



CZECH IT OUT! HD 115th
July morning at Wenzel Square in Prague

100
YEARS
WORLD WAR I
ON THE FRENCH
BATTLEFIELDS



115
YEARS
HARLEY-DAVIDSON
IN PRAGUE



400
YEARS
SINCE THE
START OF THE
30-YEARS WAR



KEEP SMILIN' IN 2019!
It always could be for the last time...



Custom Chrome Europe Bike Show and „Bolt On and Ride“ Fotoshootings of MBE Verona get the participating bikes into magazines worldwide every year!

Verona MotorBikeExpo

FROM THE SHORES OF THE ETSCH RIVER TO STUNT ACTION AT VERONA FIERE...



King of Verona: Samuele Reali

10 Years of MOTOR BIKE EXPO



Spectacular stunt contest!



Triple Sportster from Indonesia

SAVE THE DATE: MOTOR BIKE EXPO 2019
VERONA/ITALY, JANUARY 17th-20th 2019
WWW.MOTORBIKEEXPO.IT



...Motographer Horst Roesler was in „full Action“ at MBE 2018 day and night: To organize the CCE/MBE Bikeshow and to photograph the Action and Custombikes exhibited. MOTOR BIKE EXPO in scenic Verona has for some years been the „Season Opener“ with Bike Shows, Stunt Action and hundreds of new ideas that will make their way into European Customizing!



Lech Wangin of „CUSTOM“ magazine organised the Custom-Show as part of WARSAW MOTORCYCLE SHOW and celebrated 60 issues!

Warsaw!

Motorcycle Show & POLISH CUSTOM SHOW



WARSAW MOTORCYCLE SHOW 2018:

Successful premiere in Poland's capital!

Again, Poland was on the travel calendar in 2018: Just the weekend before Daytona Bike Week, the Polish Custom Show was part of the premiere „Motorcycle only“ trade fair and biker event outside the Polish capital Warsaw. Riding with the CCE-team, great bikes and great customizers were present, but the temperatures outside were well below ZERO!

POLAND

Visit 2018



The Prudential building



Party time at the Hard Rock Café Warsaw



Palace of Culture and Science



The „Palace of Culture and Science“ is one of the central buildings in downtown Warsaw, next to the railway station. Due to freezing weather and time limitations, no sightseeing of „old“ Warsaw took place. It's worth to stay at least a week in this city!



One of many memorials the „Uprising“ of 1944 is...



...remembered by this bronze near the „Old Town“.

SAVE THE DATE:
CUSTOM MAGAZINE 2019
WARSAW/POLAND MARCH 1st-3rd 2019
www.custompress.pl

WARSAW MOTORCYCLE SHOW 2019
WARSAW/POLAND MARCH 1st-3rd 2019
www.motorcycleshow.pl



Special thanks to my „first night“ hosts for many years: The Graf Family

You can meet the strangest people at the Cabbage Patch during Bike Week



77th Edition - the winds of change are blowing!
DAYTONA 2018

Daytona 2018 was a better event than in previous years, but the writings were on the wall: Last call for Beach Street – and the vendor scene is somewhat thinning since a few years. However: Good bikes and still great customizers from all over the USA celebrate the first sunshine event of the year. The Thursday „Dirt Track“ races on the International Speedway and Billy Lane's „Sons of Speed“ have breathed some „fresh air“ into Daytona Bike Week...



SAVE THE DATE: Bike Week 78th 2019
DAYTONA BEACH, MARCH 8th-17th 2019
WWW.OFFICIALBIKEWEEK.COM



Creator of the „Burning Bike“.

Big Bike, great ride: Indian's new Tourer for 4 hours and a photoshoot!



Globe of death at „Burning Bike“ Festival.





SHOWTIME! DAYTONA 2018

77 YEARS OF COOL MOTORCYCLE MADNESS





Always a great time to escape rain & snow & shitty weather in Europe, Daytona Bike Week offers sunshine and warm temperatures! And after some 20+ years of visiting the event, there are still a lot of dedicated friends around that organize events worth visiting, this „Gallery“ presenting only a fraction of it! Bike Week has changed, but it's still a great „time-out“. Only „business as usual“ in 2018, FLA still is worth more time to spend there – there are still some events not visited and experienced (Swamp Buggy Racing for example!). It was great to see you all again and I hope to see you many more years to come!





Sons of Speed!

THE RETURN OF BOARDTRACK RACING

The Saturday of Bike Week 2017...

... did go down in Motorcycle history as the date that „Boardtrack Racing“ in its almost original form returned to an American racetrack. Billy Lane and his brother Warren side by side whizzing through the elevated turns of the New Smyrna Racetrack was spectacular! They used antique motors, mounted into rolling chassis built by Billy. No clutch, no brakes, no fear. And the show will go on – as it already did in March 2018!





Billy Lane – back in the spotlight...

... and after a lot of preparation and customizing work, Lane has managed to bring authentic Boardtrack racing, as performed some 100 years ago, back to life. The delayed start in 2016, due to a Hurricane hitting the East Coast of the USA before Biketoberfest, was followed by a successful series of three 2017 events – and was continued during Bike Week 2018. Teething problems have been fixed, new classes and new attractions added for the 2018 season – and the sound of open V-Twins roars again in the USA...





Cyril M. Huze – October 5th 1949 - May 20th 2018

Thank you for the passion and support!



Las Vegas 2005





100 YEARS

1918-2018

Bathelemont



Useful information is now provided.



In April 2018, the crosses have been removed.



A flag forgotten in the field...



View from the American held trenchline.

Bathelemont, Lorraine, November 3rd 1917

History has its places: Some known, some lost. One of the fewer known is a quiet ridge outside Bathelemont/France where the first American soldiers died in World War 1. Thomas F. Enright, James B. Gresham and Merie D. Hay were victims of a German trench raid to check out the Americans and make prisoners when their unit was manning this otherwise quiet and insignificant sector of the trenchline near Nancy. For the 100th anniversary, several information signs were erected so that the place outside Bathelemont is easier to find. Remote from all tourist routes and the big memorials on the WW 1 battlefields, this is one of the least known and visited, but also a very touching! Which makes it even more important to those who find the location and know what happened here in November 1917...





While the location is situated on the „Haut de Ruelles“, to be reached via the D 23 between Arracourt and Rechicourt-la-Petite (the big images shows the view from the American trenchline), the quiet landscape again was scene of a heavy tank battle in September 1944 when Pattons's tanks ran out of fuel and faced counter attacks by „Panther“ tanks.

At Arracourt, a Sherman tank is placed as a memorial to this unknown battle, which took place at the time of „Market Garden“ in Holland.



Sherman tank of 1944

Position of the old memorial, destroyed 1940



Bunker in Bathelemont

The new memorial outside Bathelemont...



...is far from where it all happened.



100 YEARS

1918-2018

Seicheprey



A detailed bronze diorama inside the Memorial atop Montsec explains the history of the 1918 AEF offensive to eliminate the Saint Mihiel Salient.

Montsec

Seicheprey



The Battle of Seicheprey, April 20th, 1918

On April 20th, 1918, the 102nd Infantry (28th Division) held defensive positions within the French village of Seicheprey. Alongside of the 102nd were elements of the 104th Infantry which had, earlier in the month, beat off a German assault in the nearby forest Apremont. At 4:00 AM these two units received a violent, heavy barrage from

German Artillery that completely "boxed" them in! The purpose of this barrage was twofold: To isolate the New England troops from reinforcements by creating a cordon of fire around the target area - and to shock and daze the New Englanders in an effort to ease the fighting for the Stormtroopers approaching the village.

