

## Media Release



**The pure drama of the world's biggest annual sporting event is set to be unleashed**

### **Tour de France and Tour de France Femmes avec Zwift returns to SBS - LIVE and FREE from June 29**

**The *Tour de France* delectable side dish, *Plat du Tour* hosted by renowned chef Guillaume Brahimi, served from June 29**

**\*\*Interviews available\*\***

**Images available [here](#)**

**Watch the *Tour de France* promo [here](#)**

The world's strongest and fiercest cyclists are gearing up to tackle the 2024 *Tour de France* and *Tour de France Femmes avec Zwift* as audiences worldwide prepare to witness an incredible season of captivating sport and entertainment. SBS, Australia's home of cycling will capture all the action and drama of the world's biggest annual sporting event live and free from June 29.

SBS will provide extensive coverage of both the *Tour de France* and *Tour de France Femmes avec Zwift* with the men's race starting June 29 to July 21 and the women's race starting, post the Paris Olympic Games, from August 12 to August 18.

Spanning across four countries, the highly anticipated 111<sup>th</sup> *Tour de France* will begin in Florence, Italy for the very first time in history, taking riders through Bologna and Torino before leaving Italy and cycling through San Marino, Monaco, and France. For the first time in history, the race will not finish in its traditional Paris destination, but the stunning city of Nice in the Cote d'Azur will host the final stage of this year's Tour.

Crossing 3,492 kilometres, including 52,340 metres of vertical gain over 21 stages, the Tour will visit 39 picturesque towns, through stunning scenery and historic landmarks.

Four mountain ranges, the Apennines, the French and Italian Alps, the Massif Central and the Pyrenees, will deliver spectacular scenery and the renowned difficulty associated with the *Tour de France*. In this year's route, cyclists will heroically tackle eight flat stages, four hilly stages, two individual time trials and seven mountain stages – four of which will conclude at the summit (Saint-Lary-Soulan Pla d'Adet, Plateau de Beille, Isola 2000 and Col de la Couillole). For the first time in 35 years, the race will finish with an individual time-trial.

The *Tour de France Femmes avec Zwift* will begin the day after the Paris Olympic Games on August 12 in beautiful Rotterdam, Netherlands. Travelling through Belgium and France, the race will cross three countries and three French regions, covering 10 departments. The cyclists will battle it out to the finish line on August 18 on the most famous Alpe in Tour history – Alpe d'Huez, making its debut in the women's race route. The eight stages of the *Tour de France Femmes avec Zwift* include three flat stages, two hilly stages, two mountain stages, and one individual time trial.

To ensure Australians can grasp every thrilling moment of the *Tour de France* and *Tour de France Femmes avec Zwift*, every stage of the men's race will be live on SBS with the women's race live on SBS VICELAND. Both events will be available to stream live, in full, on SBS On Demand, where you can also visit the [Tour de France Hub](#) for a variety of Tour content including extended highlights, full stage catch-up replays, and mini stage recaps. Live coverage of the Tour will include new cultural and historical segments to enrich the audience experience. The [SBS Sport website](#) is the place to be for all the latest news updates, opinions, expert analysis, statistics, results, and short highlight videos. The *Tour de France* and *Tour de France Femmes avec Zwift* broadcast times vary ([full schedule here](#)).

SBS' expert commentary team will be on the ground in Europe, capturing all the action and fierce competition. Reporting on location will be Australia's experts, the 'Australian voice of cycling' **Matthew Keenan** and national time trial champion **Dr Bridie O'Donnell** for both the *Tour de France* and *Tour de France Femmes avec Zwift*, being joined by *Tour de France* yellow jersey wearer and multiple Tour stage winner **Simon Gerrans** for the men's race. Providing exclusive interviews and reporting on the ground for both Tours will be Australian National Road Race Champion **David McKenzie**, alongside **Christophe Mallet** who will deliver insights on race tactics and information on the cultural and historical significance of the captivating locations travelled.

**SBS Director of Sport, Ken Shipp said:** "With SBS's extensive coverage of the *Tour de France* and *Tour de France Femmes avec Zwift*, Australia's home of cycling is going to be jam packed with gripping cycling coverage following every twist and turn of the rigorous route cyclists are fearlessly tackling this year. Sport unites people from all corners of the globe, and the world's biggest annual sporting event, the *Tour de France*, captivates audiences worldwide. SBS is incredibly proud to bring all the action and captivating moments to Australian audiences. We're ready for this year's event and cannot wait to cheer on the Aussies as they conquer these challenging routes."

The new exclusive daily **Jayco & SBS Cycling Podcast** is the premiere destination for all things cycling during July and August 2024. Hosted on location by Christophe Mallet and David McKenzie alongside expert guests, the podcast will provide cycling enthusiasts with a comprehensive exploration of the *Tour de France* and *Tour de France Femmes avec Zwift* with in-depth race analysis, exclusive rider interviews, and behind the scenes insights taking audiences on a journey of the route. With an episode for each stage of the races available for listeners on all their favorite podcast apps the Jayco & SBS Cycling Podcast will deliver engaging and entertaining content tailored for all levels of expertise and interest, getting audiences amongst all the thrilling and epic storytelling the *Tour de France* has to offer.

