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2nd July 2018

Cuneo (Italy)

## LA FAUSTO COPPI OFFICINE MATTIO

***Less than one week left to the start of the 31<sup>st</sup> Fausto Coppi Officine Mattio. The closed number of 2600 participants was reached and the registrations are now closed. Here come the most important highlights and side events.***

*On Sunday, 8<sup>th</sup> July the 31<sup>st</sup> edition of the international marathon La Fausto Coppi Officine Mattio starts in Cuneo. The city is preparing to become the center of the cycling world for a weekend. The closed number of 2600 participants has been reached so the registrations are closed. Here all the news about the program of the event.*

Two routes are proposed: a medio-fondo of 111 km and the granfondo of 177 km. Departure is on Sunday morning at 7 am at Piazza Galimberti. The route takes the direction of Corso Soleri and cross the Soleri viaduct, where the division between the medio-fondo and the granfondo routes takes place. The longest route will climb to the Sanctuary of Valmala then continue to Montemale (La Piatta 1136 m) and Castelmagno. It goes uphill, the spectacular Colle Fauniera (2480 m) and after the descent into the Arma valley, it continues to Demonte, Madonna del Colletto (1310 m), Valdieri, with return to Cuneo. The granfondo marks a height difference of 4125 m. The medio-fondo, after the division at the Soleri viaduct, will head towards Caraglio and then continue towards Castelmagno where it will rejoin the granfondo to climb the Colle Fauniera. The overall height difference of the medio-fondo is 2550 m.

The arrival of the first cyclist of the **granfondo is expected to be around 12.55/1 pm** (riding at an average of 30 km/h). The first cyclist of the medio-fondo will be back to Piazza Galimberti around 10.45 am. Please see the attached roadmap to check the various timings.

For the “presumed” passages in the different villages that are included in the route, please see again the attached table.

Events and news highlights will be presented in the following.

### Press:

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## **Programmed events:**

### **Friday, 6th of July**

Opening of the **EXPO VILLAGE** in the afternoon at Piazza Galimberti: numerous and prestigious cycling brands and not only, have joined this year.

As usual, in the same occasion of the granfondo, **PASTA'** will take place at Piazza Galimberti. A festival dedicated to the world of pasta, organized by the Cultural Association ALL 4U, on the occasion of the international marathon.

From 8 p.m. and throughout the whole weekend, there will be live music and **CUNEO MAPPING**, a digital artistic projection show, on the facade of the Court of Cuneo.

### **Saturday, 7<sup>th</sup> July**

At 10 am, hand-out of bibs/ race packages.

Around 10.30 am the **street police officers** will provide the initiative **BIMBI IN SELLA** near their famous blue coaches. Together with the cycling schools Bike Park La Scogliera and Bisalta Park, the police will give instructions on road safety thanks to little gymkhanas. Michelin will offer a helmet to the first 200 registered kids and, thanks to Balocco and Acqua San Bernardo, there will be also free refreshing snacks. Additionally, there will be 30 test-bicycles given to those kids, who do not have their own one. Decathlon and Fondazione Cassa di Risparmio of Cuneo will provide a small gift to all the participants. It is an initiative dedicated to kids from 3 to 14 years.

At 5.30 pm on the stage in the center of Piazza Galimberti, the famous “**WELCOME TO THE NATIONS**” ceremony will take place- with, also, the **awarding of the most numerous team**.

### **Sunday, 8th July**

At 7 am official departure of the granfondo and medio-fondo (Piazza Galimberti, law court side).

At 10 am, always from Piazza Galimberti (starting point), the **FAUSTO COPPI MANGIA & PEDALA** starts. It is a non-competitive cultural-gastronomic cycling tour, of about 50 km, realized in collaboration with Bicingiro and Coldiretti.

