

CLASSIC BIKE ADVENTURE

CRUISING ASIA SINCE 1989

NEWSLETTER 08/2020

Dear Classic Bike Adventure - Friends, Riders & Bikers

We received numerous emails from you in the past few months. You tell us how you are doing in these crazy times and want to know how the Classic Bike Adventure Team is getting along. That's why we want to share our "team stories" with you in this newsletter. For all of us, 2020 means less motorcycling, less adventure and more home office - and a lot of time for other important things in life: spending quality time with family & kids, meeting friends, enjoying life at home.

But we also used the time: Our mechanics overhauled our motorcycle fleet consisting of more than 35 Royal Enfield Power Bullets and even repainted and chrome-plated them. We also developed a new enduro, the Bullet 500XT, and purchased a new, powerful, and comfortable Izusu Twin Cabin Pickup. Our sister company Tibetmoto Tours has opened a new Basecamp in Shangri-la (China) for all tours in China and Tibet - with a motorcycle garage for the fleet and a workshop. All of us and our bikes are ready for new adventures in 2021!

We also finalized our tour program for 2021. In addition to our tour classics in India, Bhutan, Nepal, and Tibet, we also developed new tours in Sri Lanka and Northern Thailand. Our scouting tour "Into the Wilds of Zanskar" in Ladakh and the "Wild Wild West Of Nepal Tour" will take you to new, unknown slopes and passes in the Indian Himalayas and Nepal. Additionally, we work on a new tour category: tours for women by women.

Enjoy our tour program and all of the other exciting announcements.



Our customers say **Excellent** ★★★★★ 4.99 out of 5 based on 126 reviews ⚙️REVIEWS.io

Euer Classic Bike Adventure Team

We want you to be able to book our 2021 tours worry-free and with confidence - especially in Covid-19 times. Therefore, we asked ourselves what you would like to read when it comes to booking conditions.

The outcome is:

Special Offer - Flexible Booking & Money Back Guarantee

For all 2021 tours booked in between 15 July and 31 December 2020:



1. Flexible Booking:

If you change your mind after booking (regardless of the reason) six months before the start of your tour, you will receive your deposit in return.

2. Guaranteed Money Back:

If we need to cancel a tour, in regard to Covid-19 or any other reason, you will receive your deposit in return.



Something new is in
the making for 2021...
BIKE & SOUL
- by women for women

**WOMAN RIDING MOTORCYCLES
ARE DIFFERENT!**

Fearless into the Wild

With RC Tiziana and RC Kerstin

Don't date a girl who has ridden to remote destinations. She will always be one ride away from leaving it all behind again, with or without you. She'll have maps tucked away in the medicine cabinet next to the ibuprofen, longing to stretch her legs in a different city every night. She will simplify the search for a lunch stop by asking a nearby law enforcement officer and make finding a hotel an adventure in and of itself.

Don't date a girl who has no qualms about running out of gas in the middle of nowhere or improvising near a cactus when restrooms are scarce. She will disgust you with her downsizing of a full makeup kit to a pack of wet wipes and moisturizing sunscreen. A little dirt never hurt anyone, she says.

Don't date a girl who rides motorcycles. Her idea of a vacation won't include sipping mai tais on the beach. You will likely find her comfortable in environments that may be unsettling at first, beyond a nondescript door to a long hallway which leads to a smoke-filled bar of only scotch and whiskey. She will be the one surrounded by the darkest of characters, enraptured whilst she regales them with her two-wheeled stories of adventure.

**Don't date a girl who rides a motorcycle.
Marry her!**

Quelle: sheisarider.de/

We will take off with a „women only“ tour in Nepal and extend our rides into Bhutan and the tropics of Sri Lanka and South India ... This project will be covered in more detail in the next newsletter by Kerstin and will be closely supported by Peter to ensure it meets our highest standards in terms of quality and professionalism along with all necessary safety requirements. And of course, we will ride the same 500cc Bullets as the „boys“.

At this stage, we're exploring options for local female mechanics to join the big adventure, too. We will offer to train them on our customised Royal Enfield's in our workshop in the Himalayas. And we would love to give a chance to a female driver to steer the backup jeep/truck in the near future. An entire lady biker team — how does that sound? If this sounds like a lot of fun, simply send RC Peter an email (with cc to Kerstin kerstin@classic-bike-india.com) who will jointly coordinate this Nepal tour.

