

From Italy to India, they will conquer the world on wheels

BAREILLY: The city became witness to the extraordinary story of Aline Guignard and Olivier Forney when they cycled into Bareilly on Tuesday. The couple from Switzerland is touring the world on bicycle and have already covered 14'854 kilometers during their journey.

In India alone, the couple has cycled over 1600 km and considers the country one of the richest they have visited in terms of cultural heritage. "Our experience in India has been fairly good. We have been to a number of cities, including Delhi, Agra, Udaipur, Bundi and Bareilly, so far" says Olivier. After spending two more days in India, the couple plans to bicycle to Nepal and then China. Asked how long their tour would last, Olivier says, "We don't know, but we are still traveling as we don't want to stop."

When the duo conceived the idea last year in April, they met with a lot of discouragement. Some people raised questions on their sanity and others thoughts them just plain foolish. But nothing could discourage Aline, an occupation therapist, and Olivier, a teacher. They quit their jobs, pooled in their savings from last two years and brought heavy-duty bicycles.

"We also purchased camping and trekking gear, accessories, bicycle spare parts, photography equipment and several other things required for our journey," recalls Aline.

The couple left on April 12 and the first country they visited was Italy. "Since we stay on the border, it took us around three days to reach north Italy.

LONG JOURNEY



• Aline Guignard and Olivier Forney were in Bareilly on Tuesday.

SACHIN SAINI/HT

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- Finding that they were enjoying the experience of long distance cycling, the couple visited Slovenia, Croatia, the Adriatic Sea coast, Iran and so on.
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OLIVIER FORNEY

During the journey we cycled for around 200km," Aline says.

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"Though we won't be the first couple to tour the world on bicycle, we want to discover different culture and see the world. So we will continue our mission for an indefinite period," says Olivier.

OLIVER FREDRICK