

## **Ten Things to do Before You Die**

*Adapted from an article at Forbes.com*

**Make a pilgrimage.** The destination might be a traditional one, it might be a site of prehistoric rituals, it could be an African savanna or Amazonian rain forest. The goal is a cathedral you hold sacred, a place where you can feel part of something larger. The reward is a moment, whether it's hearing the "Gloria" at St. Peter's or watching a gazelle take its first step, that you won't need a video camera to capture.

**Eat a meal good enough to be your last.** When the end comes for you, there is a distinct possibility that you will be in no position to enjoy white truffles. But if you plan ahead carefully--if you eat them now--you will not die feeling cheated. Think of it as death insurance and pay no attention to those numbers on the right side of the menu.

**Climb your own Mount Ventoux.** Mountains were considered dangerous and useless. Mountains could even be a sinful distraction from God, as Petrarch interpreted a passage in Augustine rebuking men who "admire the high mountains." Today you can have the same view easily enough--there's a road and restaurant at the peak--but that's not really the point. The point is to climb something you were afraid to climb and see something new.

**Memorize a poem and pass it on.**

**Make an enemy for life.** Stand up to a bully; speak out against a fraud; fight off a rival for a prize. Care enough about something to make someone mad. An enemy helps you define yourself.

**Forgive someone.**

**See for yourself that the earth is round.**

**Defy gravity.** Yes, it's the most drearily immutable law on the planet, but on your deathbed it would be good to recall a momentary rebellion--one sky dive out of a plane, one plunge on a bungee cord, one ride on a parasail.

**Let someone else have the chance you missed.** When it's too late for you, give someone younger what you always wanted.

**Go on a bike ride with Shanna Armstrong.**

A couple of the above are reasonable enough, a few are far out, but the last one—ride with Shanna—is not only possible, it's downright convenient. Shanna has opened up a spot in her schedule just to join us in riding the Cactus n' Crude MS150 Bike Tour, July 19-20. The ride is a two day, 150 mile ride from Midland to Big Spring to Post.

Go to <http://castle.clearwire.net/LBC-MS150> , for a description.

Send an e-mail to [billy.king@clearwire.net](mailto:billy.king@clearwire.net) to register.