

Continental 
The Future in Motion



BONJOUR TOUR!

The magic and mystique of the world's
biggest annual sporting event.

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LE TOUR MAGNIFIQUE.

The Tour de France is the world's biggest annual sporting event. The riders will cover a total of 3.320 kilometers this year during their three-week voyage around France – with many of the teams using tires from Continental.

Photo: A.S.C/Charly Lopez

The Tour de France takes the riders over mountain passes, through fields of sunflowers – and offers spectacular views.



In recent years, the start of the Tour de France has often taken place outside France. In 2025, the Grand Départ will be held in the Nord for the fifth time in history. Lille will be the starting point for the third time, having hosted the first stage in 1960 and 1994.

Photo: Aliaksandr Antanovich@istockphoto.com



Take your pick of the favorites: Jonas Vingegaard from Denmark (right), runner-up in 2024, and Tadej Pogačar from Slovenia, last year's overall winner and new brand ambassador of Continental Tires.



Photo: A.S.O./Aurélien Vialattel



The color of summer: The Tour de France traditionally leads the riders through the sunflower fields of southern France immortalized by Vincent van Gogh. As an exclusive partner of the event, Continental is at the heart of the action – including in the convoy which passes along the route ahead of the race and hands out gifts to the fans.

Bumps in the road: The riders and their bikes have to perform at their peak, including when high speeds over cobbles and loose gravel are required.

Photo: A.S.O./Charly Lopez



Highlights in the mountain air: The mountain stages take the emotions of the riders and fans to new heights. The competitors in the 2025 Tour are faced with precisely 51,550 meters of total vertical gain.





After the Tour de France 2024 ended with a time trial in Nice for the first time, the biggest race in the world will return to its traditional finish in Paris on July 27, 2025.

Yellow fever: Last year, Tadej Pogačar crossed the finish line wearing the winner’s yellow jersey. Behind him in the general classification were 2023 winner Jonas Vingegaard (left) and Belgium rider Remco Evenepoel (right)





WINNING WAYS

Seven Continental-sponsored teams will line up for this year's Tour de France. The pro riders can choose from our portfolio of race-proven tires: Grand Prix 5000 S TR, Grand Prix 5000 TT TR, AERO 111, and the Tour de France Special Edition.

Hannah Ferle, Product Manager for Road, explains what technology is behind one of the most successful tires in the pro peloton.

The compound

“All of our racing tires have one important element in common: our BlackChili compound. We customize the exact formula for every tire in our portfolio to ensure it is optimized for a specific use case.

For example, when we launched the Grand Prix 5000 TT TR, we adapted the BlackChili formula to create an even-lighter tire with lower rolling resistance. That is why this tire is also very popular with pro riders – not just for time trials!”



Puncture protection

“In the Tour, the pros are riding over 3000km, across all types of terrain, and often reaching speeds in the descents of up to 100km/h! At those speeds, you need to be able to trust that your tire will keep its grip in every corner and won't easily puncture.

In our Grand Prix 5000 S TR, Grand Prix 5000 TT TR, and AERO 111 tires, you can find our Vectran Breaker. This is an incredibly light protective layer that is more cut-resistant than aramide, and its tensile strength is five times that of steel.

This allows riders to focus on the racing, and the results speak for themselves.”

The design

“All of our Grand Prix 5000 tires are instantly recognizable by their LazerGrip tread pattern. This low-profile design on the tire's shoulder ensures grip in every corner, whilst having minimal impact on rolling resistance. Meanwhile, the slick center of the tire offers optimal speed and reduced rolling resistance.

The AERO 111 on the other hand, features a unique aerodynamic design. When mounted on the front wheel, the rider gains a significant advantage in crosswinds – a common occurrence on many stages of the Tour.”

The casing

“In addition to low rolling resistance and superior grip, comfort is integral to the success of our tires. Underneath the Vectran Breaker is the casing that encompasses what we call our ‘Active Comfort Technology’. This design absorbs vibrations and creates an incredibly smooth ride feel.”

