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“Scoot Commute” A Success: Florida Couple Rides Over 3,300 Miles In 16 Days On KYMCO Scooters

Inman, SC — “Both scooters handled well and held up incredibly well.” That’s how BJ Strass summed up KYMCO performance after he and his wife, Monica, punished their People 250 (his) and Grandvista 250 (hers) on a two-week ride from Florida to Maine and back. The couple braved bad weather and beach traffic bottlenecks in order to promote scooters as clean, economical long-distance transportation.

“By our riding this great distance, we hope to inspire commuters and travelers to consider another way, the scooter way,” says Strass, publisher of Scooter Rider magazine. He and Monica left Naples, Florida on June 7, rode as far north as Portland, Maine, and were back home in Naples June 23. As planned, Scoot Commute had no support vehicles. The Strass' carried all of their gear on the scooters and stayed in a combination of hostels, campgrounds and a few motels.

The bad weather — mainly in the form of high wind — came courtesy of Tropical Storm Arlene, which threatened Florida and then seemed to follow Scoot Commute up the coast. “It was blazing hot until we got to Pennsylvania,” Strass recalls. “Then in Maine it was 40 degrees with horizontal rain.”

Delivery and prep for the trip was done at BJ's local KYMCO dealer, Grandpa's Cycle Center in Fort Myers, FL. The careful preparation paid off, especially in the choice of KYMCO for the marathon ride.

“KYMCO was my first choice,” says Strass, “because I like their reliability.” BJ was in a good position to know, having tested dozens of scooters for his magazine. But in the Pocono Mountains in Pennsylvania, the power of KYMCO’s 250cc engines surprised even him.

“It was amazing what the engines were capable of doing. Even with my large frame (BJ is 6’2”) and 40 pounds of gear, we kept on climbing at traffic speed and never ran out of throttle in any circumstance.”

With its reliable 18 horsepower engine, the People 250 offers plenty of speed and comfort to spare. Dual rear shocks and telescopic front forks provide positive cornering and a smooth ride over every obstacle, from potholes to speed bumps. For his wife, BJ chose the Grandvista 250. The Grandvista is KYMCO's fully appointed touring scooter. With an ample integrated, aerodynamic windscreen and full instrumentation it provides a complete road-ready touring package. Both the Grandvista 250 and People 250 have reliable liquid cooled engines and CVT transmissions for stepless acceleration from a standing start all the way up to highway speed.



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The Scoot Commute route took the Strasses into the Pennsylvania Mountains, but most of the way they stuck to the coast, avoiding the interstates in favor of two-lane highways and numerous ferry crossings in North Carolina, Virginia, and the Delaware/New Jersey shore. BJ says that on every boat they drew a crowd of onlookers curious about their ride and their KYMCO scooters.

“Talking to people along the way and seeing the looks on their faces when we told them we were riding over 3,000 miles, that was really fun.”

What's next for the intrepid Scoot Commuters? BJ Strass says his next big adventure will be riding all the way around Australia!

About Scooter Rider Magazine

Scooter Rider Magazine offers broad coverage in a friendly and fun format providing information on new scooters, tech tips, touring and commuting, modifications, accessories, club news, rallies, and lots of scooter fun. Scooter Rider Magazine is "grass roots" publishing; low on corporate red tape and high on readership response and the fun aspects of scooters.

www.scooterridermag.com

About KYMCO

With headquarters in Taiwan and distribution in 63 countries, KYMCO is a global leader in power-driven products, under the corporate slogan “Power Your Life.” Five manufacturing plants in Asia use the latest technology for the engineering and production of reliable engine, chassis, and other components. KYMCO is committed to maximum customer satisfaction and constant innovation, making use of the most advanced CAD/CAE tools to bring superior engineering and design to their products.

KYMCO scooters, motorcycles and ATVs are imported and distributed by KYMCO USA in Inman, South Carolina, where the warehouse, management, and marketing facilities are located. An ever-expanding dealer network currently serves over 500 U.S. locations. Dealer inquiries are invited.

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