



BORMIO, PURE ADRENALINE

The Stelvio course in Bormio, also home of the World Championships FIS alpine skiing in the editions of 1985 and 2005, is by far the most spectacular and technically difficult track, secondly only to Kitzbühel.

Since 1993, every December 29th, on this track is played the traditional year-end men's World Cup downhill race. On the Stelvio have always triumphed stars of the first magnitude, like the Frenchman **Luc Alphand**, **Stephan Eberharter**, the Norwegian **Lasse Kjus**, the Terminator Austrian **Hermann Maier**, the eccentric American stars and stripes **Daron Rahlves**, in addition to the champion **Bode Miller** and the fantastic Austrian team with **Andreas Schiffrer**, **Hannes Trinkl**, **Fritz Stobl** and **Michael Walchhofer**, winner of three editions. Two successes until now have been obtained by Italian racers: **Christof Innerhofer** in 2008 and **Dominik Paris** in the last edition when he shared the first place with the Austrian **Hannes Reichelt**. On the Stelvio also won the legendary **Alberto Tomba**, winning the giant of the World Cup Finals in Bormio, in March 1995, and also the absolute winner globe and two of the slalom specialties.

With nearly 3,230 meters of real development, 986 vertical meters and a maximum gradient of 60 percent, the Stelvio is known to be a track that does not allow errors to anyone. The peculiarity is that from the start gate of the Stelvio you can clearly see the finish area. The start-up, as in Kitzbühel, is one of those who do not forgive, as it is then difficult to gain speed if you've lost time. Technically demanding are the two curves that lead to the jump of the Rock. Then, down the groove Sertorelli, where the acceleration is remarkable.

Then come the Fontana Lunga and the treacherous corners of Ermellini, ending in cross Carcentina, one of the most spectacular of the entire route. Another jump, that of St. Peter, the racers still committed after Ciuk: it is in this part that they reach the highest speed. Entering and exiting the woods the track is in counter, with fast corners and binding. Here they run to more than one hundred km then jump to the last very spectacular dives into the first houses of Bormio. Two minutes, sometimes less, of breathtaking downhill.

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