Tour Program 2021 – Classic Rides & New Adventures

February/March 2021:

South India:

- **Classic South India Tour:** 30.01. – 13.02.

Thailand:

- **Riding in the Land of Smiles:** 06.02. – 20.02.

Sri Lanka:

- **The Pearl of the Indian Ocean:** 13.02 – 27.02.

South India:

- **Goa to Kerala Tour:** 20.02. – 08.03.

July/August/September 2021:

North India:

- **Ladakh 3 Lakes:** 17.07. – 31.07. / 31.07. – 14.08 / 31.07. – 14.08 / 28.08. – 11.09

Tibet:

- **Trans Tibet Tour:** 04.09. – 15.09.

North India:

- **Into the Wilds of Zaskar and Ladakh:** Pilot Tour: 11.09. – 26.09.

April/May 2021:

Nepal:

- **Road to Mustang:** 04.04. – 18.04.

Tibet:

- **Go East Young Man:** 04.04. – 18.04.

Munich - Tibet Overland Tour:

- **Along the Silk Road to the Roof of the World:** 01.05. – 16.06. / – 22.06. (with extension)

Oktober/November/December 2021:

North India:

- **Spiti 7 Valleys Tour:** 18.09. – 03.10.

Nepal:

- **Road to Mustang:** 09.10. – 23.10. / 06.11. – 20.11.

Bhutan:

- **Bhutan Intensive:** 16.10. – 28.10. / 05.11. – 17.11.

North India:

- **Golden Himalaya:** 14.11. – 28.11.

Thailand:

- **Biking in the Land of Smiles:** 06.11. – 20.11.

South India:

- **Classic South India Tour:** 27.11. – 11.12.

Sri Lanka:

- **The Pearl of the Indian Ocean:** 19.12.2021 – 02.01.2022



UPDATE –

PETER'S CYPRUS BIKE ADVENTURES – November 2020

Good news, our „Road Captain“ Tiziana will be part of the Cyprus team together with RC Peter and RC Hans on all 3 tours. RC Peter will be there on 2 tours, the first and the last. That's plenty of riding fun for him ...

We have still available spots for some Biker Friends:

This is your chance to have a lot of fun with us on the island of Aphrodite during the best autumn riding weather ... and you don't have to wait until 2021 ;-)

We have the following booking status:

- Sun 01. - Sun 08.11.2020 – fully booked
- Sat 07. - Sat 14.11.2020 – 6 bikes available
- Sat 14. - Sat 21.11.2020 – 3 bikes available

Please request the detailed tour program directly from rcpeter@classic-bike-india.de



Classic Bike Adventure – Home Stories

Road Captain Hendrik

When I took over the management of Classic Bike Adventure in January, I thought we would have a "normal" biker season with all the planned and unforeseen adventures - and of course, I didn't know that the biggest crisis in decades was imminent. And so, after some great tours in South India at the beginning of the year, when the world was still okay, I started mainly to postpone tours to 2021. Nevertheless, I received a lot of mental support and understanding from many of our riders and a lot of positive feedback - thank you very much for this!

But of course, I miss traveling and riding. These days I would have arrived in Lhasa with my Eurasia group, after almost 6 weeks on-the-road from Munich along the Silk Road across the Roof of the World in Tibet.

After 13 country crossings, slopes, flat tires, deserts, alpine high passes beyond the 5,000 meters of altitude, caravanserais and all the impressions that such a journey brings with it. We would have taken off our dusty clothes and put up our dirty boots and drank many beers to celebrate - while enjoying the view of the Potala Palace. It's a Shame, but that will have to wait until next year. The adventure starts on 01 May 2021.



