



EUROPEAN CYCLISTS' FEDERATION

Mr Nicolas Petrovic
CEO
Eurostar
Eurostar Group,
Times House,
Bravingtons Walk,
London N1 9AW

Brussels, 13 October 2015

Transport of bicycles on board Eurostar trains

Dear Mr Petrovic,

In August we were informed by CTC - one of our member groups in the UK – that Eurostar is again changing their baggage policy and worsening the conditions for anyone who wants to take their bike with them on their journey, whether for work or recreation.

From 1st November it will no longer be possible to take a complete bicycle on Eurostar: it will have to be bagged or boxed. This change was confirmed in a meeting one of my members of staff had with Pierre Delalande, Eurostar's Head of Public Affairs in September.

I am sure that it goes without saying that this is very disappointing news for us especially as the system that has been in place for the past few years is already far from ideal. The requirement being introduced from the 1st November to dismantle all bikes and put them into a bag or box is extremely inconvenient and will put people off who are unsure about the mechanics of their bike.

We understand that there is a limited space for baggage on the trains but if necessary, it should be allocated on a first-come, first-served basis. We would therefore request that the current policy of allowing the carriage of complete bicycles is retained.



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I would also like to inform you that following the news of the new policy, a number of our member groups have announced that they will be running campaigns against the change, which are due to commence tomorrow:

Belgium:



G.R.A.C.Q.

Rue de Londres 15, B-1050 Bruxelles

info@gracq.org

Le Président: Bernard Dehaye

France:



Fédération des Usagers de la Bicyclette - FUB

12 Rue des Bouchers - 67000 Strasbourg

fub@fubicy.org

Le président: Olivier Schneider

Germany



Allgemeiner Deutscher Fahrrad-Club (Bundesverband) e. V. - ADFC

Hauptstadtbüro Friedrichstraße 200, 10117

Berlin

kontakt@adfc.de

President: Ulrich Syberg

The Netherlands:



Fietsersbond

Nicolaas Beetsstraat 2A, 3511 HE Utrecht

s.kluit@fietsersbond.nl

Director: Saskia Kluit



EUROPEAN CYCLISTS' FEDERATION

United Kingdom:



Cycle Touring Club

Parklands, Railton Road, Guildford, Surrey, GU2 9JX

Paul.tuohy@ctc.org.uk

Chief Executive: Paul Tuohy

These efforts are being supported by other organisations:



Blue Marble Travel

2, rue Dussoubs, 75002 Paris, France

paris@bluemarble.org

Nicolas Clifford



Fédération Française de Cyclotourisme - FFCT

12 Rue Louis Bertrand - 94207 Ivry sur Seine cedex

dominique.lamouller@ffct.org

Le président: Dominique Lamouller



Fédération Française Union Touristique les Amis de la Nature - FFUTAN

197 Rue Championnet - 75018 Paris

contact@amis-nature.org

La présidente: Marie-Bernard Lefebvre-Dumont

I thank you in advance for your attention and hope you will consider to retain the carriage of complete bicycles on Eurostar.

Yours sincerely,

Dr Bernhard Ensink
Secretary General
European Cyclists' Federation (ECF)