THE BIKE FLYER - A MONTHLY NEWSLETTER



Domestic Tour Registration Survey Results

Unfortunately, not much has changed with regards to the COVID-19 pandemic in this country. While the rest of the world is well on its way back to normal, we continue to bungle along. At this point it is hard to stay optimistic. On the other hand, we were buoyed by the incredible response we got from our faithful Pegasus posse. With 180 responses, less than 10% of you indicated that you would be unwilling to share in the cost of having to cancel a tour due to COVID-19 concerns. 57% said they understood that in order to plan for tours there are unrecoverable expenses and that they would be willing to forego a nominal \$40 charge to allow us to move forward but 34% stated that the times are too uncertain to make any decision as to future participation in Pegasus Tours. We find that sentiment totally understandable. In addition to the raw numbers, we received scores of heart-warming comments expressing your gratitude for putting on these tours. **YOU GUYS ARE THE BEST!**

Based on the information gathered, we have decided to hold off on registration for the time being to minimize the cost of PayPal fees and refunds until we get a better idea as to how we can move forward. We will continue to plan for our four domestic tours, but we will make sure that we have hotel reservations that are fully refundable should we find ourselves unable to actually host them. Knowing that the vast majority of you are willing to help defray our unrecoverable fixed costs makes this possible.

As we look to future tours we recognize that there are still so many unknowns. Even if COVID restrictions are lifted, we don't know if there be an effective vaccine and if it will be widely available and taken? Will we still need to practice social distancing and wearing of masks? Given the uncertainties, we wonder if folks would be willing to partake in group bicycle touring next year and if so, how we would handle lodging, sag stops and other group activities. Will the fears and uncertainties drive our participation numbers down to a point that we can't economically offer a tour? Smaller numbers might make social distancing easier but it will definitely drive up the price of the tour, as fixed costs, such as sag support, depend on having a reasonable number of participants to share in those costs. We definitely don't have all the answers but we can promise you that we will continue to carefully asses the situation and that we remain fully committed to offering, as we always have, the safest tours possible.

Still Open Spots on 2021 International Tours

We still have a few openings on our two 2021 European Tours. The first is the Bolzano-Venice Tour May 29-June 12, 2021. We are calling this a hybrid tour as it starts as a classic point to point hotel tour for the first week where we ride from the Resia Pass, outside of Bolzano in the foothills of the Dolomites, to the beautiful Renaissance city of Verona. From there it becomes a Bike and Barge tour as we follow the Minco and Po Rivers and canals from Venice back to Mantua. This will undoubtedly be a tour of a lifetime. Check it out at <u>Venice</u>. Our second tour is the **fixed-based** tour in Ronda in the Andalusian hills of Spain in the southeast corner of Spain along the Mediterranean. This 10 day tour (June 16-25, 2021) includes a bus trip to Granada on our rest day and ends along the Mediterranean in beautiful Malaga. See all the details at <u>Andalusia</u>. Grab them while you can!

HOPEFUL 2021 PEGASUS BIKE TOURS SCHEDULE			
DATES	TOUR	LOCATION	LEVEL
April 22-26	4-Day Eastern Washington Tour	Chelan, WA	Intermediate/Adv
May 1-9	North Sonoma County Fixed Base Tour	Healdsburg, CA	Intermediate/Adv
May 13-17	4-Day Fixed Base Omak Tour	Omak, WA	Intermediate/Adv
May 29–June 12	Bolzano-Venice, Italy Hybrid Tour	Bolzano, Italy	Easy/Intermediate
June 16-June 25	Andalusia, Spain - Fixed Base	Ronda, Spain	Intermediate
September 11-19	Oregon Coast Tour	McMinnville, OR	Intermediate