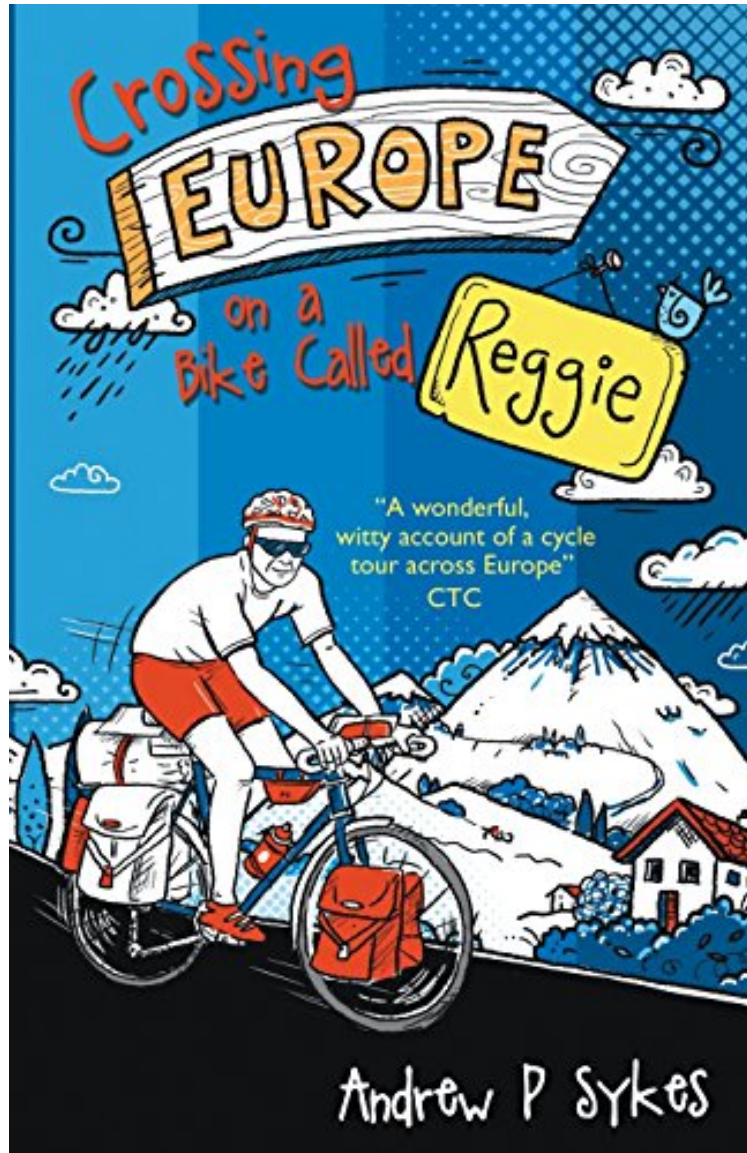


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Crossing Europe on a Bike Called Reggie

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Andrew P. Sykes : Crossing Europe on a Bike Called Reggie before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Crossing Europe on a Bike Called Reggie:

1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Enjoyable readBy Timothy McGuireAfter I started following the author on his current trip from Spain to Norway, it seemed appropriate to read about his prior adventures. This little book was a joy to read. It is particularly enjoyable because the author not only is describing a significant bicycle trip, he is reveling in what he sees and the people he meets along the way. Not a race, but a travelogue. His style is easy to

read, descriptive, and does not bog down. For people who do not do much bicycling, this may not, at first glance, seem like a good read. However, it is an interesting tale of a journey taken across Europe in a manner other than a river cruise or tour bus, things seen and done from a different perspective. Good job. 1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Great insight on a Grand Tour! By M. Neubauer Few of us would have the combination of time, skill, fitness and gumption to take on a bike tour. Andrew walks us thru the process of what an average cyclist would experience. When I say "average", I don't mean some experienced racer, endurance rider, avid outdoorsman, boxcar hobo, etc... just your average bloke getting on a bike for 5 weeks straight (OK, that being said, he IS a French Teacher. Languages seem a bit easier to him than most 'Mericans). As I've been considering a "Grand Tour" of my own, to see how Andrew did it was a great insight; I can definitely learn from some of the issues he had! His writing style is downright interesting, and it's easy to stay engaged in the story. It could easily have become the equivalent to google maps directions (say, if I wrote it). But my favorite aspect of the book was Andrew's interaction with the people and culture he finds along the way, not to mention strangers turned friends via the internet and his cycling europe webpage. That is what traveling is all about, and Andrew captures the experience quite well. His language knowledge was definitely a plus (and made me carefully consider how I would have done in a similar situation). There are some UKisms that might confuse us Americans (what is a carriageway, and what makes it dual? How is that different than a roadway?) I flipped to wikipedia more than once, but that's not Andrew's fault! As for the other reviews, I only remember one typo, and it wasn't a big deal. Looks like the ones mentioned have been fixed, the beauty of kindle! Overall, I think it's a great book for anyone. If you don't ride, you will want to after this (unless you are dead inside). If you do ride, you'll want to go farther! And anyone this side of Willie Weir (google him!) can learn something from this! 1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. I was thoroughly Entertained! By Dennis Creter I thoroughly enjoyed this book! It was written by a very likeable guy who does not take himself too serious, nor rigid in his day to day travel plans. He did his homework for the trip but then let it happen at will. If one is looking for a scary exciting bike adventure to read about this is not that type! Yet if you are looking to be entertained with a travel adventure by bike in Europe this meets the bill! Even though Mr. Sykes did the trip solo, he would be a great traveling partner! The only thing that would have been helpful to me would have been some maps in my Kindle edition, showing the routes that the author took.

"A truly inspirational read." "Good Vibrations does exactly what it says on the tin. That's exactly what I felt when I read it. It'll entertain, amuse and inform a host of aspirant travelers and armchair explorers like myself." "The author writes with warmth and wit, and does an excellent job of capturing every emotion, every landscape." "If this book doesn't inspire the reader to jump on their bike and go...nothing will." The academic year must have been a difficult one as when the summer holidays arrived, secondary school teacher Andrew Sykes was happy to do as little as possible. But while sitting on his sofa watching the exploits of the cyclists at the Great Wall of China at the Beijing Olympics, he realised the error of his ways and resolved to put a bit more adventure into his life. Two years later, accompanied by his faithful companion Reggie (his bike) but only a rudimentary plan, Andrew set off for a trans-continental cycling adventure that would take him along the route of the Via Francigena and the Eurovelo 5 all the way from his home in southern England to Brindisi in the south of Italy. There were highs and lows, rain and shine, joy and despair and they are all recounted here in a light-hearted, brisk style.