



EXPERIENCEPLUS!
BICYCLE TOURS SINCE 1972

EXPERIENCE GLOBAL CYCLING WITH LOCAL CHARACTER.

Book an unforgettable multi-day bicycle tour with ExperiencePlus! and get ready for the ride of your life.




1972
**CELEBRATING
40 YEARS**
2012



Monica and Maria Elena Malpezzi Price (owners and bicycle tour guides) recognized as part of *National Geographic Traveler's Top 10 Guides in the World*.



Sure, ExperiencePlus! tours are about seeing new places by bike — but we add to your adventure like no other outfitter can. Look for the  throughout our catalog to get a taste for the cultural extras, learning opportunities and new friends that truly turn our wheels.

Since 1972 leading international bike tours has been a Price family tradition.

Our parents, Rick and Paola, led their first bicycle tour across Italy that year, based on the belief that traveling by bicycle is one of the best ways to see the world.

They were right, of course, and over the next four decades, thousands of cyclists — including us — followed them to hundreds of incredible destinations. Today we continue to follow in the tire tracks of our parents: offering the thrill of pedaling through spectacular scenery, fresh air and local life in more than 20 countries.

New to this year's Tour Finder are a tour of the Languedoc region in France, two new itineraries in the Italian Lakes District and a return of our popular Czech Republic tour. Of course, all of our existing trips continue to benefit from expert refinements by our country coordinators, overseas friends and an extended family of passionate customers.

Whether you're a beginning cyclist, an experienced bike traveler, or considering a group tour for the first time, we hope this year finds you bitten by the adventure bug, and as eager to explore the less-traveled parts of the globe as we are!

Your fellow cyclists,

Monica & Maria Elena Malpezzi Price



→ SUCCESSFUL BIKE TRAVEL STARTS WITH THE PERFECT FIT.

+ Pedal the Mediterranean
on itineraries in Italy,
France, and Croatia.

Even more than your bike, the tour operator you choose for any travel adventure will have a tremendous impact on your level of comfort throughout the trip. There are a lot of bike tour companies out there, and they're all different, so take time to find one that has the same goals and values for your trip that you do.

Here's what matters to us — if it matters to you, hop in the saddle with ExperiencePlus!

- **Discovery by bicycle.** We encourage you to achieve new milestones — physically, socially, culturally and more — by trying new things. We design routes and destinations based on artistic, historic and cultural significance, not just tourist appeal, so you really feel as though you've been somewhere unique.
- **Great value for you.** Almost all of our itineraries have 7 or 8 day options as well as 10 – 12 day options. This gives you more value for your money and flexibility to truly explore a destination without feeling rushed.
- **Guided independence.** Our chalk arrows mean you navigate with confidence. We work to provide you the support you need without hampering your freedom to explore your way. Our tour leaders are citizens of the world and they are there to assist you as you experience their country.
- **Excellent food and lodging.** You'll eat like a local, stay near the centers of activity, and take time to feel completely rejuvenated before the next day's ride.

Read more at www.ExperiencePlus.com/about_us



→ EVERY TOUR INCLUDES:



Taste world-renowned, local wines and enjoy a meal at a chef's home on *Best of Provence*.

- Experienced, multi-lingual tour leaders
- Fascinating routes — with 40 years of experience, we have found the best back roads to bicycle
- Chalk arrows to point the way so you can devote your full attention to enjoying the beauty around you
- Centrally located, 3- and 4-star hotels
- Meals that reflect local specialties
- Quality bikes — complete with rack pack and cyclometer
- Full van support
- Pre-Tour Planner information
- “Re-cycle” credits — for discounts on future tours

“ ExperiencePlus! offered the best features of a group tour — logistics, planning, support during the day, luggage handling, meeting new people — with all the benefits of independent travel. I could ride on my own, at my own pace, and see the towns as I saw fit — without being stuck with a group if I didn’t want to be.

A hard balance to achieve, but achieved it was. ”

STEVE B., ASHEVILLE, NC

Read more about what’s included at www.ExperiencePlus.com/included



→ HOW WE ROLL.

Multi-day cycling tours are so much fun — but the thought of riding a bike for miles (kilometers!) through a foreign country can sometimes seem intimidating to first-timers. We believe that ExperiencePlus! offers a great balance for all levels of cycling and traveling expertise. On tour, you'll feel adventurous, yet safe... active, yet relaxed... far from home, yet deeply connected to a totally new place. Here's what a typical day might look like:

Imagine waking up in a cozy hotel right in the heart of a small town in Tuscany, Provence, or Chile: shopkeepers are opening for the day, birds are singing, kids are on their way to school. You look forward to breakfast where tour leaders have prepared marked maps for the day and you review your daysheet that lists today's highlights. A day that might look something like this...

