

## Back to the '70s

from Attila Vendel

Colette and Axel got to know in 1977. Two years later they married and decided to spend their honeymoon in France. With a VW Beetle and a small tent in the trunk. But back in 1980 hangs a small caravan behind the beetle. A few years have passed, and the children were born, a boy and a girl. And it continued to go with a caravan to the campsite. Years later they bought a mobile home, but over time the children were older and no longer traveled with parents ... but Colette and Axel enter traveling with camping not on!

Carpe diem - seize the day! "We live our dreams!

Until tomorrow, do not wait, because life happens around us.

And to learn about the travel and the desire new, young forever, "says the German couple to a more modern type as" traveling vagrants "on Europe's roads.

The love for a nostalgic car was reawakened when her son - according to the traditions of their parents -

the first car to a VW Beetle drove, the one renovated together before.

For traveling on the road, you then chose a Eriba Pan caravan for the Beetle. After the children flown out of the home, the family replaced the motor home by a Volkswagen Bus T3 Transporter and the memories of the past lived in a VW Beetle as a daily driver again.

"We loved this type of driving, so it was almost inevitable that the T3 was replaced with an older VW bus.

Just at Christmas 2009 we bought then the T2. "After 11/2 years of renovation then was the T2 of the companion for the European tours.

In May 2011, then succeeded scrutineering and registration as a vintage vehicle (Historical indicator). And shortly thereafter, then the trips were decided.

"We had planned for some time, one day to travel across Europe. But when? ", They often put themselves this question and remembered that it maybe one day it might be too late, and so they thought it best to make an immediate cut.

The man's business manager, lecturer, journalist and the wife MTA and worked as a coach in consulting and as a lecturer. In recent years, it was a very hard and intense work for them. But unfortunately then a very important customer went bankrupt and the work of 3 months has not been paid.

"Then we made the best of the situation: a quick decision for our trip planning." We have rented our house and finance as a part of the travel. Most of the furniture and household items we have sold or given away. Only the most important personal items, furniture and memories we have stored and then we started with the unknown adventure. "

Since then they spend the most time in the old bus. Last year, first in Italy, then cruised from summer to Christmas by Spain

Currently Eastern Europe. For the next five years may all European countries are planned: "We want to explore the whole continent, from Ireland, Scandinavia, the Baltic States. This year over Bulgaria follow the southern Mediterranean countries. "

The routes they plan itself often on the Internet, browse forums, to get information on the website by the ADAC (General German Automobile Club). But they are independent and the route is very flexible, as the two travel without a precise timetable.

If you want to change something, they do it spontaneously. When it somewhere particularly like them, you stay there longer.

Now, in 2014, the couple is on of the largest and longest trip of a lifetime.

Facts. Starting from the source of the Danube (Black Forest, Germany) to the Danube Delta and the Black Sea. Originally they wanted to Odessa and the Crimea and then Kiev and Poland back home. But because of the current situation in Ukraine, this plan was abandoned. So they want from Constanta (Constance) n the south continues to Bulgaria, then to Sofia, and then further south to Greece. From Thessaloniki, I will return to the west, in the south of Albania, then across the Adriatic Sea, with a ferry to Italy.

"We expect that we are about mid-November 2014 in Germany again. Thus, the road will be the home for 7 months. But before Christmas, we want to go again:

Through France and Spain to Morocco. Christmas they want to meet on the Iberian peninsula with their children.

"We see our trips as a great adventure, to which we must get involved and especially must."

And Colette adds: "If you can not live a very cramped space and laughing, you should just take it to stay.

Our Europe travel is the way, under the motto: "On the limits of the stars".

Who the European flag look at who knows what is meant - the stars of the EU flag.

"Where the flag of the gold of the stars and the blue of the sky and the sea, freedom must be the highest good" (author unknown).

We freedom is the most important in Europe. For freedom also includes: Travel without limits!

But freedom comes responsibility: consideration of different customs and cultures,

Openness and friendliness of the people you meet. Gratitude for all new and beautiful. "

"Of course you also have bad experiences: our bus was broken into 3 times already. 2 times in Spain and now here in Budapest.

Our new really good alarm system but has been worth it: the perpetrators have fled.

Unfortunately, the door lock was brutally destroyed. Well: so but again we have nice people in Budapest gotten to know, Miklos Szabo (Szabo & Szabo Beetle workshop) gave up his closing time to us to repair the castle and at the neighbors Andrea Gergely + W. We were right on the parking lot stay. "

Incidentally, without Gyula F. we would not know to whom we should contact us with our car problem. And we have not seen a nice evening with an overnight stay and delicious breakfast on Lake Balaton in Gyula and Zultan. Gyula we had learned by chance know when refueling at a gas station.

More than three weeks we spent in the beautiful country of Hungary. We met a lot of very helpful, spontaneous and friendly people. These days we also witnessed an example of helpfulness in Pécs. A car (in the mother and son traveled) was stopped in traffic. The son got out and began to push the car.

Immediately there was a man next to him to help, and in the time that we needed to get to the other side of the road two young man already ran quite naturally to the car back and helped push ..

I think in Germany also determined someone would have helped, but probably not as quickly. Often one must unfortunately ask only for help in Germany.

In terms of food, we are very easy to knit as a camper. But we must particularly praise the really good ice, the Wiener Schnitzel and the Hungarian "Spätzle" (noodles) and of course the goulash soup.

On their way, they are often only able to cook simple meals on the bus or there are ready-made meals. . At the Hungarian cuisine tells them to, especially the ice that good schnitzel meat, the Hungarian "Spätzle" noodles and of course the goulash soup.

And what did you like in addition best in our country?

Colette begins specify:

Now: Budapest is surely the pearl of Hungary. We already knew the capital of a meeting (as we had traveled by plane.)

Fisherman's Bastion, Castle, Parliament, drawbridge, therm, Railway Museum ....

The many tourist sites we had of course visited all. And in Budapest, we were here for the second time: one of the most beautiful cities in Europe.

Nevertheless. You learn again new corners know. We were particularly impressed the monument "The Shoes on the Danube". With great attention to detail built. It is thoughtful and is grateful that we may live in peace and freedom in a democratic Europe.

We loved the trip to the "" Sissi Castle "Kiraly Kastely after Gödöllői. And the Balaton has us very well fallen. We also have many thermal baths visited: Heviz, Zalakaros, Kaposvar and Harkany. The medicinal water is doing very well!

The journey of two Germans went on to the southern border, first to Croatia and further along the Danube via Osijek and Vukovar, then by Serbia towards "Iron Gate" and after Belgard where they wanted to participate in June at Käfertreffen. However, this was canceled at short notice due to the severe weather and flooding. Nevertheless, they have taken a few bugs and VW.Bus friends. Next we went to Romania: Timisoara, Sibiu, Arad, and then to the Alpine Transfogarascher high street.

To press and release date, the two are probably already in another country. Later, they might want to give lectures on the adventure once, and perhaps also publish a book about the journey "back to the 1970's".

The story here you can pursue: <http://europa-im-vw-bus.blogspot.de>

captions:

324,000 km are on the odometer, of which they have traveled 61,000 kilometers by bus.

- 70 hp aircooled boxer engine with oil cooler.

Equipped with stove, sink, refrigerator, toilet and a Truma heater, tested at -17 degrees Celsius outside and inside 18 to 20 degrees Celsius as a pleasant climate to sleep at home.

The number plate ::

BB - for Böblingen (near Stuttgart), CA - Colette and Axel, the 73 -  
Year of the bus and the "H" is the special mark for a "historic vehicle".