Senior Road Captain Peter

After 13 weeks of „home quarantine“ in my farmhouse in the Kullu Valley in the Himalayas, I reached Germany on an evacuation flight in July. Meanwhile, I spent the time in quarantine in a holiday apartment and stayed with my parents and friends in the Sauerland for 4 weeks. There, and now in Berlin, I've been spending my first summer in Germany in 25 years. Unfortunately, it is also the first time in over 20 years that I am not in my beloved Ladakh in midsummer, which I miss incredibly. I am glad that almost all of our tour participants have agreed to postpone the tours from 2020 to 2021. I will stay out of India until at least December and in November I will organize three small tours for friends from all over the world in Cyprus, together with the Dutch friends „Latchi Watersport Hans“ and „RC Tiziana.“



This opportunity gives us the chance to do what we love -- experiencing motorcycle adventures together. I'm pretty optimistic that we can start again next year, and first our new Sri Lanka tour is on (see below). Accordingly, our season in the Indian Himalayas will start in summer next year, 6 or even 7 tours are planned. I also regularly look after friends and crew remotely, who are now all safe and sound at home in Goa, the Kullu Valley, Delhi, Nepal, and Bhutan.

In Germany, I use my time to deeply relax and to gain new experiences. I am finally a vegetarian, have shed a lot of weight, active in sports, learn Krav Maga, and work in a network with friends from the Ayurveda and yoga sectors on new projects. I will publish the first results soon. There will be great new ways to new goals.

Road Captain Vinod

(Lives with the mechanics Sonam + Ramesh in the Kullu Valley in the Indian Himalayas)

We spent the last winter season in Goa (South India) - where we run a restaurant with a beach bar in Benaulim every winter, and from where we organize motorcycle tours in South India. Then COVID-19 forced us to return to our base in the Himalayas early. From March to June, due to the nationwide lockdown in India, we had quite a leisurely time with close friends and family members.



With our mechanics Ramesh and Sonam, we have expanded our motorcycle tour headquarters and workshop in the Kullu Valley. Both families and their families are doing very well, we take care of them, after all, they have been part of the big Classic Bike Adventure family for two decades. They have decided to temporarily take on local jobs like picking apples to support their families and to bridge the waiting time for the next tours.

After the curfew in India was relaxed, we were finally able to get a flight to our European home Belgium. It is good for us to see our family and friends here again. From here we stay in contact with our team and the expanded network and keep our fingers crossed that better times are coming soon. We can't wait to resume our life in tourism and continue to do what we do best: make people happy on their vacation and share our love for travel.

Road Captain Willy

Fortunately, I came back from Agonda Beach in March on one of the last flights after the wonderful tour from Goa to Kerala. From April I had a sabbatical year. My idea was actually to drive my Royal Enfield via the north route from Goa to Berlin - with plenty of time to drive relaxed from one scenic highlight to the next.



Because of Corona, I changed my plans. Now I spend the time in Berlin and most of it in my dacha on a lake in Brandenburg. In addition to my Enfield, I'm pursuing another project here. The arbitration company I work for as a mediator tries to successfully conduct projects and consultations online and use large spaces for the process. Nobody knows what the future will bring for us. Let's be optimistic and let's make the most of these challenging times.

Road Captain Martin

My wife, Poonie, and I spend quiet but also very active monsoon time in Goa. If the weather allows it, we'll be on the Enfield. The hinterland is beautiful in the rainy season. Intense green, water, streams, and waterfalls everywhere. At home, I am busy with the guitar, new songs, and a lot of fun in general. I am also very active in teaching (karate). Karatekas come to me from all over Goa for training, which is very rare during the season. It's great energy and a lot of fun. On the whole, despite Corona, good times.



Road Captain Shankar

As for everyone, Corona came as a surprise to me. On my last trip through South India in February, the world still seemed okay, social distancing was a foreign word and Corona was a mediocre beer. A month later, I saw all of my trips in Europe and Asia canceled in a single day. It was a matter of taking a deep breath, making the best of it, and above all else, staying cool. Luckily I was back in Vienna with my family.



The restrictions here were ridiculous compared to India. This was followed by months of good cuisine, time with the children (which I would never want to miss) and excursions into the Austrian countryside. Of course, it was a cold withdrawal from motorcycling, but I was able to compensate for that with extended bike tours. At the moment, I am leading outdoor groups in Vienna and the surrounding area again, but look longingly towards the Himalayas and am happy when I finally hear an Enfield rattle again.