In the 10+ years visiting the Old School Swap Meet at Mécir as "Motographer", I explored many of those sites and their almost forgotten history - and I was the only German present at the ceremonies of the 100th...



Thomas Goode at the Montsec Memorial



The place where the „prisoners“ fotos were taken!



Patton's first war: Essey bridge



Patton's first war: Tank attack and almost shot



Just above Essey: Dedicated Patton re-enactor Thomas Goode at the most likely spot where George S. Patton and Douglas McArthur have met under German fire during the reduction of the St. Mihiel Salient.

**April 20th 1918 - 2018
SEICHEPREY/WÖEVRE/France
100 Years Battle of Seicheprey**



GREAT weather, GREAT people!



Boozefighter bikes parking



Jean Claude and the „Red Baron“



21 Years!!
Mecrin



Extreme Chopper performance!



Partytime!

21 Years Mecrin Mayhem: The coolest event in the Custombike Calendar...

...in one of the most historic significant landscapes of France: School Bar Ateliers Old School Swap Meet in Mecrin offers great fun and cool riding opportunities at a party that is always held on the first SUNDAY in May. Old School bikers from all over Europe, but France in particular, come to ride and party when the „Boozefighters“, formerly „Get a Rigid“, celebrate their annual event with Bikeshow, Striptease and Special Guests. Not always does the weather play along, but the 21st Edition was held for the complete weekend again, rather than the traditional Sunday-only shedule, which nevertheless involved some „party time“ and riding experiences on Saturday. The Party will rock on in 2019!

www.schoolbaratelier.com



MAGIC BIKE RÜDESHEIM



MAGIC BIKE SPECIAL CABLE CAR



ERDÖS CSABAS STUNT ACTION



MAGIC FIREWORK



MAGIC PARADE

MAGIC BIKE RÜDESHEIM 2019
Rüdesheim/Rhein June 20th - 23rd
www.magic-bike-ruedesheim.com

DAYTONA ON THE RHINE RIVER

If there is any event in Germany that comes close to the big US meetings in Daytona, Laconia and Sturgis, it should be MAGIC BIKE RÜDESHEIM. Organised by a small number of local enthusiasts, Rüdesheim and the „World Heritage“ Rhine Valley is invaded by thousands of motorcyclists and Harley-riders for this event, that has become bigger and bigger every year! Live music on several stages, Motographer photostudio at the bike show, parade and ride-outs into the valley and the mountains are part of the event.

www.magic-bike-ruedesheim.com



BOLT ON AND RIDE!

Shooting CCE's 2018 rides...



It all started 2009 in Finland...



ALL „BOLT ON AND RIDE“ Bikes, Stories, Parts lists & Published articles & CCE Music Video-Clips, see:
WWW.CUSTOM-CHROME-EUROPE.COM

In 2018, the „Bolt On and Ride“ / „Ride Unrivalled“ bikes rolled out again for a great riding season and several tours on or to events all over Europe. What started ten years ago as a tour around the Bottnian Sea from Finland to Sweden has meanwhile created a lot of great stories and images. The 2019 season will continue this tradition!



BOLT ON AND RIDE...

...bikes and members of the Custom Chrome Europe team of European Bike Week 2018 above Faaker See in September. It was in Faak that the fifth and last BOAR Bike „Cross Bob“, built by Thunderbike, was introduced to the public. Weather conditions proved to be „challenging“ (to put it mildly...), but there were some days that the bike could be photographed and ridden around the scenic roads of Carinthia.



The BIKER FEST team that rocks the Italian beach:
Moreno and Micke Persello of „Bikers Life“.

ITALY TOUR 2018 *Lignano*

The best Custom Party of Italy...
... takes place every year for 32 years in a row! Organised by „Bikers Live“ Magazine, location and character have changed through the years, but the „Spirit“ remains the same: To give Italian Bikers a great time to ride and Paaaaarty! The Beach resort of Lignano becomes the „Italian Daytona“ for the weekend before the season starts. Bikeshow, Stuntshow, Live Music, Biker and US-Car parades and Demo rides add to full weekend of fun. Lignano-Sabbia d'Orto is one of the top beach resorts on the Adriatic, 1 hour away from both Venice or Trieste. The BIKER FEST has a superb Bikeshow on the Seventies-Style Pier and thousands of bikers attending. 2019 will see the 33rd edition! Don't miss it!

32ND EDITION BIKER FEST



The Terazza del Mare



The Parking



The Stuntshow



The wild Customs that win!



Biker Fest

**SAVE THE DATE: BIKER FEST 33
LIGNANO/ITALY, MAY 9th-12th 2019
WWW.BIKERFEST.IT**

The last weekend before the Beach Season starts, the Lignano beaches are less crowded, but the water can be accessed! And most hotels have pools anyway!



The Winners



Alfa Romeo powered monsterbike!



Bike Show in water park



Custom Chrome Europe meeting



ITALY TOURs 2018

Rome in Ruins

ALL ROADS LEAD HERE!

Miliarium Aureum

Ever thought where the term „All roads lead to Rome“ originated? Visit the „Forum“ and look for this stone. This is the milestone marker from which all distances in the Roman Empire were measured. It was erected by Augustus in 20 BC and is located next to the center of the „Forum Romanum“.



