

GARFIELD JIM DAVIS



Dreams become reality. They have sold everything; said goodbye to family and friends. It is time for Sonya and Aldrik's world trip.

Around the world by bicycle.

Text and Photo's: Nicole Reuter - Malaga
Translation: www.tour.tk

Sonya Jane Spry and Aldrik Harm Mulder have said goodbye to the working life for 5 years. With just two bikes and minimal luggage, they are adamant to conquer the world. "You only live once," said the couple from their Dutch abode, before getting on their saddles on July 31 2006. Their goal: exactly 5 years later to arrive in Australia. Up to 150 kilometres per day have been planned. France, Northern Spain and Portugal are behind them and at the moment they are in the Costa Blanca region. The next ports of call are Italy, Greece and Turkey. By spring 2007, they hope to have reached Iran.

The globetrotters have gained both physical fitness and travel experience in past years while cycling through Thailand, Spain and France. But just having experience behind you is not enough for a world trip. They have worked hard, done the occasional job and eventually sold everything that was once important to them. On this world trip they want to experience adventure, discover new things and enjoy life. There are no plans to work along the way and therefore, the Dutchman and Australian have calculated a budget of exactly 25 euros per day. "We don't need much. We are vegetarians; we don't

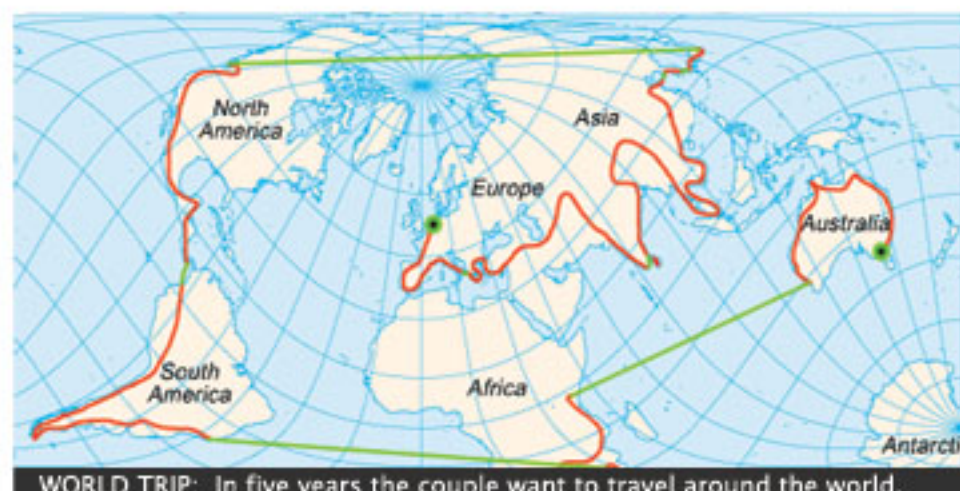
smoke; and our transport and housing (tent) are always with us."

They met each other in San Francisco, USA but it wasn't the infamous love at first sight. Their communal hobby however lead to an exchange of addresses. Sonya, a graduated nutritionist, has never worked in this field. A steady job with steady income is not in her repertoire. In Melbourne, she earned her bread and butter, waitressing and singing in pubs. On her first European trip in 1994, the then 30 year old, looked up the address in Arnhem.

Only a few months later, Sonya and Aldrik were married. London, Australia and Holland were the next steps in their life together. But nothing really satisfied them until now: the couple have found their destiny. Almost one and a half years of planning, organisation and learning have gone into it: a bike-repair and first aid course, Spanish lessons and reading up on visa requirements and border formalities. Whether they will ultimately achieve the 100.000 kilometres through Asia, America, Africa and Sonya's homeland, Australia you can follow it yourself on their almost daily updated homepage: www.tour.tk



ON THE ROAD: Transport and housing they always have with them.



WORLD TRIP: In five years the couple want to travel around the world.

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