



BICYCLE ADVENTURING THROUGH FILM

The internet makes it possible to share adventure like never before



→ WE'RE OFTEN ASKED to share websites and videos with our readers, and we're scheming about the best ways to do that in the future but, for now, you should check out a couple of films about bicycle travel. The first is *Le Grand Cycle*. It's about Janick Lemieux and Pierre Bouchard, a French Canadian couple who spend the majority of their time

traveling around the world on their bicycles. We've published many of their photos in past issues of *Adventure Cyclist* (you can see them at adventurecycling.org/adventure-cyclist/publications-archive) and this film beautifully captures what bicycle travel means to them and how they've built their lives around it.

I've watched a lot of videos about bicycle travel over the last couple of years, and there is a lot of interesting stuff being produced, but this film captures the essence of bicycle travel better than any other I've seen and translates it to the viewer in a very natural way. There were many segments of *Le Grand Cycle* that vividly reminded me of many moments from my own cycling trips while also revealing things to me that seem very foreign. The film really connects all the dots of which extensive bicycle travel consists in a manner I've never seen before.

Most important, the filmmakers have done an excellent job of revealing the two central characters as both exotic and quite familiar — not an easy task to accomplish in a

27-minute film. Pierre and Janick both come across as remarkable people but ones you wouldn't be surprised to meet in any walk of life.

Le Grand Cycle is in French with English subtitles and can be viewed at vimeo.com/69720426.

The other film is *The Road from Karakol*. It's a 25-minute film about Kyle Dempster's adventure through Kyrgyzstan. Much like the group who used bicycles to travel between Norway's wild ski destinations (see the May issue of *Adventure Cyclist*), Kyle uses a bicycle to travel to mountain peaks which he then climbs. *The Road* depicts real adventure as it takes the viewer on a journey of pure joyful exuberance mixed in with some very intense moments. Kyle is a bit of a rad dude and uses some salty language, and both films show a bit of partial nudity, so I wouldn't recommend them for the kids without a pre-viewing, after which you can decide for yourself whether their terrific content makes them worth seeing for minors. To view *The Road to Karakol*, go to outdoorresearch.com/blog/stories/the-road-from-karakol.

This issue of *Adventure Cyclist* will be distributed at Interbike in Las Vegas September 18-20. Many Adventure Cycling Association staff will be there, including myself, and we'll also be staffing an Adventure Cycling booth, so if you're going to Interbike, make sure to stop by and see us. We'll be located wherever Interbike decides to put all of the advocacy and cycling nonprofit groups.

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