Temple stairs



Abandoned excavation site



Columns waiting for rebuilding



The Volcanal, one of the oldest buildings





Colosseum



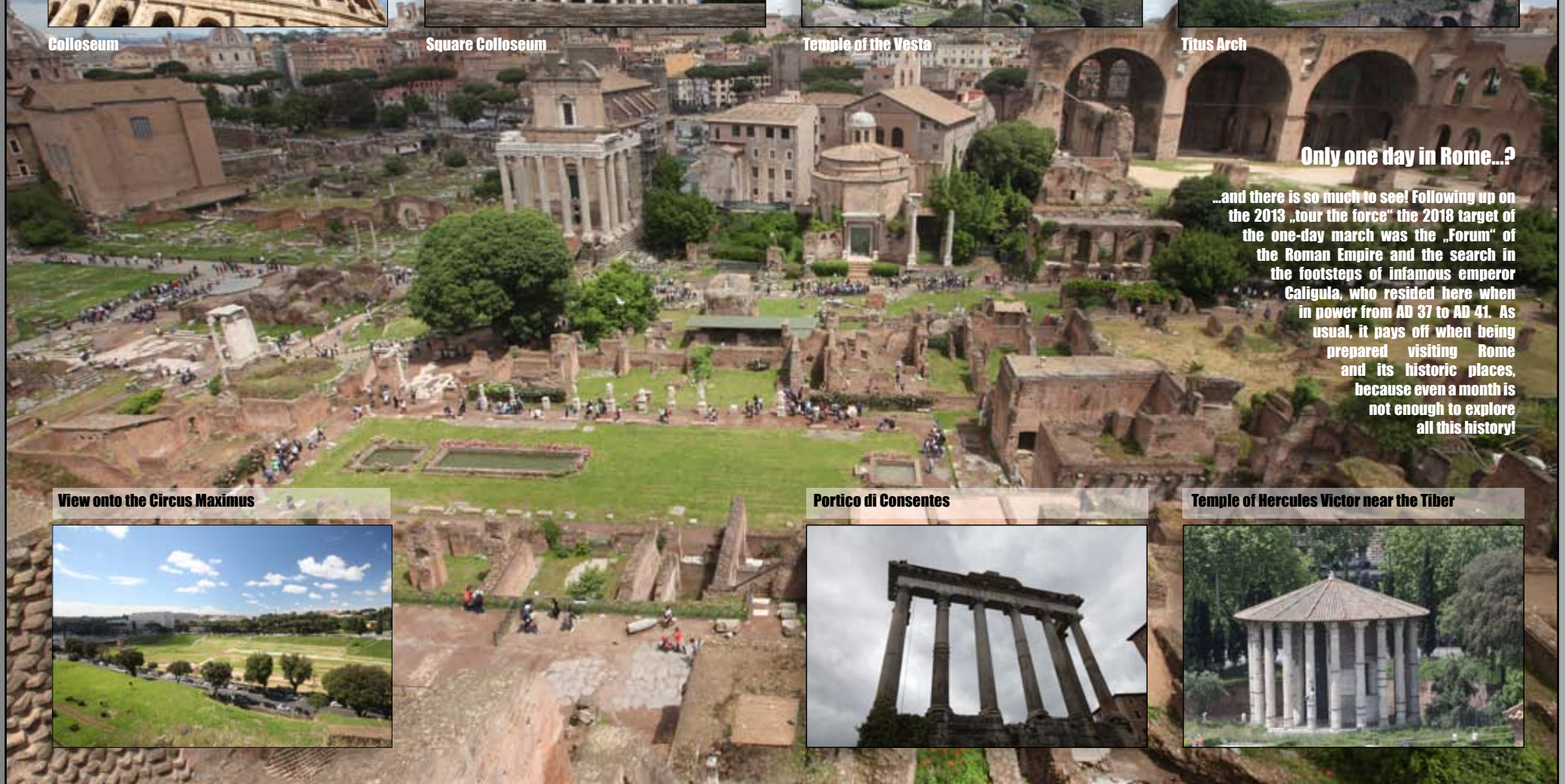
Square Colosseum



Temple of the Vesta



Titus Arch



Only one day in Rome...?

...and there is so much to see! Following up on the 2013 „tour the force“ the 2018 target of the one-day march was the „Forum“ of the Roman Empire and the search in the footsteps of infamous emperor Caligula, who resided here when in power from AD 37 to AD 41. As usual, it pays off when being prepared visiting Rome and its historic places, because even a month is not enough to explore all this history!

View onto the Circus Maximus



Portico di Consentes



Temple of Hercules Victor near the Tiber

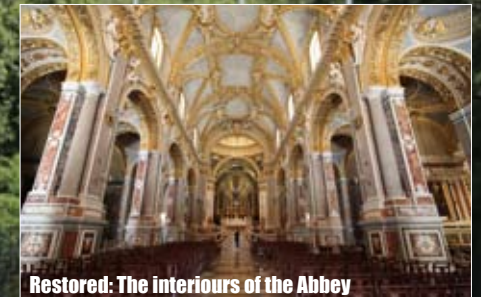




ITALY TOURs 2018
Monte Cassino
UP THE GUSTAV LINE!



The courtyard of the Abbey



Restored: The interiors of the Abbey



Saint Benedict



Polish war cemetery



Panorama view onto Cassino and the battlefields.



Stop in Monte Cassino...

... and the the Benectictine Monastery that was destroyed in the bitter 1943-1944 fighting for the „Gustav Line“ of the German Wehrmacht, a fortified position that held the American troops for months. Today, the Monastery has been rebuilt from the ruins, the view into the valley as breathtaking as ever. The landscape and the history is worth more time than just a short „stop“, but what can you do when you time is limited? At least, you should exit the Autostrada and use anything between 2 and 4 hours for a detour to the mountain. You won't regret it!



ITALY TOURs 2018

Spartacus!

IN SEARCH FOR HISTORY



Gladiator helmet in Capua museum

You can't get closer...

...to the Spartacus history than at this spot in Capua/Italy! Our 2018 Italy touring ride, Harley-Davidson's 2018 model year „Road Glide“, is parked exactly where Spartacus had fought during his time as a Gladiator before the legendary revolt of 73 b.c.. Actually, 2000+ years ago it would have been „in the air“ about 3 meters, because of the new roads, built over the site of the original amphitheater, which later was substituted by the spectacular construction that served as a „model“ for the „Colosseum“ in Rome and was the 2nd biggest in the Roman Empire. Parts of the „original“ theaters outline and foundations are seen behind the fence and are part of the great museum – the building just to the right of the fairing – and amphitheater site that makes Capua a „must“ for all history buffs.



Parts of the „original“ Spartacus amphiteater..



...are only visible when entering the site.

ITALY TOURs 2018

Spartacus!

FROM CAPUA TO VESUV

Following the Capua Uprising...

...Spartacus and his fellow Gladiators marched to Mount Vesuvius, which at that time was looking much different than it does today. Not until 145 years later the mountain identified itself as active and dangerous volcano as it remains now.

A siege of the rebels by Gaius Claudius Glaber was overcome by a surprise attack from the slopes of the mountain, the location is unknown and anyway destroyed by following eruptions. When travelling today's fast roads and highways, always remember that the Romans and the rebels had to cover the distances by FOOT!

Big! The new Amphitheater and what remains...



...of it today is worth a longer visit too!



Model inside the Gladiator museum



Gladiator souvenirs? Or toys?





ITALY TOURs 2018

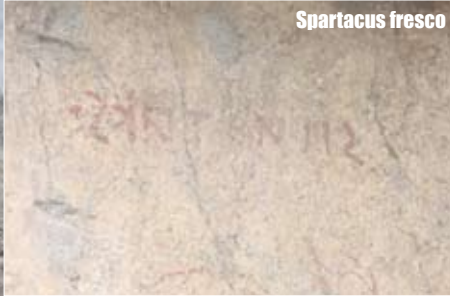
Spartacus!

THE POMPEII TRACES

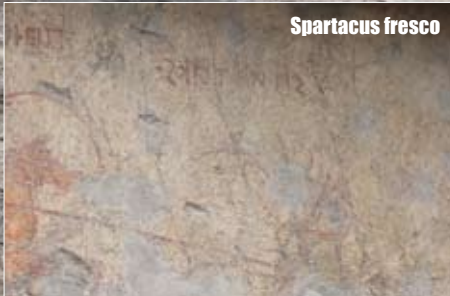
Hidden in the ruins of Pompeii...

...is one of the rare proofs that Spartacus really existed: Behind doorway I-7-7, excavated from 1912-1924 is a fresco fragment of a battle with a lettering that spells „Spartacus“, signalling that the inhabitant of this house may have fought in the Third Servile War. Pompeii itself has a huge and old Amphitheatre and it is not too far fetched, that Spartacus may have fought here during his Gladiator career.

Spartacus fresco



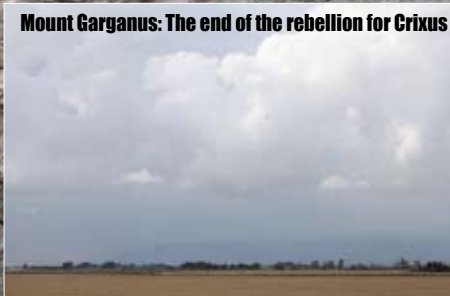
Spartacus fresco



Gladiator Diorama Capua



Mount Garganus: The end of the rebellion for Crixus





ITALY TOUR 2018

Spartacus!

