

82. Tour de Pologne[®]

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Trentino, Moser and Lang: a story of cycling, friendship and great climbs

This extraordinary place is told through the voices of two international sporting legends.

Bonds forged in the heat of competition can become timeless, and cycling has the unique power to create these bonds and unite people in a way that few other sports can. **Francesco Moser** and **Czesław Lang** first met during their careers as professional cyclists. They raced against each other, helped each other, celebrated memorable victories together and shared some disappointments, too. Above all, they built a friendship that transcends the finish line — a bond that still connects them today.

What is their common thread? A special place that stole their hearts: **Trentino**.

For both of them, this region is more than just a place on a map; it's an integral part of their personal stories. It was here that a human and sporting connection was forged that still endures today.

*"In Trentino, I feel at home," says **Lang** with a smile. 'I discovered these magical places thanks to cycling, and thanks to Francesco, who made me fall in love with these mountains.'*

The Dolomite rock, a UNESCO World Heritage treasure; the legendary climbs; the breathtaking landscapes — everything seems made for those who love to ride. They have ridden these roads together, creating memories that have brought them closer than ever. *'I still remember a Granfondo we organised with a group of Polish riders,' continues **Lang**. 'From Pampeago to Costalunga, then on to Pordoi. It was a long, hard and unforgettable day.'*

The friendship between the two champions began when they raced together, growing over time and being nourished by shared experiences and values. *'We met riding side by side,' Moser recalls, 'and we've been friends ever since.'*

Today, the two still ride with just as much passion and enthusiasm, but with less pressure. **Lang**, the first rider from Eastern Europe to race the Giro d'Italia, adds with a grin: *'Francesco and I shared some incredible experiences. Even in a team time trial at the Giro, we lost because we took the wrong road. We were supposed to win by a big margin and we ended up second. We then won plenty of time trials together.'*

For them, Trentino was more than just a place to pass through; it was something to share — a postcard to send to the world to showcase a unique and powerful landscape. Together, they brought the Tour de Pologne to the Dolomites, creating a symbolic bridge between two cycling cultures.

*"It was a challenging and wonderful experience," says **Moser**. 'From Madonna di Campiglio to the Pordoi, we had the privilege of showing our land to an international audience.'*

These are places that have now become part of cycling history and the Giro d'Italia, providing the setting for heroic feats. These climbs are now part of a project called 'Salite da mito' (The Climbs of Legend). Today, where great cycling once experienced its most thrilling moments, every bend tells a story thanks to signs dedicated to the sport's legends.

*"Every time I ride these roads, I feel the same sense of wonder," concludes **Lang**. 'Trentino is not just about sport; it's about nature, encounters and views that stay with you forever. That's why all of us at the Lang Team see Trentino not only as a partner, it's an active part of the race. Here, riders don't just conquer climbs — they create lasting memories. It's just like in Poland, where the landscapes and hospitality make everyone feel at home.'*