

# THE BIKE FLYER - A MONTHLY NEWSLETTER



## PEGASUS BIKE TOURS



December, 2017 Volume 2, Issue 11

Best wishes from us to you all for Happy Holidays!

### Still a Couple of Openings on Our 2018 Domestic Tours

There are still a couple of spots available on the Eastern Washington Tour. Don't wait too long to make up your mind as they may go fast! You can always check on the tour status at [www.pegasusbiketours.com/tour-status](http://www.pegasusbiketours.com/tour-status). There you will also see how many folks are on the Wait List for each tour. As we all know stuff happens and folks have to cancel at the last minute so don't let a "full" tour keep you from registering for the Wait List. It's unbelievable how many folks still get on the tour they want from the Wait List.

### 2018 PEGASUS BIKE TOURS SCHEDULE

DATES	TOUR	LOCATION	Status	LEADERS
April 7-14	<a href="#">Solvang Spring Week</a>	Solvang, CA	Wait List (1)	R. Nussbaum/P. Austin
May 3-7	<a href="#">4-Day Eastern Washington</a>	Chelan, WA	Open	R. Nussbaum/P. Austin
May 17-21	<a href="#">4-Day Omak Hill Country</a>	Omak, WA	Wait List (8)	R. Nussbaum/D. Karlen
May 30-June 9	<a href="#">Girona/Catalonia, Spain</a>	Girona, Spain	1 Female	R. Nussbaum/Francien v.d. Lee
June 23-July 7	<a href="#">Bruges-Paris Bike &amp; Barge</a>	Bruges, Belgium	Wait List (11)	R. Nussbaum/Francien v.d. Lee
July 7-14	<a href="#">Paris-Montargis Bike &amp; Barge</a>	Paris, France	Wait List (3)	R. Nussbaum/Francien v.d. Lee
July 20-29	<a href="#">Salish Sea Tour</a>	Mt. Vernon, WA	Wait List (2)	D. Karlen/R. Nussbaum
Sept. 12-24	<a href="#">S. Utah National Parks</a>	Cedar City, UT	Wait List (1)	R. & C. Nussbaum

### Thoughts About 2019 Tours—Both International and Domestic

2017 is almost in the history books and we are all set with our tours for 2018. But what about 2019? A huge amount of advance planning needs to take place to put together a tour schedule and as you can imagine we haven't been sitting on our hands. Though nothing is set in stone, we thought we'd share with you what we have in mind. As has been stated before, making commitments for international tours is especially risky for us because we are not just reserving rooms at a hotel that can always be modified or cancelled with little financial repercussions. Chartering a barge or committing an entire group to a point to point European cycling tour doesn't allow for that kind of cancellation—it's a full blown commitment. With that said, we had 34 folks sign-up for 18 spots on the 2018 Bruges-Paris Bike & Barge Tour. Clearly we could not fill the demand so we are thinking of offering that tour again in 2019. (More on that elsewhere in the newsletter.) We also want to offer another Dutch Bike and Barge Tour (Ralph's native land) this time exploring the region south and east of Amsterdam with a 7 day Amsterdam-Maastricht Bike & Barge Tour. Maastricht in the extreme southeast corner of the Netherlands nearly surrounded by Germany and Belgium. It is at the feet of the Ardennes a low level mountain range which is famous for its beautiful forests and rivers. It is also the region that hosts some of the famous Spring Classics including the Amstel Gold, Flèche Wallone, and Liege-Bastogne-Liege. We want to ride some of those fabled roads and have asked Francien v.d. Lee to put together a 10 day tour from Maastricht to Luxemburg.

Domestically we are very excited about our planned 2019 offerings. We will again try to bring back our very first Pegasus Tour in Central California with its stunning scenery (think Big Sur!) and hopefully warm California springtime weather. In addition to our "regular" 2 four day tours in Eastern Washington we plan to run a 7 day tour in Central Idaho, starting and

ending in Ketchum, ID (Sun Valley) and an 8 day Colorado Tour starting and ending in Grand Junction, CO. The Central Idaho Tour will take us into the heart of the Sawtooth Mountains and include stops in Arco (Craters of the Moon), Challis, Redfish Lake, Lowman and Stanley. This tour will be rated intermediate/advanced as it has a 90 and 80 mile day but only one day of over 3,000' of climbing. The Colorado Tour will take us to the Colorado National Monument, Gateway, Naturita, Ouray, Montrose, (Black Canyon of the Gunnison National Park), and Grand Mesa. This tour will also be rated Intermediate/Advanced with no days over 77 miles and only 3 days with more than 3300' of climbing. Look for more detailed information about these tours in upcoming newsletters and on the Pegasus website.

## 2019 PEGASUS BIKE TOURS PROVISIONAL SCHEDULE

DATES	TOUR	LOCATION	LEVEL
April	Central California Tour	San Luis Obispo, CA	Intermediate/Adv
Mid-May	4-Day Omak Hill Country	Omak, WA	Intermediate/Adv
Mid-May	4-Day Eastern Washington	Chelan, WA	Intermediate/Adv
June 8–June 22	Bruges-Paris Bike & Barge	Bruges, BE	Easy/Intermediate
June 29-July 6	Amsterdam-Maastricht Bike & Barge	Amsterdam, NL	Easy
July 7-July 17	Maastricht-Luxemburg Ardennes Tour	Maastricht, NL	Intermediate/Adv
July	Central Idaho Tour	Ketchum, ID	Intermediate/Adv
August	Colorado Tour	Grand Junction, CO	Intermediate/Adv

### 2019 Bruges-Paris Tour—June 8-June 22, 2019

In a previous article we mentioned how risky it is to commit to a bike and barge tour like the 2 week Bruges-Paris Tour. For us it's a nearly \$60,000 gamble. To somewhat hedge that bet, we offered the folks on the Wait List for the 2018 Bruges-Paris Tour



the opportunity to carry their deposit over to 2019 **guaranteeing** them a spot on the 2019 tour. So far we have 4 of the 18 spots spoken for in 2019. We would like to extend the same opportunity to the rest of our tour posse. If you are interested in joining us in 2019, you can register and pay your deposit now. This will ensure that you have a spot on the tour before the regular 2019 international tour registration takes place next summer. All you have to do is go to [www.pegasusbiketours.com/register-now](http://www.pegasusbiketours.com/register-now) and fill out both the registration form and make the PayPal deposit. Our vendor has informed us that the cost of the tour will go up by 7% and of course we have no idea as to the relative strength of the US dollar vs the Euro but we expect to keep the tour cost down to no more than \$3350 for a 2 week tour with all but one meal included as well as many incredible excursions. Please go to the [2018 Full Tour Description](#) for all the details including more pictures of the barge, the Fleur. Remember the dates for the 2019 tour are June 8-June 22. We have to make a commitment by **mid-January**, so just a few more registrations/deposits for the 2019 tour would make our decision so much easier. We will assume that registrations/deposits received for the 2018 Bruges-Paris Bike and Barge Tour from here on out are for the 2019 tour as we still have a long Wait List for the 2018 tour.

