

## Press release: Get ready for Australia's first major bicycle touring routes

SYDNEY (May 20, 2014) – In the spirit of the great bicycle touring routes of Europe and the United States, Australia will soon have two world-class bicycle touring routes of its own.

The Australian Bicycle Route Project – an initiative of bicycle touring website *Cycle Traveller* – is developing two long-distance routes to make bicycle travel more accessible to both Australians and foreign visitors.

The first route – The Red Centre Route – runs about 4000km from Adelaide to Darwin via the Flinders Ranges, Coober Pedy, Uluru, Kings Canyon, Alice Springs and Kakadu. The second route – The GDR Route – runs about 5000km along the length of the Great Dividing Range (GDR) from Cairns to Adelaide.

“There's a lingering perception that Australia isn't a great place to cycle in. That's simply not true,” said Alia Parker, project manager for the Australian Bicycle Route Project and publisher of *Cycle Traveller*.

“When you get away from the highways, when you get away from the big cities, there are so many lonely roads just waiting to be ridden. You can ride all day and barely see a car, and the scenery is enchanting. This truly is a beautiful country.”

Husband and wife team, Simon and Alia Parker, will set off on June 5 to test-ride the new routes, engage with the local communities, and fine-tune the maps for printing.

Starting and finishing in Adelaide, they will be on the road for six months, covering about 9000km of scenic Australian roads.

The Red Centre Route and The GDR Route will be published as sets of folding maps in the first quarter of 2015. The GDR Route will also have an optional guide book detailing the history and landmarks passed along the way.

“The routes are designed to take the guesswork out of planning a long distance bike trip and give people the confidence to cycle Australia,” Parker said.

The maps will include all the information needed for an enjoyable journey, including sights and landmarks, distances between food and water stops, accommodation and camping, access to services and bicycle mechanics, road conditions and elevation profiles.

**Find out more about the Australian Bicycle Route Project at:**

**[ozbikerouteproject.cycletraveller.com.au](http://ozbikerouteproject.cycletraveller.com.au)**

**Media enquiries:**

**Alia Parker**

**Publisher | Cycle Traveller**

**p: 0479.196.628**

**e: [alia@cycletraveller.com.au](mailto:alia@cycletraveller.com.au)**