

MAXXIS BIKE Transalp 2022: route preview

## **A complete new hand**

From July 3<sup>rd</sup> to 9<sup>th</sup> 2022 it will take place again: The MAXXIS BIKE Transalp. During this week hundreds of mountain bikers will once face the adventure of crossing the Alps. That means 566 kilometers and 18,400 meters of altitude in seven days - to be mastered solely by their own muscle power. But this race includes not only physical peak performance, it also includes a maximum of experience variety in the high mountains. Of course, the most important thing is the route. After intensive work by the organizers, the course is fixed now. And it will again be completely different from its 23 ancestors.

Bielefeld, 2<sup>nd</sup> December 2021. For more than two decades, up to 1,000 cyclists from more than 35 nations have taken on the challenge of the BIKE Transalp - the seven-day mountain bike stage race across the Alps. Despite this long history - or perhaps because of it - the organizers do everything they can to avoid a routine. Therefore, a colorful variety of routes can be looked back on. But this time the cards will not only be reshuffled. This time a whole new hand comes into play. At the MAXXIS BIKE Transalp 2022 there will be exciting novelties, spectacular contrasts and, as always, sporting highlights.

"Even after 24 years of BIKE Transalp, I'm delighted to be able to create a route that is so different to their 23 predecessors," explains race director Marc Schneider. "This shows how many possibilities the Alps offer mountain bikers. In addition, there are always new offers of the trail network, such as the freeride trails in Lienz or at Kronplatz. So it is possible to plan a completely new route even with already known stage locations, if you give them a good shake."

It already starts with an exclusive novelty. For the first time, the BIKE Transalp will start in East Tyrol, where it will spend a whole day between Lienz and Sillian. Particularly interesting for adrenaline-addicted downhill fans: The Peter Sagan and Alban Lakata Trail down to the city gates of Lienz. A little later, panorama connoisseurs will get their money's worth on the high terrain between Fronstadelalm and Tessenberger Alm - here, an unobstructed view of the Gailtal and Pustertal valleys as well as the Lienz and Sesto Dolomites reveals itself.

Never before a stage stop: Bruneck. Here you can finally head for the legendary Kronplatz, which has already been conquered by many bikers, but never by the Transalp.

St. Vigil: Although not unknown in the BIKE Transalp history. But the place was always approached from the Isarco valley. In 2022, the tables will now be turned: This time, the route will descend from San Vigilio - after the grueling climb up to the Würzjoch - into the beautiful Isarco valley.

Kaltern and San Martino di Castrozza are also not newcomers in the choice of stage locations. But the two small towns combined into a stage: That has never happened before. And the enormous contrast in scenery, that runs through the entire Transalp in 2022, should also be unheard of: The lush green of the vines in the vineyards and the lovely apple orchards on the bathing beach of Lake Kaltern are abruptly replaced by the rugged mountain world of the Dolomites, surrounded by grey rock and the harsh climate of the high mountains: A real sensual orgy.

On the stage from San Martino di Castrozza to Lavarone this impressive Dolomite mountain range is finally turned its back. For all Dolomite fans, however, this is no reason to mourn. What follows is a no less impressive section on the high plateau of Lavarone, Folgaria and Luserna on the southern edge of the Valsugana. And there are grandiose descents, such as the super trail from the crystal clear Lago di Calaita to Canal San Bovo or the downhill from Passo Brocon to Castello Tesino - one of the most beautiful downhills of Transalp 2022.

Before all the finishers celebrate their arrival in Riva del Garda, they can get in the mood for the party on the last section of the race when they enjoy the panoramic military roads from Carbonare to Serrada and on the following enjoyable downhill from Serrada down to the Adige Valley.

The entry fee for the stage race organized by BIKE Magazine and Delius Klasing Verlag is 999 euros. Professional timekeeping, course safety, rescue team, catering, luggage and bike service, finisher's jersey and much more are included in this starter package. U23 riders pay only 749 euros.



## PRESSE-INFORMATION

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All information about the race and the detailed route description including altitude profiles are available at <https://bike-transalp.de/en/>.

Registrations for the legendary stage race are possible at: <https://bike-transalp.de/en/participants/registration-info/>.