

## Saw the TdF, but return had to ride back (train cancelled)... not such a bad outcome for Kevin though

Not too much time to talk right now, just the basics, 'cuz it's way past midnight and we have another big ride tomorrow morning. In a nutshell, the delayed train this morning didn't cause us issues getting to the top of the Port de Bales on time, but when we got back to the train station, we found that our return train had been cancelled! Here we are, out in the middle of nowhere, 47.5 miles from our hotel. Also in the same boat was a group of maybe 15 from England, college students seeing the TdF as well. I knew ahead of time that we should be prepared for long rides back in the dark if need be, but it wouldn't have been much fun on our own, But with a group of 15? The time flies by much more pleasantly, especially when there are a couple of really strong guys up front pulling everyone along.



Kevin with 4 new friendsThe group split up at Tarbes though, with all of the guys wanting to stop there for food, concerned that the places in Lourdes would be closed. A reasonable concern. Four of the women wanted to get back sooner though and hope that the pizza place near our hotels would still be open, so tough break for Kevin, he gets to escort four cycling-fit women, about his age, back to Lourdes. We arrived at 10pm, late indeed, but safe & sound. And with some new friends that we might head out to the stage tomorrow morning with.

Life could be much worse. Especially for Kevin.



Getting dark on the way to Lourdes



And now totally dark heading back to Lourdes

