

A person in a wheelchair is shown from behind, sitting on a rocky ledge in a desert landscape. Their arms are outstretched horizontally. The background features a vast, flat desert with several prominent, rounded rock formations under a cloudy sky. The image is split into three vertical panels: a natural color panel on the left, a blue-tinted panel in the center, and a natural color panel on the right.

Wheeled World

Together, widening the field of possibilities

www.wheeledworld.org



Who are we?

A non-profit organization that promotes and simplifies handi-travel

We are **Myriam et Pierre Cabon**, a young couple passionate about travel!

Injured during Paris terrorist attacks in 2015, Pierre has been paraplegic for three years and now uses a manual wheelchair... But that does not stop us from traveling!

Wheeled World is a **non-profit organization** that we created based on a simple observation: during our trips, we meet very few - TOO FEW - people with reduced mobility... and we understand why!

Beyond the obvious **physical limits**, there are many **psychological limits** to wheelchair travel (difficult projection due to lack of information on accessibility, fear of struggle or frustration while traveling in non accessible places, lack of understanding of your real needs by tourism actors...).

What we want is to fight these limits. **Make you want to travel**. And **open the way**, to allow everyone to do it serenely, whether they are valid or with reduced mobility.



How are we planning on doing it?

A travel blog and story-telling on our adventures around the World

In November 2018, we launched our **travel blog** that combines travelogues, videos, practical tips and information on the accessibility of the visited places.

It is addressed to all, both valid and disabled! If it contains stories about our past adventures, we want to give it another dimension and prove that nothing is impossible... That's why we decided to go for **a year around the world**, starting September 2019...

Not any World Tour

Our journey will cover **four continents**: South America, Oceania, Africa and Asia! Destinations **not necessarily identified as accessible**, in which we can live adventures that will make our readers dream... And will make them want to follow us, figuratively and, we hope so, literally.

Every three months, we'll come back to France for a few weeks to step back and share our experience.

Come visit us: www.wheeledworld.org



The right equipment

On our blog, we will display information on **sport and mobility enhancement equipments** that we will use during our journey

Video demos, product guides, supplier presentations...

The right team mates

According to destinations, we will ask some team mates to come with us in the least accessible activities **to go further**

Relatives, partnerships with local non-profit, other travel bloggers...

The right information

We will display as much information as possible on our blog... But how to make sure that it is stable over time? To ensure **information update and dissemination**, we developed partnerships with organization that work to improve mobility: Jaccede.com and Handiplanet

A scenic landscape photograph of a mountain valley. In the foreground, a river flows through a rocky bed. The middle ground shows a dense forest of evergreen trees. In the background, rugged mountains rise under a clear sky. A semi-transparent blue rectangular box is overlaid on the center of the image, containing text.

Why work with us?

We are looking for partners

We are currently looking for **partners** to help us prepare, develop and finance our project...

Here are a **few ideas of what we can offer** in return:

- **Diagnosis** of reduced mobility customer' itineraries
- **Advisory on accessibility** and **equipment** issues
- **Awareness** and **team training** to welcome disabled clients
- **External communication** through our blog and social media (targeting travelers and disabled people)
- **Conferences** and **internal communication** events
- **Contents creation** on travel and/or handicap issues (articles, testimonials, practical advice)

This list is obviously not complete and **we would be happy to discuss your specific needs...** **Let's talk about it!**

Our itinerary

A World Tour in 4 steps

South America (3 months)
Peru, Bolivia, Chile, Argentina, Brazil

Africa (3 months)
South Africa, Namibia, Tanzania, Kenya

Oceania (3 months)
Australia, New-Zealand

Asia (3 months)
Japan, China, Nepal, Laos
Indonesia



Our itinerary

Step 1: South America, from Pre-Columbian legacy to Austral lands

Perito Moreno. El Calafate. Cuzco. Ushuaia. Parati. Titicaca. Dreamy names, synonymous with **wilderness**, pampa, jungle... **and steepness!**

A paradise for **hikers** who enjoy **calm and solitude**.

Sure, but... For a person in a wheelchair, paradise can quickly turn into **pure anxiety**: miles of dust and stones, gravel roads (doesn't roll so well!), nobody in sight in case of need, inexistent or minimalist infrastructure, infinite distances to travel...

Even when you're not looking for comfort, that can be enough to put you in a cold sweat!

