

# Ferris Wheels 20th Anniversary

**I**t was 20 years ago today that Sergeant Pepper taught the band to play on two wheels. In 1994 a young Aussie bloke called Mike Ferris had a Eureka experience in Kathmandu, and having never ridden a motorcycle before, bought a Royal Enfield on the spur of the moment. He rode it extensively through the Himalayan regions and discovered more or less by accident the highest road in the world.

He never went back to his day job. He established a motorcycle tour operation called, what else, Ferris Wheels, and started taking like-minded travellers to exotic destinations, including the aforementioned highest road in the world. Twenty years on he has not seen another winter in Australia. Twenty years in a row he's crossed the Himalaya in June and July with motorcycle groups in tow, and now holds the world record for crossing the 5,600 metre Khardung La.

Mike and Denise Ferris run Australia's longest established commercial motorcycle tour operation. Destinations now include Morocco, Turkey, Nepal and Bhutan, Peru and Bolivia, the Dalmatian Coastline, as well as the one that started it all, the Indian Himalaya. Their latest addition to the portfolio, Iceland, has been greeted with overwhelming immediate interest, with large groups of 25 riders and more.

After meeting Mike on an international flight ten years ago, Denise's decision to leave her distinguished



corporate career and become a professional motorcycle tour guide has ensured an interesting life. It's also seen a significant escalation in the number of female riders joining the tours.

Ferris Wheels has exhibited at most of the Ulysses AGMs in the last 15 years and enjoyed the company of many many Ulyssians on tours around the world. It's a social community that Mike and Denise fit easily into themselves. With South Africa now in the pipeline and Mexico in their sights, the next 20 years promise to be just as adventure filled.

## Motorcycle Safaris!

- Himalayan Heights
- Turkish Treasures
- Shining Shangri-La
- Awesome Andes
- Moroccan Magic
- Dalmatian Delights
- Inspiring Iceland



*Ferris  
Wheels*



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