can change so quickly, modern rider aids can become extremely valuable tools.

I often discuss riding modes with our customers before they leave on a motorcycle.

Many are surprised to learn how much assistance modern motorcycles can provide when conditions change.

Different manufacturers use different systems, but most modern motorcycles offer some variation of:

- Rain Mode
- Road Mode
- Sport Mode
- Rider Modes
- ABS Systems
- Traction Control Systems

These systems are designed to help the motorcycle respond more appropriately to changing road conditions.

Depending on the motorcycle, they may adjust:

- Throttle response
- Traction control intervention
- ABS sensitivity
- Engine braking characteristics
- Power delivery

07 WET MODE & DRY MODE

The objective is simple.

To help keep the rider safe when grip levels change.

The important thing to understand is that these systems are not magic.

They assist the rider.

They do not replace the rider.

A motorcycle in Rain Mode can still crash.

A motorcycle with ABS can still crash.

A motorcycle with traction control can still crash.

The biggest safety system on any motorcycle remains the person sitting on top of it.

Rider modes should be viewed as tools.

Useful tools.

Powerful tools.

But tools nonetheless.

Any good motorcycle rental company should explain the operation of these systems before you leave.

Most motorcycles allow mode selection through a simple switch on the handlebars.

Learning how your motorcycle behaves in different modes is an important part of becoming a safer rider.

And when riding in Tenerife's constantly changing conditions, understanding those modes may help you manage changing grip levels more effectively and ride with greater confidence.

The lesson is simple.

Use the technology.

Understand the technology.

But never rely entirely upon the technology.

Because awareness will always be your greatest safety system.

Volcano Hunters Safety Check

☐ Awareness Satellite ON



WHERE, WHEN AND HOW

People often ask me when you should overtake.

My answer is usually very simple.

The fewer hazards you have in front of you, the fewer hazards you need to worry about.

Every vehicle in front of your motorcycle is a potential danger.

That vehicle can brake suddenly.

It can swerve.

It can change direction.

It can avoid an obstacle you haven't yet seen.

Or it can simply be driven by somebody who isn't paying attention.

For me, sitting unnecessarily amongst traffic has always carried more risk than riding safely with clear road ahead.

I've heard drivers tell me they feel safer sitting behind another vehicle.

Personally, I've never understood that way of thinking.

The vehicle in front is often the biggest unknown in your journey.

I've lost count of the number of times I've seen drivers drifting across lanes while using mobile phones.

I've seen drivers texting.

I've seen drivers holding conversations while paying more attention to the phone than the road.

I've seen vehicles wander across the carriageway because the driver was distracted by something happening inside the car.

All of these situations reinforce the same lesson.

The less time you spend trapped behind unpredictable vehicles, the better.

In Tenerife, road markings should always be respected.

A solid white line means exactly that.

Do not cross it.

Do not overtake across it.

Wait patiently.

The opportunity will come.

When the road markings allow overtaking and the conditions are safe, a properly planned overtake can remove a significant hazard from your immediate surroundings.

The key words are:

Properly planned.

One of the most dangerous manoeuvres I regularly see is undertaking.

Undertaking surprises drivers.

It places you in areas where many drivers are not expecting to see a motorcycle.

And it dramatically increases the risk of a collision.

Avoid it whenever possible.

A safe overtake should always follow a procedure.

Check your mirrors.

Assess the road ahead.

Signal your intentions.

Check again.

Move decisively.

Complete the manoeuvre.

Return safely.

Every movement should be predictable.

Every movement should be deliberate.

And every movement should be completed with an escape plan in mind.

Never allow yourself to be bullied by traffic.

Never allow yourself to be rushed by vehicles behind you.

And never allow frustration to make decisions on your behalf.

An overtake should happen because it is safe.

Not because you are impatient.

The objective is not to prove that your motorcycle is fast.

The objective is not to win a race.

The objective is to place yourself in the safest position possible on the road.

And very often, that position is not surrounded by several tonnes of moving metal.

In this chapter we will learn when overtaking is appropriate, when it should be avoided, and how to perform overtakes safely, legally and confidently on Tenerife's roads.

Volcano Hunters Safety Check

☐ Awareness Satellite ON

The Golden Rule

A safe overtake is never about speed.

It's about judgement.

POSITION, SPEED & LINES

Some of the best rides of your life will be shared with other riders.

There is something special about riding with friends.

The sound of the motorcycles.

