

82nd Tour de Pologne[®]

04-10.08.2025



Paul Lapeira won in a thrilling finish in Karpacz!

The climb up the famous Orlinek promised drama and a battle among the overall race favorites. The riders delivered a spectacular show, and Lapeira won, becoming the new leader of the ORLEN General Classification.

The flat opening stage of the 82nd Tour de Pologne UCI WorldTour, from Wrocław to Legnica, was the only stage for pure sprinters in this year's edition. Today, it was time for the contenders for the overall victory to step up. The stage covered just under 150 kilometers, starting at the Gołębiewski Hotel in Karpacz and finishing atop the Orlinek hill in Karpacz, with plenty of attractions along the way.

An early breakaway of four riders formed, including two Poles: Patryk Stosz and Tomasz Budziński. They were joined by Max Walker of Great Britain (EF Education-EasyPost) and Patrick Gamper of Austria (Team Jayco AlUla). Budziński won the first PZU Mountain Prime at the Kowarska Pass, and Stosz took both LOTTO Sprint Primes in Kamienna Góra and Czarny Bór. As a result, they temporarily led the PZU Best Climber and LOTTO Most Active Rider classifications.

The breakaway group built a lead of about three minutes over the peloton, led by race leader Olav Kooij's team, Team Visma | Lease a Bike. Patrick Gamper won the Decathlon Special Prime, while Patryk Stosz dropped out of the break due to a mechanical issue. The remaining three continued, reaching the Kowarska and Średnica passes — more PZU mountain primes — with Budziński finishing first on both climbs.

The peloton picked up the pace, cutting the lead to under a minute. Before the final categorized climb at the Średnica Pass, Max Walker attacked and went solo. The Briton aimed for a stage win, but he was caught just a few kilometers from the finish line.

With only four kilometers to go, at the foot of the Orlinek climb, the riders competed for the Hotel Seidorf***** Special Prime in Karpacz. Filippo Baroncini (UAE Team Emirates-XRG) won the prize. The luxury Sosnówka venue is hosting four teams in this year's race: UAE Team Emirates-XRG, Team Visma | Lease a Bike, Soudal – Quick-Step, and Red Bull-BORA-hansgrohe. It is also the partner of Stage 2. Lang Team has long prioritized top-class accommodations for the teams, made possible by strong partnerships.

As the riders approached the summit, the peloton thinned out rapidly. Michał Kwiatkowski of the INEOS Grenadiers drove the pace, and Jan Christen of UAE Team Emirates-XRG launched the first sprint. However, no one could match Paul Lapeira of Decathlon AG2R La Mondiale, who powered to a spectacular stage win.

*"I came in feeling really confident after a great July at home. I felt strong the whole time and had good legs. The team did an incredible job, and I'm happy I could finish it off. Honestly, I only focused on the finish line and giving it my all. I'll try to win more stages in the coming days—we'll see how it goes. I feel good. But one thing's for sure: I absolutely want to defend this jersey," said **Paul Lapeira**.*

Mathias Vacek (Lidl-Trek) and **Victor Langelotti** (INEOS Grenadiers) completed the podium.

*"This winter marked a big change for me, as it's my first year with INEOS. I'm super happy with the team, and everything is going really well so far. This is also the first time I've raced so consistently, and I can definitely feel the difference in my rhythm. Having the opportunity to race so much is great because it helps you grow. Step by step, I think the results will come," Langelotti said. Today, the plan was to support Sheffield, but the great thing about being on such a strong team is that we have multiple options: Kwiatkowski, Magnus, and me. We aimed to set a hard pace, and it turned out that I had a chance, too. That's amazing," said **Victor Langelotti**.*

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The stage winner became the new leader of both the ORLEN General Classification and the Lang Team Points Classification. Tomasz Budziński now leads the PZU Best Climber Classification, and Patryk Stosz leads the LOTTO Most Active Rider Classification.

"I was even surprised at how quickly we pulled away from the peloton. Riding at the front and winning primes wasn't easy. We worked well together almost until the end, and Patryk and I claimed two jerseys — we're really happy. I hope to reach the time trial still wearing the mountain jersey," said **Budziński** of the Polish National Team.

"My goal for the Tour de Pologne is the blue jersey. I was in the breakaway yesterday, competing in the intermediate sprints. Today, I broke away with Tomek, won two sprints, and took the jersey. Unfortunately, a mechanical issue caused me to fall behind, but I'm really glad we're leading two classifications," said **Patryk Stosz**, the current LOTTO Most Active Rider leader.

Rafał Majka (UAE Team Emirates-XRG) won the ORLEN VITAY Best Polish Rider Prime, finishing 10th on the stage. His team also won today's stage Decathlon Team Classification.

"Christen is in great shape, and we have several riders in the top ten, so we have options. Tomorrow's stage will be crucial, and the upcoming stages could bring surprises, especially on the tough mountain routes. I felt good today and kept a steady pace on the climb to save energy for the key moments. I expect a strong pace and many attacks from the start tomorrow. Our young teammate is very strong but still lacks composure; he could have won today. We discussed our tactics before the stage," commented **Rafał Majka**, referring to Jan Christen's fifth place finish.

Tomorrow's stage will take place on a climb-packed route from Wałbrzych to Wałbrzych in Wałbrzych County. It promises to be an exciting mountain showdown. All stages are broadcast on TVP, Eurosport, and HBO Max, reaching fans in 65 countries.