



ABOVE: Shaffer embraces the wild side of the mountain.

BELOW: Shaffer and Thorien get lost in the vastness that is the wilderness along the Beartooth Highway. "You come up here and you start riding in the mountains and you do have to ask yourself, 'Who the heck decided to put a road here?'" Thorien says. "It's a little absurd, but you start traveling up it, and you're so thankful the entire time that someone did because it's absolutely breathtaking."



Kalen Thorien

Life on the road gives skier and adventurer Kalen Thorien the freedom to combine her passions of riding motorcycles in the morning, making turns all day and bunking down in her trailer at night.

How do you incorporate adventure into your life?

Adventure is so important to me that I've actually shaped my life around it. I live on the road in a trailer, so I'm surrounded by opportunities to get outside and to explore and to get myself into new places and new situations. It's never a week-end-warrior-type of thing for me. I'm so obsessed with adventure that it's become a lifestyle I can pursue on a daily basis.

How do skiing and riding motorcycles compare?

For me riding a motorcycle is about as close to skiing as I've ever come. You get that same excitement as you would skiing – the adrenaline and enjoyment are just constant. Imagine your favorite ski run and your favorite motorcycle road. You get the twists and turns and the curves and you're going fast or slow or whatever but you're having a great time ... and then repeat and repeat and repeat and repeat. It just keeps going, it never stops.

What do you look forward to most when fall turns into winter?

One thing that's really special about winter and skiing is that regardless of your age, whether you're 6 years old or 70 years old, those same feelings and that same excitement is locked into your soul. It never goes away. You're waiting for the next ski movie to come out, you're waiting for the magazines to come out, you're trying to find all of your gear. A time when most people are shutting down, when nature is shutting down, we're just ramping up. — ERIC SMITH