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BEHIND THE SCENES

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THIS BOOK

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OUR STORY

A beat-up old car, a few dollars in the pocket and a sense of adventure. In 1972 that's all Tony and Maureen Wheeler needed for the trip of a lifetime – across Europe and Asia overland to Australia. It took several months, and at the end – broke but inspired – they sat at their kitchen table writing and stapling together their first travel guide, Across Asia on the Cheap. Within a week they'd sold 1500 copies. Lonely Planet was born.

Today, Lonely Planet has offices in Melbourne, London and Oakland, with more than 600 staff and writers. We share Tony's belief that 'a great guidebook should do three things: inform, educate and amuse'.

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Originally from Britain, I've lived in France for over a decade. From my hillside house on the southern shore of Lake Geneva, it's a quick and easy motor to the Alps (call me a ski fiend...),

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OUR **WRITERS**



OLIVER BERRY

My first trip to France was a family holiday to Provence at the age of two, and I've been back many times since while working on Lonely Planet's bestselling

France guide. I've covered nearly every corner of L'Hexagone on my travels, but I have an especially soft spot for Corsica and the Pyrenees. When not in France, I can usually be found wandering the beaches and clifftops of my home county, Cornwall. I'm also a regular contributor to many other websites, newspapers and magazines, including Lonely Planet Traveller. Check out my latest travels at www.oliverberry.com.

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GREGOR CLARK

My first epic French road trip came on Bastille Day at age 20. Nearly broke and hitchhiking towards my next fruit-picking job, I landed a lift from a lost tourist and proceeded to spend the night

winding through the fireworks-lit streets of every little village in Haute-Provence. To this day, I love nothing better than wandering France's back roads in search of hidden villages and unexpected treasures. I contribute regularly to Lonely Planet's European and South American guidebooks.

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Emilie was born in Paris but spent most of her childhood holidays roaming the south of France. She now lives in London, where she works as a freelance journalist

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I've been visiting France for many years, but I really got to know the south when living just over the border in Turin. I'm the author of several Lonely Planet

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