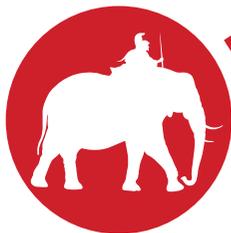


# R I D E & S E E K

An epic cycling expedition  
2200 years in the making.



BARCELONA TO ROME | (AUGUST 28 - SEPTEMBER 28 | 2022)

# Hannibal Overview

TOTAL DISTANCE:  
2704km | 1680mi

ELEVATION:  
42,617m | 139,825ft

DURATION:  
32 DAYS  
31 Nights



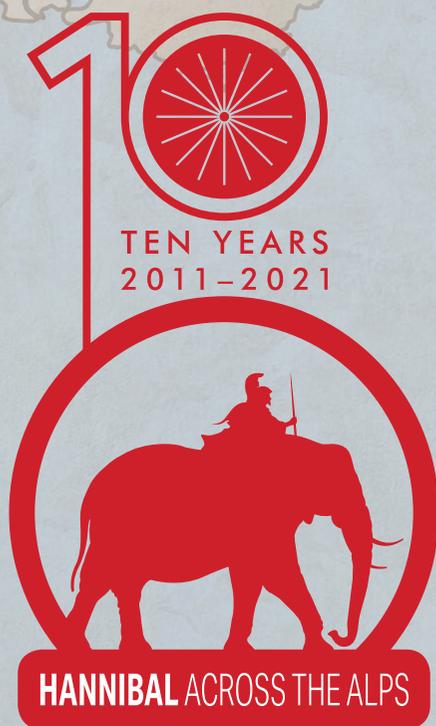
SPAIN



FRANCE



ITALY



TEN YEARS  
2011-2021

HANNIBAL ACROSS THE ALPS

GRADING:



MAKE IT  
EPIC

LONGER ROUTES  
ARE AVAILABLE  
THROUGHOUT THE TOUR  
FOR THOSE WANTING  
MORE DAILY RIDING  
AND ELEVATION

Tours available from  
1 WEEK

## STAGE 1 | BARCELONA TO ALBA

Ride Day	Destination	Distance (kilometres)	Elevation (metres)	Distance (miles)	Elevation (feet)
1	 Montseny	16	455	10	1493
2	 Girona	139	1868	86	6129
3	 Ceret	86	1180	54	3872
4	 Duilhac	88	1685	55	5528
5	 Carcassonne	95	1392	59	4567
6	 Olargues	97	1480	60	4856
7	 Sommieres	141	1452	87	4764
8	 St Remy de Provence	110	1121	69	3678
9	 Bedoin	120	1721	75	5647
10	 Bedoin	Rest Day			
11	 Sault	112	2788	69	9147
12	 Tallard	69	1186	43	3891
13	 Corps	74	1569	46	5148
14	 Bourg d'Oisans	75	1460	47	4790
15	 Bourg d'Oisans	Rest Day			
16	 La Chalp	95	2732	59	8964
17	 Costigliole Saluzzo	90	1416	56	4646
18	 Alba	88	692	55	2270
<b>STAGE 1 TOTALS</b>		<b>1495</b>	<b>24197</b>	<b>929</b>	<b>79390</b>
<b>STAGE 1 AVERAGES</b>		<b>16 ride days</b>	<b>93</b>	<b>1512</b>	<b>4962</b>

## STAGE 2 | ALBA to ROME

Ride Day	Destination	Distance (kilometres)	Elevation (metres)	Distance (miles)	Elevation (feet)
1	 Alba Warm Up	29	523	18	1716
2	 Gavi	114	2109	71	6919
3	 Trebbia	106	1912	66	6273
4	 Tabiano	100	1922	62	6306
5	 Reggio Emilia	100	1193	62	3914
6	 Castelnuovo di Garfagnana	121	2533	75	8311
7	 Pisa	90	1238	56	4062
8	 Pisa	Rest Day			
9	 San Gimignano	111	1557	69	5109
10	 Pienza	126	1937	78	6355
11	 Todi	134	1295	83	4249
12	 Campagnano	130	1700	81	5578
13	 Rome	49	501	31	1644
<b>STAGE 2 TOTALS</b>		<b>1209</b>	<b>18420</b>	<b>751</b>	<b>60435</b>
<b>STAGE 2 AVERAGES</b>		<b>12 ride days</b>	<b>101</b>	<b>1535</b>	<b>63</b>

