

# From Washington State to Israel by Bicycle: An Epic Adventure

In 2019, I embarked on an extraordinary journey that would forever change my life. I cycled from my home in Washington State, USA, to Israel, a distance of over 10,000 miles. This epic adventure took me through 18 countries and across three continents, and it was an experience that was both physically and emotionally challenging, but also incredibly rewarding.



## Shalom, Israel!: Washington State to Israel by Bicycle

by Robert Murillo

★★★★☆ 4.5 out of 5

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I had always dreamed of traveling to Israel, a land with a rich history and culture that has fascinated me since I was a child. I was drawn to the country's ancient cities, holy sites, and diverse landscapes. But I never imagined that I would make the journey by bicycle.

The idea came to me one day as I was riding my bike through the Cascade Mountains. I had been cycling for several hours, and I was feeling strong

and energized. As I looked out over the stunning scenery, I thought to myself, "I could do this. I could cycle all the way to Israel."

At first, the idea seemed crazy. I had never骑自行车过这么远之前，我也不确定我是否有体力或耐力来完成这样的旅程。但越想就越兴奋。这是我一生中一次独一无二的机会，去做一些特别的事情，挑战我自己，并了解世界。

With a mix of excitement and trepidation, I began planning my journey. I spent months researching routes, gathering gear, and training for the long days of cycling ahead of me. I also reached out to friends and family for support, and I was overwhelmed by their encouragement and enthusiasm.

In May 2019, I set off from my home in Seattle, with my bicycle loaded down with all of my belongings. I headed east, crossing the Cascade Mountains and the Rocky Mountains. I cycled through the vast plains of the Midwest and the rolling hills of New England. I crossed the Atlantic Ocean by ship, and then continued my journey through Europe and the Middle East.

The journey was not without its challenges. I faced extreme heat and cold, rain and wind, and difficult terrain. I had mechanical problems with my bike, and I got sick a few times. But I persevered, driven by my determination to reach my goal.

Along the way, I met many kind and generous people who helped me on my journey. I stayed with families in small villages, and I was invited to share meals and stories with people from all walks of life. I learned about different cultures and perspectives, and I gained a new appreciation for the interconnectedness of the world.

After six months of cycling, I finally reached Israel. I entered the country through the Arava Valley, and I cycled north along the Dead Sea. I visited Jerusalem, Bethlehem, Nazareth, and other holy sites. I swam in the Mediterranean Sea, and I hiked in the Galilee Mountains.

Reaching Israel was a surreal experience. I had dreamed of this moment for so long, and it was hard to believe that I had actually made it. I felt a sense of accomplishment and gratitude, and I was overwhelmed by the beauty and history of the land.

I spent several weeks exploring Israel, and I was deeply moved by the country's people and culture. I learned about the challenges that Israelis face, and I was inspired by their resilience and determination. I also learned about the rich history of the Jewish people, and I gained a new understanding of my own faith.

After my time in Israel, I cycled back to Europe, and then shipped my bike back to the United States. I returned home a changed person. My journey had been physically and emotionally challenging, but it had also been an incredibly rewarding experience. I had learned so much about the world and about myself, and I had made memories that I will cherish for a lifetime.

I am grateful for the opportunity to have undertaken this epic adventure. It was a journey that tested my limits, but it also taught me so much about myself and the world. I am a stronger, more resilient, and more compassionate person because of this experience, and I am forever grateful for the people who supported me along the way.

If you are dreaming of ng something extraordinary, I encourage you to go for it. With determination and perseverance, anything is possible.

For more information about my journey, please visit my website:  
[www.shalomisrael.org](http://www.shalomisrael.org)

### Image alt attributes:

\* \*\*Image 1:\*\* Man cycling through the Cascade Mountains with mountains in the background. \* \*\*Image 2:\*\* Man cycling through a small village in Europe. \* \*\*Image 3:\*\* Man cycling along the Dead Sea in Israel. \* \*\*Image 4:\*\* Man standing in front of the Western Wall in Jerusalem.



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