END IN THE SELE VALLEY

The sad end and final defeat...

...of the Spartacus uprising is said to have taken place in 71 BC the Sele Valley, north-east of today's Eboli. The encampment of the Slave Army is said to have been near the source of the Sele river in Caposele, which makes sense, as even today the source is a massive water supply for the area. Other than that, there are many points which can be defended easily all along the remote valley – but there are also few ways out. For Spartacus and his followers, the valley was a trap.

There is no proof nor any excavations that the battle took place somewhere between Quaglietta and Calabritto, given is only „next to the Sele river“. No body of Spartacus was ever found – but those who survived suffered even more: 6.000 survivors were crucified along the roughly 200 km Via Appia from Rome to Capua as retribution! That would make one cross every 33 meters. Something you may think about when travelling the route of the Via Appia Antica today...

On modern roads and shitty weather up the Sele...



...river, passing many possible locations.



At the source of the Sele river in Caposele.



Via Appia: 6000 crucified from Rome to Capua!





ITALY TOURs 2018

Vesuvius

LOOKING INTO HELL



Living on the edge of disaster...

...is nowhere else in Italy so visible as around Mount Vesuvius! Despite the fact that Vesuvius may brake out again, the Naples Bay itself houses another Super Vulcano around the Campi Flegrei, which we also visited but were closed for public at the time. Millions of people live around the volcano and several hundred climb it every day! As a visitor, you never can shake off a feeling of danger – and as a photographer, you dont want to miss any shot on the photogenic mountain: The big picture is the view from our Hotel window at 5 am!





View onto Naples and the bay.



Climbing Mount Vesuvius road.



Mount Vesuvius has outdoor art!



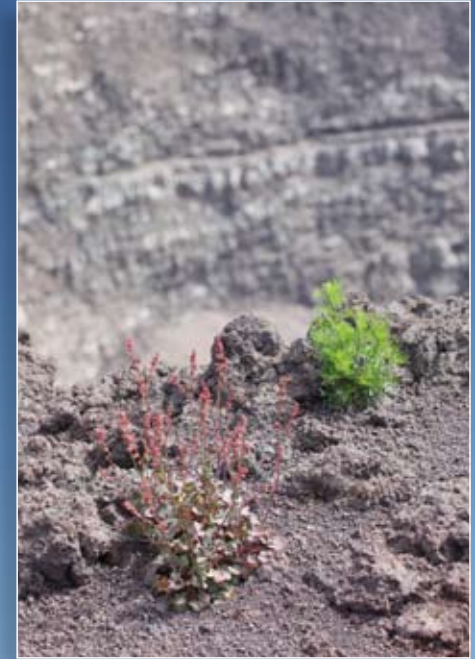
Mount Vesuvius: Look into the crater...



...and from the other side of the bay.



Mount Vesuvius at Night.



Plantlife at the craters edge.



The bay of Naples and Mount Vesuvius, approximately seen from where Pliny the Younger witnessed the eruption in AD 79.



ITALY TOURs 2018 *Pompeii*

HELL UNCOVERED

You can't visit the area without walking through Pompeii. The utter destruction of the town is a reminder of how dangerous this area can and will be some day. Check into a Hotel not too far away, but far enough to avoid the masses! Early in the morning and late afternoon, you'll have some empty roads and houses can be visited.



Vesuvius is the all dominating view above Pompeii. For Pompeii, calculate at least a full day to visit, likely another half for Herculaneum. Yes, its tourists all over, but you can and will find some less travelled places and times during your visit!





Paestum can boast 3 of the best-preserved ...



... greek temples in the World. Close together!



The massive and long city wall of Paestum.



Inside the museum: Tomb plates

South of Salerno, and within easy reach from Naples and Amalfi, the antique Greek colony of Paestum offers a great daytrip, not just into Greek history! It was in this area, the Gulf of Salerno, that the Allied invaded the Italian mainland on September 9th 1943, the American 36th Division assigned to this sector. Heavy fighting took place all around, but the temples were used as hospital and remained intact!

500 BC: Temple of Athena



Paestum arena and amphiteater.





Compare the real beach with the „Diver“ artwork!



1943: German snipers against US invasion...

ITALY TOURs 2018
Paestum
 GREEK COLONY IN ITALY



The famous „Tomb of the Diver“ artwork of 470 BC (!) – was there no water in the pool...?



ITALY TOUR 2018

Amalfi Coast

A GREAT ITALIAN RIDE!

Reading about the fabulous Amalfi Coast Road between the Gulfs of Naples and Salerno is not enough: You have to ride it! In May, there is still less traffic, yet enough to realize that holiday season on this road must be hellish!

Spectacular outlooks from the road between Sorrento and Salerno collide with unbelievable traffic hazards, as buses meet at the most inconvenient narrows or tunnels, not to mention on or the other „Italian Style“ driver (and rider...). Amalfi town itself cashes in even on motorcycle parking!

Our hot tip: The view from Ciesa San Constanzo at the tip of the peninsula! And out Hotel Villa Cimmino on SS 145 was a perfect base for many trips!



The spectacular Amalfi Coast Road.





GREETINGS 2018





CHOPPERFEST!

CELEBRATING CUSTOM ART
IN PONT A MOUSSON

Chopperfreakers Band



Bubu and one of his Chopper creations

Wild burnouts are a trademark of CHOPPERFEST!





Best of Show Winner 2018



Pont a Mousson bridge over the Moselle river



View onto Blenod, where the event takes place.



Dolores & Bubu



Choppers Fest on the Moselle River!

Not the first visit in France and this particular town, but the first to this event: Extreme rides and extremely cool Kustom Art of all types can be found in June in Pont-a-Mousson suburb Blenod, home of the „Chopperfreakers“ event, the „CHOPPERFEST“. Located between Metz and Nancy, the event has grown from humble beginnings when the Chopperfreakers split off from „Get a Rigid“ but now have their own and very cool event!



Burnout time!



Vinyl Art by Mekide



Tiki Art



Old School rules at Chopperfest!



Art and custombikes



PARADE IMPRESSIONS IN 3 ROUNDS!