- 7-8:30** Enjoy breakfast. Come whenever you are ready.
- 8:45** Pack up, bring your luggage to the lobby, and hop on your bike — you can leave whenever the arrows are ready and your bags are loaded into the van.
- 10:45** Stop for a café au lait or gelato and trade an ExperiencePlus! hat with the barista.
- 12:45** Chalk arrows lead you to the piazza where fellow riders are relaxing at a café. They invite you to join them, but you and the tour leader are on your way to the local market for picnic supplies. You visit the Romanesque church mentioned on the daysheet, then feast under a shady tree.
- 2:00** Follow the arrows along the quiet, meandering roads of the countryside.
- 4:00** Arrive at the next hotel, check in, enjoy a beer (wine/ gelato) and use your map to explore the local sights.
- 6:00** Gather for a group meeting to chat about tomorrow, then walk to a small winery for a taste of the local wines.
- 7:30** Walk to a local restaurant for a group dinner with your fascinating travel companions.
- 9:30** Stroll around the piazza, think about heading to bed... sleep and repeat!



→ RIDE OUTSIDE THE LINES.



Remarkable rides on quiet roads.

There are many reasons why Tuscany and Provence are “must-see” destinations — we’ve been cycling those for decades and find something new to love every time. There are equally as many travelers who want to find new, undiscovered areas to bicycle — which is why ExperiencePlus! specializes in both types of destinations:

- **A few of our Greatest Hits:** Southern Tuscany, Andalucia, Provence, the Danube and our original Bike Across Italy
- **Explore New Classics:** Alsace in France, the Camino de Santiago, Mediterranean cycling in Corsica, Sardinia or Croatia, Patagonian Lake’s Districts and more

Read more traveler reviews at www.ExperiencePlus.com/reviews

“ More people need to hear about the delights of going to the Alsace region. We were curious about it, so that is why we went. It’s like France’s well kept secret! ”

PATTI F., ROCHESTER, NY



→ GLOBAL DESTINATIONS.

EUROPE

ExperiencePlus! is regarded as the family-run outfitter that knows European cycling best. This is where our passion for biking and leading tours began on our Bike Across Italy trip in 1972. It's still home to some of our most popular trips with options to pedal along the Mediterranean or in the heart of central Europe. Our country coordinators are continually honing traditional routes, and creating new excursions to far-reaching areas of the continent for travelers who want to fully immerse themselves in the interesting, authentic and less-traveled aspects of the countries we love.



Explore historic abbeys on *Camino de Santiago* (Spain) or *Cycling the Danube* (Austria).



ITALY 18 ITINERARIES

SPAIN 3 ITINERARIES

FRANCE 12 ITINERARIES

GERMANY 3 ITINERARIES

SCOTLAND 2 ITINERARIES

BELGIUM 2 ITINERARIES

CZECH REPUBLIC 2 ITINERARIES

Browse our European Destinations at www.ExperiencePlus.com/europe



→ GLOBAL DESTINATIONS.

LATIN AMERICA

Head south through legendary landscapes with the same level of expertise and tour quality that made ExperiencePlus! a favorite in Europe. With departures in late fall, winter and early spring, travelers can explore the Incan ruins, rainforests and remarkable geology of Argentina, or ride through Chilean wine country while enjoying its distinctive wildlife, scenery and cuisine. Or join us in Costa Rica for our signature bicycling tour or our multi-sport adventure, which may include cycling, river rafting, snorkeling and hiking through tropical valleys, along beaches, and near active volcanoes.



Heading to a special lunch at a small farm on Chile's Chiloé Island.



COSTA RICA 4 ITINERARIES

CHILE 4 ITINERARIES

ARGENTINA 4 ITINERARIES

Browse our tours in Latin America at www.ExperiencePlus.com/latinamerica



→ LOCAL CHARACTER.

“ ExperiencePlus! tour leaders are superb. They have mastered the art of leading without seeming to do so, and were delightful people to be with while traveling. ”

CARL N., PORTLAND, OR

TOUR LEADERS

All our tour leaders are cycling experts either native to the country where you're traveling, or else they've lived there so long even the locals can't tell the difference. They are all multi-lingual, creative and entertaining with a passion for sharing their love of the outdoors, people, culture and local food. Along with an unlimited supply of energy, talent, resourcefulness, knowledge of local history and geography, and a natural sense of direction for steering you to the most entertaining café in town, ExperiencePlus! tour leaders have a sixth sense for knowing when to help and when to let adventure happen naturally.

