



PRESS RELEASE

German WorldTour riders at the start of the Deutschland Tour

Bad Soden – August 3, 2018. The new Deutschland Tour is a "must" for many German pro cyclists. With 15 German WorldTour riders on the preliminary start list, it is clear that the majority of the German elite has decided to take on the four-day stage race, which runs August 23-26 from Koblenz to Stuttgart.

The German contingent will be led by German national champion Pascal Ackermann, who has already ridden the entire course of the Deutschland Tour. Living up to the race's motto of „Deutschland.Deine Tour.“ his Bora-hansgrohe team will ride their homeland race with five German riders. Team Sunweb is also coming with a strong line-up, and will look to sprinter Max Walscheid. Team Katusha-Alpecin, with top sprinter Marcel Kittel, plans a team for every race scenario. There is still a large question mark as to the participation of Tony Martin, due to the injury he suffered in the Tour de France.

The fans of the Deutschland Tour can look forward to Maximilian Schachmann (Quick-Step Floors) and Nico Denz (AG2R La Mondiale) – two riders who put in an impressive first half of the season. The 24-year-old Schachmann was the best German in the Ardennes Classics and made his name not just amongst cycling fans with a stage win at the Giro d'Italia. Denz, the same age, showed with his stage second place at the Giro that he too would feel well on the challenging terrain of the Deutschland Tour.

André Greipel (Lotto Soudal) and Christian Knees (Team Sky) are two veterans who already have experience with the Deutschland Tour. For Greipel, it could be a jubilee, as he sprinted to stage win 10 years ago in the last running of the race.

Comments of the German WorldTour riders on the Deutschland Tour

Pascal Ackermann (Bora-hansgrohe): „A few days ago I rode all the stages and noted that the German Champion's jersey goes well with the Deutschland Tour. That is a really great stage race, a very interesting Classics tour. The profile is similar to my training area at home, complete with vineyards. Every day there could be a sprint or late attacks could be successful – I can do both and my form is good. That will be a really exciting race to watch, either live or on television.“

Other registered riders from the team: Marcus Burghardt, Christoph Pfingsten, Andreas Schillinger, Rüdiger Selig

Max Walscheid (Team Sunweb): „The first stage of the Deutschland Tour is a home stage for me. I grew up in Neuwied, only 20 km from Koblenz, and that's where I started cycling. My whole family will be at

About the Deutschland Tour

The new Deutschland Tour will take place for the first time on August 23-26, 2018 as a four-day stage race. Like the cycling classic Eschborn-Frankfurt, the Deutschland Tour is also organized by the Amaury Sport Organization (A.S.O.) and its German subsidiary Gesellschaft zur Förderung des Radsports GmbH. The A.S.O. has agreed with the German Cycling Federation (BDR) to organize at least ten events of the Deutschland Tour. In addition to racing for professional, junior and amateur cyclists, the bike will be featured in its full diversity at the Deutschland Tour. For the first time, fans can actively participate in creating a cycling event. More than 1,500 route suggestions and ideas have already been submitted, making the motto "Germany. Your Tour." come alive.



PRESS RELEASE

the start at the Deutsches Eck. And since I now live in Heidelberg, the last day of the race completes the circle. My daily training area is between the Bergstraße and the Stuttgart region. The Deutschland Tour is a 'must have' for every German rider, but this particular course gives me special motivation."

Other registered riders from the team: Johannes Fröhlinger

Marcel Kittel (Team Katusha Alpecin): „After a few days of vacation, my focus now is fully on the second half of the season. I am looking forward to the Deutschland Tour – very clearly my highlight in August. It is great to have a race in our homeland again. I am sure that we will celebrate cycling with many fans on the course and in the stage towns."

Tony Martin (Team Katusha Alpecin): „I am recovering from my crash in the Tour de France and hope that in the next few days I can start training on my bike again. I hope that I am fit again for the Deutschland Tour, and my rehab program is aimed at this. It would really hurt if I am not at the start in Koblenz."

Other registered riders from the team: Rick Zabel, Nils Politt

André Greipel (Lotto Soudal): „After a ten-year break the Deutschland Tour is finally back. I remember the old race well and that is why I look forward to the new one. In Bonn, only 30 minutes away from my home, there is a sprint chance for me directly on the first day. That is practically a home advantage for me, which I can take advantage of. But no matter how it turns out, the main thing is that the fans come out to experience some great sport with us.

Other registered riders from the team: Marcel Sieberg

Christian Knees (Team Sky): „It is very good for me that Bonn plays such a big role in the new Deutschland Tour. My whole family can come there directly on their bikes. On the second day, after 10 km the race goes practically by my house. I know the roads in the Eifel like the back of my hand. A great area to train, and it will surely provide some challenges in the race. The spectators can look forward to some great pictures."

Maximilian Schachmann (Quick-Step Floors): „When I saw the profile of the Deutschland Tour, I thought: Perfect! The second and third stage have practically an Ardennes profile – one can use that to make the race nice and hard. I can do that, and that's why I have lots of plans for the Deutschland Tour. The Spring was super and after a short break I start the second half of my season in August."

About the Deutschland Tour

The new Deutschland Tour will take place for the first time on August 23-26, 2018 as a four-day stage race. Like the cycling classic Eschborn-Frankfurt, the Deutschland Tour is also organized by the Amaury Sport Organization (A.S.O.) and its German subsidiary Gesellschaft zur Förderung des Radsports GmbH. The A.S.O. has agreed with the German Cycling Federation (BDR) to organize at least ten events of the Deutschland Tour. In addition to racing for professional, junior and amateur cyclists, the bike will be featured in its full diversity at the Deutschland Tour. For the first time, fans can actively participate in creating a cycling event. More than 1,500 route suggestions and ideas have already been submitted, making the motto "Germany. Your Tour." come alive.



PRESS RELEASE

Nico Denz (AG2R La Mondiale): „The Deutschland Tour is the only race which I will ride this season in Germany. But that is not the only reason I am really looking forward to it. The challenging course suits me. Especially the Classics-like stages, which promise a lot of attacks, look good. As a Baden-Württemberger, I hope of course that lots of fans come to the finale in Stuttgart to ride the Jedermann race and then to cheer us on.”

About the Deutschland Tour

The new Deutschland Tour will take place for the first time on August 23-26, 2018 as a four-day stage race. Like the cycling classic Eschborn-Frankfurt, the Deutschland Tour is also organized by the Amaury Sport Organization (A.S.O.) and its German subsidiary Gesellschaft zur Förderung des Radsports GmbH. The A.S.O. has agreed with the German Cycling Federation (BDR) to organize at least ten events of the Deutschland Tour. In addition to racing for professional, junior and amateur cyclists, the bike will be featured in its full diversity at the Deutschland Tour. For the first time, fans can actively participate in creating a cycling event. More than 1,500 route suggestions and ideas have already been submitted, making the motto "Germany. Your Tour." come alive.