



MARTIN STOSEK AND ARIANE LÜTHI WIN THE 2021 HERO DUBAI HATTA.

EVENT PROUDLY PRESENTED BY DUBAI HOLDING AND HOSTED AT ITS POPULAR HATTA WADI HUB DESTINATION

Proudly presented and hosted by Title Sponsor Dubai Holding, a global investment company based in Dubai, the 2021 HERO Dubai Hatta saw a glorious conclusion with Martin Stosek and Ariane Lüthi winning this stage of the international HERO Series circuit. The race was held on the premises of Hatta Wadi Hub, Dubai Holding's outdoor recreation and fitness destination. This second edition will be one to remember – not only because of the calibre of participating cyclists, who came from all over the world, but also for the event's organisation. A good 700 cyclists representing 57 nationalities took position at the starting line. The number of local participants grew, too, in what is the only UCI mountain bike race in the Arab Peninsula: further proof of how cycling is on the rise in the area, especially in Dubai.

Hashtag: #heroseries #herodubaihatta #Dubai #DubaiHolding #VisitHatta #HeroRace #HattaHero #HattaHeroes #Dubai30x30 #DubaiSC

Tag: @dubaiholding @HEROMTBseries @dubaisc @dubaifitnesschallenge

Dubai (UAE) 29 October 2021 – The colourful flags of a good 57 countries stood in stark contrast to Hatta's blue sky today. More than 700 cyclists raced at the **HERO Dubai Hatta's second edition**, which took place on the premises of the title sponsor's **Hatta Wadi Hub, Dubai Holding's 'all-things outdoor' destination** that has welcomed adventurers and families alike from all around the world.



The race is a stage of the international HERO Series circuit and the only UCI mountain bike race in the Arab Peninsula. For its second edition, cyclists tested their skills on two courses: a marathon course boasting 60 km and 1,600 hm – contributing to individual UCI ranking – and another route boasting 18 km and 270 hm. Both of them develop across the rocks and sand of Dubai's desert: its terrain represented a considerable challenge for participating cyclists, who also had to face the unseasonably high temperatures – which is why the start of the race was brought forward by two hours.

The men's podium



The Elite men category raced on the 60 km course, with **Martin Stosek** (CZE) from **Canyon Northwave MTB Team** winning the race with a time of **2:03:07**.

Visibly satisfied, **Stosek** told us he "*wanted to obtain a good result. At the "Peak Prize", I looked behind me and realised I was leading the breakaway. It is only upon cresting that rise, and heading downhill, that I saw Peter Pruus was hot on my heels. These extremely technical bits play to his advantage. Nevertheless, I kept my focus and, despite a starting disadvantage, I succeeded in conquering the leading position and crossing the finish line first.*"

He was followed by **Peter Pruus** (EST) from **Torpedo-Südtirol MTB Pro Team** who crossed the finish line at **2:03:30**.

The third place on the podium went to the 2021 Marathon Champion **Andreas Seewald** (GER) from **Canyon Northwave MTB Team** coming in at **2:06:38**.

The women's podium

The Elite women category also gave us a race of a lifetime as they competed on the 60 km course, with **Ariane Lüthi** (SUI) from **team Salusmed** winning the 2021 event with a time of **2:40:47**.

Lüthi crossed the finish line and came up to let us know she was "*overjoyed. What a result! I am certain competing in the 2021 Cape Epic, held in South Africa a couple of days ago, helped me get used to the high temperatures we had here in Dubai. The HERO Dubai Hatta is truly a one-of-a-kind race. I hope to come back for its next edition!*"

Just 59 seconds behind her, **Ramona Forchini** (SUI) from **team jb BRUNEX SUPERIOR FACTORY RACING** placed second, while the third place on the podium was taken by **Katazina Sosna** (LTU) from **Torpedo-Südtirol Mtb Pro Team** coming in at **2:46:12**.

Dubai is an increasingly bike-friendly destination

The crème de la crème of the international cycling community participated in the event – but a growing number of local cyclists also flocked to the race. Hundreds of amateur cyclists kicked off from the starting line, including 6% who live in Dubai. This figure has increased since the 2020 edition, which only goes to prove how the cycling movement in the Arab megacity is experiencing a rise in importance.

Gerhard Vanzi, HERO Series, says that “this is immensely satisfying as it just proves how cycling is on the rise in the United Arab Emirates, especially in Dubai. The local administration as well as local groups have implemented a number of different projects to boost this sector. We are overjoyed we can contribute to the process, especially by giving Hatta a spot in the limelight as a green destination for sports tourism and shining the light on Dubai as a bike-friendly city.”



Dubai Holding: HERO Dubai Hatta's title sponsor

Dubai Holding is this year's Title Sponsor of the HERO Dubai Hatta and took up this mantle as part of its commitment to the 2021 Dubai Fitness Challenge. Dubai Holding is a diversified, global investment company with a special focus on the health and wellbeing of communities as part of its corporate social responsibility endeavours. Dubai Holding's role as an investment conglomerate has been fundamental to the development of tourism programmes and investments in Hatta, making it into a beautiful and highly visited mountain destination. The area stands out for its vast offer of activities and features, and is the region's main destination for green tourism, embodying the perfect marriage between hospitality and commerce. A unique, diversified leisure and hospitality offer which comes to the fore thanks to the Hatta Wadi Hub and the Hatta Resorts, just to mention a few of Dubai Holding's many initiatives and projects across Hatta.

RANKING

HERO Dubai Hatta, Men (60 km)

1. STOSEK Martin (CZE) - Canyon Northwave MTB Team - 2:03:07
2. PRUUS Peeter (EST) - Torpado-Südtirol MTB Pro Team - 2:03:30
3. SEEWALD Andreas (GER) - Canyon Northwave MTB Team - 2:06:38
4. HYNEK Kristian (CZE) - Future Cycling Nothwave - 2:09:29
5. BUKSA Dominik (CZE) - Canyon Northwave MTB Team - 2:16:38

HERO Dubai Hatta, Women (60 KM)

1. LÜTHI Ariane (SUI) - Salusmed - 2:40:47
2. FORCHINI Ramona (SUI) - jb BRUNEX SUPERIOR FACTORY RACING - 2:41:46
3. SOSNA Katazina - LTU - Torpado-Südtirol Mtb Pro Team - 2:46:12
4. PARTOAZAR Faranak - IRI - Individual - 2:52:55

To view the complete ranking and intermediate times visit

<https://my.raceresult.com/182276/results>

For further information visit www.heroworldseries.com

For further information on Hatta visit:

www.visithatta.com

<https://www.instagram.com/visit.hatta/>

<https://www.facebook.com/VisitHatta>

<https://twitter.com/VisitHatta>

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCJIOQVxDdF6RtWtWX81RBQw>

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