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Lewis and Clark? No — Lewis and Smith

On October 13, 1994, Jason Lewis and Steve Smith departed Lagos, Portugal, in their 26-foot craft “Moksha” (that’s “liberation” in Sanskrit) for the east coast of Florida. One hundred and eleven days later — after “cycling” more than 4,500 miles across the Atlantic Ocean — they beached their boat in Fort Lauderdale on February 17 of this year and earned themselves a place in the record books as the first people to cross the Atlantic from Europe to America using only human power.

This was the second leg of their expedition, which aims to circumnavigate the earth using only human power. Their journey started on July 12, 1994. Lewis and Smith set off from the Greenwich Meridian line in London on mountain bikes; they traveled through France, Spain and Portugal and reached the Atlantic Coast on the Algarve in September.



“In an age when there are very few firsts left to achieve, traveling 29,000 miles around the globe will establish us among the highest caliber of achievers,” explains Lewis. “Next on our schedule — blading [sic] and cycling across the States to San Francisco. We’re going to visit schools and involve young people along the way. We want to spread the message that whatever you want to do in life, you have to do it now while you still have the chance.”

From San Francisco, the pair will attempt a Pacific crossing in early March 1996. If successful, it will be the longest voyage in history to not touch land — a total of 15 months. After the Pacific crossing, Jason and Steve plan on cycling across China, the Himalayas, Asia and Europe. They expect to be back in the UK sometime in 1997. Stay tuned for updates from the two as they work their way around the world.