



Odyssey 2000®

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Rider Profiles

Below are profiles and photos of some of the 200+ cyclists taking part in Odyssey 2000®.

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Alan C.

From: Longmont, Colorado

Age: 58

Occupation: Self-employed consultant

Riding Odyssey 2000® with: wife, Stephanie C.

Why are you participating in Odyssey 2000®?

To see the world's countrysides and towns (not too interested in cities); meet new folks.

What are you most looking forward to?

Getting in super shape; uninterrupted experiences.

How do you think Odyssey 2000® will affect/change you?

Will give new view of world and people(s).

Alice R.

From: Port Angeles, Washington

Age: 59

Occupation: Retired teacher (as of August 31, 1999)

Why are you participating in Odyssey 2000®?

I think it will be a great adventure and a lot of fun. For the first time in my life I'll be free! Riding a bike always gives me a great sense of freedom.

What are you most looking forward to?

New sights, sounds, foods, experiences, and challenges. I hope to make a few good friends, too, as I'll be leaving everyone I know when I retire, having lived in Saudi Arabia for the past 15 years.

How do you think Odyssey 2000® will affect/change you?

I think I'll be a stronger, more skilled cyclist. I will have a better understanding of the people and their problems in the countries we visit. I hope I will be more self-confident, more out-going, and more aware of what really matters.

Al Y.

From: Driggs, Idaho

Age: 51

Occupation: Music teacher and musician

Why are you participating in Odyssey 2000®?

To see other parts of the world, and to ride my bike for long distances, and to hopefully rejuvenate my tired mind.

What are you most looking forward to?

The freedom to ride, see things, explore, and enjoy life in a somewhat more leisurely way than I've been living the past few years.

How do you think Odyssey 2000® will affect/change you?

I'll either come back ready to teach again, or ready to keep on bicycling, or find a new job. Hopefully, I'll be rejuvenated and want to teach until retirement.

**Alfred E.****From:** Fernie, British Columbia, Canada**Age:** 56**Occupation:** Teacher also ski hill and golf course employee**Why are you participating in Odyssey 2000®?**

Experiences teach us more than can be imagined -- we are here to learn. Cultural exposure. The adventure of it all. Risk!

What are you most looking forward to?

Each day...a new experience! Meeting friends I've never seen. That feeling when physical, intellectual, spiritual, and social health integrate and everything's possible.

How do you think Odyssey 2000® will affect/change you?

I will see myself as a member of the world family. I will return to places that touch my soul. Priorities will change. Hopefully, a better tomorrow.

Al T.**From:** Del Mar, California**Age:** 60**Occupation:** Partner in CPA firm**Riding Odyssey 2000®with:** my wife, Stephanie T.**Why are you participating in Odyssey 2000®?**

I have dreamed about riding a bike around the world, and this opportunity was too good to pass up.

What are you most looking forward to?

It is a fantasy trip. Leaving the hustle and bustle of everyday life to explore different parts of the world, and meet new people and new cultures.

How do you think Odyssey 2000® will affect/change you?

I will instantly have over 200 new friends. After a year on the road, it may be difficult to settle down and put on a coat and tie.

**Anita G.****From:** Grand Rapids, Michigan**Age:** 75**Occupation:** Now in rental property, other real estate. Started out in

editorial/educational capacities

Why are you participating in Odyssey 2000®?

Farewell tour of "world"(but not last trip, one may hope).

What are you most looking forward to?

Surviving.

How do you think Odyssey 2000® will affect/change you?

Not much. May come back leaner and meaner.

Anita W.

From: Palm Springs, California

Age: 41

Occupation: Emergency Physician

Why are you participating in Odyssey 2000®?

When I was in Medical School there was a Bicentennial bike ride across the U.S.A. I thought it would be great to join but was unable due to school. Ever since then I thought one day I would ride across the U.S.A. Then a co-worker mentioned Odyssey 2000 and all thought of bicycling across the U.S.A. went out the door, and I instead wanted to ride around the world. I am fortunate that I have an understanding husband, who will be slaving at home to hold down the fort. When I rode in the first Aid's ride from San Francisco to Los Angeles I enjoyed it so much I told my friends, "Wouldn't it be wonderful if your job was to just ride from point A to point B each day." Now I feel lucky that I will get to realize my dream. My motivation is my niece, Sarah. I will be riding for her to help support the special needs school she attends.

What are you most looking forward to?

Just riding from point A to point B each day and enjoying the sights and meeting interesting people.

How do you think Odyssey 2000® will affect/change you?

To allow me to be a free spirit.

Ann M.

From: Neenah, Wisconsin

Occupation: Art teacher, Appleton School District

Riding Odyssey 2000® with: Tim M.

Why are you participating in Odyssey 2000®?

Adventure.

What are you most looking forward to?

New friends, new places.

Bill H.

From: Hermosa Beach, California

Occupation: Assistant Manager, Safeway/Vons store

Why are you participating in Odyssey 2000®?

See the world at 12 miles per hour, new places, new friends, and the trip of a lifetime.

What are you most looking forward to?

Everything.

How do you think Odyssey 2000® will affect/change you?

Hard to say. I will let you know January 1, 2001. One change for sure, I will have a smile on my face the rest of my life!



Arnie Y.

From: La Grande, Oregon

Age: 50

Occupation: Pepsi-Cola route driver

Why are you participating in Odyssey 2000®?

My sister signed up and asked if I would like to go. She has since dropped out.

What are you most looking forward to?

What appeals to me the most is the challenge of bicycling 80 miles a day and then, of course, all the normal reasons: meet people from other places, see new countries, etc.

How do you think Odyssey 2000® will affect/change you?

It certainly should make me a better bicycle rider. It might be like winning the lottery. I won't change at all -- everyone around me will change.



Arthur B.

From: Cambridge Vale of Glam, Wales, United Kingdom

Age: 67

Occupation: Retired financial services manager

Why are you participating in Odyssey 2000®?

As I will be 68 years young during 2000 this may be the last chance for a tour of this nature and magnitude which will take

me to countries I would not consider solo.

What are you most looking forward to?

Making new friends with similar outlook as myself. Visiting new countries.

How do you think Odyssey 2000® will affect/change you?

I will return home with three things no one can take away from me: memories, experience, and education. Plus, a better understanding of my fellow man.

Barb R.

From: Seattle, Washington

Age: 32

Occupation: Software engineer

Why are you participating in Odyssey 2000®?

- Because I passionately love almost anything that's active and outdoors -- and that includes bicycling!
- Because I want to travel, and I think bicycling is a great way to see the world.
- Because Odyssey 2000 is going places that I probably wouldn't get to on my own, but that I'd love to see -- plus Odyssey 2000 took on the logistics nightmare.
- Because it's time to press the boundaries in my life and do something outrageous. This one is for me: the adventure I just couldn't pass up.

What are you most looking forward to?

- Seeing the sights and experiencing the world.
- The everlasting friendships and all the laughs along the way.
- Hopefully, if my knees, back, and butt hold out, a great body and great health.

How do you think Odyssey 2000® will affect/change you?

- I know I won't be the same person when I come back -- that's part of the joy and the excitement of it all: to go out and live life and follow your dreams and not really know what comes next -- to be open to all possibilities.
 - Being a software engineer, I expect it will be hard to come back and sit at a desk after a year of activity and travel. At the same time, I'm doing this trip to explore and expand other aspects of my self and my personality, and that personal gain is invaluable regardless of what I choose to do "next."
 - Again, if my body holds out, I expect to be in the best shape of my life.
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