

# Bikers cop a battering

WHERE else but Australia would you encounter flooded roads and torrential rain, stifling 42 degree heat and snow, all within weeks of each other?

Jens and Kati Witte are only 13,000kms into their around-the-world motorbike journey and our sunburnt country has tested them in every imaginable way.

The German couple sold everything they owned to spend three years travelling the world on their customised BMW F800 GS motorbikes.

Mrs Witte said they had never been interested in large bank accounts, a big home or high-powered careers and were inspired by actor Ewan McGregor and Charley Boorman's Long Way Round worldwide motorcycle journey.

Their "home", currently the Sunshine Coast, changes every three to four days. Their only possessions are packed into 50kgs worth of equipment and clothes that they saddle on to the bikes each day.

They chose Perth as the starting point for their epic journey. They will venture around Australia, New Zealand, South America, Alaska, the United States of America and South Africa before probably heading back to Germany.



**HARDENED TRAVELLERS:** German motorcyclists Jens and Kati Witte stop over on the Sunshine Coast.

PHOTO: JASON DOUGHERTY