

# Paris Beijing

Fédération française de

cyclotourisme

**by bicycle 2008**

**An expedition organized by the**

**French Cycle Touring Federation**



Under the patronage of  
Mister Nicolas Sarkozy,  
President of the French Republic



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

# Paris Beijing by bicycle 2008

## Éditorial

Paris-Beijing by bicycle... Yes, it will be a truly extraordinary adventure! The majority of long cycle journeys are carried out by small autonomous groups, or even by single people on their own. The project which is proposed is neither physical nor sporting, it is above all human. It is about making sure that 120 people leave Paris on March 16, 2008 and arrive in good psychological and physical condition in Beijing.

Community life in sometimes precarious situations, the length of the expedition, the repetitiveness of long stages in the immense plains of Russia and Central Asia, the climatic variations, the daily concerns of all the participants and the absence of modern comforts: these are the most important challenges to overcome. It will be necessary to face all these human aspects in addition to the administrative and logistical problems for which one always finds a solution.

In cycle touring the objective is to travel, to discover and to share. But the tour has another major goal: we aim to promote the values of our activity and of sport in general, the humanistic aspects of the Olympic ideal and the educational values of sport for young people. All these elements will motivate the participants and keep them going.

Everything will be done to make sure that these objectives are achieved and each participant, in his unique way, will be the ambassador of these ideals.

It is in this intelligent balance that we will find the answer to the questions which arise on the collective level. There is no doubt that everyone will be focussed and motivated to reach to Beijing.

Dominique Lamouller,  
President of French Cycle Touring Federation





## A five month bicycle tour !

This exceptional event of international scale will arrive in Beijing on the day before the opening of the 2008 Olympic Games.

**120 people, from France and other countries, will ride 12,000km and cross 12 countries.**

The project has received the patronage of the French National Olympic and Sporting Committee and the sponsorship of the Ministry for Health, Youth and Sports. The goal of this exceptional expedition is to promote the intrinsic values of cycle touring, the Olympic ideal and education through sport.

A second group of 100 cyclists, including 23 young people representing the French regions, will join the initial Paris-Beijing group in Xi'an in order to participate in the last 1,300km from July 15 to August 3, 2008. Everyone will then spend another 12 days in China before returning to France.

### The dates

**From March 16 to August 3, 2008, arriving 5 days before the opening of the Olympic Games in Beijing.**

### The route

Each day a new stage with a distance between 80 and 160 km in general.

One rest day per week.

No stopwatch, no racing, no competition.

12 countries will be crossed:

France	from March 16 to 21	553 km
Germany	from March 21 to 28	684 km
Austria	from March 28 to April 1	318 km
Hungary	from April 1 to 4	474 km
Serbia	from April 4 to 10	458 km
Romania	from April 10 to 17	621 km
Moldavia	from April 17 to 18	60 km
Ukraine	from April 18 to 27	893 km
Russia	from April 27 to May 10	991 km
Kazakhstan	from May 10 to June 1	1832 km
Kyrgyzstan	from June 1 to 12	988 km
Kazakhstan	from June 12 to 16	241 km
China	from June 16 to August 3	3887 km
Chinese	stay until August 15	



# Paris Beijing by bicycle 2008

## The education project

Our slogan : "Solidarity between young people and cycle touring schools"



32 French cycle touring schools have volunteered to take part in the Young People's Project. Our objective is to make our youngsters aware of the necessity of international solidarity and to create bonds with the young people of the 12 countries that the expedition will cross.



### This means that:

- each school will carry out a research task on the countries crossed with targeted topics (sport, education, socio-cultural aspects, environment, history, geography, etc.)

- on each of the 20 rest days, an expedition leader accompanied by several cycle touring messengers will meet local youngsters to create bonds with the children of the cycle touring schools taking part in the project.

In order to encourage Franco-Chinese exchanges and to associate our young members with this great expedition, 23 young people will be selected (one representative from each French region including Reunion Island) and they will leave for China from July 15 to August 15, 2008.





# An exceptional human adventure

## The figures

120 applicants have been selected for the expedition:

105 participants

15 expedition leaders

99 men

21 women

12 couples

2 tandems including a blind man and his captain

99 French people

21 people from other countries (Germany, United Kingdom, Belgium, China, Canada, Denmark, Spain, the Netherlands, Luxembourg, Switzerland)

12,000 km by bicycle

12 countries crossed

120 days of cycling

20 rest days

10 days camping

5 cycling group captains

7 motor vehicles (15 people)

500 bicycle tyres

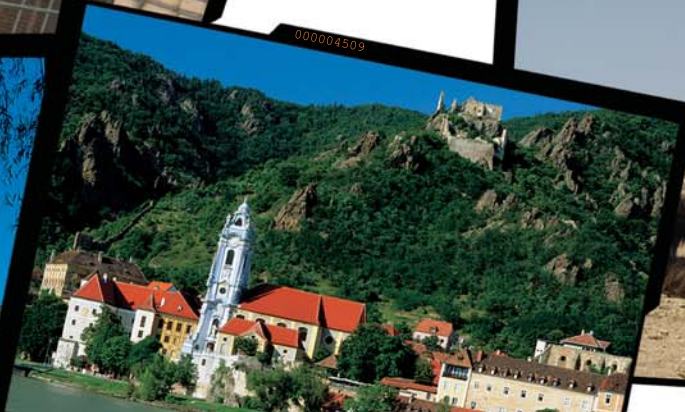
41,000 litres of drinks



# Paris Beijing by bicycle 2008

## Organizing committee

- Roselyne Bachelot, Minister for Youth, Sports and Community Life
- Christine Lagarde, Finance Minister
- Jean-François Lamour, former Minister for Youth, Sports and Community Life, two-time Olympic gold medallist and Member of Parliament
- Henri Sérandour, President of the French Olympic Committee
- Léon Bertrand, former Minister of Tourism
- David Douillet, two-time Olympic judo champion
- Tony Estanguet, Olympic Kayak canoe champion
- Pascal Cherki, Deputy Mayor in charge of Sports at the Paris City Council
- Frédéric Pierret, former Director of Tourism at the Ministry of Transport
- Mrs. Yang, Director of the Chinese Tourist Office in Paris
- Tong Pu, Cultural Attaché at the Chinese Embassy in France
- Michel Drucker, France 2 TV presenter and journalist
- Gérard Holtz, France 2 TV sportscaster
- Henri Sannier, France 3 TV sportscaster
- Jean-Louis Ezine, writer and journalist on french radios,
- Denis Cheissoux, France Inter radio journalist
- Paul Dubrulle, Co-President and co-founder of the Accor group
- Guy Savoy, restaurant owner with 3 stars in the Michelin Guide
- Benjamin Guinot, researcher at the French National Centre for Scientific Research ([www.bicyclair.com](http://www.bicyclair.com))

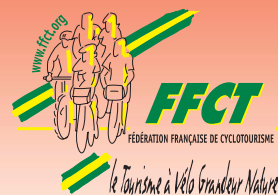




# Organization

## Organizer :

French Cycle Touring Federation



## Sponsor

Ministry of Foreign and European Affairs  
French Ministry for Health, Youth and the Sports

## Patron

French National Olympic Sports Committee



## Collaboration

Sport Without Borders  
Euro-Chinese Friendship Association



# Partners

## Medias partners

RFI  
Eurosport  
Press Club



## Official supplier

Poli



## Technical suppliers

Tipi  
French Youth Hostel Federation  
Hutchinson  
KED  
L2S  
French national committee for the promotion of cycling



# Contact

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