



Cycling Europe with a baby

Two Australians tow their baby across Europe on a tandem bike

- 10 countries
- 2500 kilometres
- a tandem, a trailer, a tent
- and a **lot** of fun

A cycle tour across Europe towing our baby son: I'm not sure if it's an incredibly romantic or incredibly crazy idea. Most people seem to think it's the latter. We have toured before, although we can't say we've tried to cross a continent. (Being Australian, we generally avoid saying the words 'continent' and 'cross' in the one sentence.) In a moment of hot-blooded idealism we contemplated using cloth nappies on tour. That really *would* be crazy!

Who?

Who's on board?

Timshel Knoll-Miller, 27, (pilot), Shelley Knoll-Miller, 30, (stoker) and Reuben Knoll-Miller, 18 months, (navigator).

Shelley and Timshel are experienced cyclists and bike tourers. In Australia they have toured along coasts, through mountains, and through rural areas, with friends and alone. They live in the city and use bikes as their primary means of transport. Although they have visited Europe, this will be their first European bike tour.

Reuben Knoll-Miller has spent many hours in his bike trailer in his short life. This tour will be his third. His first bike tour was a 10 day, 400km tour of the famous 'Great Ocean Road' in Victoria taken shortly after conception; his parents were both ignorant of his existence! Reuben's second bike tour was taken when he was old enough to travel safely in a bike trailer (10 months). It was a three day tour of Victoria's Dandenong ranges.

We love the slow pace of bicycle travel and the opportunities it creates for meeting real people, seeing real country and enjoying life.

How?

We will begin our travels in July 2006 in Italy. From there we will travel through Italy, France, Germany, Austria, Czech Republic, Poland, Belgium and the UK, cycling a minimum of around 200 km a week. Our trusty laptop will travel with us and our articles, reviews and blog entries sent from internet cafes. Camping will be our primary accomodation, staying at hotels/hostels no more than once a week. We will visit friends in Italy, Germany and England. Transport will consist of a tandem bicycle and a child's bike trailer. We will pack very very light and eat simple, fresh, locally-produced food and pastries. Mmmm, pastries. Lots of pastries.

Wanna Cover us?

We would like to hear from publications interested in covering our adventures. We are able to provide reviews, diary entries, articles, photographs and interviews. We hope to tell the story of our journey in an honest, thoughtful and personal way.

Shelley's blog at <http://travel.shels.net/> has examples of her writing, you can also email us for other samples.