All stages of the Tour will be available live on the SBS ŠKODA Tour Tracker app which will feature uninterrupted live coverage of every stage, combined with data and rider statistics giving cycling fans an enhanced viewing experience.

176 fearless riders will be attempting to conquer the rigorous men's route this year. The star-studded line up of general classification contenders is expected to include Jonas Vingegaard

who will be attempting to achieve a *Tour De France* hat trick whilst defending his 2023 and 2022 title against David Gaudu, Simon Yates, Mikel Landa, and reigning Giro d'Italia winner Tadej Pogacar who will attempt to conquer both grand tours this year. After Giro d'Italia victory in 2022 and winning a stage in the *Tour de France* last year, Australian Jai Hindley will be a top contender to secure a spot on the podium. Jack Haig also has his eye on the *Tour de France* podium this year, with fellow Australians Luke Durbridge and Chris Harper featuring in the Australian Jayco Aulula Team supporting their team leader Simon Yates. The *Tour de France* will be a month filled with incredible scenery, heroic efforts and dramatic racing as the best cyclists in the world tackle the harsh terrain of the route.

As a delectable side dish to the *Tour de France*, renowned French-Australian chef **Guillaume Brahimi** returns with ***Plat du Tour*** from Saturday June 29. Travelling through Italy, San Marino, Monaco, and France following the *Tour de France* route Guillaume Brahimi explores and shares the incredible cuisines and culture of the regions. *Plat du Tour* will air on SBS during the *Tour de France* coverage, featuring 21 inspirational recipes for the 21 Tour stages. Guillaume meets some of the passionate and talented food producers and creates his own delicious dishes correlating to the traditions and culture of each city and town. Guillaume will plate up his 'Plat du Tour' starting in Florence Italy getting viewers into the Tour spirit.

*Plat du Tour* will be available on **SBS Food Online** and **SBS On Demand** and will air as special half hour episodes on SBS Food from Thursday July 18. *Plat du Tour* is produced by Blink TV for SBS.

***For more information and interviews, please contact:***

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**SBS TOUR DE FRANCE FULL BROADCAST SCHEDULE**

STAGE	DATE	SBS TV LIVE	SBS On Demand LIVE
<b>1</b>	Saturday 29 June	20:30 - 02:20 AEST	19:50 - 02:20 AEST
<b>2</b>	Sunday 30 June	20:30 - 01:50 AEST	20:05 - 01:50 AEST
<b>3</b>	Monday 1 July	20:30 - 01:45 AEST	19:05 - 01:45 AEST
<b>4</b>	Tuesday 2 July	21:30 - 01:50 AEST	20:55 - 01:50 AEST
<b>5</b>	Wednesday 3 July	21:30 - 01:55 AEST	21:10 - 01:55 AEST
<b>6</b>	Thursday 4 July	21:30 - 02:00 AEST	21:25 - 02:00 AEST
<b>7</b>	Friday 5 July	21:00 - 02:00 AEST	20:55 - 02:00 AEST
<b>8</b>	Saturday 6 July	21:00 - 02:00 AEST	20:55 - 02:00 AEST
<b>9</b>	Sunday 7 July	21:30 - 02:30 AEST	21:05 - 02:30 AEST
<b>REST DAY</b>			
<b>10</b>	Tuesday 9 July	21:30 - 02:05 AEST	20:55 - 02:05 AEST
<b>11</b>	Wednesday 10 July	20:30 - 01:45 AEST	19:10 - 01:45 AEST
<b>12</b>	Thursday 11 July	20:30 - 02:00 AEST	20:25 - 02:00 AEST
<b>13</b>	Friday 12 July	21:30 - 02:00 AEST	21:20 - 02:00 AEST

<b>14</b>	Saturday 13 July	21:00 - 02:00 AEST	20:55 - 02:00 AEST
<b>15</b>	Sunday 14 July	20:30 - 02:15 AEST	19:45 - 02:15 AEST
<b>REST DAY</b>			
<b>16</b>	Tuesday 16 July	21:30 - 02:10 AEST	20:55 - 02:10 AEST
<b>17</b>	Wednesday 17 July	20:30 - 01:45 AEST	20:25 - 01:45 AEST
<b>18</b>	Thursday 18 July	21:30 - 02:10 AEST	20:50 - 02:10 AEST
<b>19</b>	Friday 19 July	20:30 - 01:15 AEST	20:05 - 01:15 AEST
<b>20</b>	Saturday 20 July	21:30 - 01:55 AEST	21:30 - 01:55 AEST
<b>21</b>	Sunday 21 July	22:30 - 04:15 AEST	22:30 - 04:15 AEST

