



The full route for the 2017 Tour de Yorkshire has been unveiled, with the event expected to bring a multimillion-pound economic boost for the region and build on the £60m generated by the 2016 race.

The third edition of the race takes place between 28 and 30 April 2017. It encompasses all four corners of the county and takes in Yorkshire's two UNESCO World Heritage Sites at Fountains Abbey and Saltaire.

The first stage of 173 kilometres on 28 Friday is from Bridlington to Scarborough and takes the riders from the coast through the Yorkshire Wolds, starting outside the refurbished Bridlington Spa and heading into Pocklington for the first intermediate sprint.







Classified climbs occur up the Côtes de Garrowby Hill and Goathland before the race hits the coastline again at Whitby and the second sprint of the day.



The route continues on to Robin Hood's Bay for the third and final climb and then on into Scarborough for the finish along North Bay.

Stage two is 122.5km in length and travels from Tadcaster To Harrogate. Starting on Tadcaster bridge - which will be newly reopened following flood damage last Boxing Day - this stage takes the riders through some of Yorkshire's finest market towns.



They will venture into Knaresborough, where the first intermediate sprint points are up for grabs, and the day's sole categorised climb comes on the Côte de Lofthouse before the descent into Masham.

Ripon will feature the second intermediate sprint and the race will skirt Fountains Abbey before a fast approach to Harrogate. The action reaches its crescendo along Parliament Street, just as it did on the opening stage of the 2014 Tour de France.

Stage three takes the riders on a 194.5km route from Bradford to Fox Valley (Sheffield) on 30 Sunday.

Named "The Yorkshire Terrier" this stage is expected to be the toughest in the history of the Tour de Yorkshire.

Riders will start at Bradford City Park before heading into Saltaire. The action then briefly joins the 2014 Tour de France route at Burley-in-Wharfedale before passing Bolton Abbey and into the Yorkshire Dales.

Skipton is the next town on the agenda, with the first of eight categorised climbs being contested on the Côte de Silsden.





The following ascent comes on the cobbled rise up Haworth's main street and another climb at Leeming must also be tackled before they face the infamous Côte de Shibden Wall.

An intermediate sprint at Clifton precedes a traverse from West to South Yorkshire and into Penistone, and another sprint is on the cards at Stocksbridge before the riders embark on a 22km finishing circuit that features no-less than four categorised climbs. These come at Deepcar, Wigtwizzle, Ewden Height and Midhopestones before the race reaches its climax at Fox Valley.

Welcome to Yorkshire chief executive Sir Gary Verity said: "I can't wait to see the world's best riders tackling these routes. We've worked hard to design a course which showcases Yorkshire's stunning scenery as well as delivering a thrilling sporting event.

"Last year the race attracted two million spectators and generated £60m for the local economy, and we'll go from strength to strength again next year.

Amaury Sport Organisation's Tour de France director Christian Prudhomme added: "I always enjoy coming to Yorkshire and the county certainly knows how to put on a show.

"I am excited by what this year's route has in store and am sure it will provide three days of fantastic racing."

Text taken from an article in Yorkshire Insider by Laurence Kilgannon

<http://www.insidermedia.com/yorkshire>



And a few links for me for you !!

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6VLYpKGVBUg>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ltcedKDZF0E>

