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Taming

Pattaya's Superbikes

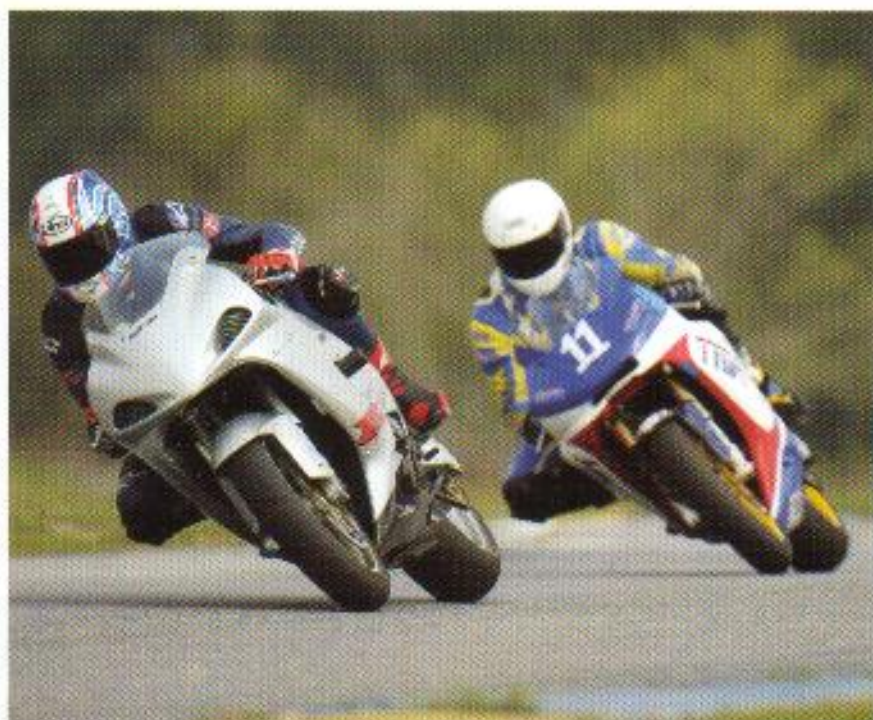


A three-day package at Bira Circuit offers riders a chance to experience the thrills of big time racing



BIKERS with ambitions to become world champions like Valentino Rossi or Sete Giberneau may well have their best chance to achieve their dreams here in Thailand. And it's all thanks to a new company known as HighSide Tours, which recently launched its Superbike School at Bira International Circuit in Pattaya.

Riders with little or loss of experience can now participate in a three-day motorbike race school and track day



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Riders with little or lots of experience can now participate in a three-day motorbike race school and track day session run by qualified instructors that teaches them how to handle superbikes on a genuine world-class circuit where they reach speeds in excess of 200 kph.
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session run by qualified instructors that teaches them how to handle superbikes on a genuine world-class circuit where they reach speeds in excess of 200 kph. The company's first session last month attracted eight riders - two German, three Britons, two Italians and one New Zealander - who learned such skills as correct riding positions, corner entry, braking points and throttle control.

"Dramatic improvements in skill levels and speed were achieved by all participants," explained HighSide Tours' managing director Graham Knight. "Two of the riders even achieved their life-long biking dream of knee down by the end of day three."

This exciting new addition to Pattaya's tourist attractions is the culmination of more than a year's planning by Mr Knight, a former account from Peterborough in England

before being posted to Thailand to work with Orange some four and half years ago.

A committed biker himself, Mr Knight saw a big gap in the market for a motorcycle school that offered the thrills and excitement of superbikes at a recognised racetrack.

Although the bikes used are capable of reaching almost 300 kph, the 2.4 km Bira Circuit's 'straights' are not long enough to allow riders to get much above 220 kph.

Bikes are specially prepared versions of the famous Suzuki GSX-R 750, a mechanical masterpiece capable of an amazing 14,000 rpm.. Each is kitted out by Siam Superbike of Bangkok with upgraded brakes and exhaust systems as well as race transmissions.

"These bikes are ideally suited to Bira Circuit," said Mr Knight, 36, who

Cool Chili

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"Enjoy delicious Thai food at Cool Chili, a hip bar and restaurant on Sukhumvit 16. Cool Chili is the perfect place to dine and relax after work while enjoying good music in a great atmosphere."

A private catering service is also available. Cool Chili is open for a breakfast buffet, lunch and dinner and has a full bar service".





At a cost of US\$1,500 per person, including petrol, tyres, repairs and some six hours a day on the actual track, along with hotel accommodation and transport to and from the track, HighSide Tours' packages represent outstanding value.

"All a customer needs to bring are a helmet and gloves. We'll provide the rest - including all the fun of Pattaya," added Mr Knight. 🇹🇭

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