



Fact file A long ride home

Distance: 1,240km (770 miles) over 15 days.

Route: South from Shropshire through Herefordshire, Gloucestershire, Somerset and Devon to Plymouth. Then Santander (Cantabria) to Burgos (Castile and León), south-east across the plain through Teruel (Aragon) to Valencia (Valenciana), and then south to Dénia.

Accommodation: Hotels and B&Bs, which were cheaper in Spain than the UK.

Conditions: Sun (and one heavy shower) in the UK. In Spain, chilly starts and mild conditions until Valencia. From Valencia it was hot and humid.

Bike: Hase Pino Steps tandem, with a Shimano bottom bracket motor and a spare battery.

Maps/guides: Much of the route was planned on RidewithGPS.com. Some of it was made up as we went. We carried no maps but we took a tablet for hotel bookings and route alterations.

I'm glad we had...

A washing line and a few pegs. A useful level of Spanish.

Next time we would...

Ride the other direction, possibly through France...