**LONGER ROUTES**  
ARE AVAILABLE  
THROUGHOUT THE TOUR  
FOR THOSE WANTING  
MORE DAILY RIDING  
AND ELEVATION



	Distance (km)	Elevation (m)	Distance (miles)	Elevation (feet)
<b>EPIC TOTALS</b>	<b>2704</b>	<b>42617</b>	<b>1680</b>	<b>139825</b>
<b>EPIC AVERAGES</b>	<b>28 ride days</b>	<b>97</b>	<b>1522</b>	<b>4994</b>

The Hannibal expedition is one of our Epic Adventures. These are grand multi region journeys with a clear start and finish. Imagine riding where Napoleon, Caesar or Marco Polo travelled before you, or in this case where Hannibal made his epic march in 218 BC and brought Rome to its knees.

## Presenting the world's most inspiring cycling journeys

Join us on a ride of historical proportions as we ride in the footsteps of Hannibal from Barcelona to Rome. Cycling on some of Europe's most iconic and picturesque bike touring routes through Spain, France and Italy this epic journey has it all.

Divided into 2 stages the Hannibal tour takes in some of the finest cycling you could ever wish to find. Picture postcard views abound as we traverse some of the iconic climbs of the Grand Tours, roll through the vineyards of the Languedoc, Provence, Piedmont and Tuscany, and sample the delights of the diverse gastronomy to be found along the route.

Experience total immersion into the landscape, history and culture of the places we visit as we ride this inspirational iconic trail on the road less travelled.

Discover from the saddle why Hannibal's invasion of Rome in 218 BC was a major turning point in history. This was the clash of the ancient superpowers. If Hannibal had been victorious against Rome our world today would be completely different. The Western world wouldn't have Rome at its origins, rather a Middle Eastern colony based in North Africa.



## S1 – At a glance

- **MEET TIME:** 10:00am  
Sunday 28th August
- **WHERE:**  
Yurbban Hotel, Barcelona –  
[www.yurbbantrafalgar.com](http://www.yurbbantrafalgar.com)
- **GATEWAY AIRPORT:**  
Barcelona El Prat airport
- **TRANSFERS:** not included,  
metered cabs from the airport  
work well
- **NOTE:** We do not stay at the  
Hotel Yurbban, we will take a  
1hr coach ride to Montseny  
to the start point of the tour

## S1 – Conclusion

- **WHERE:**  
Hotel Calissano, Alba
- **WHEN:** Thursday 15th  
September, after breakfast
- **GATEWAY AIRPORT:** Milan  
Malpensa or Turin
- **TRANSFERS:** We offer a  
shuttle to Milan Malpensa  
after breakfast
- **NOTE:** Book flights departing  
after 14:00 on the 15th

## STAGE 1 – Barcelona to Alba

### Sunday 28th August – Thursday September 15th

For Stage 1 and the regular Epic tour we will meet you at 10:00 on Sunday 28th August at the Yurbban Hotel, Barcelona – [www.yurbbantrafalgar.com](http://www.yurbbantrafalgar.com). We recommend the Yurbban for your pre-tour nights as its location, ambience and staff are excellent, however, they have a two night minimum stay. Since we don't use it as an official tour hotel though we recommend you book any pre-tour nights directly. If you only need one extra night then look for suitable hotels in the Eixample or Eixample Dret districts.

The parking is limited at the Yurbban so we will pull up out front on the main street in the van and claim some turf while we load up – look out for the Ride & Seek van and guides. We then shuttle to the start point of the tour in Montseny which is about 1 hour drive from Barcelona.

The primary flight gateway for this stage is Barcelona El Prat airport which is not too far from the centre of the city. For shuttles, the metered cabs from the airport have worked for guests in the past. If you are travelling with a bike, you'll have to request a larger vehicle at the taxi rank.

## Stage Conclusion in Alba

If you are leaving us after stage 1 the tour ends in Alba after breakfast on Thursday 15th September. The closest airport to Alba is Turin airport (about an hour away by car) but it is worth noting that the Milan Malpensa airport (about 2 hours by car) offers more international connections. We offer a shuttle to Milan Malpensa after breakfast. We recommend you don't book any flights that leave before 14:00 on the 15th.

