



2-5 DECEMBER 2021

COMPLETE STAGE DESCRIPTIONS

Thursday 2 December 2021

Stage 1:

Start and Finish: Faure Street Stadium

Distance: 116km

Elevation: 1000m

Route inclusions: Paarl | Wellington | Malmesbury | Klipheuwel | Paarl

Stage 1 is a mildly undulating start to the tour with no high mountains included, but with many undulations to contribute to the 1000m ascent on the stage. The start is in front of the Faure Street Stadium in the heart of Paarl.

It takes riders on a tour through Paarl itself via the Boulevard Road, before hopping onto Optenhorst Road and then exiting Paarl via Paarl North on Main Road. The beautiful road to Malmesbury has a wide shoulder and the scenery is amazing following the delightful winter rains over the past year.

From Malmesbury the stage heads back to Paarl via the R302 and R312 before joining up with the Suid-Agter Paarl Road at the back of the Paarl Mountain.

It accesses Paarl via the outskirts of Main Road past the famous Strawberry King before heading on a beautiful section past the Arboretum.

Then it's a left turn into Van Riebeeck Road which also presents the stage for a fast spring finish, which occurs in Van Riebeeck Road 100metres before the Market Street circle adjacent to the Faure Street Stadium.

After the finish, riders freewheel back down the pass to the Faure Street Stadium without having to turn the pedals.

Friday 3 December 2021

Stage 2:

Start and Finish: Boland Landbouskool

Distance: 26.3 Individual Time Trial

Elevation: 324m

Route inclusions: Windmeul | Paardeberg

Stage 2 is an undulating but only mildly challenging individual time trial on quiet roads. It's a well-known circuit in Paarl which passes various vineyards, orchards and famous wine cellars, including Paardeberg and Nelsons Creek. It consists of left turns only.

Saturday 4 December:

Stage 3:

Start: Faure Street Stadium, Paarl

Finish: Top of Du Toitskloof Pass, Paarl

Distance: 159km

Elevation: 2250m

Route inclusions: Paarl | Wellington | Paardeberg | Paarl | Stellenbosch | Helshoogte | Pniel | Simondium | Du Toits Kloof Pass

Stage 3 is the queen stage of the tour, and really is one of the toughest single day challenges on a road bike in South Africa.

From the centre of Paarl at the Faure Street Stadium the race heads out towards Wellington via the well-known Sonstraal and Swaelstert Roads and then does a loop towards Malmesbury via the Paardeberg Road before heading around the Paarl Mountain via the Suid-Agter Paarl Road.

It hops onto the Simondium Road and turns right at the well-know Vrede en Lust Estate. At Klapmuts it takes a left turn and then its onwards to Stellenbosch on the beautiful R44.

It touches on the outskirts of Stellenbosch before taking a left turn to the first big obstacle - the old Helshoogte Pass.

On the other side of the pass the route takes a right at the Alle Bleue T-junction, and left on the beautiful Wemmershoek Road (R301) which runs between Franschoek and Paarl.

And then Du Toits Kloof Pass awaits after a right turn at Boschenmeer Golf Estate onto Drakenstein Road.

After the finish, riders freewheel back down the pass to the Faure Street Stadium without having to turn the pedals.

Sunday 5 December 2021

Stage 4:

Start: Faure Street Stadium

Finish: Taal Monument

Distance: 127km

Elevation: 1516m

Route inclusions: Paarl | Wellington | Hermon | Riebeeck Kasteel | Bothmanskloof Pass | Malmesbury | Afrikaanse Taal Monument

The final stage presents Bothmanskloof Pass and then the grand finale up to the Taal Monument as the major challenges.

From the centre of Paarl at the Faure Street Stadium the race heads out again towards Wellington via the Sonstraal and Swaelstert Roads. It runs through Wellington on the road to Tulbagh, but turns left at Hermon and passes Riebeeck Kasteel to tackle the first obstacle in Bothmanskloof Pass.

It turns left on the Malmesbury road and runs all the way back to Paarl, before turning right at the Wellington 4-way crossing. After a few undulations it's a left turn onto the Suid-Agter Paarl Road, another left turn into Paarl Main Road, and yet another left turn to access the Taal Monument climb.

When you reach the Taal Monument on top of Paarl Mountain you're done!