



Ecotopia Biketour - Summer 2022

Environmental social activist cycling community since 1990

Ecotopia Biketour is a self-organised, international community that has been organising a yearly bicycle tour in different regions of Europe since 1990. During the tour we visit environmental and social projects and practice forms of activism and sustainable living. We cook communal vegan food, practice consensus decision making, and share skills by doing workshops. Ecotopia Biketour is for anyone interested in travelling by bike, community life, DIY, an ecological lifestyle, and/or learning by experience. If this sounds good to you, feel welcome to join us!

The start of the tour (the first 3 weeks, 3rd to 24th July) will be reserved for LGBTQIA+ and FLINTA. Please see more to this below.

We are usually a group of 20–40 cyclists. Most people join for between 2 weeks and 2 months and are participating for the first time. We rarely cycle all together, some people go ahead in the morning and mark the route with arrows on the road. People then follow in small groups at their own speed and rhythm. We support each other and keep distances at a level that everybody and everybike can manage. Don't worry if you have never travelled by bike before.

We attempt for a non-hierarchical environment by rotating responsibilities, sharing skills and respecting personal needs. People can sign up for daily tasks (cooking, pulling a trailer, marking the route, etc.), but everyone can decide individually how much they want to do. We gather as a group in a circle every few days to talk about how everything is going and to collectively make decisions. We aim to create a non-discriminatory environment, where discrimination based on perceived or actual gender or sexual orientation, class, race, age, ability or religion is not tolerated.

We cook communally with portable stoves, carry all our equipment ourselves, try to buy local and organic food; and we dumpster-dive where possible. We suggest a donation of 3–5 € per day to cover food costs, but people who cannot give this donation are also welcome to join.

In the year 2022 we will be cycling for 3 months in the Netherlands, Belgium, Germany and France. We will start on the 3rd of July in Amsterdam with one-week of preparation camp. Then we cycle south towards Marseille and spend the last weeks along one of the most beautiful coasts of the Mediterranean Sea. The more detailed plan with what projects and festivals we'll visit will be listed on the website as soon as possible.

As mentioned above the beginning of the tour (3rd to 24th July) will be a tour for FLINTA and LGBTQIA+, while hetero endo cis-male persons are asked not to join the tour. In this way we hope to achieve a fun and empowering biketour experience, which avoids one-sided cis hetero masculinity. Also the idea is to develop the collective to make it more equally organised and inclusive towards people of different gender identities and sexual orientations, instead of the imbalance in favour of hetero cis men, which has been a pattern on the tour and the orga the last years.

To explain the abbreviations: FLINTA stands for endo cis-Women (F), Lesbian, Intersex, Non-binary, Transgender and Agender. LGBTQIA+ stands for Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Queer, Intersex, Agender and those whose identity and orientation is not accurately captured by those mentioned before (+).

If you have some questions or have recommendations for projects, groups and events for us to visit on the way or would like to help preparing the tour, please write to info@ecotopiabiketour.net or join our mailing list on our website: www.ecotopiabiketour.net

We hope to see you on the tour :)

ECOTOPABIKE TOUR.NET

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