An equation often resolved by an indisputable conclusion: **not a destination for me!**

Really ? We are not so sure... But it does require a **little adaptation!**

Some of our memorable moments

Peru

- Travel for two weeks with non adapted public transportation, from Lima to La Paz
- Climb Machu Picchu and its thousands of steps with teammates

Bolivia

- Cross with a 4x4 the Salar de Uyuni's moonscapes

Chile

- Dive in the Pacific waves for a surf lesson
- Discover Easter Island mysteries

Argentina

- Go paragliding in the Andean Mountains cordillera
- Hike to the world's end in Cape Horn

Brazil

- Admire the majestic Iguazu Falls



Our itinerary

Step 2: Oceania, challenges from island to island

Australia and New Zealand, like many Anglo-Saxon countries, are **actually quite accessible**. Maybe the most accessible of our trip around the world. Automatic doors in the shops, access ramps, accessible public transport... An absolute rest after South America! In the cities, anyway.

But what happens when you leave them?

Both countries are dreamy destinations, each in their own style. We are attracted by the white **sand beaches** and **deserts** of Australia and by the **dense forests** that populate the slopes of New Zealand **summits**. In both cases, a person in a wheelchair may wonder about their ability to rest if they stay outside the agglomerations (have you ever ridden a bike in the sand? Add two small wheels to the front and pedal hard, you'll understand what we're talking about for Australia.

For New Zealand ... If you imagine what a mountain stage of the Tour de France looks like only with arm muscles power, you will have a small idea).

We are curious: what can be done in wheelchairs in these countries when you are a **nature and outdoor sports lover**? We will test it for you...

Some of our memorable moments

Australia

- Be amazed by the world's biggest fireworks in Sydney on December 31st
- Snorkel to discover the incredible ecosystem of the Great Barrier Reef

New-Zealand

- Reach the Bluff Harbor, the southernmost in the world, on foot or by bike
- Browse at least one of the two islands in electric tandem (handcrank / pedal), for sport and to reduce a little our carbon footprint
- Fly over the Mount Cook Glaciers by plane (or hot air balloon)
- Climb the world's steepest street in Dunedin



Our itinerary

Step 3: Africa, Etape 3 : L'Afrique, from savannah to the snowy roof

When we learned that Pierre would not walk again, **we first thought we could not travel anymore**. And then we saw. We learnt. We adapted. So we thought **we could travel to accessible countries**: the United States, Canada, some countries in Europe. In this list, we would never have put the African countries a few months ago.

For us, they were synonymous with lack of infrastructure, rustic transport. As for South America, a **land not well suited to wheelchair travel**. And activities just as inaccessible. They may only be prejudices, but they were enough to dissuade us from even thinking about these destinations.

But in the end, we did not like this idea. The idea of giving up without trying. For almost four years, we spent every minute wondering what more we could do. And **each discovery convinced us that we were right to try**. Why stop at assumptions? If we face some challenges, **they will only be another way to learn**, right?

Some of our memorable moments

South Africa

- Join on foot the cape of good hope
- Dive into the diamond mines of Pretoria
- Get lost in a kayak in the mangrove of Kosi Bay

Namibia

- Explore in a 4x4 the Sossusvlei dunes, the oldest desert in the world

Kenya

- Meet wild animals in their natural environment

Tanzania

- Climb Mount Kilimandjaro with teammates



Our itinerary

Step 4: Asia, between tradition and modernity

We do not know your opinion on this, but we have a **wonderful image of Asia**. Beyond the incredible landscapes we already dream of, we are quite sensitive to the **strength of tradition** that still seems to prevail in places. **Serenity. Harmony.** The **intergenerational link**. Even transposed to the modern world, the weight of history finds a particular meaning.

For the handicap cause, it seems to be a big advantage! From what we heard, the importance of elders in society has led some Asian countries to **work on their accessibility**, to preserve them in case of disability... Interesting, right? How levers can be various to work on the collective interest...

The paradox is that despite culture, the **economic realities** of some of these countries probably do not allow them to undertake large-scale work to target this particular topic. Or at least, it's not their priority!

What is the **perception of disability** in these different countries? **How is it lived, individually and collectively?** We decided to go and see by ourselves...

Some of our memorable moments

Japan

- Meet and encourage French athletes at the Tokyo Paralympic Games

China

- Climb the steps of the Great Wall with teammates

Laos

- Dive in a dugout canoe in the darkness of Konglor cave

Cambodia

- Admire the sunrise over the temples of Angkor

Indonesia

- Dive to meet turtles in turquoise waters



Want to know more?
Our social media and contact details

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