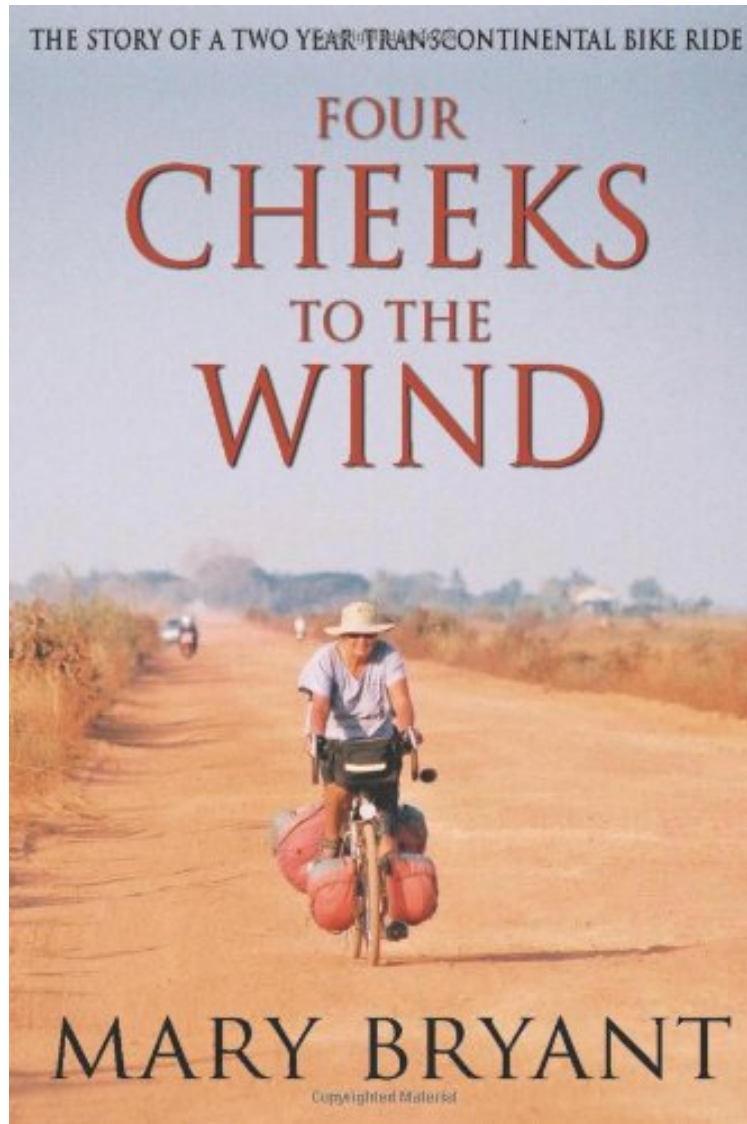


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## Four Cheeks to the Wind: The Story of a Two Year Transcontinental Bicycle Ride

Mary Bryant

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**Mary Bryant : Four Cheeks to the Wind: The Story of a Two Year Transcontinental Bicycle Ride** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Four Cheeks to the Wind: The Story of a Two Year Transcontinental Bicycle Ride:

2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. . . . not one of my favoritesBy Ray WishartI spend much of my time, when not on my bike going somewhere, reading about other folks' adventures on their own bikes. To be honest this

was not one of my favorites. The journey was interesting enough but the book was just way too long to keep my interest. The couple seem to skip around a lot so it's hard to really follow where they are or where they are going. It was more of a disjointed travelogue than an adventure book, but by the time I realized that I was too far invested in reading the story to not finish. As an American it's always interesting to get the perspective of outside tourists that travel across the United States, so I was looking forward to that chapter. Unfortunately, due to family issues, they never get to America at all. I guess I could have studied the Table of Contents ahead of time and realized that, but I had assumed they had completed their plan to travel around the world. I felt cheated a bit. On the plus side, it was good to read a story by people closer to my age than the typical young folks that seem to ride around the world to avoid getting a job. It was inspiring to read of other retired people taking on an adventure like this. Not a bad read, well written, but just way too long to keep my interest up. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Very boring. By old lady. Its OK but is becoming a little boring. All she talks about is eating. The riding sounds like torture. I guess if you eat that much and have to haul it up a hill it would be torture. The only amazing thing about this book is how people like this actually ride around the world. 1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Prodigious feat. By HerRoyalCatness. This isn't just a travel book, it's a very long and detailed travel book. I have nothing but admiration for Mary Bryant, a woman approaching her 60's who had not only the stamina to cycle her way through so many countries, but also sufficient organizational and writing skills to produce such an interesting and coherent account of her rather arduous travels. I found none of the textual errors one other reviewer noted, although some city and village names were omitted, and places of lodging and restaurants remained largely unidentified. Geography, road conditions, weather, legalities, technological development, diet and customs of each locale were all recorded, as well as the attitude of inhabitants toward westerners. That the author and her companion ended their trip physically healthy and intact is a wonder, given the traffic hazards and unsanitary conditions they encountered along the way. The many friends they made and the recipes Mary collected are a testament to the open-heartedness and spirit of adventure that kept the two of them going until the sad loss of a family member cut their journey short. Highly recommended to any armchair traveler.

This is the story of a couple who embark on a two year cycle ride through 15 countries, without backup or support, through areas not usually visited by tourists. The author, approaching retirement age, shows that anyone with a dream, ambition or life-long goal can make it a reality.

About the Author Mary Bryant was born in Reading and was educated at the local grammar school. She worked locally, but had a life-long ambition to travel the world. After their cycling trip, Mary and her partner Warren eloped to Gretna Green, where they were married. Mary's recent diagnosis of an acoustic neuroma, a benign brain tumour, has put further foreign cycling temporarily on hold.