

MEDIA RELEASE

Tour Down Under Coup for Murray Bridge Subject: ABN 90 501 266 817 Contact: **Michael Sedgman Chief Executive Officer** 08 8539 1174 m.sedgman@murraybridge.sa.gov.au Date: ** EMBARGOED** 1PM Thursday 18 July 2019

www.murraybridge.sa.gov.au

CYCLING action will place Murray Bridge on the world stage this summer, when the Rural City hosts the start of the Santos Women's Tour Down Under Stage 2, the finish of the Santos Tour Down Under Stage 4 and the Challenge Tour.

Rural City of Murray Bridge Mayor Brenton Lewis said the announcement was a major coup and an opportunity his sport loving community would embrace.

"The Rural City of Murray Bridge is excited to welcome the SANTOS Tour Down Under back to the region," he said.

"The TDU in Murray Bridge will be spectacular and I personally invite all residents and their families to come out and line the streets to welcome the riders, enjoy the free entertainment and what is sure to be two amazing days out."

The 114.5km Santos Women's Tour Down Under Stage 2 race from Murray Bridge to Birdwood will be held on Friday 17 January 2020.

Santos Women's Tour Down Under Race Director Kimberley Conte said she was pleased Stage 2 of the race would start in Murray Bridge.

"This will be the first time Murray Bridge has hosted a WTDU start and we are excited to see how local community will get involved with the event," said Ms Conte.

The 152km Santos Tour Down Under Stage 4 race from Norwood to Murray Bridge will be held on Friday 24 January 2020.

Santos Tour Down Under Race Director Mike Turtur said fans would be happy to see the return of Murray Bridge as a finish for Stage 4.

"The Stage 4 finish in Murray Bridge is only the second time in TDU history the town has hosted a finish," he said.

"I am expecting a battle to the end as the crosswind the cyclists can expect to encounter between Mannum and Murray Bridge will be a considerable element to contend with.

"We know the fans will see some great cycling as these conditions will suit the sprinters."

The official recreational ride, the 2020 Challenge Tour, will also finish in Murray Bridge on 24 January – 6,000 cyclists are expected to participate in this event alone, boosting the total number of Rural City visitors into the tens of thousands during the TDU.

The Santos Tour Down Under will be staged 16-26 January 2020. For more information visit www.tourdownunder.com.au #TDU #tourdownunder #ruralcityofmurraybridge