BEKING

BACK TO BIKE

BEKING 2026: Tim Wellens on a different kind of race

"It's the one race where all the riders are friends." The Belgian professional explains what makes BEKING different, as the first names joining the line-up are announced for Monaco on 29 November.

MONACO, 27 October 2026 – In professional cycling, riders spend much of the year competing against one another. At BEKING, the dynamic changes. For **Tim Wellens**, it is an opportunity to share the day with fellow riders outside the usual pressures of competition. "*This is the one race where all the riders can enjoy each other's company, unlike in a WorldTour race*." he says.

Returning to **Port Hercule on 29 November** for its sixth edition, **BEKING** brings the cycling community together for a day that extends beyond racing. The programme also includes a gala dinner and charity auction, supporting causes that reflect the event's commitment to solidarity and social impact.
For Wellens, the reasons to be there are also personal. "*I like Matteo [Trentin], it's close to home, and above all, it's for a good cause*." The Belgian rider also has high praise for the sporting line-up, describing BEKING as the criterium that brings together the best riders of its kind.

A message for the next generation
BEKING also puts children at the heart of the event, connecting younger generations with the people and values of professional cycling. Asked what he remembers about his first experiences on a bike, Wellens recalls family holidays: "*I remember holidays with the bike with my parents when I was a child. Good memories*."

His advice to young riders is just as direct: "*Embrace and enjoy every step of cycling. Become stronger every year, and remember that your biggest opponents are yourselves.*" Wellens encourages young people to practise sport for the pleasure it brings. His perspective reflects years in the peloton, where the demands of competition coexist with the camaraderie, shared experiences and enjoyment that make cycling special.

It is a message that resonates with BEKING and goes beyond sporting ambition. Encouraging children to discover cycling means helping them enjoy the journey, develop confidence and understand that sport can be valuable in its own right, regardless of results. It is also a way to connect generations and promote the values of sport, solidarity and social impact.
Having experienced cycling at the highest level, Wellens offers a reminder that the value of sport is not measured by results alone.

New riders join the BEKING 2026 line-up
The first names joining the line-up for the Monaco event are **Soraya Paladin, Barbara Guarischi, Valentin Costance, Titia Ryo, Fausto Masnada, Nicolas Vinokurov, Daan Hoole, Brieuc Rolland and Thomas Bonnet.** They join a growing group of riders set to take part in a day that looks beyond the race, bringing professional cycling closer to the public and creating opportunities for people of different ages and backgrounds to share the experience.

BEKING 2026 takes place on **29 November at Port Hercule in Monaco**. Further rider announcements will follow in the coming weeks.

BEKING — Cycling can do more.

Founded in 2023, the **BEKING Association** is a non-profit born from the BEKING cycling event in the Principality of Monaco. It raises funds to promote sport, education, sustainable mobility and environmental awareness, with a focus on families, children, schools and local communities, and supports partner foundations sharing its values.