The shared experience.

The coffee stops.

The photographs.

The stories at the end of the day.

Group riding can be one of the most enjoyable parts of motorcycling.

Unfortunately, it can also be one of the most dangerous.

Not because of the roads.

Not because of the weather.

Not because of the motorcycles.

Because of people.

One of the biggest mistakes I see in group riding is riders trying to keep up with somebody else.

The group leader increases the pace.

One rider follows.

Another rider follows.

Before long, riders are riding faster than they normally would.

Taking corners harder than they normally would.

Braking later than they normally would.

And making decisions they would never normally make.

All because they don't want to get left behind.

This is where accidents happen.

The most important lesson I can teach any rider about group riding is simple:

Ride your own ride.

Not my ride.

Not the lead rider's ride.

Not the fastest rider's ride.

Your ride.

Your ability.

Your confidence.

Your limits.

POSITION, SPEED & LINES

If the group disappears around the corner, let them go.

If you arrive at the next stop five minutes later, nobody cares. What matters is arriving. I would rather wait ten minutes for a rider than spend ten hours waiting outside a hospital.

Good group leaders understand this.

Great group leaders expect this.

No rider should ever feel pressured to ride beyond their ability.

Another common mistake is poor positioning.

A group is not a race.

A group is not a swarm.

A group should move in an organised, predictable manner.

The staggered formation exists for a reason.

It increases visibility.

It increases reaction time.

It creates safety space.

And it allows riders room to manoeuvre if something goes wrong.

The rider in front is not responsible for your safety.

You are.

Always maintain your own safety bubble.

Always maintain your own stopping distance.

Always maintain your own awareness.

Never rely entirely on the rider in front.

Because if they make a mistake and you're too close, you'll be making the same mistake a fraction of a second later.

The mountain roads of Tenerife create additional challenges for groups.

Corners tighten.

Road conditions change.

Tourists appear unexpectedly.

Buses can occupy part of your lane.

Rockfall can appear without warning.

These roads reward smooth, disciplined riding.

Not aggressive riding.

Not competitive riding.

Smooth riding.

POSITION, SPEED & LINES

The strongest group is not the fastest group.

The strongest group is the one where every rider arrives safely.

One of the greatest compliments I can give any rider is not that they're quick.

It's that they're predictable.

Predictable riders are easy to ride with.

Predictable riders are safe to ride with.

Predictable riders help everyone get home safely.

So when riding in a group, remember:

Leave your ego at home.

Bring your awareness.

Bring your patience.

Bring your respect for other riders.

And most importantly:

Ride your own ride.

Because nobody has ever won a group ride.

But plenty of people have lost one.

Volcano Hunters Safety Check

☐ Awareness Satellite ON

EASY RIDER TENERIFE
MOTORCYCLE HEAVEN
MOTORCYCLES SAVED MY LIFE

THINK BIKE. LOOK TWICE.

MOTORCYCLE AWARENESS MONTH
The road is shared by all of us. Take that extra second to look twice and help keep our two-wheeled friends safe.

CAN'T SEE IT? CAN'T HEAR IT!
Modern bikes are quieter than ever.

CHECK YOUR BLIND SPOTS
LOOK TWICE.

AT JUNCTIONS
Look twice before pulling out.

IN CAR PARKS
Check before you reverse out.

ON THE ROAD
Check mirrors and blind spots.

A SECOND LOOK COULD SAVE A LIFE.
RIDE SAFE. DRIVE AWARE. RESPECT EVERY ROAD USER.

EASY RIDER TENERIFE
MOTORCYCLE HEAVEN
MOTORCYCLES SAVED MY LIFE

AND RIDERS – MAKE SURE YOUR BIKE IS SAFE TOO.
COME AND GET YOUR MOTORCYCLE CHECKED FOR SAFETY AT
MOTORCYCLEHEAVENTENERIFE.COM

WE RIDE. WE CARE. WE SHARE.
SAFETY CHECKS
PEACE OF MIND

Key Learning

When riding in a group:

- ✓ Ride your own ride
- ✓ Maintain your own space
- ✓ Use a staggered formation where appropriate
- ✓ Never feel pressured to keep up
- ✓ Keep your eyes up and scan ahead
- ✓ Ride smoothly and predictably
- ✓ Respect your own limits

The Golden Rule

The strongest group is the group where everybody gets home.

Exercise

Draw a staggered riding formation.

