



Bruce Ryan with Eleanor Emberson at Sorell Hotel Rex
September 3, 2014 ·

So after 45 miles we're in Zürich: <https://maps.google.com/...>

The route was quite winding, following firstly the Rhine and then climbing out of the Rheintal (Rhine valley), across the Töss and then along the River Glatt to to Zürich airport. After that it got a bit silly - we were supposed to follow bike route 5 to a suburb called Seebach, but the 5 disappeared north-east while we needed to go southwest. There was a route 32 signposted to the city centre so we followed that and soon found ourselves in urban sprawl with serious traffic, and negotiating multi-lane roundabouts. Of course, the only answer was to go for them and gesticulate at encroaching 4WWs. A brief respite in a park gave me a moment to get orientated, find a route to our hotel on iPhone and then lead Elly to it.

One abiding memory is of going up steep hills on loose gravel paths, testing my legs and the bikes' granny gears to the maximum. Because of the bikes' geometry, my knees are forward of my ankles, so I can't push as I would do on Lev. Also, my body-weight is on unfamiliar places. Farting through layers of liquid chamois cream on a wide saddle is an interesting experience. However, the gravel surfaces would not have been nice to Lev and Fidel, so I'm rather glad to be clattering the hire-bikes, which have been named Bodie and Doyle.

The other abiding memory is of course how pretty it all is. Many buildings have paintings showing their history or something allegorical. I have a few photos on iPhone but not enough. I'll try sticking a USB stick in my ear to see if any of my mental images can be transferred to iPad and thence to Facebook.



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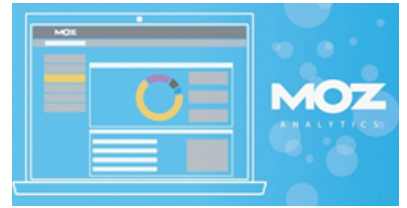
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