



PRESSEMITTEILUNG

Deutschland Tour 2023 starts in Saarland

On 23 August, the Deutschland Tour celebrates its big kick-off in Saarland. The start of this year's edition of Germany's most important cycling race will take place in St. Wendel. The district town will host the prologue. On 24 August, the first stage leads from St. Wendel completely through the Saarland to Merzig.

In August, Saarland's cycling enthusiasts will welcome the Deutschland Tour 2023. St. Wendel has firmly established itself in cycling as the host of many competitions, up to and including the Cross World Championships and MTB WorldCups. In addition, one of the most important international junior races, the Trofeo, has been held in the Saarland for 35 years. For some Deutschland Tour pros, August will be a return to their sporting roots.

After the successful premiere of the prologue last year, this year's Deutschland Tour will also start with a short individual time trial. A technically demanding circuit through St. Wendel demands everything from the 120 professionals right at the start. The seconds game is exciting for the spectators along the route and shapes the sporting decision for the leader's jersey in the following stages.

St. Wendel will also be the starting point of the first stage. It runs completely through the Saarland and leads the professionals through the mountainous north of the state. The route offers views worth seeing, for example of the Saar loop, and runs all the way to Merzig. With its hilly profile and a demanding finish lap, the stage has a typical classic character.

For the Deutschland Tour, the stage finish in Merzig is a comeback. The race was already hosted here in 2018, when Matej Mohoric won the sprint of a lead group just ahead of Nils Politt and laid the foundation for his later overall victory.

"I am happy that the Deutschland Tour will spend more time in Saarland this year. We experienced the great enthusiasm along the route during the first edition of the new Deutschland Tour four years ago. Now we are creating two full days that will delight the fans and challenge the professionals. I am sure: Saarland will leave its mark on the Deutschland Tour 2023," says **Matthias Pietsch**, Managing Director at the Gesellschaft zur Förderung des Radsports.

The Deutschland Tour 2023 will take place on five race days from 23 to 27 August. The other stage locations will be announced in the coming weeks. The cycling race attracts more than 500,000 visitors to the route every year and more than 5 million viewers to the screens in Germany alone.

Watching and participating is also the motto of Germany's biggest cycling festival this year. From the Expo Tour with stage programme, to relaxed hobby cycling on closed roads, to the "kinder Joy of Moving mini tour", inspiring children and young people for cycling, a full programme awaits in St. Wendel and Merzig.