Identify:

- Lead rider
- Second rider
- Third rider
- Fourth rider

Then mark:

- Following distances
- Escape space
- Safety bubble around each rider

A Final Word

If you have made it this far through the course, you will probably have noticed something.

We haven't spent much time talking about motorcycles.

We haven't spent much time talking about horsepower.

We haven't talked about who has the fastest bike.

We haven't talked about who can ride the quickest.

Because none of those things are what keep riders alive.

Throughout this course we have talked about something far more important.

Awareness.

Everything begins with awareness.

In Chapter 1 we learned that everything can become a danger.

In Chapter 2 we learned about tourists and how unpredictable people can be.

In Chapter 3 we learned to recognise hire cars and the warning signs they present.

In Chapter 4 we discovered how tourist areas combine multiple dangers into one environment.

In Chapter 5 we learned to survive Tenerife's busiest roads and traffic systems.

In Chapter 6 we explored the mountains and the ever-changing seasons they bring.

In Chapter 7 we learned that technology can assist us, but awareness remains our greatest safety system.

In Chapter 8 we learned that overtaking is not about speed. It is about judgement.

And in Chapter 9 we learned that group riding is about respect, patience and riding your own ride.

Every chapter has led to one simple conclusion. Motorcycle survival is not about riding harder. It is about thinking smarter.

The best riders are rarely the fastest riders.

They are rarely the loudest riders.

They are rarely the riders taking the biggest risks.

The best riders are the ones who arrive home.

Again and again, Year after year. Because they understand something many riders never do.

10 RIDE SAFE

Every journey is a decision-making exercise.

Every corner.

Every junction.

Every overtake.

Every mountain road.

Every tourist area.

Every motorway.

Every ride.

The motorcycle doesn't decide what happens next.

You do.

Perhaps the most important lesson I can leave you with is this:

The moment your helmet goes on, your Awareness Satellite switches on. That simple habit alone will save you from more danger than any piece of technology ever will.

Keep scanning.

Keep thinking.

Keep anticipating.

Expect mistakes.

Expect surprises.

Expect the unexpected.

Because when you expect danger, you give yourself time to avoid it. And time is often the difference between a great story and a tragedy.

At Easy Rider Tenerife we have the privilege of meeting riders from all over the world.

Some have been riding for decades.

Some have only recently passed their test.

But all of them share one thing in common.

They love motorcycles.

And because we love motorcycles, we have a responsibility to protect ourselves, protect each other and help new riders become safer riders.

If this course helps you avoid just one accident...

If it helps you spot one danger a little earlier...

Then it has done its job.

Ride often.

Ride wisely.

Ride respectfully.

Ride aware.

And most importantly...

Ride home.

LET'S RIDE

The classroom is over.

The real learning begins now.

Over the next ride we will put these principles into practice.

You will experience:

- Group riding
- Tourist areas
- Mountain roads
- Hazard recognition
- Road positioning
- Overtaking assessment
- Real-world Tenerife riding

Remember:

This is not a race.

This is not a test.

This is an opportunity to develop awareness and experience.

Ask questions.

Talk to the marshals.

Learn from the riders around you.

Most importantly, enjoy yourself.

Welcome to the Volcano Hunters Rider Safety Program.

Now let's ride.

About the Author

Adam Steel

Adam Steel is the founder of **Easy Rider Tenerife**, **Motorcycle Heaven Tenerife**, **Ride Time Radio**, and the **Volcano Hunters Rider Academy**.

With more than 35 years of riding experience across the United Kingdom, Europe, the United States and the Canary Islands, Adam has dedicated his career to promoting safer motorcycling, rider education and the enjoyment of life on two wheels.

Through Motorcycle Heaven, he has built one of Tenerife's leading independent motorcycle workshops and rider destinations, combining professional servicing, performance tuning, rider training and a passion for motorcycle culture.

As the founder of Easy Rider Tenerife, Adam has introduced thousands of riders from around the world to the spectacular roads and landscapes of the Canary Islands through guided tours, premium motorcycle rentals and unique riding experiences.

This manual reflects his belief that the most important motorcycle modification is not made in the workshop—it is made in the rider's mind. Awareness, observation and sound decision-making remain the greatest safety systems any rider can possess.

"Ride aware. Ride with respect. Ride home."

Adam Steel

Founder

Volcano Hunters Rider Academy

Motorcycle Heaven Tenerife

Easy Rider Tenerife

Ride Time Radio