

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Birgit Soyka

To Drink the Wild Air: A Woman's Quest to Touch the Horizon

Born and raised in Germany, San Francisco author Birgit Soyka spent her youth chasing the horizon in her mind and heart from the age of five. After she successfully completed her apprenticeship in retail sales she changed fields and worked several years for the motorcycle magazine "mo" in Germany. Her desire to fly like the birds and live a "life less ordinary" drew her to an early passion for big motorcycles and her career aspirations to be one of the first female motorcycle road racers in Germany and southern California.

On the day of her 18th birthday she got her driver's license for motorcycles and after that there was no force in this world that could have stopped her to follow the path of un-lived adventures.

A veteran world traveler, Birgit has lived on two continents, in several countries and a dozen different cities and what was originally intended as a year of "adventure travel" in the United States in her early 20's turned into a much bigger "life adventure," one that led her through many inspirational and thought-provoking experiences.

With motorcycle road racing as the driving force, Birgit started her career in logistics in 1988 working in the Los Angeles office of a European freight forwarding company. The complexities of the import and export industry guided her into a progressive career in a fast-paced global environment and what once was her passion for speed and motorbikes turned into an obsession for airplanes, the closest to experience bird like characteristics.

She passionately follows the development of alternative technology for motorcycles, and once again is planning to chase the next horizon on two wheels. Embarking on a new journey of self-exploration, she is planning an expedition to cross California on an electric bike – a feat that's never before been attempted or accomplished!