

# Led by van Aert: Three Tour de France Stage Winners to Start at the 2025 Lidl Deutschland Tour

The 2025 Lidl Deutschland Tour will have a strong Tour de France flavor. Many of the 108 riders lining up at the start recently competed in the world's most prestigious cycling race – including stage winners and the holder of the coveted Green Jersey. Leading this star-studded line-up is Wout van Aert, who will make his debut at Germany's biggest stage race.

The Belgian, who claimed victory on this year's iconic Champs-Élysées stage, will spearhead Team Visma | Lease a Bike. With his versatile strengths, **van Aert** is a contender for every stage: from the opening prologue in Essen to the hilly mid-section and the sprint finale in Magdeburg. His team also includes 19-year-old British sensation **Matthew Brennan**, one of the season's breakthrough riders, with eight wins to his name – including Rund um Köln.

However, **Jonathan Milan** (Lidl-Trek) is determined to challenge Visma's dominance. The Italian impressed in his Tour de France debut with two stage victories and the Green Jersey. He also won this jersey for the best sprinter at last year's Lidl Deutschland Tour, alongside three stage wins – including the prologue and two undulating stages. Another all-round sprinter to watch is **Kaden Groves** (Alpecin-Deceuninck). The Australian, also a Tour stage winner, is set to race the Lidl Deutschland Tour for the first time.

UAE Team Emirates – XRG comes with a strong lineup, featuring two former overall winners of the Deutschland Tour: **Nils Politt** and **Adam Yates**. Red Bull – BORA – hansgrohe, on the other hand, is focused on pure speed. Sprinters **Jordi Meeus** and **Danny van Poppel** – who finished on the podium in each of the last two editions – will both be racing. Uno-X Mobility offers a balanced squad. With **Tobias Halland Johannessen**, the Norwegians bring the sixth-place finisher from the Tour de France overall standings, expected to be a contender on the hilly stages. In the sprints, experienced veteran **Alexander Kristoff** will be looking to secure his 100th professional win.

From a German perspective, all eyes will be on national champion **Georg Zimmermann** (Intermarché – Wanty). Sprinters **Phil Bauhaus** (Bahrain Victorious) and **Pascal Ackermann** (Israel-Premier Tech) will also be chasing stage victories. And a fan favorite makes his long-awaited return: **John Degenkolb** (Team Picnic PostNL) will mark his comeback at the Lidl Deutschland Tour after more than four months out due to injury.

The list below remains provisional. All teams may still make adjustments to their rosters. The final start list will be confirmed on August 20.



### Selected riders for the 2025 Lidl Deutschland Tour (as of August 6)

### **UCI WorldTeams**

Alpecin – Deceuninck Kaden Groves, Henri Uhlig Bahrain Victorious Phil Bauhaus, Edoardo Zambanini • Ineos Grenadiers Kim Heiduk, Axel Laurance • Intermarché – Wanty Georg Zimmermann, Jonas Rutsch Lidl-Trek Jonathan Milan, Tao Geoghegan Hart Ivan Romeo, Ruben Guerreiro • Movistar Team • Red Bull – BORA - hansgrohe Jordi Meeus, Danny van Poppel Paul Magnier, Mattia Cattaneo Soudal Quick-Step • Team Picnic PostNL John Degenkolb, Kevin Vermaerke • Team Visma | Lease a Bike Wout van Aert, Matthew Brennan

#### **UCI ProTeams**

UAE Team Emirates - XRG

Israel-Premier Tech
Q36.5 Pro Cycling Team
TotalEnergies
Tudor Pro Cycling Team
Uno-X Mobility
Pascal Ackermann, Joseph Blackmore
Jannik Steimle, Matteo Moschetti
Emilien Jeanniere, Fabien Doubey
Florian Stork, Marius Mayrhofer
Alexander Kristoff, Tobias Halland Johannessen

Nils Politt, Adam Yates

## **UCI Continental Teams**

Bike Aid Vinzent Dorn, Anton Schiffer
REMBE | rad-net Roger Kluge, Bruno Kessler