### **SBS TOUR DE FRANCE FEMMES AVEC ZWIFT FULL BROADCAST SCHEDULE**

<b>STAGE</b>	<b>DATE</b>	<b>SBS VICELAND TV LIVE</b>	<b>SBS On Demand LIVE</b>
<b>1</b>	Monday 12 August	20:00 – 24:00 AEST	20:00 – 24:00 AEST
<b>2</b>	Tuesday 13 August	17:30 – 20:00 AEST	17:30 – 20:00 AEST
<b>3</b>	Tuesday 13 August	23:40 – 02:10 AEST	23:40 – 02:10 AEST
<b>4</b>	Wednesday 14 August	21:50 – 24:20 AEST	21:50 – 24:20 AEST
<b>5</b>	Thursday 15 August	21:50 – 24:20 AEST	21:50 – 24:20 AEST
<b>6</b>	Friday 16 August	21:50 – 24:20 AEST	21:50 – 24:20 AEST
<b>7</b>	Saturday 17 August	21:30 – 24:00 AEST	21:30 – 24:00 AEST
<b>8</b>	Sunday 18 August	24:00 – 03:20 AEST	24:00 – 03:20 AEST

### **SBS COMMENTARY TEAM BIOS**

#### **MATTHEW KEENAN**

2024 will be Matt's 18th year commentating on cycling's biggest event, the Tour de France. After two seasons of amateur racing in Europe, Matt turned to commentary, having since commentated on the Commonwealth Games, Tour of Spain, Paris-Nice, Giro d'Italia and Tour of Qatar. Known for his supreme cycling knowledge and ability to recall detailed information about individual cyclists, Matt is recognised internationally as one of the leading commentators in the business.

#### **SIMON GERRANS**

Simon Gerrans holds the unique position of being the first Australian to have won a stage in all three Grand Tours – the Tour de France, Giro d'Italia and Vuelta a Espana. He found competitive cycling as a teenager on the suggestion of Australian cycling legend Phil Anderson, who then lived on a property nearby Gerrans' parents farm in country Victoria. Anderson, who saw Gerrans cycling as rehabilitation from a serious knee injury after a motor bike racing crash, encouraged him to take up the sport competitively. Simon has been a proud ambassador and active fundraiser of the Chain Reaction Challenge Foundation since 2010 and was the founder of the Victorian Inter-School Cycling Series.

#### **DR BRIDIE O'DONNELL**

Dr Bridie O'Donnell graduated from the University of Queensland Medical School. Between 1995 and 2006 she competed in Olympic distance and Ironman triathlon, finishing the Ironman Hawaii World Championships in 2006. In 2007, she began road cycling and in 2008 after

winning the National Time Trial title, she raced in the Australian National Team, and then Professional Italian teams in Europe and the United States, representing Australia at three World Championships between 2008-2012. From 2013-2017, Bridie managed and raced for Rush Women's Team in the Cycling Australia National Road Series and in 2016, she broke the UCI Women's Hour World Record at the Adelaide Superdrome. In 2017, she was appointed the inaugural Head of the Office for Women in Sport and Recreation by the Victorian Government and in 2018, her cycling memoir: "Life and Death" was published, detailing her experiences as a professional cyclist in Europe. When she's not commentating cycling, she works in the Community and Public Health Division of the Victorian Department of Health.

### **DAVID MCKENZIE**

David McKenzie brings nine years' experience as a professional cyclist to SBS, providing in-depth analysis of the race, the riders and everything viewers need to know about road racing. Starting his career on the track, David made his first appearance for Australia at just 16. He joined his first professional cycling team in 1997 after a stint at the Australian Institute of Sport and in 1998 won the Australian National Road Championship. On the pro-cycling circuit David has competed in Australia and throughout Europe for various teams, winning stages at a number of events including the Giro d'Italia, Tour of Japan and Tour Down Under.

### **CHRISTOPHE MALLET**

Christophe is a television presenter, podcast host and long-time Executive Producer of SBS Radio's French program. In 2017 he was awarded a National Order of Merit – he was incredibly honoured to be introduced as a Knight of the Order of Merit in France. Over the course of his 10+ years at SBS, Christophe has been involved in many projects including hosting the Tour de France highlights show, Bonjour le Tour, alongside David McKenzie and has been heavily involved in SBS's coverage of the Dakar Rally. He's also been responsible for producing more than 6,000+ radio shows across the SBS network.

### **GUILLAUME BRAHIMI – PLAT DU TOUR HOST**

French-born Guillaume Brahimi is one of Australia's most popular and acclaimed chefs. He moved to Sydney in the 1990s and in 2001, he won the prestigious contract to take over the flagship restaurant at the Sydney Opera House and launched Guillaume at Bennelong. He's since opened Bistro Guillaume in Melbourne, Perth, and Sydney. In 2014, Guillaume was a recipient of the Chevalier de l'Ordre National du Merite (Knight of the National Order), a prestigious honour endowed by the French government for outstanding services rendered to France in Foreign Affairs and International Development. In 2015, Guillaume was named Chef of the Year at the annual GQ Men Of The Year awards. Guillaume has published a number of books including *Guillaume: Food for Friends*, *French Food Safari*, and *Guillaume: Food for Family*. He is currently Head Chef at Bistro Guillaume at Crown Melbourne and Crown Perth, and hosts SBS's *Plat du Tour* and *Guillaume's Paris*.