## First day guidance

For meeting at the start of each stage please come dressed in regular clothes. Look out for the guides at the appointed time in their Ride & Seek attire or simply ask at the hotel reception where to find the group and they will direct you accordingly. The usual first day format involves grabbing a bite to eat together and the guides talking about the tour. We then focus on fitting bikes and set a time to meet in bike gear for a warm-up ride before catching up for pre-dinner drinks with the rest of the group.



## STAGE 2 – Alba to Rome

Thursday 15th September – Wednesday 28th September

If you are joining us for stage 2 we will meet you at 13:00 on Thursday September 15th at the Hotel Calissano – [www.hotelcalissano.com](http://www.hotelcalissano.com). Primary international flight gateways for this stage are Turin and Milan. Since Alba is not an easy town to reach via public transport we offer a shuttle from Milan Malpensa at 11:00.

You will meet the guides who will introduce the tour over lunch. You will then do a bike fit and a warm up ride around the fantastic Langhe wine region.



## S2 – At a glance

- **MEET TIME:** 13:00pm  
Thursday 15th September
- **WHERE:**  
Hotel Calissano, Alba
- **GATEWAY AIRPORT:**  
Milan Malpensa or Turin
- **TRANSFERS:** We offer a shuttle from Milan Malpensa at 11:00am

## S2 – Conclusion

- **WHERE:**  
Hotel Donna Camilla, Rome
- **WHEN:** Wednesday 28th  
September, after breakfast
- **GATEWAY AIRPORT:**  
Rome Fiumicino airport  
(45 minutes) and Ciampino  
(30 minutes)
- **TRANSFERS:**  
NOT INCLUDED – Taxis can  
be booked through the hotel  
conciierge



## Tour Conclusion

Wednesday September 28th

The official end of the tour is after breakfast on Wednesday 28th September. The hotel we are staying in is the Donna Camilla Hotel near the Botanical Gardens – [www.donna-camilla](http://www.donna-camilla) – which is a great spot to extend your stay. Take note though that it gets booked out quickly and the prices go up accordingly, so we recommend that you get in early. We also recommend the Horti 14 for post tour nights.

Taxis are available from the hotel to get to both Rome Fiumicino airport (45 minutes) and Ciampino (30 minutes). The taxi rates for these are standard across the city.

# Epic - Barcelona to Rome

**TOTAL DISTANCE:**  
2704km | 1680mi

**ELEVATION:**  
42,617m | 139,825ft

**DURATION:**  
32 DAYS  
31 Nights

## STAGE 1 - Barcelona to Alba

The road less travelled in northern Spain & southern France on some of Europe's best roads.

History through the ages: Hannibal, Roman aqueducts, Cathar castles & medieval villages.

Across the Alps and into Italy on perhaps the most iconic leg of Hannibal & his 37 elephants journey. Classic climbs – Col Agnel, Col d'Izoard, Alpe d'Huez, Col du Galibier & Mont Ventoux.

**TOTAL DISTANCE:**  
1495km | 929mi

**ELEVATION:**  
24,197 | 79,390ft

**DURATION:**  
19 DAYS  
18 Nights



## STAGE 2 - Alba to Rome

The Italian's Italy: Fantastic food and history in Italy's north. Amazing ridge lines in Piedmont, exceptional food in Emilia Romagna – with the challenge of crossing the Apennines to finish off the week.

Taste, explore and discover the very best that Italy has to offer. Revel in Renaissance Italy, amongst battle sites and classic heritage, through Italy's most renowned regions, on Hannibal's road to Rome.

**TOTAL DISTANCE:**  
1209km | 751mi

**ELEVATION:**  
18,420 | 60,435ft

**DURATION:**  
14 DAYS  
13 Nights



# We focus on unique memorable properties – Italian castles, benedictine monasteries and historic treasures.

We have carefully selected the places where we stay based on their personality and the hospitality of our hosts. Be it Parador's in Spain, Manoir's in France or Agriturismi in Italy, we seek to connect you with the places we travel in through the accommodations we choose.



