

MEXICAN ON THE MENU

Travel gurus Mike and Denise Ferris plan to add Mexico to their popular Ferris Wheels Motorcycle Safaris itinerary in 2015.

"We are looking at introducing Mexico," says Mike. "In fact, this email is coming to you from Cancun on the Yucatan Peninsula in the land of tacos and tequila! It's looking pretty good for an inaugural tour here sometime in 2015."

The tour would possibly include Tijuana, Acapulco, Chihuahua, Tabasco, Mt Popocatepetl, the ancient pyramids of the sun and moon, Mayan and Aztec cultures and the world's largest city, Mexico City. No dates have been scheduled yet.

That will make 2015 the biggest year yet for Ferris Wheels, with a possible 13 tours including two tours of Turkey

to help commemorate the Gallipoli Centenary. There are still a couple of vacancies on the April 2–22 tour, but the April 28–May 18 tour is booked out.

Other Ferris Wheels tours in 2015 include: Nepal/Bhutan (March 10–30), Morocco (April 2–22), Iceland (June 1–15, June 17–July 1), Himalaya (July 19–August 8, July 22–August 11, August 12–September 2), Dalmatian Coast (September 7–26) and the South American Andes (October 5–26, November 2–23).

"We ran nine tours in 2014, with a total of about 160 people," Mike says. "Iceland was our most popular destination, being the latest addition to the portfolio. Any new tour we introduce is immediately embraced by our loyal fraternity of 'repeat offenders'."

2014 was a pretty big year for Ferris

Aussie motorcycle tours to Mexico

Wheels, which celebrated its 20th anniversary in August with a black-tie function on a Sydney Harbour cruise. "We had visitors from every state in Australia in attendance, as well as our original two — and still current — business partners from India and Turkey," he says. "Channel 7 host Greg Grainger was our MC for the day, and recounted a few tales from his own trips with us 18 years or so ago."

Ferris Wheels also joined up in 2014 with professional motorcycle training company motoDNA to offer adventure rider training for people wanting to attend their tours.

It follows a successful 2013 when they launched a six-part TV series on Channel 7 called *World On Wheels*.



■ Mexico City as far as the eye can see

COP THIS!

CFMoto police bike and 650 adventure to come?

Chinese motorcycle manufacturer CFMoto has built a police bike in just 10 months and it could be a clue to a coming touring model update.

The police bikes were used as diplomat motorcade escort vehicles for the October APEC meeting in Beijing. The CF650G was developed in 10 months and features a liquid-cooled parallel-twin cylinder EFI 650cc engine with a top speed of 177km/h. It is the first big-bore Chinese bike with ABS and an electronically controlled adjustable windshield.

It also features WP suspension, which is used by Austrian motorcycle company KTM. CFMoto and KTM have a close association, which includes the Chinese company assembling KTM 200 and 390 Dukes for the local market.

The police bikes are fitted with audio and video communication systems and are decorated with traditional Chinese red and yellow graphics, representing the five-starred red flag and the Great Wall. There is no official word yet, but it's believed it could be the replacement for

the 650TK.

Australian importer Michael Poynton, director of Mojo Motorcycles, says development of the police bike as well as ATV/UTV projects contributed to delaying the 650 adventure model until November 2015.



■ CF Moto's emergency services machine