Finally, the **AWARDING CEREMONY** of the 31st international granfondo La Fausto Coppi Officine Mattio will take place on the stage in Piazza Galimberti, at 2 pm for the medio-fondo and at 2:30 pm for the granfondo. The first man and the first woman in every race and the first three in every category will be awarded.

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## Highlight on some significant initiatives

**The Dutch ambassador and the Chilean Consul at granfondo Fausto Coppi.** The presence of the Dutch ambassador Joep Wijnands at the ceremony of the nations on Saturday, 7<sup>th</sup> of July is confirmed. In this occasion, he will welcome the numerous Dutch cyclists attending the event. On Sunday the ambassador will face the medio-fondo. In addition, the Chilean Honorary Consul in Italy, Vivien Jones, will welcome the small Chilean delegation.

**Cardiologic Unit** intended to assist the cyclists. On Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> of July at the village, there will be two cardiologists at the stand of the Red Cross providing medical check-ups and the carry-out of the EKG. The treatments will take place from 9 am until the closing of the event. On Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> July there will be a cardiologist, who will follow the race on a motor cycle in case of an emergency, while waiting for the 118 emergency doctor.

**Eco-team for the cleaning of the routes.** 8 cyclists on e-bikes and CamelBak backpacks will ride on the paths of the grandfondo circuit in order to collect any paper, water bottles and waste left by cyclists on the route during the event. As always, you're invited to spread out the message of a maximum of respect for mountain roads.

**Recycling-operations with CORIPET.** At piazza Galimberti, cyclists will find huge containers in shape of a bottle, 3 meters tall, where riders are invited to throw their PET bottles. All collected items will be conveyed to special compactors, with the aim of the total recycling. Approximately 10000 bottles are dispersed and Coripet aims to transforming them into yarn for the creation of sportswear.

**35 participating nations.** There will be 35 nations taking part at the 31<sup>st</sup> edition of La Fausto Coppi Officine Mattio. New entries are: Chile, Mexico, United Arab Emirates, Ukraine.

**#salviamolestradedimontagna** (#letssavethemountainroads) The fundraising launched on Confcommercio Cuneo social media platforms goes on and is aimed at recovering mountain routes where important events such as the granfondo La Fausto Coppi Officine Mattio take place.

**A selfie in front of the Pantani monument on the Fauniera.** A tribute to the champion, a photo in front of the monument dedicated to Marco Pantani. A specific frame will be provided for a memory image.

**Solidarity.** As of every year, the organizing committee of La Fausto Coppi Officine Mattio has dedicated some village-stands to AIL (Italian Association against Leukemias), LILT (Italian League for the fight against Tumors) and AIDO (Italian Association of Organ Donors). During the race three cyclists will be wearing a personalized jersey dedicated to these three charitable associations. This is a way to include charity in this big day of sports celebration.

During the ceremony of the nations these associations will get a cash contribution, offered by the company Dentis Srl of Sant'Alba Stura (CN), in order to support their charity initiatives.

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**La Fausto Coppi for the region.** An international race that leads to Cuneo 2600 cyclists involving their families, friends and fans has a positive impact on the local enterprises and in particular for the touristic sector: from the hotels to the restaurants and pizzerias, bars and coffee houses but also shops. For this reason, the event is increasingly considered as strategic, even by institutions and trade organizations, for the development of tourism and the outdoor economy in the region. In 2017 cyclists coming from foreign countries were the 35% of the overall number of participants and Italians coming from over 250 km of distance were about 40%

Finally, the La Fausto Coppi organizers would like to thank the over 100 volunteers that every year are representing an invaluable help for the smooth running of the event.

Thank you also to the Police, Carabinieri, Guardia di Finanza, firefighters, Civil Protection, the Red Cross, the emergency doctors and the local police of the various communities for their enormous effort in safeguarding the cyclists security on the roads.

For more information: <http://www.faustocoppi.net/new/>



**Group: La Fausto Coppi & Friends**  
**Official page:** @LaFaustoCoppi



@lafaustocoppi

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