115 Years!

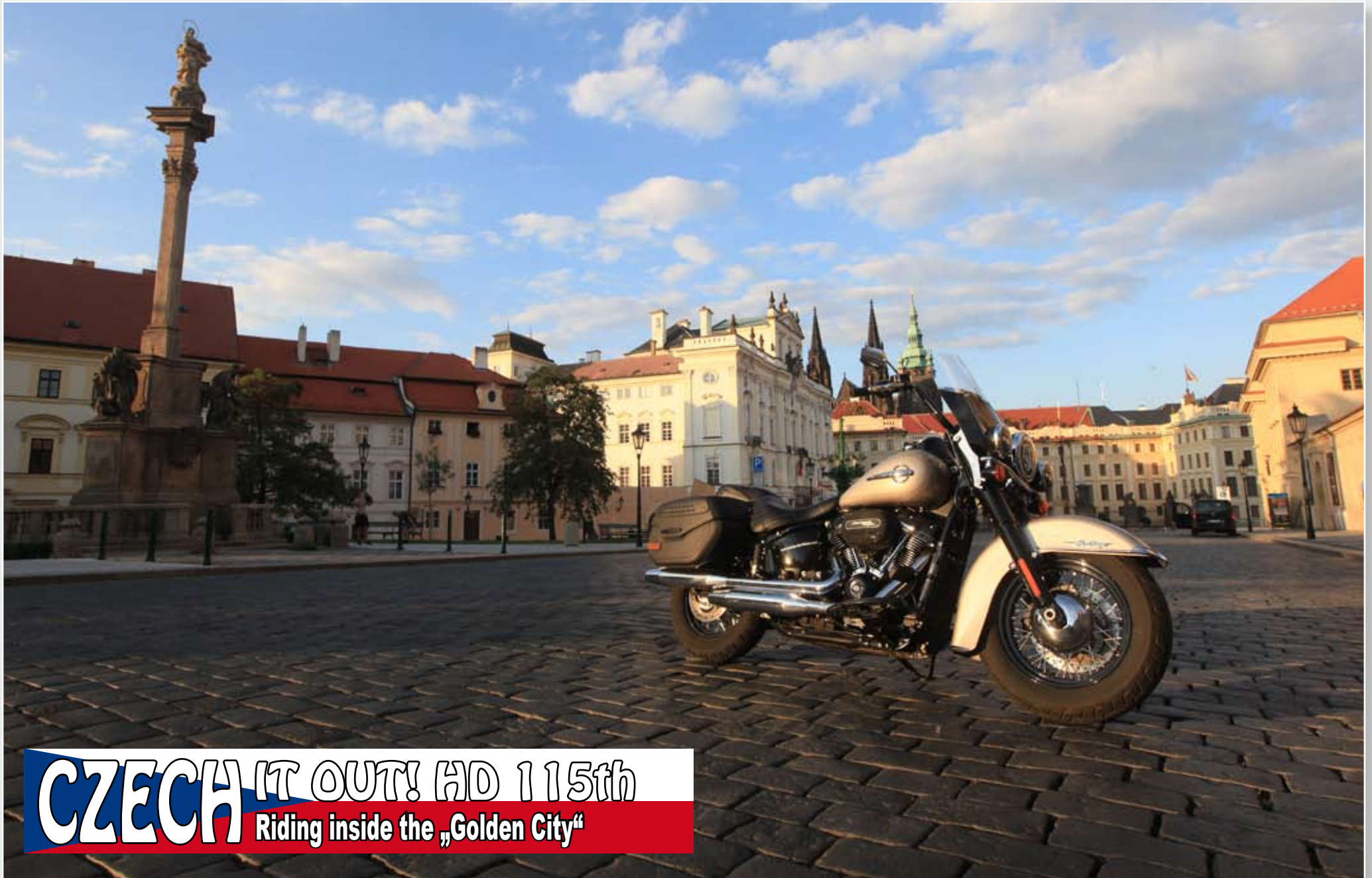
Czech it Out!

**Harley-Davidson
celebrates its
115th Anniversary
in Prague/Czech Republic!
July 5th - 8th 2018**

Main Gate of the Hradshin



*The 3rd and final group of the parade
crosses the Vltava/Moldau at Manes
Bridge with the Prague Castle in view!*



CZECH IT OUT! HD 115th
Riding inside the „Golden City“



RIDING AROUND A WORLD HERITAGE CITY...



...can be quite an nightmare! Prague has very little parking space for anything, even motorcycles –and after you have seen the first „clamped“ car or motorcycle, you may wonder where to place your Hog. „Doin‘ it like the locals“ did not work during the start of the week, as there are surprisingly few motorcycles, thanks probably to the very good public transport system and cheap taxis. There are also plenty of „closed to motorcycle“ roads around and the inner City is a nightmare of one-way streets acting like a „maze“ rather than connecting the former main roads, now pedestrian zones for local or tourist shopping. Prague is the home of 1.3 million people, with 6.4 million tourists visiting every year! It is Europe's 5th most popular travel destination





PRAGUE: WORLD HERITAGE SITE CITY!





VIEW ONTO PRAGUE FROM THE PETRIN TOWER



after London, Paris, Istanbul and Rome, all of which are considerably bigger in size! Prague is also one of the best preserved Cities of Europe, because it received only minor damage in World War II, only Industry being attacked by Allied Bombers that had a long way to fly. A motorcycle is always a practical matter of transport in these cities – and rumour has it, that the local police had order to tolerate all types of „wild“ parking and stopping for the 115th. That's at least how things seemed during the weekend, because we never saw a clamped Harley nor any Police controls – and Prague has its share of Party on any given day or Night!





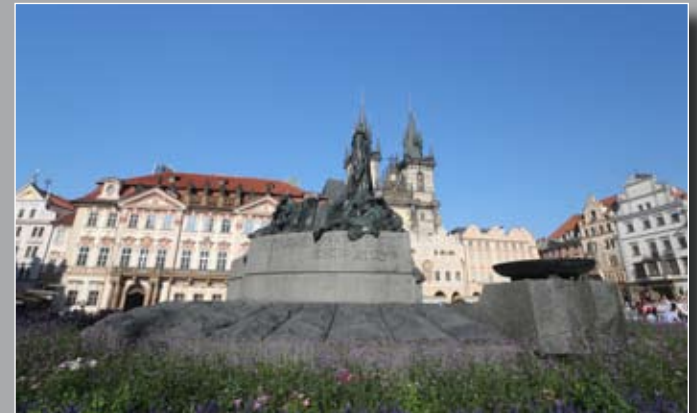
CZECH IT OUT! HD 115th
DEFENESTRATION (1) - July 30th 1419

THROWING PEOPLE OUT
OF THE WINDOW...





...seems to be a bad habit of Prague's darker history. By chance, July 6th was THE bank holiday in Czech Republic, dedicated to the martyrdom of Jan Hus at Constance in 1415 where the dean and rector of the Prague University was tried for his discerning opinion on the Catholic religion and burned. Subsequent to this, the first „Prague defenestration“ took place on July 30th 1419, when Czech „Hussites“ stormed the New town hall to free prisoners and seen members of the City Council died when thrown out of the window. This sparked off the „Hussite Wars“ that lasted until 1436, devastating most of what is today's Czech Republic, then Bohemia. The New Town Hall and a Jan Hus Memorial remember this.

