



PRESS RELEASE

Kristoff wins the second stage of the Deutschland Tour in the photo finish

German races are a specialty of Alexander Kristoff (UAE Team Emirates). As in 2019, the Norwegian wins the second stage of the Deutschland Tour again and takes his first win of the season. 180 kilometers between Sangerhausen and Ilmenau and in the end, a very small margin decided the victory. Kristoff prevailed against Phil Bauhaus (Bahrain Victorious) in the photo finish - Pascal Ackermann (Bora - hansgrohe) fought his way to third place and thus keeps the red leader jersey.

Alexander Kristoff about the second stage of the Deutschland Tour: *"I like Germany, I have fond memories of quite a few races here. And today too - although there was a lot of rain, and the circuit was quite technical. But that's something I'm used to from home. At the finish, I was lucky that I had the wheel of Bauhaus. At first, I wasn't sure if I was ahead, but luckily it was enough."*

"I'm just happy about the third place, because I didn't have the legs today," said a visibly satisfied **Pascal Ackermann** at the finish line: *"And I'm happy that I'm still in the red jersey - a step further than in previous years. Now I have a few seconds ahead of the climbers and will do everything I can to take the jersey home. For me it would be a dream to win the Deutschland Tour and we are on the right track for it."*

Marc Soler (Movistar Team), Jannis Peter (National Team), Louis Vervaeke (Alpecin - Fenix), Francisco Galvan (Equipo Kern Pharma) and Kyle Murphy (Rally Cycling) - the breakaway of the day. Already after 20 kilometers Murphy, Peter and Vervaeke went clear on the 36 switchbacks of the Kyffhäuser, Soler and Galvan caught up shortly after the mountain classification, which Murphy won. He was rewarded with the blue mountain jersey at the finish.

When the profile of the stage became typically Thuringian, the German Continental team P&S Metalltechnik increased the pressure and appeared on their home streets at the top of the peloton. The lead of the top quintet shrank to less than a minute - an opportunity that Louis Vervaeke used for an attack 45 kilometers from the finish. At the first crossing of the finish line in Ilmenau, the Belgian was able to enjoy the cheers of the numerous spectators as a soloist.

But the peloton, with around 50 riders left, increased the pressure, and caught Vervaeke just in time before the second crossing of the finish line. The bonus sprint, which is supposed to animate the race every day shortly before the finish, paid off today. Georg Zimmermann (Intermarché - Wanty - Gobert Matériaux) and Nils Politt (Bora - hansgrohe) attacked to secure valuable seconds. Zimmermann prevails, wins 3 seconds and takes over the white jersey of the best young rider. Politt and Zimmermann hold a small gap, but the field caught them 1,500 meters from the finish. Phil Bauhaus storms forward, with Alexander

About the Deutschland Tour

The Deutschland Tour is Germany's largest cycling festival. The four-day professional race and the hands-on offers in all host cities attract more than 500,000 visitors. In Germany alone, more than 5 million viewers watch the live broadcast on ARD and ZDF - worldwide, the images go to 190 countries. On the Deutschland Tour, fans experience the German top stars and the international Tour de France elite up close. The event is a true festival around the bicycle and puts a special focus on the audience. In addition to thousands of tips on route planning before the race, 5,000 participants use the Jedermann Tour, the Ride Tour and the "kinder Joy of Moving mini tour" to participate. The Deutschland Tour is organized by the Gesellschaft zur Förderung des Radsports mbH (GFR). The GFR is a joint venture between the Tour de France organizer Amaury Sport Organization (A.S.O.) and the Anschutz Entertainment Group (AEG). In addition to the Deutschland Tour, the company is also organizing the cycling classic Eschborn-Frankfurt on May 1. The Deutschland Tour 2021 will run over four stages on August 26-29 from Stralsund in the north to Nuremberg in the south of Germany.



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Kristoff on the rear wheel. In the last few meters to the finish, the Norwegian throws himself past Bauhaus. Ackermann is still fighting his way up to third place - and thus remains ahead in the GC.

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