

NEWS LETTER NO 17



Update 10/9/2013 Natters (just south of Innsbruck)

Natter see camp-site is one of our favourites, Often being voted best in Europe, with it's 3,000,000 Euro carbon neutral, solar heated toilet block and shop. The pitches face 2 ways either over the lake or as we this time over looking the Inn valley.



Camper Bit

As you know our base vehicle is a Fiat Ducato chassis cab with the chassis cut off and a long wheel base galvanised Alko chassis fitted.

ADVENTURE BEFORE DEMENTIA

The rear axle is also 200mm wider than the standard (Fiat are now producing there own camper chassis)

The standard Ducato is rated at 3500 kg ours has been upgraded to 3700 kg.

Now the road down from Seefeld to the Inn valley is steep, in fact it is a 2 mile 1 in 6 mostly straight with 2 hairpin bends at the bottom. It is one of the main roads From Germany to Austria. But caravans are banned on this hill and trucks over 7.5 ton have a speed limit of 14 mph (20 kph).

We went down in 3rd gear (engine braking) at about 25 mph and still the brakes were smelling half way down, we stopped in a lay by at the bottom in a cloud of brake smoke. (It's a good cure for constipation).

Update 12/9/2013 Lake Calceranica.

(east of Trento)



The trip over the Alps from Natters to Trento, is a lovely drive about 120k (ish) not on the motorway. The first part, on the Austrian side of the Brenner Pass is like a typical Alpine Valley, green steep with pretty houses, on the

IT'S 5.OCLOCK SOMEWHERE

ADVENTURE BEFORE DEMENTIA

Italian side its steep and wooded but very pleasing to the eyes. Then from Bolzano to Trento the valley widens and turns into a fertile plane, with thousands of acres of apple farms, with the odd vineyard.



Lake Calceranica and Lake Levico in the Valsugana (Sugana valley). Are a cyclist's heaven. We came here 2 years ago and could not find anywhere to walk. But this year with having bikes it's so much better.(this valley is often used as a part of the tour of Italy route. From here down the valley there is a 80 k cycle track, most of it purpose made, and its great.

Happiness is

Going down to Restauranti Panoramica and ordering a take-away pizza and a small beer. Waiting out on the balcony which over looks the lake, leaning on the handrail watching a sail boat going across the lake in the evening sun

LIFE DON'T GET MUCH BETTER THAN THIS.

IT'S 5.OCLOCK SOMEWHERE

ADVENTURE BEFORE DEMENTIA

The cycle path and picnic area in the Valsugana.



You are old when !!!

You are cycling along on your electric assist bike, When a young man on a mountain bike overtakes you, towing a trailer with a child in it.!!!

Competition help

Day 10 Leutasch to Natters

Day 11 Stationary

Day 12 Natters to Lake Calceranica

Day 13 / 14 Stationary.

Also we DO NOT use motorways in France, Austria, and Italy.

We Don't use the camper for tourist trips only shopping trips.

IT'S 5.O'CLOCK SOMEWHERE

ADVENTURE BEFORE DEMENTIA

Wendy's pics



IT'S 5.O'CLOCK SOMEWHERE

ADVENTURE BEFORE DEMENTIA

We know this is not a tree, does anybody know what it is ?



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ADVENTURE BEFORE DEMENTIA

Jerusalem Artichoke



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