## Il Postiglione

Our gateway into Rome this charming abode has been hosting travellers since 1463. In keeping with the Roman focus of our tour it is on the ancient Via Cassia and has an excavated section on the back garden.

## Hostellerie du Vieux Moulin

In the heart of the land of the Cathars this hotel is overlooked by the imposing Peyrepetuse fort. With a lovely rustic charm this place allows us to explore one of the more remote parts of our route.

## Tabiano Castle

Dating back to the 11th century our castle abode was built on the ruins of a Roman settlement. Long the military stronghold of the Pallavicino family it is now considered one of Italy's premier country hotels.

## Hotel La Posta

Over 500 years of welcoming guests – Art, history and tradition merge with all the latest modern comforts. This 4 star hotel is perfectly positioned in the historic centre of Reggio Emilia. We have got to know Umberto Sidoli well over the years and his hospitality is always second to none.

## Villa Sparina Resort

Long a favourite of ours this country estate in the Gavi hills exudes charm and luxury. Dating back to this 18th century the Moccagatta family have created an oasis of calm that is always hard to leave.

## We choose our restaurants because they are exceptional and unique.

Whether they are haute cuisine, a meal at a local farm, fine Italian 4 course dining or local boar stew, every meal is guaranteed to be memorable.



### Antica Locanda del Falco

Situated within the walled borgo of Rivalto, Sabrina and her team excel with their seasonally focussed menus and some of the finest fresh tortelli pasta you'll ever taste. The bottega (pictured) serves to set the scene as you enter the restaurant.

### Fleurs d'Olargues

Always in the running for the best meal of the tour this restaurant prides itself on using fresh produce from their market garden. Situated in the 'most beautiful village' of Olargues the backdrop (pictured) is only matched by the quality of the cuisine.

### Ride & Seek picnics

Something we always take pride in are the on-the-go picnics we set up for lunch. Whether it be a platter of homemade sandwiches or a smorgasbord of local produce we always seek to give you a sense of place through the food we serve.

### La Gallina

Linked to the Villa Sparina winery eating in the wine cellar always provides an atmospheric setting to dine on the fine Piemontese gastronomy they provide. Fresh agnolotti are often a feature and the wines never disappoint.

