

# Our Aug/Sept 2019 Newsletter

**Fellow Velo**   
Cycle... Friendly... France

Newsletter Issue: Aug/Sept 2019

Summer Newsletter ... including Fellow Velo on the Tour



In July we had the great fortune and real pleasure of sharing two days following the Tour de France, with some lovely customers. The feeling was a little different to our usual guided and self-guided tours, in fact for us and them, nobody's bottom touched a saddle at any time!

The more than small compensation was that we got to see some of the world's best cyclists in their personal challenge in the world's greatest bike race - they were in touching distance at times but we thought better of it!

The holiday was booked by the daughter of her newly recognised father as a birthday present, a very keen cyclist, in a family of avid cycling fans, who all looked and sounded like he had all the energy and inclination to climb on his bike and join in. In truth, we'd have put Tony at around sixty years of age and, would have been fearful of him dropping us on the climbs!

Page 1 of 4

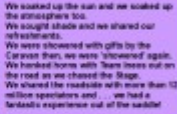


Over the course of two days, we experienced the Full Tour Caravan twice, in two different beautiful towns of Provence, we applauded the entire field of teams for a Depart Fictif, we saw the riders in the peloton and in breakaways and, ended one stage just metres away from the Stage Finish for a classic sprint to the line, at Etapes.

For France, the Tour is so much more than just a bike race; its approach for weeks ahead of its arrival becomes the focal point of towns and villages along the route.



Page 2 of 4



**The Review from our Customers**  
*Andy and Jane have our personal gratitude for two days of the Tour de France. This was arranged by my daughter as a birthday gift. We were impressed by the friendly professionalism and the in-depth knowledge of, and logistical expertise relating to this prestigious race. Andy and Jane are passionate about all related cycling matters and I can wholeheartedly recommend Follow You to anyone contemplating a cycling experience.*



Next year the Tour de France is scheduled to start in Albi, the full race calendar will be published later in the autumn. If you would like us to help you share the experience then we look forward to hearing from you soon.

**Bespoke Cycle Tours**

It is not unusual for us to have unusual requests for cycle tour itineraries and, as a small family company, we aim to be as flexible as possible to help bring people's holiday plans together. So, if you have an idea about a cycling holiday in France but you aren't quite sure how to make it happen then, please feel free to ask - we would love to help you realise your dream. Below is just one example of a bespoke booking from this year's calendar.

**Canal du Nivernais**



We were contacted by a group of seasoned cycle tourists with decades of cycle-riding experience, who now wanted to revisit a trail that had taken them years ago but this time, with the comfort of a tent and a solid roof over their heads at the end of each day. Though they knew the route very well, they were looking for someone to take the hassle out of planning and booking their sense of accommodation along the way.

The conversation that followed on from the initial enquiry now means that they have a plan that includes just a little new adventure linked to the comfort of places to be revisited.



Their accommodations are now all booked ready for their tour next month and, where the route now takes them away from familiar territory, we will be providing detailed navigation notes to supplement the route knowledge that they already have. A little more unusual for us with this booking is the fact that we may never meet our customers. They have bikes stored with family in Paris and so, all of the arrangements and information for their tour can be covered remotely.

They sound like really lovely people and it's a shame that we can't be there with them to share a celebratory glass of Chablis at their journey's end.

Whether you are looking for a fully-guided, self-guided tour or more remote touring adventures, we enjoy the challenge of building a cycling holiday plan that really does meet your individual needs and wishes.

Have you booked your 2020 holiday yet? Some people have... and thank you.

If you fancy a cycling holiday next year then do contact us, the earlier the better for the best prices. Best accommodation and time for careful route planning.

If you are still to go on your 2019 holiday, then have fun wherever you are doing and, we can't wait to meet the rest of this year's customers and to see some familiar faces from last year.

**Podding Poetry of Prose...**

Gerard Thomas on Egan Bernal at the Tour de France 2019.

"It's the first of many," Thomas said. "Egan's just been improving all the time and now he's got to go again! He's a humble guy with a very bright future."

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