

81st Tour de Pologne UCI World Tour officially announced

Polish race to start in Wroclaw on 12 August

A new edition of the Tour de Pologne UCI World Tour will take place from 12th to 18th August. Exactly 25 days from now, the Polish race will kick off in Wroclaw, with seven stages covering a total of 1049 km.

"This new edition promises to be exciting," says Czeslaw Lang. "As always, the route is very diversified so that all types of riders can express themselves and the spectators can once again enjoy a great cycling spectacle. The stages will be fast and selective, and there will be room for every type of talent." The race director also spoke about the city where the race will start on 12 August. Wroclaw has already hosted the event five times. *"It has been nineteen years since this charming Lower Silesian city took part in the event," said Lang. We are very happy to be able to send a postcard of its beauty to the world"*

Among the WorldTour teams that will be competing at the start of the 81st edition are three ProTeams that have been awarded wild cards. One of them will be Israel - Premier Tech, followed by the two Swiss teams that have recently stood out in international cycling, the Tudor Pro Cycling Team led by Fabian Cancellara and the Q36. 5 Pro Cycling Team. Among the riders wearing Tudor's black jersey are Alberto Dainese and Arvid de Kleijn, as well as the experienced Matteo Trentin. With DS Piotr Wadecki and riders Kamil Małecky and Szymon Sajnok, the Q36.5 team also has a little bit of Poland in it. Małecky also finished sixth in the general classification of the 2020 Tour de Pologne. And of course the Polish national team.

Here are the stages of the 81st Tour de Pologne UCI WorldTour in detail.

Stage 1 | WROCŁAW – KARPACZ - 159,3 km

It all starts with an uphill finish. From Wroclaw to Karpacz, the first stage can already give an idea of the riders who will be challenging for the general classification. In fact, seconds can be lost or gained on this beautiful but not easy and fast stage. The riders will face a long, undulating route that ends with a demanding climb. The 159.3km stage features two intermediate sprints at 46km and 108.2km from the start, two category II climbs and two special prizes. The main favourites will be the classics riders and the climbers.

Stage 2 | MYSŁAKOWICE – KARPACZ - 15,4 km

The second stage will take place on a short but demanding route: The 15.4 kilometre time trial, which starts in Mysłakowice and finishes in Karpacz, will test the riders. Three time checkpoints will determine the overall classification, so the riders' condition will be clear from the start.

Stage 3 | WAŁBRZYCH – DUSZNIKI-ZDRÓJ, COS - 156,5 km

This will be the first real mountain stage. The route is 156.5 kilometres long and features an elevation gain of more than 3000 metres. There will be four IIcat. climbs today, with the stage ending on a famous finish where Rafal Majka won in 2023. The stage could decide the winner of the KOM jersey. An intermediate sprint at 39.8km from Wałbrzych will favour riders looking to score points.

Stage 4 | KUDOWA-ZDRÓJ – PRUDNIK - 195,3 km

The longest stage of the 81st edition of the Tour de Pologne UCI WorldTour will be all about fast wheels. It features three intermediate sprints, a second-category climb and a special prize for riders

fighting for the GC and stage win. A bunch finish is almost a foregone conclusion, although breakaways will have a chance to win the day's prizes.

Stage 5 | KATOWICE – KATOWICE - 187,6 km

The fifth stage, which starts and finishes in Katowice, is hilly and features a 2000 metres elevation gain. Great castles and breathtaking scenery will provide the backdrop for a stage that could favour a breakaway or a bunch sprint for the fast riders who can hold out on the climbs.

Stage 6 | WADOWICE – BUKOVINA RESORT - 183,2 km

The sixth stage starts in the city of Pope John Paul II and ends with a very representative finish for the race in Bukovina. The route will take the riders up Gliczarów twice and up Harnaś in a very selective stage for climbers. It will be a perfect opportunity for those who want to try to overturn the classification or simply consolidate their position.

Stage 7 | WIELICZKA” SALT MINE – KRAKÓW - 152 km

The final stage of the Tour de Pologne UCI WorldTour will start in an internationally famous salt mine. The ups and downs of this fascinating setting will not change the GC much, but they will make for a great spectacle. The 81st edition of the race will traditionally finish in the stunning scenery of Krakow.

On the 15th, 16th and 18th of August, the annual Tour de Pologne Junior, reserved for future professionals, will be held in conjunction with the Tour de Pologne UCI World Tour. On 11 August, however, it will be the amateurs who kick off a month of activity for the Lang team. This year, the Tour de Pologne Amatorow will welcome almost three thousand enthusiasts who will finish in the same place as the professionals. The event is dedicated to the memory of Ryszard Szurkowski.

"As always, I can't help thanking those who every year enable us to organise this wonderful event promoting sport, especially cycling. I would like to thank ORLEN, Totalizator Sportowy, Energa of the ORLEN Group, Drutex, Decathlon and PZU, to name but a few." concludes Czeslaw Lang.