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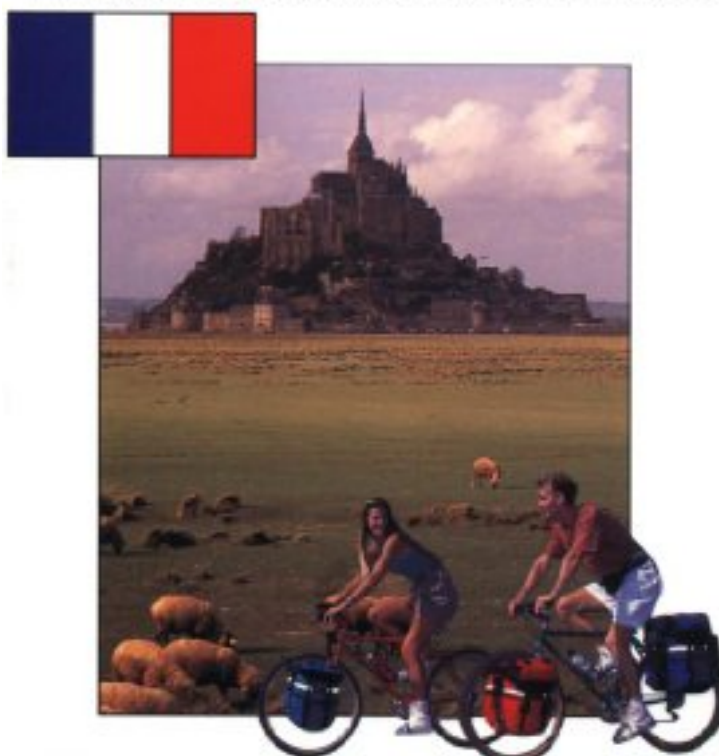
Jerry Simpson

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BICYCLE BOOKS

CYCLING FRANCE

THE BEST BIKE TOURS IN ALL OF GAUL



JERRY H. SIMPSON JR.

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Jerry Simpson : Cycling France: The Best Bike Tours in All of Gaul (Active Travel Series) before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised *Cycling France: The Best Bike Tours in All of Gaul (Active Travel Series)*:

25 of 26 people found the following review helpful. Good, but . . .By C. McKennaI have mixed feelings about this book -- there are sections which are extraordinarily helpful, and then he spoils it. The most useful sections, and ones which other touring books would be wise to emulate, are his selections of helpful letters to various people (hotels, cycling shops, etc.) written in French for the linguistically challenged (like me). However, contrary to the remarks of the previous reviewer, my wife and I found that the selection of roads was not small country lanes -- even when such were available and paralleled the route selected by Mr. Simpson. We toured through the Dordogne and Mr. Simpson's route both out of Bordeaux, and then later in the trip the section from Cahors back towards Bordeaux were on major roads when wonderful alternatives were at hand. We found this inexplicable. For the first part of the book I rate it at 5 stars -- but as the route selection is so marginal (at least where we tried to use it) I have to downgrade to 3. The best of both worlds was to use this book for preparation, and then another for actual route planning. For that I highly recommend the Whitehill's book, *14 Tours Geared for Discovery*. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful.

*Cycling France - a Review*By E SimpsonSimpson's book contains a wealth of information; he was extremely knowledgeable about and deeply in love with France, its food, people, and language. He developed this interest when he was stationed in France. He rode every one of the routes he laid out and when he rode them the roads were as described. Most of the photographs he took as well (he was an expert photographer). Simpson imparts a great deal about the country (geography, sights, foods) which are useful to someone who is going to visit France, whether cycling or touring in some other manner. Simpson asks the reader to think about the reader's desires and to decide what type of cyclist the reader is. He asks the reader to take into consideration when tourists are there and French holidays. All of this makes a difference. Postal code information and US customs information are outdated. I gave the book 4 stars because parts such as I mentioned are outdated. Sadly, there will not be an updated version by Simpson as he retired from and sold *Bike Tour France* and then later died. As one of the other reviewers stated, this book is a good starting guide but you may wish to plan to travel on different roads. 4 of 4 people found the following review helpful. Good, but . . .By A CustomerI have mixed feelings about this book -- there are sections which are extraordinarily helpful, and then he spoils it. The most useful sections, and ones which other touring books would be wise to emulate, are his selections of helpful letters to various people (hotels, cycling shops, etc.) written in French for the linguistically challenged (like me). However, contrary to the remarks of the previous reviewer, my wife and I found that the selection of roads was not small country lanes -- even when they paralleled the route selected by Mr. Simpson. We toured through the Dordogne and Mr. Simpson's route both out of Bordeaux, and then later in the trip the section from Cahors back towards Bordeaux were on major roads when wonderful alternatives were at hand. We found this inexplicable. For the first part of the book I rate it at 5 stars -- but as the route selection is so marginal (at least where we tried to use it) I have to downgrade to 3. The best of both worlds was to use this book for preparation, and then another for actual route planning. For that I highly recommend the Whitehill's book, *14 Tours Geared for Discovery*.

Maps throughout. Much of the world's most spectacular scenery is now easily accessible by bicycle! This informative series provides meticulously researched routes and clear maps to guide cyclists along their way, plus complete information on planning trips, accesses, accommodations, bicycle rentals, and the availability of supplies. Fun and informative guides! Each is sftbd., 4 3-4x 8 1-2.'