



Sporty or with pleasure: with the Cyclassics through Hamburg and Schleswig-Holstein

This year, the BEMER Cyclassics Hamburg will kick off on September 8. Before the professionals roll through Hamburg and the surrounding area, all amateur athletes can enjoy pedaling undisturbed on the main roads of the Hanseatic city, enjoying nature in Schleswig-Holstein and feeling the flair of the northern German metropolis in the finale.

There are also two routes to choose from this year. In addition to the long "Cyclassics 100" route, there is also the "Cyclassics 60". This is the route for all those who want to take it a little easier, get to know Hamburg from a different perspective or simply feel more comfortable on the shorter distance. Essentially, both laps remain on known roads and only deviate slightly from the course of recent years. For example, after a two-year break, it is possible to return to the Elbchaussee in its full length. After the construction work, it rolls better than ever on new asphalt. The finals of the short and long laps are initiated here between the noble villas and the Elbe beach. At Altona town hall, the route turns into Königsstraße. While the last visitors of the night slowly call it a night on the Reeperbahn, the end is also in sight for the amateur athletes. From the new town to the old town. Past the ramparts, a few bends later the last kilometer mark awaits at Rödingsmarkt. Then you reach Mönckebergstraße, Hamburg's famous shopping street, and the finish line.

But before that happens, a few highlights await on the course. The start on the Kennedy Bridge between the Outer and Inner Alster is always a special sight. The route then heads north-west along some of Hamburg's lifelines, which are reserved for the participants of the BEMER Cyclassics on this day. Through the densely built-up districts of Eimsbüttel and Stellingen to Schenefeld, where the Altonaer Chaussee takes on the character of a race track. The route crosses the state border with Schleswig-Holstein.

Shortly afterwards, the route splits. All those who have opted for the more sporty "Cyclassics 100" and thus the long distance, turn right here towards Halstenbek. The route continues via Tangstedt to Quickborn, from there along rural roads to the northernmost point of the route near Barmstedt. The route returns south via Bevern and Ellerhoop past the western edge of Pinneberg. In the south of the district town, the route rejoins the 60-lap route at the Wedeler Weg traffic circle, which leads all participants on the shorter loop directly there via Waldenau. The two fields will not get in each other's way there or anywhere else. The participant of the "60s route" start a little earlier in the morning and are back earlier thanks to the shortcut.

Both courses lead past the Buttermoor to Wedel, through the old town by the Roland, a hotspot for spectators. Many spectators there provide renewed motivation for the finale before heading down to the Elbe. Down - and then up again. Because on the way back to Hamburg, the biggest obstacle of the otherwise flat route has to be crossed: The Kösterberg, the highest point of the



route. 1.7 kilometers of incline with an average gradient of 3.5 percent and seven at the top. Once the hill, which invites the more ambitious starters to attack, has been passed, the rest is quite relaxed for those who don't want to go all out.

The "Sprint" rate, which makes it possible to start on the "Cyclassics 60" lap for 90 euros, is still valid until July 31. For the "Cyclassics 100" it is ten euros more.