### Antico Arco

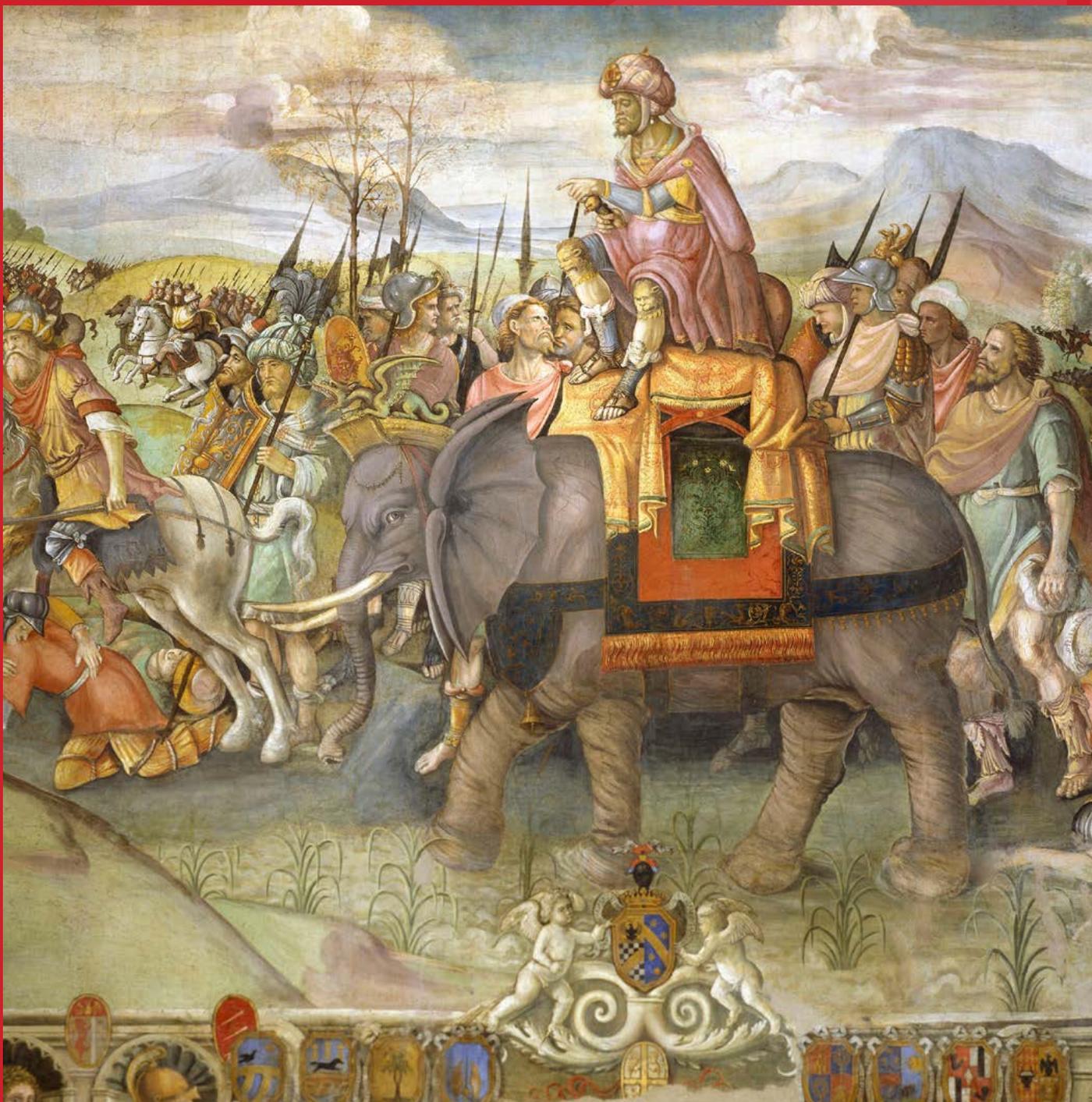
Overlooking Rome our final tour restaurant prides itself on creating the perfect expression of a fusion of styles based on exclusively Mediterranean ingredients. A wine cellar with over 20,000 bottles helps set the scene.

# 'I will either find a way, or make one'

## Hannibal

Hannibal Barca is one of the greatest military commanders of all time. As a leader of the ancient superpower, Carthage, he waged a lifelong war against the Romans and nearly destroyed them. And yet, today we know very little about Hannibal or his people: the Carthaginians. What we do remember is one of his amazing feats: to fight the Romans on their own turf, Hannibal led an army that included nearly forty elephants, over the frozen mountain tops of the Alps and into Italy.

That achievement, leading the largest land animal over one of the biggest mountain chains, was just part of an incredible journey that took Hannibal and his force of sixty thousand men from southern Spain, through France, into Italy via the Alps and finally, over the sea and back to the now Tunisian city of Carthage. For Hannibal Barca this was a very personal conflict – a family affair. As a boy he'd sworn to his father Hamilcar that he would fight Rome to the death and his top generals were his two brothers, Hasdrubal and Mago. Their struggle was the main event during the biggest and bloodiest conflict of ancient times, the century long Punic Wars (264-146 BC). With Hannibal as commander, it really looked as if Carthage was going to win. European civilisation came so close to being something very different – Rome-free, and yet Rome totally dominates our imagination when we think about the ancient world. When Hannibal lived, things were very different.



# What our guests have to say...



The ability to achieve climbing both Mt Ventoux and Alpe d'Heuz at age 71 made this experience one of a lifetime. It proves to me, once again, that regardless of age, one can target accomplishment and achievement beyond the comprehension of most. The planning and execution of Ride and Seek made this possible for me and I will forever be grateful! Thank you!

