

Ahead of the Dalamatia Tour in 2010, I had blogged about the Bora (a fierce wind) as a fun piece of interest. A separate blog had lamented the avoidable death of a local motorcyclist. This is was Mike Ferris' reaction to my personal blogs. It was sent to all participants in the forthcoming Dalamatia Tour.

From: Mike & Denise Ferris [<mailto:safari@ferriswheels.com.au>]

Sent: Thursday, 13 May 2010 1:54 AM

To:

Subject: RE: Dalmatian Delights 2

Hey Robert,

Faw Gawd's sake. They have an expression here which I cannot reproduce precisely because I do not have a cyrillic keyboard, but roughly translated it says, 'Tell me some good news or shut the f*&k up' !

Please, spare us all from this negativity. We don't need to hear of motorbike accidents or winds that are gonna blow us off the planet. Bring some optimism with you to Ljubljana. The sun is shining here and it's a wonderful world.

See you soon. Mike F

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My only response was to post this on my blog:

Thursday, May 13, 2010

Negativity or Anticipation?

Wow!

And I thought I was providing a bit of charm and excitement to a tour that had grabbed my interest and imagination from the moment it was advertised.

I hadn't actually heard of the Bora until, as I reported, one of our cycle group mentioned it from his personal experience. It caught my imagination.

I had never dreamt that my take on it would be seen as a put-off or "negativity". It was

another dimension to what's promising to be a thoroughly enticing tour.

Didn't I say that several of us were so enthused by our Rajasthan trip that we signed up for Turkey the following year; then to Morocco the next year; then to Dalmatia the year on from that?

Where's the negativity?

I've been chuffed at the compliments and gratitude I've received from so many for my personal enthusiasm for tours by preparing *cut and paste* guides, including for Dalmatia.

I would have thought my commitment to sharing preparations through maps highlighting our destinations and describing the key attractions was anything but negativity.

Least of all, warranting being told to "shut the f*&k up".

But I'm not one for being deterred from the anticipation I have built up over the past year. I have every reason to expect a great trip. I always have.

As to [my regular blog](#), the latest contribution to which were some personal thoughts flowing from a local horrific tragedy last weekend, I feel I need say no more than every motorcycle death affects me very deeply. I find it all the more disturbing and depressing when there's evidence that the motorcyclist had abdicated power enough to have avoided the tragedy. An encouragement to motorcyclists not to abdicate that power, I would have thought, was a cogent positive message. One that's beneficial to us all and one that should be espoused by all.

However, I feel humbled that there are other views out there and I respect that others may feel they're justified.

- Robert Crick. 9:05 PM

To his credit, Mike Ferris later apologised during the tour.