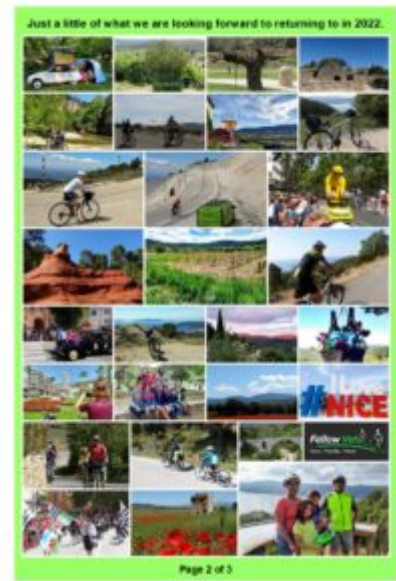


Our Christmas Newsletter



Pedalling Poetry or Prose

One of the great war poets, Edward Thomas set out on his bicycle in 1915. In *Paraphrase of Spring* records that journey. His great words could perhaps be seen as a glimpse of what bikepacking writing from over a century ago might have looked like . . . none of the online videos of today but, plenty of space for us to create the pictures for ourselves. Just a couple of short extracts from the book are here below.

The night was still, and on the morning the earth lay covering a silent, quiet sleep of recovery from the wind's rage. The valley could be heard as often as the mistal thrush. The sleep looked through a morning of frost and haze into a clear day, gentle but bright, and another and another of cloudy brightness, brighter conditions, rounded off between hill and low and bathed on its headlands, rising. The nights were strange children for such days, nights of brittle wind and rain, threatening to undo all the sweet work in a night, morning resolution. There were frozen steers, inevitable danger, but the birds returned."

A little inspiration for 2022

We can't deny that 2022 and 2021 have been difficult years for cycling holidays but, the great adventures and experiences that were there in the past, are very definitely still there to be discovered once again. Our cycling season may have been a little shorter this year but it was still packed with fun, great memories and, not just a little inspiration that means we really can look more hopefully to cycling in France in 2022 and beyond.

Thank you to all of our 2020 customers, our best wishes to all who are there as well in 2022 and, to those who may be thinking of joining us too.

From John and Andy
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Merry Christmas to All