



PRESS RELEASE

Thuringia and "Oberhof 23" present the mountain jersey of the Deutschland Tour

Thuringia's winter sports hotspot will be the venue for the World Championships in luge and biathlon next year. The Free State stands for sports enthusiasm in summer and winter - well seen on the blue jersey of the best climber in the Deutschland Tour. While the world's best cyclists ride the roads between the cultural city of Weimar and the Thuringian Forest in August, the top athletes meet in January and February on the Oberhof cross-country track and in the ice channel.

Seventeen mountain classifications - as many as never before - characterise the profile of the Deutschland Tour. The Thuringian Forest with the Rennsteig, Rhön, Kaiserstuhl and the Black Forest provide an impressive natural backdrop for this year's Tour.

After the prologue in Weimar, the Thuringian Forest awaits the fight for the mountain jersey right at the start. In Oberweißbach and shortly afterwards in Masserberg on the Rennsteig, the climb is almost 800 metres. Shortly before reaching the stage finish in Meiningen, more Thuringian points can be picked up in Kühndorf. *"The Thuringian Forest with Oberhof is a popular holiday and sports region in the Free State. With the mountain jersey, we want to draw attention to the World Championships in January and February and attract sports enthusiasts to Thuringia,"* says Economics Minister Wolfgang Tiefensee. The mountain jersey will carry this message until the end of the Tour.

On each of the following two days, the profile is characterised by four mountain classifications. Among them is the short climb to Amöneburg on the second stage, which is more than 15 percent steep. The queen stage offers, among other things, the climbs to the Schelinger Höhe and the Texas Pass in the Kaiserstuhl, which are popular among amateur cyclists. The highlight of this year's Deutschland Tour is the mountain finish on the Schauinsland. On the final day, it's all uphill from the start. After just 15 kilometres, the first mountain classification will take place, followed by another 3,000 metres in altitude and four classifications on the way to the finale in Stuttgart.

Mountain classifications in two categories

For the first time, the mountain classifications of the Deutschland Tour are categorised. On the twelve climbs of the second category 72 points (3-2-1 each) are awarded. Five mountains are marked with the highest degree of difficulty. Here 45 points (5-3-1 each) can be collected for the blue jersey. Among the previous winners is Magnus Cort, who also helped shape the opening of this year's Tour de France in the mountain jersey.