



No. **5308**



## Adventure via Viola

PHOTOGRAPH BY ALLY MABRY STORY BY GAGE POORE

→ ADELE WOODMANSCE AND EYUEL SEYOUM VISITED ADVENTURE CYCLING HEADQUARTERS ON JUNE 17, 2021, traveling west from Yorktown, Virginia, to Anacortes, Washington. Adele, from northern Vermont, and Eyuel, from Ethiopia, met in 2016 during a summer research job at a seabird field station on Middleton Island, Alaska. “We were living with Adele’s parents in Vermont for most of the pandemic,” Eyuel wrote. “We decided to do a cross-country bike trip before Adele begins graduate school in the fall.”

The two started their journey on April 6 following the TransAm Trail with a few detours, taking advantage of some gravel riding. After Missoula, they plan to ride the Northern Tier to the coast. “Adele is carrying a viola and funded our trip by busking until Pueblo, Colorado,” wrote Eyuel. In Colorado, after so many days playing for long hours, Adele hurt her hand from overuse and couldn’t play as much. “She played at grocery stores, historical sites, and in restaurants. In Sebree, Kentucky, she played at a senior gathering at a Baptist church.” They carried the same small wood-burning stove that Adele had used while hiking the Appalachian Trail in 2017, cooking dinner on it most nights.

The two adventurers plan to explore the San Juan Islands by bicycle a bit after they arrive in Anacortes, after which a friend will ultimately shuttle them and their bikes back to the East Coast from Seattle. Following that, the two are moving to Ithaca, New York, where Adele will start graduate school and Eyuel will hike the Long Trail in Vermont before beginning his search for employment.

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