

# Making Travel Easy with

I'm told I'm a lucky person being paid to tell people where to go! I'm looking forward to helping you.

## December 2012

Life in the fast lane is fast! I just can't believe that Santa is coming back again so soon after his last visit. No doubt most of you will be shopping so a short newsletter this month. See you in 2013.



Ready for a boat trip on the Mekong

## A cycle in Vietnam

The Vietnam Beach Bicycle Backroads Tour is back again for 2013. Last year was the first event of its kind in Vietnam and it was a raging success. Numbers are limited so don't miss out. [Email me for details.](#)

**Depart:** 1 – 14 April 2013

**Price:** \$2,990 land only

## Inclusions:

Accommodation for 13 nights  
13 breakfast / 9 lunches / 8 dinners  
3 Beach parties  
2 Internal flights  
Western leaders and local guides  
Qualified medical staff.  
Support vehicle & bike mechanics  
Tour T shirt

## CHARITY - Donation Bicycle

Includes one donation bicycle & helmet which each rider will personally present to a child nominated by the Red Cross. This was an incredibly moving experience for the riders in 2012.

## Duty free alcohol

Australian Customs does not have any restrictions on buying alcohol overseas and importing it to Australia apart from the duty-free concession limits that apply. However you may not be able to buy any at some major airports unless it can be delivered to the departure gate after the last security check. I was not allowed to buy any at Bangkok airport but at Singapore airport it is delivered to the departure gate after the last screening. **Watch out!**

Please click [here](#) for more details.



Sign at the Stone Forest in Kunming

## Walking in Scotland 2013

I am leading a walking tour along the West Highland Way starting 9 September next year. I am still working on the itinerary and the price. If you are interested please [email me.](#)

## A Scottish Proverb

A smile costs less than electricity and gives more light.

## Facebook

Please like me on my Facebook page! Just go to my website and click on the Facebook icon. You may be friends with me already but it is LIKES I would prefer.

## Adventure Travel Film Festival

The 2013 festival takes place in Brighton from 15-17 Feb. Read a review of the 2012 festival [here](#) and for 2013 details [click here.](#)

## Hogmanay

This is the Scots word for the last day of the year and is synonymous with the celebration of the New Year (Gregorian calendar) in the Scottish manner. It is, however, normally only the start of a celebration which lasts through the night until the morning of New Year's Day (1 January) or, in some cases, 2 January which is a Scottish Bank Holiday. So I'll toast you all with a wee dram and hope you do the same.



Sign in restaurant in Dali, China

## Cruising

And if you don't like cycling or walking then how about a cruise? You can cruise along the Rhine, down the Danube, across the Atlantic, through the Mediterranean or above the Arctic Circle. And if you have time Around the World!

1/361 Little Bourke Street, Melbourne, VIC 3000, Australia

Tel (61-3) 9670 3928, mobile 0411 133 790 and [colin@hikebike.com.au](mailto:colin@hikebike.com.au)

[www.hikebiketours.com.au](http://www.hikebiketours.com.au) and [www.makingtraveleasy.com.au](http://www.makingtraveleasy.com.au)

### Cycling in Nepal

I have just returned from leading a group cycling in Nepal, one of my favourite countries. My operator has given me a list of trips with specific departure dates. Basic details below and more when you [email](#) me.



Kali Gandaki River in Nepal

### HIKE, BIKE, PADDLE ANNAPURNA

From US\$2170 per person, twin sharing departing 17 April and 4 Oct.



Annapurna cycling in Nepal

### ANNAPURNA CIRCUIT

From US\$1980 per person, twin sharing departing 5 April, 3 May, 4 and 25 Oct. Challenging.



Cycling in the Kathmandu Valley

### EXPLORE NEPAL

From US\$2596 per person, twin sharing departing 20 Mar and 1 Oct.

### JOMSOM

From US\$705 per person, twin sharing departing 7 and 21 March, 1 and 15 April, 23 Sept, 7, 14 and 21 Oct and 4, 11 and 18 Nov.



Caren in a bit of a Pikel!!

### UPPER MUSTANG

From US\$3390 per person, twin sharing departing 7 April, 3 June, 23 Sep and 18 Oct.

### KATHMANDU VALLEY

From US\$910 per person, twin sharing departing 19 Mar, 1 Oct, 1 Nov and 1 Dec.



Taking a break!

### PEDDLE AND PADDLE ANNAPURNA

From US\$1590 per person, twin sharing departing 21 Apr, 23 Sep and 14 and 21 Oct.



Cycling in the Kathmandu Valley

### CHITWAN AND HETUADA

From US\$885 per person, twin sharing departing daily with a minimum of 2 people.



A happy bunch of cyclists.

### And in the end...

Thanks again for all your support. If you do not wish to receive my newsletters please write the words "Please take me off your newsletter list" in the subject line of an email.

**Lang may yer lum reek.**