



## Tour de Suisse – Medienmitteilung Streckenkommunikation

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### **The toughest Tour de Suisse of recent years**

**This year's Tour de Suisse will be demanding for both the men and the women. The topography and diversity of Switzerland will be at the fore. It is up and down and the route leads through all four linguistic regions. An additional highlight - the visit to the neighbouring country of Liechtenstein.**

#### **Many Roads Lead to Vaduz**

"This Tour de Suisse will certainly be one of the most difficult for the men in recent years," says David Loosli, Sports Director of the Tour de Suisse, describing the 2022 route. Indeed, the field of riders must complete over 1,300 tough and demanding kilometres across Switzerland.

This year, the journey does not begin as usual with a prologue in the battle against the clock. Instead the opening time trial is replaced by a circuit race on Sunday 12th June 2022. This - and thus the Tour - will start in Küsnacht on Lake Zurich. In the arc over the Jura and central Switzerland, the Tour de Suisse culminates in the second half in Ticino, Valais and the neighbouring country of Liechtenstein. The two difficult alpine stages on the sixth and seventh days will see the General Classification take shape. In particular, as both stages end in mountain finishes.

The final test awaiting the riders is a Time Trial around Vaduz on Sunday 19th June 2022. "For me as a Swiss-Liechtenstein dual citizen, this Time Trial will be very special. I will be putting my best foot forward on the day and I think I will be in good form as I prepare for the Tour de France prologue," says Stefan Küng, the current European Time Trial Champion.

See the men's and women's route presentation in this video.

#### **A Worthy Second Edition**

After the premiere with two stages, the women will contest twice as many stages this year. They start on Saturday 18th June 2022 during the final weekend of the men's event.

The first two stages - both in Liechtenstein - consist of a Circuit Race and a Time Trial. This means that two fast opening stages are anticipated. The topography changes for the following two stages. Route architect Loosli says of the second half of the Tour de Suisse Women: "The hilly 3rd stage with the finish in Chur and the concluding Queen stage present a completely different picture. In the second part of the tour, the climbers will be in their element". The women peloton is visiting Chur, and therefore the canton of Graubünden, for the first time as part of the Tour de Suisse. The Mayor of Chur, Urs Marti, is very pleased about this: "The Tour de Suisse Women offers us the opportunity to sharpen our positioning as an active and attractive city. We are delighted to welcome the female riders to the host city of Chur".

The aforementioned Queen stage on 21st June 2022, with over 2,000 metres of altitude, also starts in Chur and leads via Prättigau up to the Roland Arena in Lantsch/Lenz, where biathlon sports are held at the highest level in Winter. Elise Chabbey, stage winner last year, is delighted about the addition of two stages and predicts an exciting Tour de Suisse Women 2022: "The four different stages are tailored to different types of cyclists. This foundation promises an exciting battle for the General Classification".

"Both the women and the men will be especially challenged this year. It promises to be a sporting treat and we are looking forward to large crowds enjoying the action along the route," says an enthusiastic Olivier Senn, Director of the Tour de Suisse.

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