

Pacific Pete Hits The Road

2000 miles down Highway 101

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Posted by: **pacificpete** | September 8, 2008

I'm a rabbit

The usual rabbit being sidetracked by shopping, I was first into the site today (a first). Of course it was a mostly flat day (the first 35 miles were basically a very gentle uphill), with only three tough climbs at the end.

I also hit 45 on a downhill, and in so doing missed what everyone thought was Mt St Helens, but was actually Rainier.

Overall, I felt pretty strong, so things are proceeding apace.

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Posted by: **pacificpete** | September 8, 2008

A very good day

Today was very different from yesterday. Yes, it was a long slog away from the water, w/ three brutal climbs, but otherwise it was a 60-mile ride through pine-covered hillsides, w/ a beautiful blue sky and a gentle downgrade.

We're camping tonight in an RV park, I kid you not! And it's great: nice lawn for the tents, shade, hot showers, and a laundromat.

Also, I bought a 12-pack, which disappeared in about 15 minutes, so all in all it was a pleasant day.

In a couple days we'll be taking a rest day down in the coast, near Astoria.





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Posted by: **pacifipete** | September 6, 2008

[Oops](#)

I types in a long msg and then lost it through stupidity. Gist: long day, I'm pooped.

Getting harrier.



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Posted by: **pacifipete** | September 5, 2008

[Fort Townsend](#)

...was definitely the highlight for today. We had a leisurely 20 mile ride, followed by a 6-mile sprint to make the ferry. Then we tooted around this very cute town for a bit. A wood boat festival, lots of street performers, and a good chai latte rounded it out.

Since then we've biked another 10 miles to the laundromat, where I'm writing this while charging all my devices.

Afterwards, we have another 6-7 (flat) miles to the point of a peninsula which overlooks the city.

Today had lots of short but very steep hills, and I think I will sleep very well.



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Posted by: **pacificpete** | September 4, 2008

[Heading south](#)

Today we finally quit messing around and headed south. The trip was highlighted by two wrong turns (one was a 10-mile jaunt around a beautiful island), a chat w/ a bunch of new-age hippies driving a mini-schoolbus, and a spectacular bridge. The main hippie was "Earthstar", and their propane-burning bus gets 7 miles a gallon.

Oh, and there was the stop for a pizza and a Guinness.



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Posted by: **pacifipete** | September 3, 2008

[Shakedown Ride](#)

Today we packed everything on to our bikes, rode 30 miles, and then unpacked everything and set up our tents in the same place we left in the morning. Nothing fell off.

The high point for me was a lady in the pharmacy, who told me about a couple who recently bikes through on the way to alaska. Evidently the woman had confided that "her bottom stopped hurting on day 72." Well.

The picture is of Sally, our fearless leader.



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Posted by: **pacificpete** | September 2, 2008

[The journey begins!](#)

2000 miles from the border to Canada to the border w/ Mexico. The picture is of the international Peace Arch, placed there to commemorate the longest undefended border in the world. Note the maple leaf past the arch. The border!

The people, of course, are Aunt Kathleen and Uncle Darryl. The food is some of Kathleen's wonderful cooking.





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Posted by: **pacificpete** | September 2, 2008

[Almost there](#)

I'm currently in Burien, WA, about 90 miles from the starting point. I shipped my bike to my aunt's and am now enjoying their wonderful hospitality (yum, Thai marinades for the salmon).

Tomorrow morning I head north to meet Destiny...



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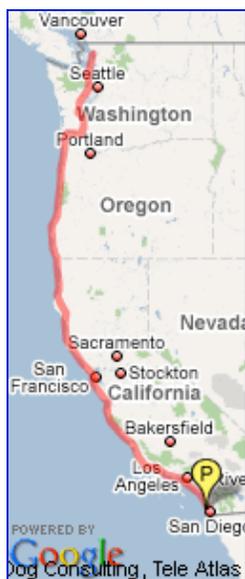
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Progress

2094 of 2200 miles

100399 feet climbing



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