



FIRST SUPPORTED SOUTH POLE TOUR

➔ TDA Global Cycling (formerly Tour D'Afrique) is planning to lead a group of hearty — and well-heeled — cyclists to the South Pole in December 2016, the first such commercial trip to the bottom of the world. The 30-person expedition, called "The Last Degree," will use fat bikes on the bucket-list-worthy trip, which will cost approximately \$70,000 per person — on par with the cost of climbing Mt. Everest.

"TDA Global Cycling is dedicated to limitless adventures," said president and founder Henry Gold. "With every expedition we've been told it's crazy, or that

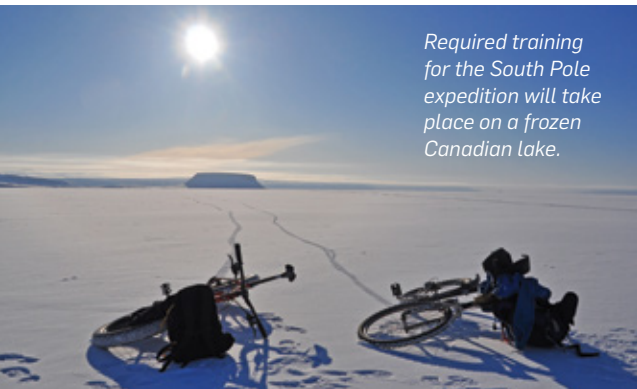
it can't be done but we now run expeditions on every continent, including Antarctica."

Antarctica is governed by strict multi-national environmental regulations and most tourism must be organized in tandem with Antarctic Logistics and Expeditions (ALE), which granted the company exclusive rights to run the 2016/17 Antarctic season.

Participants will be required to attend a six-day training trip on Lake Winnipeg in February 2016, designed to prepare the group for the realities of life in the snow and ice.

Learn more at tdaglobalcycling.com.

Required training for the South Pole expedition will take place on a frozen Canadian lake.



COURTESY TDA GLOBAL CYCLING



Don and Donna Metivier rode in Kentucky's Horsey Hundred to notch their 49th state. The couple hit 50 later in the summer.

COURTESY DON AND DONNA METIVIER

TEXAS PAIR HITS GOAL OF CYCLING ALL 50 STATES

Mid-summer Illinois tour checks final box

➔ THE 2015 Grand Illinois Trail and Parks Bike Tour in June was a big event for Don and Donna Metivier, from Corinth, Texas, who needed to ride in Illinois to complete their mission of cycling in all 50 states.

The couple's first major ride was in 1989 in Vermont. Since then, they've been on a 500-mile trip in New Zealand, a trip from Pennsylvania to Washington, DC, and a ride across much of Alaska.

They ride about 6,000 miles a year and figure their total far exceeds the 80,000 miles they've documented.

"You meet people from other places and you talk to them and quiz them about their adventures and where they go riding, and they immediately describe the uniqueness of their adventure," Don told the (Illinois) *Galesburg Register-Mail*.

And with 50 states under their belts, the Metiviers have quite an adventure of their own to describe.

TYPO SAVES SECTION OF JOHN WAYNE PIONEER TRAIL

➔ A SIMPLE typo was all that stood between the hope of connecting the John Wayne Pioneer Trail across Washington State and a land giveaway that would have cropped 130 miles out of what could one day be the nation's longest rail-trail.

Seattle Bike Blog reported in September

that two state representatives inserted language into the state's Capital Budget that would have transferred the right of way to adjacent landowners between the Columbia River and the town of Malden. But the inserted language read "from the Columbia River to the Columbia River,"

nullifying the attempt.

"Our state reps snuck this in the last minute in the darkness without any hearing or any attention for us to be able to know about it," Ted Blaszk, President of the Tekoa Trestle and Trail Association and member of the Tekoa City Council, told Seattle Bike

Blog. "They abandoned their public service to actually represent their constituents and to inform them of the laws they are writing. Instead they did it behind our back and in secret. They betrayed us, and they betrayed the town of Tekoa."

SALSA CYCLES JOINS 40TH PARTY

Brand to build limited number of 40th-themed bikes

→ SALSA Cycles ducked into the paint booth to help Adventure Cycling celebrate 40 years, issuing a limited-edition version of the brand's new Marrakesh touring bikes with special graphics to commemorate the milestone.

A dozen of the bikes will be given away and auctioned off to celebrate 40 years of inspiring and empowering people to travel by bike.

"The partnership between the Adventure Cycling Association and Salsa Cycles has been



tightly woven from the early days of Adventure by Bike," said Salsa Brand Manager Justin Julian. "The maps Adventure Cycling creates allow riders from around the world to enjoy cycling and all its pleasures and influence Salsa Cycles to create intentional bikes that make enjoyment of this world more seamless."

To find out more about how you can win an exclusive Adventure Cycling 40th anniversary Salsa Marrakesh touring bike, visit adventurecycling.org/40thSalsaBike.

IN PRINT OR ONLINE, BIKE TOUR BOOKS TO INSPIRE

→ The tide of books about bicycle travel seems like it will only keep rising, but two titles from *Adventure Cyclist* contributors recently floated to the top of our list.

Paul Jeurissen literally wrote the book

on photographing your bicycle tour, *Bicycle Touring Photography, A Quick Guide to Taking Better Pictures*, a resource we point all prospective magazine contributors toward to help them achieve the best possible images.

He recently released another free eBook to motivate readers to hit the road, *Bicycling Around The World*, which explores bicycle travel all across the globe. Gorgeous shots from

four continents taken on Jeurisson and Grace Johnson's multi-year bike tour make it tough to finish without breaking free from the screen and hopping on two wheels (pauljeurissen.nl/free-bicycling-around-the-world-photo-book).

Justin Kline might not have had a byline in *Adventure Cyclist* yet, but he and his wife Beth Puliti will be contributing stories from their multi-year bike trip through Europe and Asia later

in 2016 (Puliti also shot the photos for "Croatia" in the July 2015 issue), which Kline has managed to combine with his "day job" as an international business development rep for light-maker Princeton Tec.

For the *Basic Illustrated Guide: Bike Touring and Bikepacking*, though, Kline paired with Justin Lichter to write Falcon Guide's book on the basics of on and off-road bicycle travel.

This guide covers everything from camping equipment to trip planning and provides a no-frills look at what you need to get rolling in the U.S. or abroad. It includes such handy features as a quick gear checklist—helpful for first-timers and the chronically forgetful among us. See more good reads at adventurecycling.org/2015-holiday-gear-books.

52-MILE VIRGINIA CAPITOL TRAIL NOW OPEN

→ FIFTY-TWO miles of new, paved bicycle path was dedicated in October creating a car-free route between Richmond and Williamsburg, Virginia. The Virginia Capital Trail, which runs along Adventure Cycling's TransAm Trail and Atlantic Coast Route, opened just a few days after Richmond played host to the UCI Road World Championships.

The Virginia Capital Trail was first conceived in the 1990s and took 10 years and \$75 million to complete. It follows the Virginia Scenic Byway Route 5 and portions of the scenic James River, and takes touring cyclists through 400 years of history, including 24 Civil War sites, many James River plantations, and other landmarks.

The Virginia Capital Trail is included on the TransAmerica Trail map from the junction of SR 156/SR5 east of Richmond all the way to the end of the Virginia Capital Trail in Jamestown. Cyclists can find the trail on the Atlantic Coast Route map addenda, and it will be included in its entirety on the Atlantic Coast map after the next map printing in 2017.