Tubeless Ready

All of the tires ridden in the Tour de France are Tubeless Ready. As tubeless technology has advanced over recent years, all Continental-sponsored teams have switched from tubular tires to tubeless. Now riders can get all the puncture-sealing benefits from running tubeless, without increased weight.

In addition, all of our Tubeless Ready tires that will appear in the Tour de France are also hookless-compatible.”



The tires our teams trust

In 2024, the Continental-sponsored Team UAE Emirates - XRG won the team classification, and their lead rider Tadej Pogačar took the coveted yellow jersey. The team will be back again this year to try to do the same again.

Continental has a long history of supporting riders and teams in the Tour de France. This is why more teams place their trust in Continental than any other tire brand.

Keep an eye out for all these teams riding either our Grand Prix 5000 S TR, Grand Prix 5000 TT TR, AERO 111, or the new Tour de France special edition for 2025.

Continental-sponsored teams racing the Tour de France in 2025.



HITTING THE HEIGHTS - ON PET BOTTLES

Continental is equipping all the support vehicles in the Tour de France with extremely safe and sustainable tires. For example, the UltraContact NXT is made using recycled plastic bottles. Thomas Wanka, who developed the tire, explains the benefits this brings.



3,320 kilometers. That's the total race distance for this year's **112th edition** of the Tour de France — a demanding route made up of **six flat stages, seven mountain stages, four summit finishes**, and **two individual time trials**. The elite riders will need to give everything they've got from **Stage 1 on July 5**, starting in **Lille**, all the way to the final stage in **Paris on July 27**.

The course design includes a brutal final week with multiple Alpine challenges, including summit finishes on the legendary **Mont Ventoux** and the fearsome **Col de la Loze**. The route, featuring a total of **51,550 meters of elevation gain**, has raised eyebrows among the riders — and not without reason. But for those who accept the Tour de France mission, there is no time for complaints when the pedals are turning.

Also preparing for action are the drivers of the dozens of support vehicles — transporting the Tour director, team managers, medical staff, and media — that follow the race from start to finish. Many of them come from a rally driving background, which makes sense given the level of concentration and experience required. Their role is critical, especially on the ever-changing terrain the Tour will cross throughout France.



That's why the tires on these vehicles play such an essential role. As one of the main partners of race organizer **Amaury Sports Organisation (A.S.O.), Continental** equips all official support vehicles with tires tailored for the task. Some of these cars are even electric, and — just like their traditional counterparts — they need to accelerate, brake, cruise, and sprint reliably across every stage.

The tire of choice: **UltraContact NXT** from Continental — a high-performance, sustainable addition to the global manufacturer's portfolio, designed to meet the toughest demands of the world's most prestigious cycling race.

Performance and safety will be decisive factors over the **3,320 kilometers** of the **2025 Tour de France**. From scorching asphalt in southern France to the potential for cold snaps and rainy days in the Alps, from relentless climbs in the **Pyrenees** and **Alps** to twisting, high-speed descents along tight rural roads — every kilometer pushes both rider and machine to the limit. Add to that the dramatic **summit finishes**, gravel sections, and roadside fans creating narrow, roaring corridors of support, and the race becomes as much a test of endurance as of precision and control.

“The organizers trust our tires because **Continental** is known for making safety the top priority when developing new products,” says **Thomas Wanka**, Principal Technology Development Engineer at Continental Tires.

Thomas was involved in the development of the tire model chosen for the Tour's support vehicles — a tire that millions of drivers are already using in their day-to-day lives. “This tire stands out due to its outstanding durability and reliable wet-weather performance, and optimized range for electric vehicles,” Wanka explains.



Photo: Continental

“It is also our **most sustainable passenger car tire to date**, composed largely of renewable and recyclable materials.” That, he says, makes both the tire and **Continental** itself “an ideal partner for the world’s largest annual sporting event.”