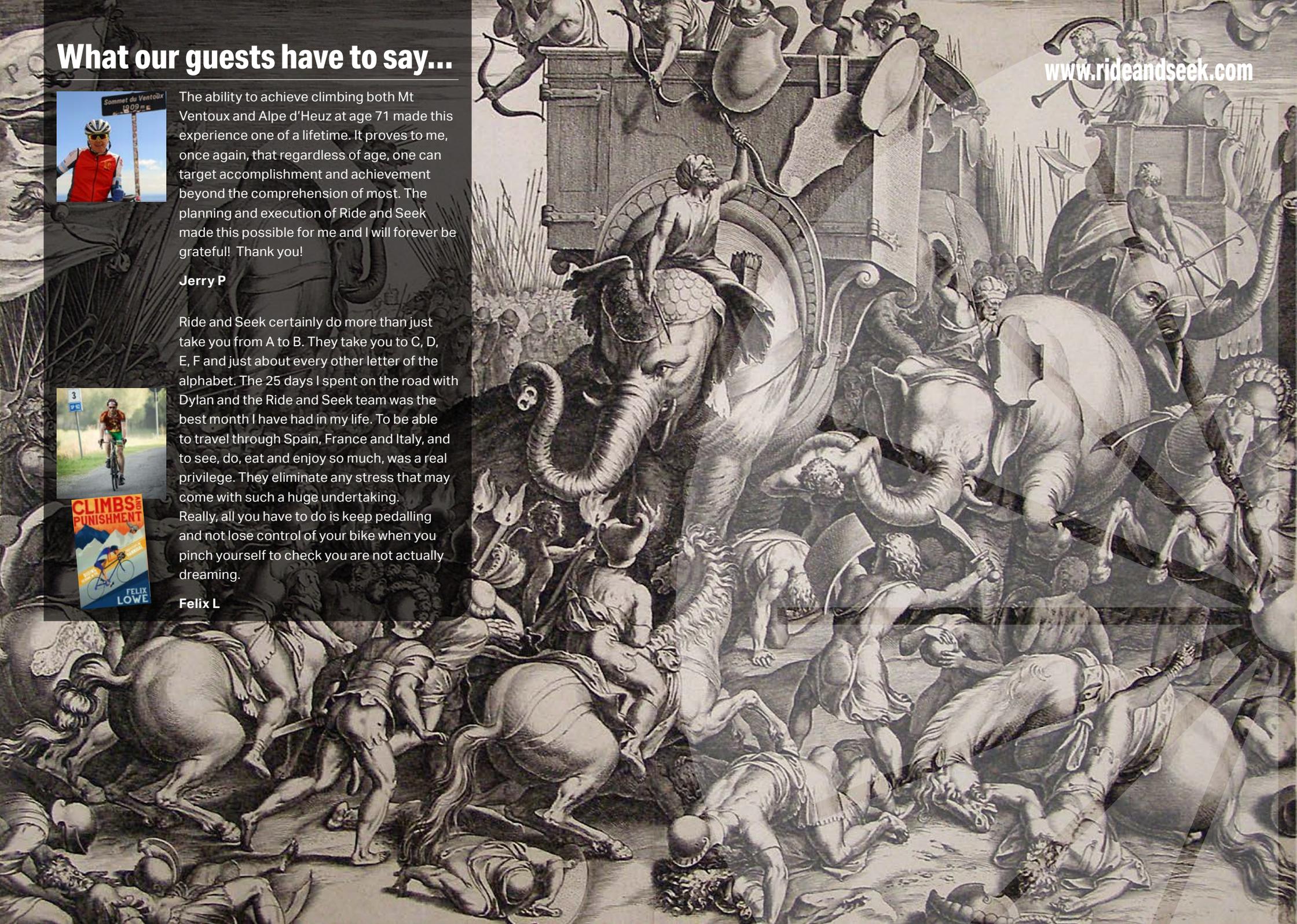
**Jerry P**

Ride and Seek certainly do more than just take you from A to B. They take you to C, D, E, F and just about every other letter of the alphabet. The 25 days I spent on the road with Dylan and the Ride and Seek team was the best month I have had in my life. To be able to travel through Spain, France and Italy, and to see, do, eat and enjoy so much, was a real privilege. They eliminate any stress that may come with such a huge undertaking. Really, all you have to do is keep pedalling and not lose control of your bike when you pinch yourself to check you are not actually dreaming.

**Felix L**



[www.rideandseek.com](http://www.rideandseek.com)



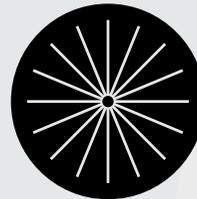
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Alternatively, [Email us](#)



R I D E & S E E K



# Hannibal Overview