



Lidl Deutschland Tour 2025: Germany's most important cycling race connects West and East

From August 20 to 24, 2025, the Lidl Deutschland Tour will roll through the heart of Germany. Over the course of five days, the country's most prestigious cycling race will take the world's best riders from Essen, the Ruhr metropolis, to Magdeburg, the capital of Saxony-Anhalt. Covering a total of 741 kilometers, the route will traverse North Rhine-Westphalia, Hesse, and the cycling-friendly region of Saxony-Anhalt.

Once again, the Lidl Deutschland Tour remains true to its sporting character. The varied course presents challenges for different types of riders. The race kicks off with an explosive prologue, favoring time trial specialists and high-speed sprinters. As the race progresses, the level of difficulty increases daily—each stage adding 1,000 meters of elevation gain. By Saturday's penultimate stage, a decisive battle is expected, setting the stage for the grand finale in Saxony-Anhalt, where sprinters will once again have the opportunity to shine. A thrilling fight for seconds is guaranteed!

"The Lidl Deutschland Tour offers the perfect mix of sprint stages and routes that suit aggressive classics specialists. I'm sure we are in for an exciting race," says **Fabian Wegmann**, Sports Director of the Lidl Deutschland Tour.

Six Host Cities: Familiar names and new destinations

In 2025, the Lidl Deutschland Tour will visit six host cities. While Essen, Arnshagen, and Kassel have already welcomed the race two years ago, the tour introduces Herford as a stage finish and start location and includes Halle (Saale) and Magdeburg, the two largest cities in Saxony-Anhalt, as new additions. Magdeburg continues the tradition of hosting the final stage in a German state capital.

"I am delighted that we will return to familiar locations while also welcoming new hosts in August. Our stage cities and regions are the backbone of the Lidl Deutschland Tour—they provide the perfect setting for top-class racing. One great advantage this year: with our carefully planned route, we have created a tour of short distances, minimizing transfers and allowing us to spend even more time in the regions," explains **Maren Hopf**, Head of Lidl Deutschland Tour at A.S.O. Germany.

Lidl Deutschland Tour: A cycling festival with healthy snacks for everyone

From August 20 to 24, the Lidl Deutschland Tour will bring world-class cycling to its stage cities. As the title sponsor, "Official Freshness Partner," and name-giver of the race, Lidl will be present along the entire route. With engaging activities and healthy snack offerings, the retailer aims to inspire fans to embrace cycling and active lifestyles while making healthy nutrition accessible to everyone.

On the final day, amateur cyclists will also have the chance to experience the thrilling race atmosphere firsthand: The ADAC Cycling Tour in Magdeburg offers two route options, and participants can secure their starting places now at deutschland-tour.com.



Fans in the host cities can also look forward to a diverse supporting program. The “kinder Joy of Moving mini tour” will entertain the youngest cycling fans while the LichtBlick Newcomer Tour will showcase rising talents in the sport. The daily Expo Tour will provide entertainment with stage programs and interactive activities. All race days will be broadcast live on TV and via streaming

The Route of the Lidl Deutschland Tour 2025 in detail

Prologue (August 20): A spectacular opening in Essen

The race kicks off with a 3-kilometer prologue set against the backdrop of the UNESCO World Heritage Site Zeche Zollverein. Riders will launch from the iconic Schacht 1/2/8 shaft, tackling a flat yet technically demanding course that promises a high-speed spectacle with razor-thin margins. In recent years, a single second has determined the start of the Tour.

Stage 1 (August 21): From Essen to Herford – Pure cycling in North Rhine-Westphalia

The Zollverein complex in Essen also marks the start of Stage 1, leading the peloton to Herford. Cycling fans in Germany’s most populous state are in for a treat, as the Lidl Deutschland Tour stays within North Rhine-Westphalia for another day. Passing through Recklinghausen, Hamm, Gütersloh, and Bielefeld, riders will cover 197 kilometers en route to Herford. Just before Bielefeld, they must navigate the Teutoburg Forest, with a steep climb setting the stage for an intense final hour. In Herford, the Stuckenbergring provides one last opportunity for attacks before the peloton reaches the city center finish line.