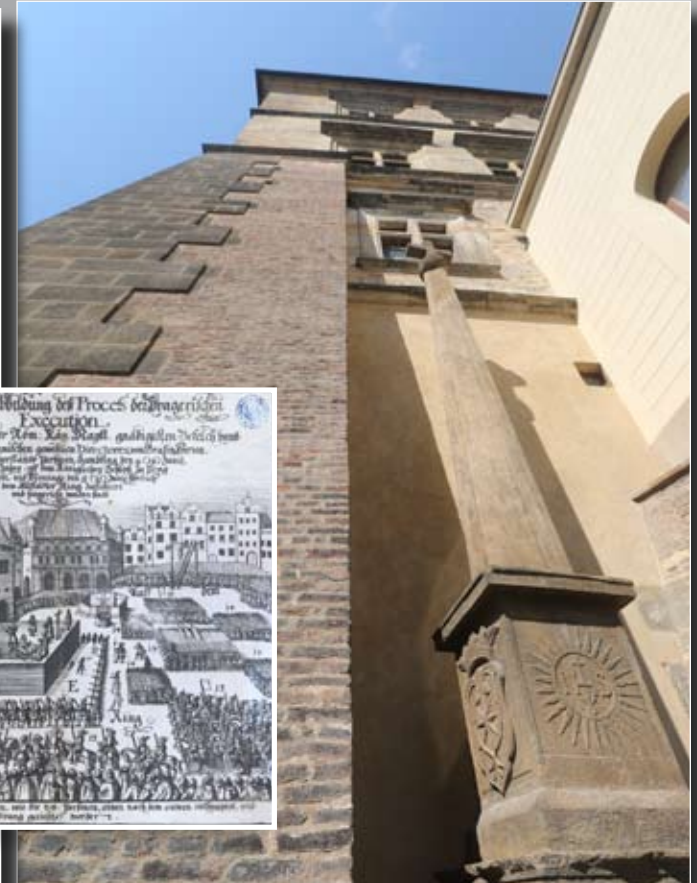
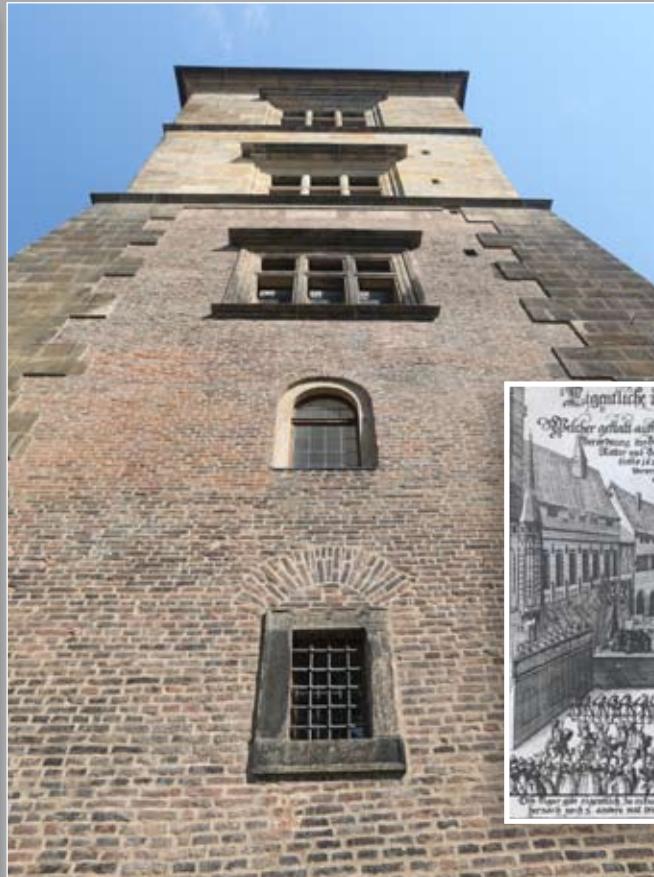




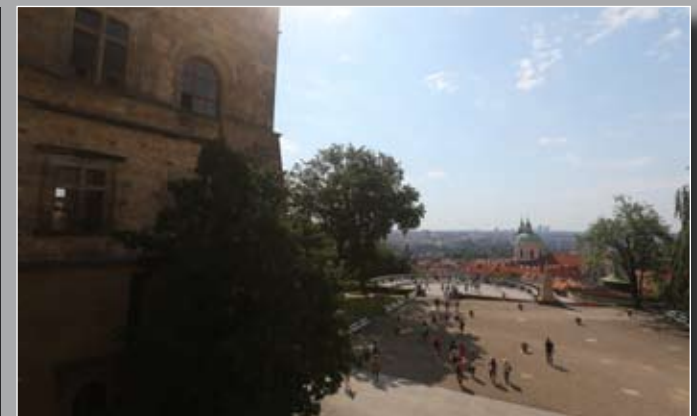
CZECH IT OUT! HD 115th
DEFENESTRATION (2) - May 23rd 1618

WHEN YOU THINK THINGS
CAN'T GET WORSE...





...you kick again somebody out of the window and spark off a 30-years war! Following more religious turmoil, this time caused by Martin Luther, Protestants de-fenestrated two catholic regents and their secretary from the 3rd floor window of the Prague Castle. Thanks to the angled walls and possibly plants on the walls, they survived the 21 meter drop. Two years later, the katholics won the first battle of the Thirty Years War, plundered Prague and executed 27 nobles and citizens outside the „Old Town Hall“, now a popular tourist attraction. Their heads hung atop the Charles bridge tower. Subsequently the war lasted untill 1648, killing 2/3rd of the mid-european population, especially in todays Germany.





CZECH IT OUT! HD 115th
DEFENESTRATION (3) - March 10th 1948

Cernin Palace today

BAD THINGS COME IN THREES...





Marcel Masaryk, CCE East European Sales Representative at the 115th HD Anniversary celebrations was handed over some historic books about his ancestors.



Czech President of 1918: Thomas G. Masryk

Czech President of 1948: Eduard Benesch



...so it seems, since the third Prague de-fenestration happened on March 10th 1948, when Jan Masaryk, son of Czech Republic's first President Thomas Garrigue Masaryk (serving Foreign Minister 1940 - 1948) was found dead outside the Cernin Palace, serving as Foreign Ministry then and now. His death was first published as suicide, a Prague Police report in 2004 finally revealed that he was murdered by pushing him out of the window – later it was claimed that Russian Intelligence officers were behind the plot. Just by chance, Custom Chrome Europes East European Sales Rep Marcel Masaryk is a distant relative to the first Czech Presidents Family!





Not really Railway bridge size!



Davle today: Quiet town 30 km ...



...south of Prague on the river.

