

The Consell de Formentera office of sport announces the start this Friday of the fourth Volta Cicloturista, a three-trial event in which mountain bikers crisscross the island dividing it in three parts: Sant Francesc, La Savina and La Mola.

Covering a total of 97.5 kilometres and climbing a thousand metres into the sky, the "Ride" is an ideal way for cyclists of any competing level to enjoy Formentera's network of trails. For mountain riders geared toward competition, there's also Sunday's BTT La Mola, with 37.6K and 850 metres of altitude gain—a qualifying heat for the Pine Islands Mountain Biking Championship (*Campionat Pitiús de BTT*)—while those just in it for the fun have the option of an alternate route that occasionally follows the main ride.

Formentera's councillor of sport Paula Ferrer highlighted the "growing gravitational pull on cyclists" of the Discover Formentera in October-partnered event.

Presented by the local office of sport, Grup Esportiu Espalmador and Unisport Consulting and a featured event in the current push to incentivise off-season travel to Formentera, the event's current hundred-strong list of registered riders will remain open to new participants until Sunday.

The Volta kicks off on Friday at 4.00pm with a 29.5K loop in which cyclists will start and finish in Sant Francesc. The 39.5K second leg, with start and finish in La Savina, happens at 10.00am on Saturday, while participants in the 28.5K, alternate-route ride hit the road in La Mola Sunday at 11.00am.

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