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# THE FIRST VIRTUAL TOUR DE FRANCE STARTS THIS WEEKEND ON ZWIFT

A historic moment in the virtual cycling world will unfold this weekend as we see teams gear up for the first ever Virtual Tour de France. Both the men's and women's pelotons will be lining up tomorrow for the first of six stages that will be held over the next three consecutive weekends.

The women's peloton will field 16 of the top teams with the men's made up of 23. A maximum of 4 riders are allowed to enter per team per stage. Of the 6 races taking place, men's teams can select a male rider to compete in a maximum of 3 races and the women's team can select a female rider to compete in a maximum of 4 races.



Jerseys will be awarded for GC, K/QOM, Sprint and Young Rider, with the team leading the team classification having yellow markers on their virtual jerseys.

Here is what the Zwift world has in store for each peloton over this weekend's two stages.

## Stage One: Watopia's Hilly Route (Reverse)

**Date: Saturday 4th July**

**Timings:**

**Women's 15:00 CET // 06:00 PDT // 23:00 AUS**

**Men's 16:05 CET // 07:05 PDT // 00:05 AUS**

Watopia has seen a makeover for the Grand Depart of the first Virtual tour de France. Stage 1 will see racers take on the The Hilly Route (Reverse). Starting on Watopia's, riders will then head towards a short, punchy section called "The Esses." After the last hill, it's sprint time across the JWB Bridge! A short section of cobbles at the Italian Villas is followed by the 1.6 mile (2.5 km) Reverse KOM with a 1.8% average gradient. And the KOM descent is fun and fast: 0.6 miles (1 km) with a supertuck friendly -5.5% average grade. The lap ends with a 300m flat sprint, which is typically a bunch sprint.

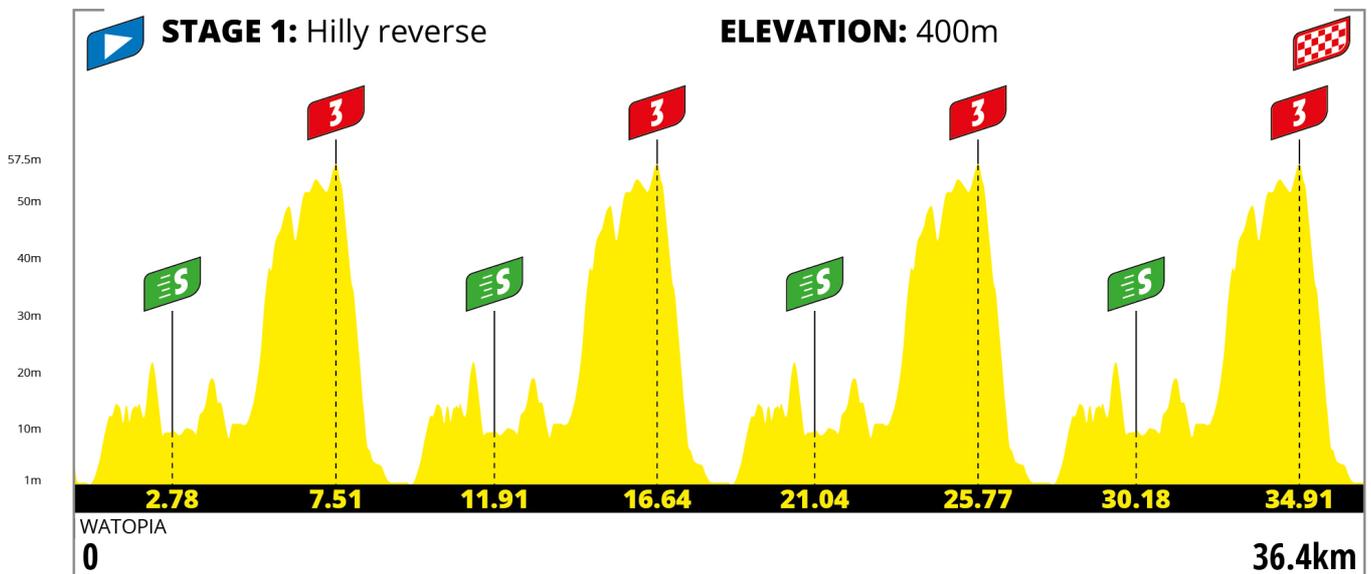
For further details click [here](#)

### Start Lists

[Stage 1 Women](#)

[Stage 1 Men](#)

### Course profile



## Stage Two: Watopia's Mountain Route

**Date: Sunday 5th July**

**Timings:**

**Women's 15:02 CET // 06:02 PDT // 23:02 AUS**

**Men's 16:07 CET // 07:07 PDT // 00:07 AUS**

Zwifters start at sea level, breathing that salty oxygenated air before going into the sea via the Ocean Tunnel. After exiting, the climb begins. During the next 5.8 miles (9.4 km) over a 3.9% grade, Zwifters have plenty of time to get intimate with their relationship to lactic acid. And the final push, AKA the Radio Tower Climb, is brutal. Just .7 miles (1.1 km) at soul-crushing 13.7% grade. Even the genetically gifted fit folk take almost four minutes to make this ascent. And the very lucky have a Featherweight PowerUp. After a quick descent, there's a short, false flat followed by a 350m flat and fast sprint.