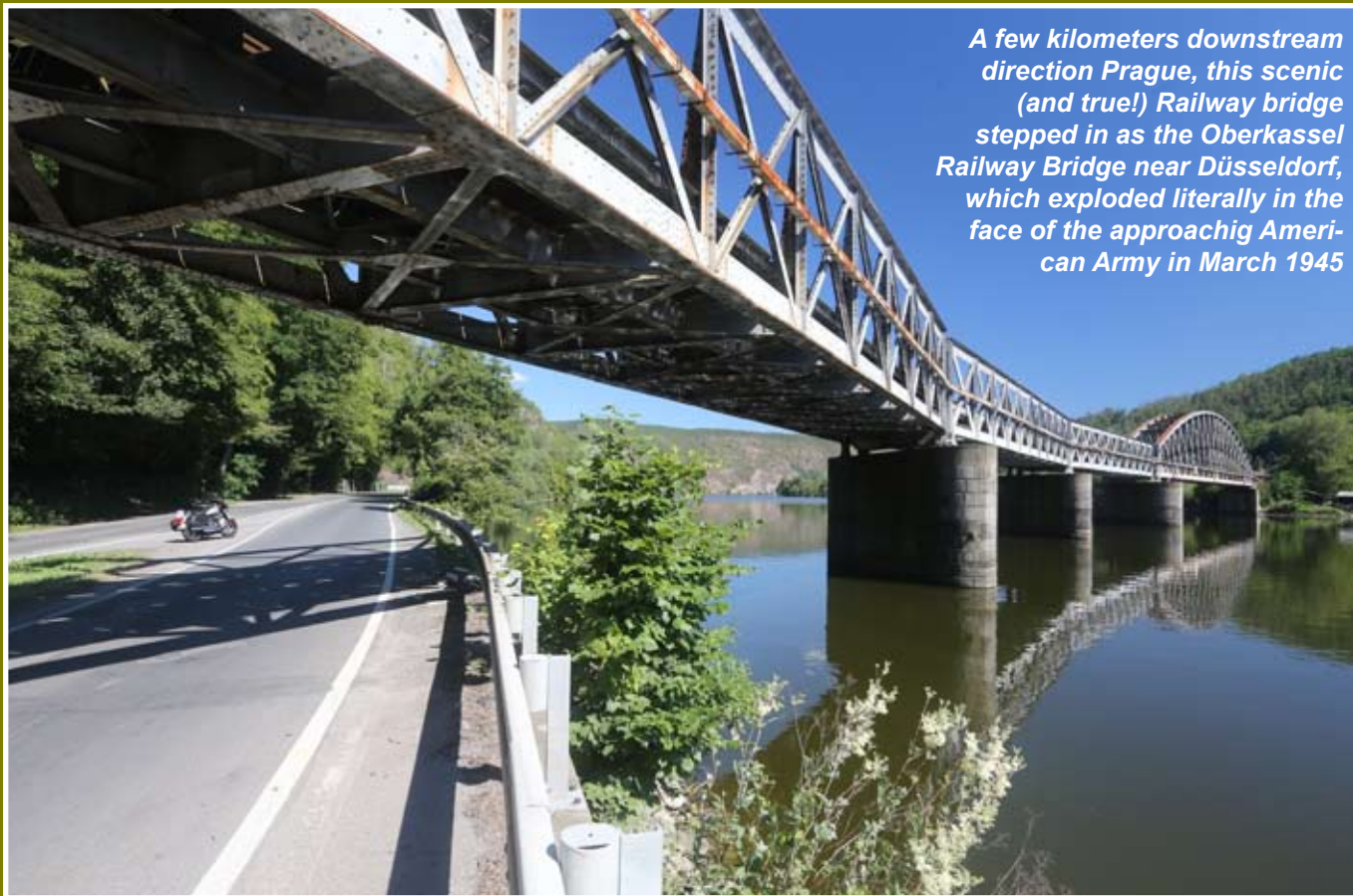


The „Bridge at Remagen“ during filming

1968 – DAVLE BECOMES...

*„No shooting today
because of Shooting“*

*Entry in the production diary of 1968
when Sovjet troops invaded CSSR*



A few kilometers downstream direction Prague, this scenic (and true!) Railway bridge stepped in as the Oberkassel Railway Bridge near Düsseldorf, which exploded literally in the face of the approaching American Army in March 1945



...THE BRIDGE AT REMAGEN...



The „Bridge at Remagen“

...and all of the sudden an political toppic! Filming a highly fictional war movie in Davle, just 30 km south of Prague, the US movie crew all of the sudden was in the middle of the 1968 „Prague Spring“ – or rather its suppression by the neighbouring Eastern Block countries and the USSR. Because the filming used a lot of modern American Equipment „fighting“ against Czech-made real German WW 2 Armour and vehicles, soon the rumour spread (again...) to Prague that „the Americans are just south of Prague“. The Film team had to flee the country in a hurry as Sovjet troops were invading the country to install a more hard-lined communist government.

Neither in size nor in style was the Davle footbridge anywhere close to the original Ludendorf Bridge at Remagen, which becomes quite obvious if you visit both sites today – but the movie does it make look authentic, in particular through the original equipment used. While the original events were already dramatic enough, the action depicted in the movie is more or less fictional, as are the names of the participants...



View from the new road bridge



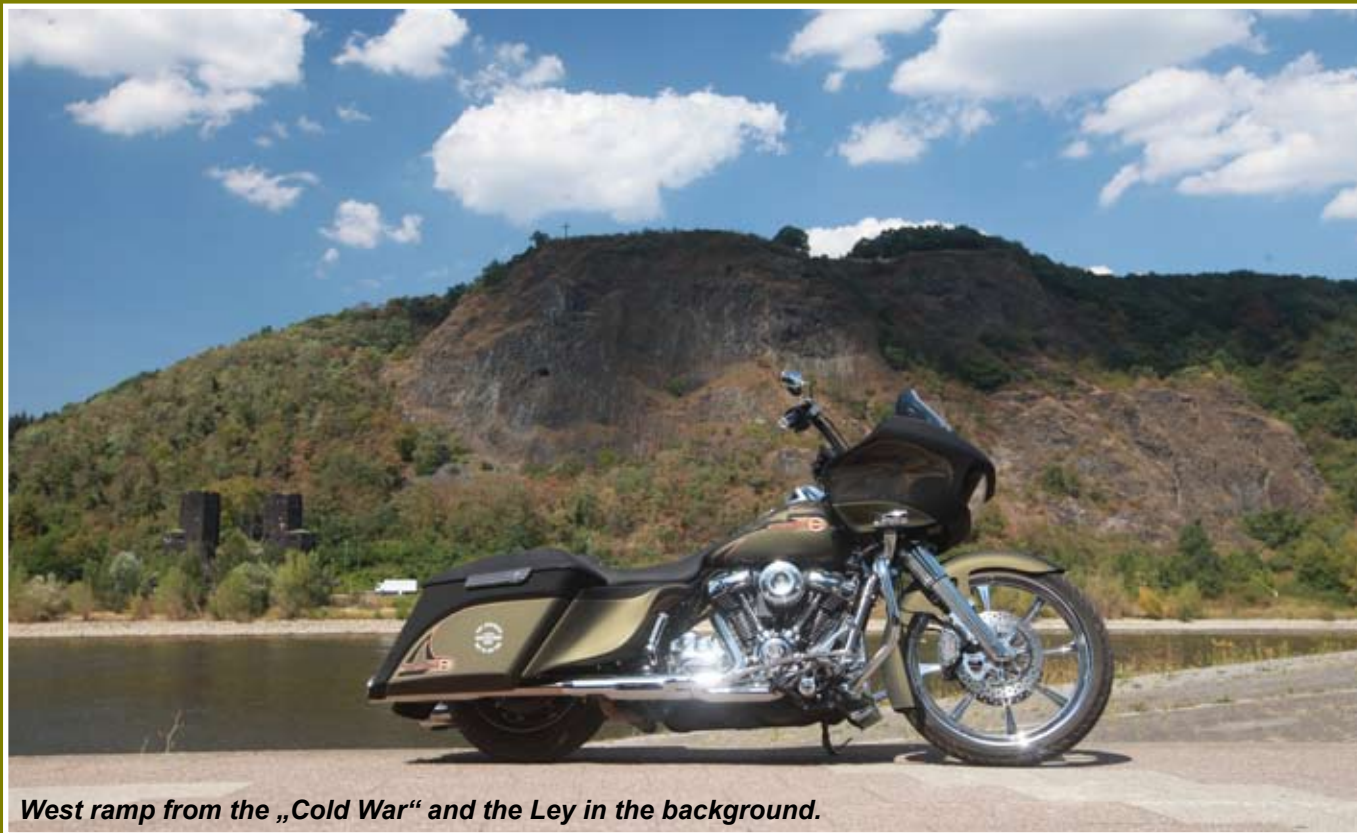
REMAGEN 1945

VISITING THE THE REAL THING!



CCEagle on the west ramp.

ERPETER LEY AND...



