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# DETOUR DE FRANCE

a film by DAN JONES



OFFICIAL SELECTION  
MELBOURNE INT'L FILM  
FESTIVAL 2006

**PG**

Mild coarse  
language

*Lance won his seventh tour,  
but that was only half the story!*

Accent Film Entertainment presents

## DETOUR DE FRANCE

a film by Dan Jones

Distributed throughout Australia and New Zealand by:

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# DETOUR DE FRANCE (M) a film by Dan Jones

**“LAUGHS, TEARS, AND EXCITEMENT.  
THIS IS THE REAL TOUR DE FRANCE” Rupert Guinness – Daily  
Telegraph**

## DETOUR DE FRANCE

### *Breakdown*

The Tour de France is the biggest annual sporting event in the world. It is huge, mind-boggling. In *Detour de France*, viewers get the chance to witness history in the making as Lance Armstrong sensationally snares his seventh straight victory.

A million spectators each day. A media contingent of 5000. This documentary puts you right in the middle.

Daniel Jones, a young Melbourne filmmaker, has made a unique documentary that takes viewers on a magical ride behind the scenes of the great race. Through the eyes of three Australians reporting on the 92<sup>nd</sup> running of Le Grand Boucle – the big loop, viewers will be outrageously entertained.

The main character is John Trevorrow, an ex-pro cyclist who has covered 10 tours as a journalist. John is a four time Australian road champion, competed in the 1972 Munich Olympics and raced for four years as a professional in Europe.

The second character is Denis Donoghue, a radio journalist who brilliantly narrates the film. Denis, covering his fifth tour, is your “straight guy” who speaks French with an Aussie attitude. He interviews various French characters in the tour, none more famous than five-time Tour De France winner Bernard Hinault and race director Jean-Marie Leblanc. Denis is a Barrister and was one of the original Lawyers Guns and Money crew on Melbourne radio.

The third character is Bill Schwarzenberg. Bill is what you could call the larrikin of the trip. A bit in your face at times, his official role is “press assistant.” Bill is really on tour to soak up the atmosphere and to make the most of his press pass. This gets him inside the fence and right next to the cream of world cycling. Bill, through his own inimitable style, manages to snag some of the best interviews in the film.

In real life, Bill owns a thriving engineering business and owns a successful horse stud.

The mix between the three is symbiotic. It just works – the documentary is as fast as the race itself.

The film is aimed at the general audience, not just the cycling enthusiast, although anyone with the slightest interest in cycling will really enjoy the inside story of the tour. It touches on the rise of Lance Armstrong and his amazing recovery from life threatening cancer, how the prologue and the team time trials work, the 'peloton', the 'break away' and the nuances of the world's greatest cycling event. It also takes viewers through the various countries that the race enters.

The film captures all the colour of the race and gained exclusive access to Le Moulin Rouge the night before the final day of the Tour De France. The footage from Le Moulin Rouge is simply stunning.

A film isn't complete without some celebrity cameos. The 'Detour De France' has interviews with the following celebrities.

Lance Armstrong (Seven time tour winner)  
Ron Howard (Academy Award winning director)  
Senator John Kerry (American Presidential candidate)  
Sheryl Crow (Singer/Songwriter)  
Bernard Hinault (5 time tour winner)  
Phil Liggett (The voice of cycling)  
Jean - Marie Leblanc (Tour De France Director)  
Jim Ochowitz (Lance's first team boss in LeTour)  
Robbie McEwen (multi stage winner)  
Stuart O'Grady (multi wearer of the yellow jersey)  
Magnus Backstedt (winner Paris Roubaix)

**“OUTRAGEOUSLY ENTERTAINING!”**

**Phil Liggett – The Voice of International Cycling**

*“DETOUR DE FRANCE.* Enjoyable alternative to the hard-edged Tour de France documentaries like *Hell on Wheels* and *Overcoming*, a group of Australians trek to France in 2005 to cover the event and have fun (and drinks!) along the way. The film is laced with amusing, to camera, commentary by the trio (including **Denis Donohue**) and is sharply directed by **Dan Jones**. The film also features surprising interviews with **Lance Armstrong, Ron Howard** (in Paris filming *The Da Vinci Code*), **Sheryl Crow** and **John Kerry**. Also noteworthy is the excursion to the Moulin Rouge and some rare glimpses inside this stalwart variety event. You definitely do not have to be a cycling fan to be won over by this film. “

**'Peter Krausz' Chair of the Australian Film Critics Association**

For further information or to arrange an interview – please contact  
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