

TOUR DIVIDE

THE LONGEST, TOUGHEST, SOLO MOUNTAIN BIKE RACE EVER

The best rides are the ones where you bite off much more than you can chew--and live through it.

-Doug Bradbury mountain bike hall of fame

SYNOPSIS

On Your Own... somewhere in the middle of Montana with over two thousand miles to go, so exhausted you're about to fall off your bike, so sore you're wondering if you'll ever walk normally again, when all of a sudden a mountain lion steps out of the woods and casually paces down the trail 500 feet ahead of you. Your mind frantically races for what you're supposed to do in this situation, but then you realize that nothing in your life has prepared you for mountain lion evasion. More importantly, you've just flew down a thousand feet of continental divide terrain and with three and a half states to go, you have no intention of turning back.

Welcome to Tour Divide, The Longest, Toughest, Mountain Bike Race -- Ever. Racers must travel solo over a grueling 2,711 miles from Banff, Canada to the US/Mexico border, climbing over 200,000 vertical feet, the equivalent of ascending Mount Everest from sea level 7 times. Half the people who start never finish. They suffer altitude sickness, dehydration, broken bones, road rash, hellacious blisters, bike theft, subzero temperatures, and searing 115+ heat. And to top it off, it is a self-supported race. This means racers are completely on their own with absolutely no assistance from each other or outside support teams.

So now maybe you're asking, why in the Hell would someone in their right mind put themselves through this? Well, Mike Dion is about to find out – the hard way. Some people buy Porsches at this point in their lives...not Mike. He's leaving his cushy day job, wife and two kids, and very comfortable mattress behind so that he can hop on his bike for the journey of a lifetime.

But there's a catch. He's only got 25 days. Does he have what it takes to make it? Will he begin to wonder why he ever wanted to do something so insane in the first place? Will he be eaten by bears?

Who knows, but one thing's for sure, this is an adventure you can't miss. The film will follow Mike as he quits his job, completes the last phase of his training, says goodbye to his wife and kids and leaves suburban Denver for Banff. Does he complete the journey?

Through the use of a hi-tech mobile camera mounted on the bike, voice-activated digital audio recorder and a dedicated crew on the trail, viewers will experience Mike's trip just as he does, for better and for worse.

The documentary will also parallel Mike's physical and spiritual journeys with those of similar amateurs/enthusiasts as well as the legends of the Divide ride. The magnificent landscape along the Continental Divide, from the mountain passes and windswept valleys of the Canadian Rockies to badlands of the Mexican Plateau, as well as the local people who live along the spine of North America, will be captured by three of the best directors and DPs in nature and action sports film today.

Possible guest directors include:

- Chris Patterson: Chris, residing in Bozeman, MT, has shot the last 14 Warren Miller films and will guest-direct the Banff – Montana portion of the race
- Kevin Emmons: Kevin is a nationally recognized commercial/documentary DP who shoots all over the world; He will guest-direct the Colorado portion of the race.
- Joe Baran: Joe, a native of the Rocky Mountain region, has shot numerous commercial, documentary and action sports projects; He will guest-direct the last leg of the journey through New Mexico to the border.

Part travelogue, part extreme adventure film and part character study, Tour Divide will be the unique product of proven genre filmmakers, the latest technical gear and an inherently great story told well.

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