

Ciclismo Classico Announces Three New International Bicycling Tours For The 2008-09 Season: Chile/Argentina, New Zealand and Vietnam



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Press Release Summary: Ciclismo Classico, one of the country's leading bicycle vacation companies, expands its trip destinations beyond Europe --



now offering biking vacations in Vietnam, New Zealand and Chile/Argentina.

Press Release Body:
Arlington, MA – In an effort to expand beyond Europe and to uphold its mission to

discover the best bicycling routes in the world, **Ciclismo Classico**, one of the country's premier bicycle tour companies, has added three new regions to explore,

giving travelers the opportunity to cycle during the fall and winter from October – March. For its 2008-2009 season, **Ciclismo Classico** has added **Chile & Argentina, New Zealand and Vietnam.**

*"When we started 20 years ago, our focus was on Italy," says **Ciclismo founder and cycling enthusiast Lauren Hefferon.** "Over the years we added France, Spain, New England and many others continuing our goal of offering an array of safe, healthy, fun vacations that span Europe and immerse our riders in the culture and cuisine of the country they're visiting. Now, with the addition of three new continents to our trip menu, new and returning cyclists will experience touring the **Ciclismo Classico** way in places where the lands are ripe with discovery and the dollar goes a bit farther."*

The company, which is celebrating its 20th anniversary, has put together these three new tours, all of which include local guides, a fully-outfitted bicycle rental, accommodations and meals, cultural excursions, travel planning and more:



Chile and Argentina - debuts October 25, 2008

Ciclismo's South American tour is the only one of its kind and offers the option of an 8-day base trip or a 10-day extended trip. Riders will cycle nearly 200 miles of scenic mountain routes with the snow-capped Andes nearby. Along the way, you'll get the chance to ride by the **Seven Lakes**, visit five national parks, take a hike to **Petrohue Falls**, stop at the **Curarrehue Museum** and soak in the **Huife hot springs**. The additional two days will feature a trip to Santiago and the **Colchagua Valley**, an exclusive discussion about **Chilean wines** with a local sommelier, three private winery visits, and a horse-drawn carriage ride through the **Vina Viu Manent's vineyard**. The 8-day trip starts at \$3,795/person. The two night post-trip extension is an additional \$1,195.

New Zealand - debuts November 16, 2008

This itinerary offers the choice between the base 10-day trip and an extended 14-day stay. The nearly 300-mile journey on the South Island starts in **Christchurch** and continues along New Zealand's west coast and through the Southern Alps. During the bike tour, guests will ride the **TranzAlpine Train**, one of the world's greatest scenic railway journeys. In addition to great biking, guests will witness a jade carving demonstration, hike to the base of the **Fox Glacier in Westland National Park**, go sea kayaking, and even visit a sheep farm. The extended package includes an overnight cruise on **Milford Sound or Doubtful Sound**, the opportunity to ride an additional 100+ miles, a stay in **Te Anau**, a ride to the shores of **Lake Wakatipu**, and a steamship ride to **Queenstown**. The 10-day trip starts at \$3,995/person. The optional four night post-trip extension is an additional \$1,895.

Vietnam – debuts October 25, 2008

This 11-day ride from **Hanoi to Ho Chi Minh (Saigon)** features more than 200 miles of scenic and cultural cycling including riverside riding, coastal explorations, mountain passes, rolling hills and small villages. Riders will get the chance to see a traditional water puppet performance in Hanoi, experience a garden and tea stop while cycling through Hue and boat to the **Coral Islands off Nha Trang**. The itinerary also features exclusive visits to the homes of four Vietnamese experts, a boat cruise on the Perfume River and a ride to the famous **Cu Chi tunnels**. Guests also have the option to extend this trip for four days for a visit to **Angkor Wat, Cambodia**, where they will explore the city of **Angkor Thom**, visit the famous temple complex and a local Cambodian orphanage. The 11-day trip starts at \$3,995/person, and the three night post-trip extension is an additional \$1,275.

These tours are designed for small groups of between 14 and 18 guests, so space is very limited. A \$500 deposit is required to make a reservation. For more information on any of these trips or for other **Ciclismo Classico** excursions throughout Europe and New England, please visit www.ciclismoclassico.com.

Ciclismo Classico has been recognized by several publications for its outstanding trip itineraries. In 2004 and 2007, Outside Magazine awarded Ciclismo the **"Trip of the Year"** for Western Europe, and Men's Journal named the Southern Italy: Sea to Sea trip as one of the **"Top 100 Trips on the Planet."** **Ciclismo** has also been covered by the Denver Post, Bicycling, Business Week and Marin Magazine, among others.

About Ciclismo Classico

As a specialized boutique bicycle tour operator since 1988, **Ciclismo Classico** provides the most authentic, unique and exciting vacations in the adventure travel industry. Their well-crafted, award-winning educational trips in Europe, South America, New Zealand, Asia and New England are active immersions into local art, language, music, folklore and, delicious cuisine. By combining legendary service and rare cultural experiences, the Ciclismo travel experience continues to energize and transform each and every guest. For more information about **Ciclismo Classico**, visit www.ciclismoclassico.com

Web Site: <http://www.ciclismoclassico.com>

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