



PRESS RELEASE

Lidl Deutschland Tour 2024 – Voices of the favorites

Almost 750 kilometers spread over five race days, 120 riders in 20 teams, twelve of them from the WorldTour. And on top of that: Countless small and a few larger climbs that will make for an exciting race in the battle for overall victory until the finale in Saarbrücken. This is the Lidl Deutschland Tour 2024, and this is what its protagonists have to say.

Filippo Ganna (Ineos Grenadiers) goes into the race as one of the top favorites for at least the prologue in Schweinfurt. The two-time medal winner at the Olympic Games in Paris - silver in the individual time trial on the road, bronze in the team pursuit on the track - is looking forward to *"competing here in Germany again after my time with the Italian national team. The prologue in Schweinfurt will be short and fast, and then we have four balanced, challenging stages."* The 28-year-old also expects *"an exciting race that offers a number of opportunities that I and the team want to take advantage of. We have a really good team here with a lot of experience, so we will try to take on the race and hopefully achieve a good result."*

Together with Ganna, **Jonathan Milan (Lidl-Trek)** rode to bronze on the track. Now they are rivals again. *"I feel very good after the Games. I think my form is good, just as I wanted it to be. I'm looking forward to riding on the road again now. It's been a while since I've been on the road with the team. I will definitely wear the Lidl Trek jersey with pride, especially as the Lidl Deutschland Tour feels like a home race. We are competing with a very strong team and have big ambitions. I'm excited to see what we can achieve."*

His team-mate **Mads Pedersen's** mood is a little more dampened, as he had to overcome another crash after crashing out of the Tour de France. *"Of course it's a shame that I crashed again in Poland. I was okay afterwards, but it was still the right decision to give up so that I could come to the Lidl Deutschland Tour fully recovered. We're here with a really strong team and it's clear that we want to deliver at Lidl's home race. We have good momentum in the team right now and I'm confident that we can continue that here."*

Alexander Kristoff (Uno-X Mobility) is always a candidate for success at the Deutschland Tour. The Norwegian, who has already won four stages here, is in good form again this year and recently celebrated two stage victories in the Arctic Race of Norway, followed by two podium places in the Tour de France. *"I'm actually always successful at the Deutschland Tour and I'm hoping for good results again this year. We are here for a stage win and a good result in the overall standings for someone from the team. If I can maintain my form, I might also manage to lose little time on the stages and have a say in the final standings."*

Anthony Turgis (TotalEnergies), a stage winner of the Tour de France, will also be at the start. The Frenchman, who won the much-noticed gravel stage, is also eager to attack ahead of the Lidl Deutschland



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Tour. *"I feel fresh and well recovered from the Tour de France, now I can concentrate on the second part of the season. One of my goals is to win a few stages at the Deutschland Tour with its hilly and tricky sections, which should suit me well. I'm looking forward to getting started."*

The Lidl Deutschland Tour will be a special race for **Marco Brenner (Tudor Pro Cycling Team)**. For the first time, he will be able to present the German champion's jersey he won in June to his home crowd. *"I'm really looking forward to starting the Deutschland Tour in this jersey. I think it will be a special feeling that I will definitely enjoy."* In sporting terms, however, he is scaling back his ambitions. *"I don't think the course suits me because it's more for sprinters and puncheurs. But I will try to race actively and continue to improve my form for my big goal, the world championships."*

Another German ace is **Georg Steinhauser (EF Education - EasyPost)**. The 22-year-old is ending his two-month break from racing at the Lidl Deutschland Tour. *"I've been at altitude in Andorra in the meantime and feel well prepared. Two weeks ago I had a small corona infection, but I got over it well,"* said the only German Grand Tour stage winner this year. *"How my form is after the break is always a bit of a mystery, but I'm sure I'll find my legs here. For me, I hope that I can maybe get into a group once or twice. Otherwise, it's certainly no secret that we would love to win the prologue here with Stefan Bissegger."*