Meet the tour leaders and staff at www.ExperiencePlus.com/staff

MEALS & LODGING

Over the years our travelers have helped us shape what we feel is the ideal room-and-board scenario for bike travel. You'll stay in 3- to 4-star hotels — with private, in-room baths and plenty of amenities. These hotels are locally owned in most cases, and are located in peaceful, central areas of town, allowing you to be a part of the local culture in places where we stop for the night. Group dinners favor the kind of authentic cuisine that locals will go out of their way to find, and typically include several courses of regional specialties, while lunch on your own provides an opportunity to procure picnic materials, visit roadside produce stands or sit down at an espresso bar. If you have special dietary needs, let us know so we can accommodate them.



→ GUIDED INDEPENDENCE.

CHALK ARROWS

TOUR LEVEL RATINGS

“ The white chalk arrows are great. A vast improvement over trying to follow written directions. They made it very easy to ride AND enjoy the scenery. ”

SUSAN J., SAPULPA, OK

Unlike most bicycle tour operators, ExperiencePlus! invests preparation time to clearly mark each day's route with bright white chalk arrows. These arrows serve as your personal navigation tools, and are a feature of our tours that both first-time and veteran riders appreciate. Even though we provide maps and detailed information about what you'll see, arrows help ensure that your focus is on finding yourself, not finding your way. Each day, you can decide whether to use the arrows to cycle ahead, stick with the group or take a leisurely ride complete with photo ops, snack stops and sightseeing diversions.

View our tour level ratings at www.ExperiencePlus.com/rating

A great tour will leave you satisfied at the end of each day — not too tired from the mileage, the climbing or the weather — yet proud of your physical accomplishments. To help you pick the perfect tour for your abilities, we rate each tour and post day-by-day itineraries with mileage amounts online. Tours are rated from 101 to 401 based on a combination of mileage, terrain, and the size and number of hills. Many itineraries include one (often more) place where we spend a second night at the same hotel, giving you a chance to take a day off and rest your legs, or log extra mileage. Adventure seekers dreaming of continental scale, long distance bicycling vacations can look into our 501 ExpeditionPlus! tours, generally scheduled to run once a year.



→ LET'S RIDE!

“ Everyone is encouraged to stop and explore things along the route, so the fact that you're not required to stay together as a group is a BIG plus.

You'll be seeing me on tour again soon! ”

KATHLEEN, YORBA LINDA, CA

There's no better way to see the world than from the saddle of a bicycle — and we're here to help you get things rolling. Here's how:

- **Explore the possibilities.** Use the Tour Finder at www.experienceplus.com or browse all our itineraries.
- **Get more information.** Email tours@experienceplus.com or call 1-800-685-4565 to talk to us about your plans. We're open Mon-Fri, 8am – 5pm MST.
- **Pencil in.** Email or call us to reserve a tentative spot on the tour of your choice — with no obligation — while you work out other travel details.
- **Book it!** Once you have made your decision, reserve online at www.experienceplus.com, or over the phone (1-800-685-4565).
- **Start planning your trip!** We'll send you an online Tour Planner that includes packing & reading lists, country & hotel information, travel insurance options and plenty of other planning tips you can find on our blog & website.

REMEMBER! We're here to help you at any time throughout the process!

Online: www.ExperiencePlus.com
Email: tours@ExperiencePlus.com

Phone: 1-800-685-4565
Fax: 1-970-493-0377





➔ **WANT MORE? FIND IT ONLINE.**



Patagonia's Lakes District
and Osorno volcano.

Immerse yourself at www.ExperiencePlus.com:

- Get The Rambler. Sign up for our email newsletter at www.ExperiencePlus.com to get ideas, inspiration and travel tips — not to mention tasty regional recipes — delivered monthly.
- Day-by-Day Itineraries
- Reading Room Blog
- Fitness Programs
- Photos
- Recipes
- “A Day on Tour”
- FAQs
- Online Reservations

“ I don’t think you have a positive scale high enough for me to properly evaluate what we thought of the tour. ”

KEN J., FORT COLLINS, CO



ExperiencePlus! is proud to be regularly mentioned in national print and online media publications. We were recently featured in National Geographic Traveler: Ten Great Tour Guides (2011). See more at www.ExperiencePlus.com.



EXPERIENCEPLUS!
BICYCLE TOURS SINCE 1972

210 E. Oak St., Suite C, Fort Collins, CO 80524

PRSRT STD
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
On Time Mailing
Services

LIKE US! WE'LL LOVE YOU BACK.



“Like” the ExperiencePlus! Facebook page between now and January 1 for a chance to win. One lucky fan will take home a brand new titanium road bike — plus we’ll select 5 more people to receive ExperiencePlus! Trip Essentials Gift Packs.



Featured in National Geographic Traveler’s “Top 50 Tours of a Lifetime.” Discover your own “Tour of a Lifetime” by using the Tour Finder at ExperiencePlus.com.