



Third stage of the Internazionali d'Italia series in Nervesa della Battaglia, a successful debut

Three days of sport and shows in the spectacular Podere Rive degli Angeli, with over 700 participants and thousands of spectators, puts Montello back at the centre of the great international MTB.

A good first. Montello made its debut at the highest level with the Internazionali d'Italia series with a three-day event, starting on Friday 3rd May with the Italian Short Track Championships and ending on Sunday 5th May with the races reserved for the amateur and youth categories, which were very well attended by athletes and spectators. In the middle of it all, on Saturday 4th May, were the professionals, who competed in the Olympic Cross Country on a difficult, muddy and beautiful course, designed in the beautiful setting of Podere Rive degli Angeli di Nervesa della Battaglia (TV).

The tricolour jerseys up for grabs on Friday went to Giada Specia and Simone Avondetto, both riders for the Wilier-Vittoria Factory Team XCO, while Saturday's elite races were won by Italian cross-country champion Martina Berta (Santa Cruz Rockshox Pro Team) in the women's race and Gioele Bertolini (KTM - Protek - Elettrosystem) in the men's race.

A weekend of absolute competitiveness, made all the more difficult by the track conditions which put the riders to the test especially during the first two days, then things improved on Sunday when the Masters, Esordienti and Allievi categories took to the track, with a total of over 700 athletes.

The organisers were delighted, as **Martin Levis, President of the Bosco Montello Consortium**, summed up: *"It was very important for us to have an international event of this calibre in our area, bringing great cycling back to Montello after many years. We had double the satisfaction during these three days. The first, of course, is that Montello is being talked about not only locally but well beyond our borders, which will certainly attract tourism from many parts of Italy and beyond. The second is that this event was held on land that we own, the beautiful Podere Rive degli Angeli, which, after this success, we intend to open on other occasions, taking advantage of this track that will remain available. I would also like to take this chance to express the full satisfaction of the five mayors who, together with their administrations, are part of our consortium: Montebelluna, Crocetta del Montello, Volpago del Montello, Giavera del Montello and Nervesa della Battaglia. The Podere Rive degli Angeli is shared equally by these five municipalities, a fundamental synergy for the realisation of events like this. Finally, I would like to thank the Technical Delegate, Mirko Celestino, and the President of the Federation, Cordiano Dagnoni, who, with their presence, have added to the splendour of the event and have been able to see with their own eyes the many possibilities that Montello has to offer, not only to cycling enthusiasts. "*

He is echoed by **Alberto Villanova, leader of the Lega-Liga Veneta group in the Veneto Regional Council**, who was present on Saturday's climactic day: *"First of all I would like to congratulate the organisers, it is never easy to set up events of this magnitude, but they have managed to create something really important by bringing some of the biggest names in MTB here to Montello. Once again, the Veneto region has proved itself to be the perfect territory for cycling in all its forms, and cycling is a great driving force for our region. We strongly believe in slow tourism, a kind of hospitality that allows you to enjoy our incredible views, like the one you can see here from Podere Rive degli Angeli, which is why we are proud to support events like this and will continue to do so in the future".*