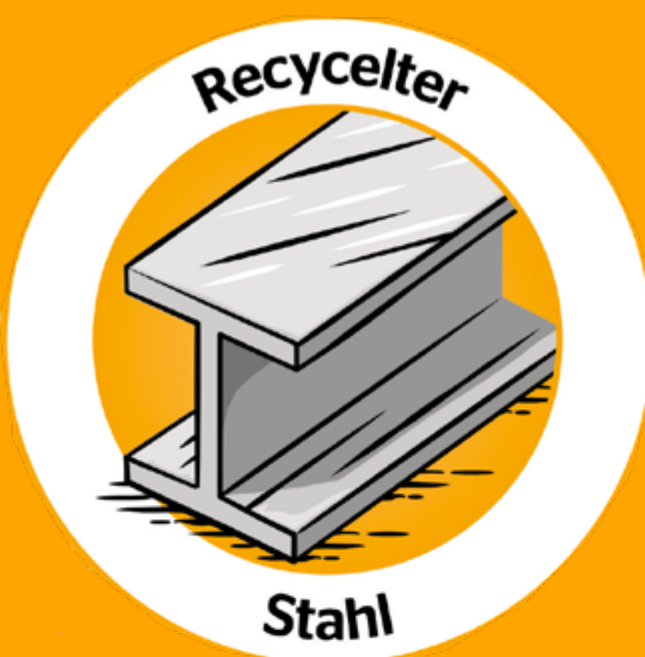
The **Tour de France 2025** includes no fewer than **four summit finishes**, among them iconic climbs like the **Mont Ventoux** and the **Col de la Loze** — both of which return to the Tour after their absence in 2024. These stages will be among the most grueling, both for the riders and the vehicles that must support them safely all the way to the top.

“The Tour is, of course, an excellent platform to showcase our product’s performance,” Wanka adds. “But more than anything, what matters most is that all the riders reach the finish line safely — and that every support vehicle driver can rely on the highest levels of safety, every single day.”

UltraContact NXT

The UltraContact NXT from Continental is the tire maker's most sustainable production tire to date, using as much as **65 percent** renewable, **recycled and mass-balance-certified materials**. All 19 sizes earn the top EU tire label rating ("A") for rolling resistance, wet braking and exterior noise. **Renewable raw materials** account for up to **32 percent** of the UltraContact NXT. They include resins based on residual materials from the paper and wood industries. The UltraContact NXT also contains silicate from the ash of rice husks, which is a waste product of rice production. Continental also uses recycled steel in the UltraContact NXT. Between nine and 15 recycled PET bottles are used per tire to reinforce the tire casing.

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NEW TOUR DE FRANCE SUPPORT: MOTORCYCLES RIDE EXCLUSIVELY ON CONTINENTAL

Support motorcycles have been a familiar sight at the Tour de France for decades. For the 30 Kawasaki Versys 1100 motorbikes that will travel through France with the Tour and whose riders will distribute water to the athletes or pass on important information from the Tour management, organizer A.S.O. is relying on the tried-and-tested ContiRoadAttack 4 and is therefore using the German premium manufacturer for all vehicles for the first time. Two sets per motorcycle are available in the sizes 120/70 R 17 and 180/55 R 17. The ContiRoadAttack 4 is particularly suitable for the support motorcycles of the world's most famous road bicycle race due to its fast warm-up time and excellent grip both in single-digit temperatures in Alpe d'Huez and in the heat of Provence. In all conditions, the hyper-touring tire always offers a high degree of safety and control – important for precise riding in the peloton on the narrowest mountain roads. In addition, it performs well on all road surfaces with intuitive handling and a high level of comfort, making it ideal for riding on long stages.

TADEJ POGAČAR AND CONTINENTAL - A PARTNERSHIP FOR THE FUTURE

Shortly before the start of the Tour, Continental and the current Tour de France winner Tadej Pogačar have signed a long-term cooperation agreement.

A particular focus of the partnership will be to promote understanding and respect between motorists and cyclists. Both Pogačar and Continental are committed to improving the dialogue between road users and increasing safety for all.

At just 26, Tadej Pogačar, who has been riding for UAE Team Emirates-XRG since 2019, is considered one of the best cyclists in the world. In 2024, he made history, finishing first in the Giro d'Italia, the Tour de France and the Road World Championships, alongside multiple Monument victories - a feat achieved by only two riders in history.





Photo: A.S.O. Charly Lopez /// TitelPhoto: A.S.O. Billy Ceusters

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