Stage 2 (August 22): The Queen Stage to the Sauerland

Friday’s 189-kilometer stage takes the peloton from Herford to Arnsberg, delivering another challenging day in North Rhine-Westphalia. After departing Herford and passing through Bad Salzufflen, the Teutoburg Forest dominates the early part of the stage. The first climb is the Hermannsdenkmal near Detmold, followed just 10 kilometers later by the Gauseköte ascent. Past Paderborn and the Wewelsburg, the route remains undulating on the way into the Sauerland. After crossing the Möhnesee, Arnsberg comes into sight. In the Seufzertal, the next steep climb awaits, and shortly after, the race passes through the finish area in Neheim. A final 20-kilometer loop must still be completed before the stage winner is decided.

Stage 3 (August 23): A classics Stage to Kassel

With 3,000 meters of elevation gain over 184 kilometers, Saturday’s stage has all the hallmarks of a classic. The route leads from Arnsberg back to the Möhnesee, where from this point on, not a single flat kilometer is in sight. The relentless ups and downs of the Sauerland, including ramps with double-digit gradients, define the day. Among them is the infamous Hirschberger Wand—just under 200 meters long but with a punishing gradient of over 20%! Midway through the stage, riders will tackle the Buttenberg, the highest point of this year’s Tour. Shortly after, the Lidl Deutschland Tour 2025 will leave North Rhine-Westphalia for the first time, entering the state of Hesse. The route continues along the Diemelsee, winding through northern Hesse towards Kassel. After a final circuit featuring two more climbs, a key showdown in the battle for overall victory at the Lidl Deutschland Tour 2025 will take place in Kassel.



Stage 4 (August 24): The Grand Finale in Saxony-Anhalt

The 168-kilometer final stage from Halle (Saale) to Magdeburg offers one last chance for the sprinters. From the town hall of the Saale city, the race heads into its grand showdown through the state of Saxony-Anhalt. After just 20 kilometers, a road sign warns of an 18% incline. However, the steep climb up the spoil heap of the former Johannashall potash mine is the only real obstacle on the way to the state capital. Shortly before reaching Aschersleben, the terrain levels out. Passing north of Königsauer See and Concordiasee, the Magdeburg Börde and Oschersleben come into view. It's just 40 kilometers to go until the first passage of the finish line. After two final laps along the Schleinufer, the winner of the Lidl Deutschland Tour 2025 will be crowned.

Stages of the Lidl Deutschland Tour 2025

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| • Prologue | (Wednesday, 20. August): | Essen | 3 km |
| • Stage 1 | (Thursday, 21. August): | Essen - Herford | 197 km |
| • Stage 2 | (Friday, 22. August): | Herford - Arnsberg | 189 km |
| • Stage 3 | (Saturday, 23. August): | Arnsberg - Kassel | 184 km |
| • Stage 4 | (Sunday, 24. August): | Halle (Saale) - Magdeburg | 168 km |

About the Lidl Deutschland Tour:

The Lidl Deutschland Tour is Germany's largest cycling event. As a five-day stage race on the UCI ProSeries calendar, it attracts the world's best teams while also offering a variety of mass participation experiences, such as the ADAC Cycling Tour for amateur riders and the "kinder Joy of Moving mini tour" for the youngest cycling enthusiasts. The next edition will take place from August 20 to 24. The race kicks off in Essen with a prologue set against the historic backdrop of the UNESCO World Heritage Site Zeche Zollverein. At the halfway point, the course is shaped by the Sauerland region, with Arnsberg serving as a key host city. Before the final stage, a decisive moment in the general classification is expected in Kassel. The grand finale then takes place entirely within the FahrRadland of Saxony-Anhalt—a federal state where #moderndenken (modern thinking) is a defining feature. On the way from Halle (Saale) to the big finish in Magdeburg, the race will connect the two largest cities in Saxony-Anhalt.