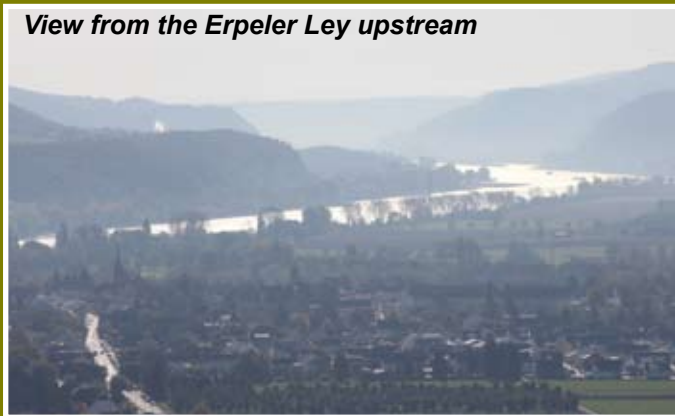
West ramp from the „Cold War“ and the Ley in the background.



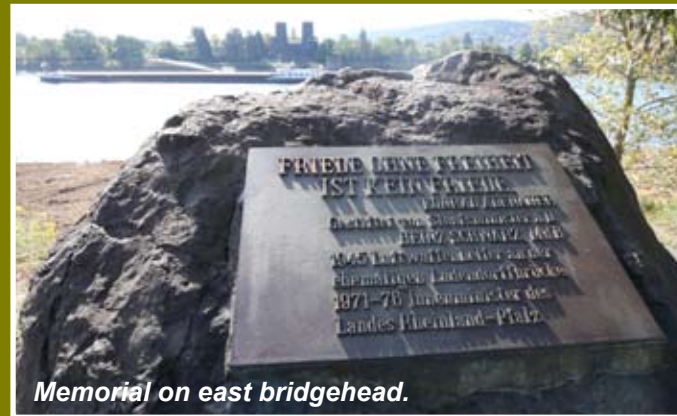
East bridgehead.

...THE BRIDGE AT REMAGEN...

View from the Erpeler Ley upstream



...have not been on the „touring agenda“ for 2018, but – just by chance – were passed or visited several times in August and October 2018. First, they were on the route plan for Custom Chrome Europe's 2018 „Bolt On And Ride“ tour to make a photo stop on the western shore. But time ran out during the original run, so only the images of the „test ride“ to check out the route remained. Then the KUSTOM LIFE run took the complete BOAR bikes again to Cologne, using parts of the route that previously had been cut short. Last but not least, on the way back from Cologne's INTERMOT, the weather was too good to finally make a first visit on the Erpeler Ley, the impressive rock from which the remains of the bridge and battlefield can be viewed perfectly! A great location for a visit and a rest in the local Café – and still an impressive historic sites after all these years! A memorial also commemorates the first Rhine valley tour of a Zeppelin on August 2nd 1909. Both shores of the Rhine river at Remagen are worth a visit, especially if you are interested in history!



Memorial on east bridgehead.



BIKE & MUSIC WEEKEND GEISELWIND

NEXT DATE: BIKE AND MUSIC WEEKEND
Autohof Strohofer, August 1st-4th 2019
www.bike-and-music-weekend.de





Rocket Man Donald Potier and his Jetcar!



Terry Grant



French motorcycle stunts



Bikewash

WANT SMOKE? WANT FLAMES? WANT ACTION? SEE YOU AT BIKE AND MUSIC!

Held on the first Weekend of August, the „Bike and Music Weekend“ and Geiselwind/Germany is one of the hottest motorcycle, Hot Rod, US-Car and Harley-Davidson events on the German calendar! Located next to the Autobahn A3 between Würzburg and Nürnberg, Bike and Music 2018 was blessed by great sunshine for a great event of Dragsters, Stuntshows and Live Music at the Strohofer Truck Stop & Concert Hall. Many thanks to Toni Strohofer (1940 - 2018) – we will miss you!

www.Bike-and-Music-Weekend.de



21st Edition FAAK IT!

Probably one of the best European events, Faak offers everything that you need for a Rider's holiday. Riding, photographing, judging HD's Bike Show and organising the CCE Ride-In Bike Show makes time fly! For the 21st edition of the Event, I organized the 16th (!) Custom Chrome Europe Ride-In Bike Show at the Arneitz Custom Show. That is some time too! This year again was somewhat dampened with dull and wet weather, but great bikes and cool shows! And in the end, we did some riding too!

HD Ride In Bike Show



Wet start into the week

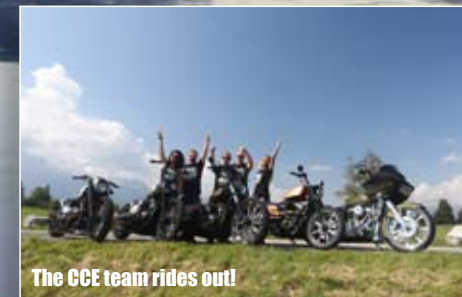


Arneitz at Night



The start of the parade

**SAVE THE DATE: EUROPEAN BIKE WEEK 2019,
FAAK AM SEE/AUSTIA, SEPTEMBER 2019
WWW.FAAKERSEE.AT**



The CCE team rides out!



A sad truth of Faak 2018 – you might be a target...



Andreas Bergerforth celebrates „Best Chopper“



Veronica riding Cross Bob



Axel Scherer off the beaten path!



PATTON DAYS

MEMORIAL

1918 - 2018

ST. MIHIEL
CELEBRATES
LIBERATION!





Having been liberated in September 1918 and September 1944, both times with legendary US-General George S. Patton involved, was reason enough for the people of Saint Mihiel to stage an outstanding one-off celebration in 2018: The PATTON MEMORIAL DAYS! The complete town center was evacuated from traffic and handed over to military re-enactors of both World Wars, staging re-enactments, parades and not one but TWO extreme firework spectacles, held at the St. Mihiel bridge. Thomas Goode acted a Pattons WW 1 double – and there also was a WW II pendant! The spectacular event lasted 3 days and offered participants to visit Patton's first-ever battlefield in France in near Seicheprey and the Wöevre!





*Don't waste
your time and* **JUMP** *for it!*





MY SPECIAL THANKS

TO ALL GUEST PHOTOGRAPHERS

**ANGELIKA SCHLEIER
AXEL SCHERER
FRANK SANDER
LAURENCE BEYER**

AND OTHERS

PLUS:

**CUSTOM CHROME EUROPE AND THE BOLT ON AND RIDE BIKE BUILDERS,
RAINER BÄCHLI & TEAM, MARCEL MASARYK, HD GERMANY, VICTORY/INDIAN GERMANY, HD PRESSE SERVICE FEAT.
RUDI HERZIG, CARRIE REPP, CYRIL HUZE, JC PASSETEMPS AND FRIENDS. „DUCKMAN“ DONALD POTIER, EURO BIKE
FEST TEAM, HOLGER MOHR, BILL DODGE, BILLY & WARREN LANE, NAF & FRIENDS, FRED KODLIN & TEAM, BUBU &
CHOPPERFREAKERS, CUSTOM MAGAZINE TEAM POLAND, BIKE & MUSIC TEAM, BUDDIES & BIKES, THE MOTOR BIKE EXPO
TEAM, MY CLIENTS, EVENT ORGANISERS, EDITORS & PUBLISHERS...**

**...AND ALL PEOPLE WHO SUPPORTED, HOSTED AND HELPED ME
IN 2018! SEE YOU „ON THE ROAD“ IN 2019!**

**REMEMBER
CYRIL HUZE & ANTON STROHOFER**