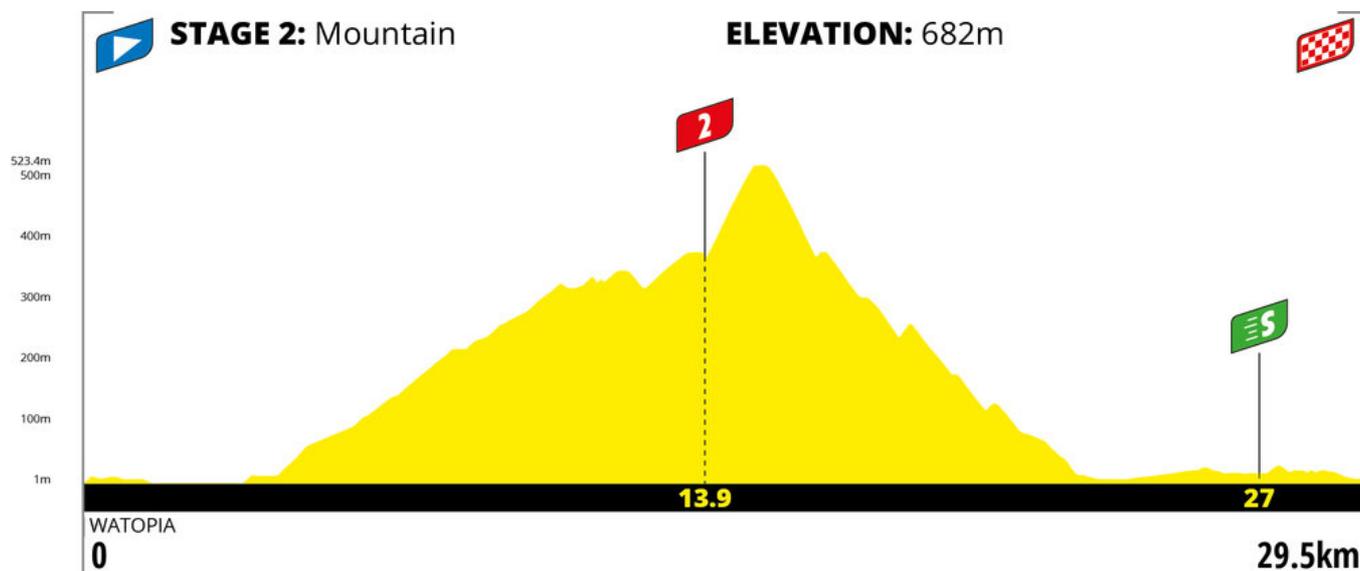
For further details click [here](#)

### Start Lists

[Stage 2 Women](#)

[Stage 2 Men](#)

### Course profile



### Race images

Images will be available during both races, both days and will be uploaded in real time during and after the race. For images click [here](#)

### Post Race Interviews

To register interest for post-race interviews via Zoom, please contact [Hannah Troop](#)

## **Where to watch**

A full list of broadcasters for the Virtual Tour de France can be found [here](#)

## **Jerseys and Challenges**

Rules for all Virtual Tour de France race classifications can be found below:



**General time classification**  
**LCL**

First 25 riders score points at the finish. Points are awarded as follows:

Finish: 50 / 40 / 35 / 30 / 27 / 25 / 23 / 21 / 19 / 17 / 15 / 14 / 13 / 12 / 11 / 10 / 9 / 8 / 7 / 6 / 5 / 4 / 3 / 2 / 1

The team with the most combined points earns the yellow jersey. Their nominated team captain wears the yellow jersey in the following stage.



**General point classification**  
**Škoda**

Sprint points are awarded at intermediate locations and at the finish of each stage:

Intermediate: 10 / 9 / 8 / 7 / 6 / 5 / 4 / 3 / 2 / 1  
Finish: 10 / 9 / 8 / 7 / 6 / 5 / 4 / 3 / 2 / 1

The team with the most combined sprint points earns the green jersey. Their nominated team captain wears the green jersey in the following stage.



**Best climber classification**  
**E.Leclerc**

Points are awarded based on the difficulty of the climb:

Category 1: (Chalet-Reynard Finish / Stage 5): 20 / 18 / 16 / 14 / 12 / 10 / 8 / 6 / 4 / 2

Category 2: (Epic KOM / Stage 2): 10 / 8 / 6 / 4 / 2 / 1

Category 3: (Remaining K/QOM / Stages 1,3,4,5): 3 / 2 / 1

The team with the most combined points earns the polka dot jersey. Their nominated team captain wears the polka dot jersey in the following stage.



**Best young rider classification**  
**Krys**

First 10 riders born after January 1<sup>st</sup>, 1995 score points at the finish. Points are awarded as follows –

Finish: 10 / 9 / 8 / 7 / 6 / 5 / 4 / 3 / 2 / 1

Team points are not combined. Each team should align at least one young rider in the roster for each stage to compete for this classification.

**Team classification**  
**Namedsport>**

The team with the most combined points of all competitions (GC, K/QOM, Sprint, Young Rider, and Most Combative) will have yellow markers on the back of the jerseys. The marker will only be visible in the broadcast of the race, riders in the race will not see the markers.

**Most aggressive rider**  
**Antargaz**

A Twitter poll conducted during the race will choose the 3 most combative riders of the stage.

Points are awarded as follows: 5 / 3 / 1/

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## ABOUT ZWIFT

Zwift is the indoor training phenomenon taking the world by storm. An online platform helping everyone meet their fitness goals while having tons of fun along the way. Engaging gameplay meets fitness meets a global community of cyclists and runners. The result? Serious training made fun.

Meet new friends. Make new rivals. Ride up mountains. Run through jungles. Sprint through real roads made virtual or cruise across futuristic cities. Fun, flexible year-round training becomes the new normal with Zwift.

Build strengths and smash weaknesses with thousands of workouts. Train day or night, no matter the weather, and close the gap between where you are and where you want to be. Looking for something more specific? Flexible training plans by world-class coaches adjust to your schedule and help get you ready for race day.

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