

Our 2023 End of Season Newsletter

Fellow Velo
Cycle... Friendly... France

End of Season Newsletter issue: Nov 2023



We're now at the end of our 2023 season and so, here's a little bit of 'end of year' feeling, in truth. A probably means that we manage to start almost just a little bit before we start getting into plans for 2024. At the end of last year, we thought it might be our biggest year ever with all the Covid catch-up hours that we had on our books but, this year, has been out to be even bigger.

That has meant even more nights away from home and back and, even more nights under the stars but, you'll hear the complaints from us, it has also meant meeting some wonderful customers, both new and returning and, ones that brought others back with them. This has resulted in fantastic, return trips to favourite places and, brought a few new ones onto the Fellow Velo team.

A little flavour of those nights are reflected in the collage above, including our season finale in Corsica – more on that later.

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Some 2023 Highlights

The Big Trip – the ones that reminded us of the long hours that first got us into cycling and, were the catalyst for Fellow Velo ever happening.

- A magnificent view of Provence from early in the season that managed to peak in time of the area's Big Ride, Mont Ventoux, the Gorge du Verdon and a visit to the Gorges du Verdon.
- More than one tour through the Alps, with one of them being on the advice of the spectacular Refuge des Grands Alpes.



Some particular 2023 thanks...

We of course want to thank all of our customers from this season, for choosing Fellow Velo, from all of the options that are out there but, each season also brings a few moments that add to our own story. As a very small cycling company, we cover almost all of the elements of a cycle tour 'to-hold' but sometimes, other partnerships definitely add to the mix.

- We made a great trip this year with Hubert at Interim-France.fr, it turned out that we already had mutual friends but, when we needed to bring in some really high-end bikes, we'd definitely found 'Our Man in Provence'.
- Another later thanks goes to J. Wilson near Angoulême, who rescued one of our long distance tours following an unexpected saddle rail collapse.
- We're ever grateful for the links we make with superb accommodation providers all across France but, a special mention to a fabulous new one to us - La Duffennière in Moulins-Saint-Jean.
- And, last but not least, the lovely couple in the top-right corner who very kindly entertained one of our four groups on route to Mont St Michel from Paris. They'd stopped at the end of the day thinking the house was their childhood home, for the night and, spent an hour together before either party worked out that they were just 50m apart for doing the same. :)



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Corsica 2023 + ?

This year saw Fellow Velo on Corsica for the first time and, we really should be asking ourselves why it took when to long!

The friends in our season were, a superb trip exploring the island, it's not for the faint-hearted cyclist but the scenery is pretty spectacular around almost every corner.

A quick glance at the map will tell you that it's not that like a mistake but, then read your eyes around the collage above and you'll see that it definitely has plenty to offer. If your legs are in great shape or you want a great challenge, then there's no trip on a (re)imagined, a (re)imagined, Corsica is a cycling dream.

We used the trip as an exploring safari for future tours so, if it looks like the place for you then, think about making your next summer an island adventure (and we're still here for the rest of France too!)

Cycling Prose or Poetry

We've not done this before with our little 'Prose or Poetry' cycle but, among our many guests to France reviews this year has the really strange feeling that a charming couple who'd taken the plunge on their first ever cycling trip.

Thank you, Ted and John – 5 Star Comments.

"A 5 Star cycling tour with a 5 Star company. Fellow Velo provided us with one of the most enjoyable holidays we have had. Everything was organized to perfection. The location was stunning, the cycling exhilarating and relaxing, in equal measure, the accommodation and hosts were superb. We couldn't have asked for more. Highly recommended. Fellow Velo is anyone looking for cycling bliss in France."

Contact Us:

+44 7911 288021
jane@fellowvelo.com
www.fellowvelo.com



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