



Tim in Ky VaE stage 2 is 203 pan flat kilometers from Nimes to Gruissan, a

08-19 14:15

Mediterranean beach town outside Narbonne.



Tim in Ky //rumbletalk-images-

08-19 14:15

upload.s3.amazonaws.com/61922326bc2ef459e5ed5de71ef53a57/1503166828-VaE%20stage-2-profile.png



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08-19 14:18

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upload.s3.amazonaws.com/61922326bc2ef459e5ed5de71ef53a57/1503167019-VaE%20stage-2-route.jpg



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08-19 14:22

upload.s3.amazonaws.com/61922326bc2ef459e5ed5de71ef53a57/1503167250-VaE%20stage-2-finish.jpg



Tim in Ky The stage starts at 12:25 CET (06:25 EDT). Kilometer 0 is 20 minutes

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 **Joanna in New York** Good morning! 08-20 07:42

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 **BusterSci** Howdy. Getting myself set up. Kinda late night last night. 08-20 07:57

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 **Tim in Ky** 46.3 km for the first hour. 08-20 07:58

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
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











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	Gilliemarie Ok SF, where have you travelled to now?	08-20 09:29
	BusterSci SFinPoT. Moved to Colorado, SF? Gonna need LUG's legal help?	08-20 09:29
	BusterSci She of many scree names has joined us.	08-20 09:29


 **BusterSci** Sorry. I was trying to delete my post and deleted whoever flashed up right 08-20 09:30


before I clicked the trash can.

 **BusterSci** My apologies. 08-20 09:30


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 **SFinPoT** 's shorter than SFinJeffersonCityMO 08-20 09:31


 **BusterSci** SF, is it crazy there? I'm headed that way tomorrow AM 08-20 09:31


 **SFinPoT** Woke up to solid cloud deck. :(08-20 09:31


 **Joanna in New York** Artie was laid up for 43 weeks. The first month of that in the 08-20 09:32
hospital in intensive care, the next 6 months restricted to a 12x12 stall, the last three months, allowed a few minutes in a small pen, but not allowed to do any galavanting.

 **Mons Soseman** Looks like today is the total eclipse of the LUG 08-20 09:33


 **BusterSci** Frau and I had Lathrop and Pattsburg on our target list, depending on cloud 08-20 09:33
cover. But curious what traffic is like in northern MO, SF.

 **Mons Soseman** Flat stage, though, and Artie updates, makes everything worthwhile. 08-20 09:33

 **Steve in CO** Good morning all! Just catching up and was surprised to see Buster's 08-20 09:36
reference to the town I grew up in, Normal IL.

 **BusterSci** On a Carnival cruise, Bonnie Tyler will be singing "Total Eclipse of the 08-20 09:36
Heart" through totality. If I needed another reason not to go on a cruise, that'd fit the bill.

 **Gilliemarie** Friends from here were considering going to Stapleton NE for the eclipse 08-20 09:36

 **BusterSci** I'm really hoping that, like many other events, the number of people that 08-20 09:37

actually go is a small fraction of the number of people considering and talking about going.



memb54 Morning, All. Got up at 5 for a great ride 30km dirt roads and hasn't realised 08-20 09:37

it had rained all night. 46km winds here at the mo so all bike rides are cancelled.



Gilliemarie All hotel/motels were booked in the North Platte area! 08-20 09:38



SFinPoT Sorry. Wi-Fi keeps dropping... So far yesterday was really dead quiet here in 08-20 09:38

JC. I55 and I70 were were heavy but moving fast still.



BusterSci We are all duly shamed for sitting on our duffs. 08-20 09:38



memb54 I'll watch others suffer the winds on tarmac roads instead. 08-20 09:38



BusterSci Are you hoteling, SF, or with family? 08-20 09:38



SFinPoT Hoteling in downtown. We booked about 6 months ago. 08-20 09:39



Mons Soseman Good for you SF 08-20 09:39



SFinPoT Have heard of a lot of room cancelations at one other place. People may be 08-20 09:40

getting cold feet.



Gilliemarie Yeah, my friends didn't book early enough! 08-20 09:40



Mons Soseman Did you see LUG posted yesterday that he heard friends say they were 08-20 09:40

going to Nebraska for the eclipse because Wyoming would be too crowded. ;)



SFinPoT Back in bit. Time for breakfast. 08-20 09:41



BusterSci As Yogi once said, nobody goes there anymore. It's too crowded. 08-20 09:41



Mons Soseman If I go to Nebraska, I would/will also have to contend with Iowa State 08-20 09:42

Fair traffic in I 80. Today is the last day and just that is always a mess.



Mons Soseman but it's the "best State Fair in our State."

08-20 09:42



BusterSci Great, Mons. My brother once had a t-shirt that said "Nobody makes Schlitz

Malt Liquor like Schlitz." Kinda hard to argue with a tautology.



BusterSci We have echelons

08-20 09:44



BusterSci At least a small one off the back

08-20 09:45



BusterSci They're getting back across

08-20 09:45



BusterSci Did you know there was a race on?

08-20 09:45



BusterSci Or were you wondering why Gold was covering a club ride?

08-20 09:46



BusterSci about 72km to go

08-20 09:47



BusterSci Maybe some interest in about an hour.

08-20 09:47



Joanna in New York I really should be doing something else, have had meeting

08-20 09:48

minutes to type up for a couple weeks now. I'm mastering procrastination...



BusterSci Procrastinating is the only thing I'm always willing to do now.

08-20 09:48



BusterSci Froome on the roadside

08-20 09:49



BusterSci Looks mechanical

08-20 09:49



BusterSci Sky bringing him back

08-20 09:49



BusterSci Through the cars


08-20 09:50




BusterSci No panic

08-20 09:50

 **BusterSci** Maybe a lot of soft-pedaling in front 08-20 09:50


 **Steve in CO** I like the guy on the fron't whose helmet resembles a bald head with a sweat band on 08-20 09:52


 **Joanna in New York** Soon, the stage will be over and I'll have to go soak up some sun 08-20 09:54
for a few minutes, which will lead to taking Sofie for a walk, which will lead to needing to take a shower, which will lead to having to clear out the Pub and post transcript and images...methinks the meeting minutes are not going to get done today.


 **BusterSci** Breakfast time. Back in a jif. 08-20 09:55

 **Gilliemarie** Guess nothing much is happening in the race 08-20 09:55

 **Marc @ Toad Hall** 2 KUs left. 08-20 09:56


 **BusterSci** Ham, egg and toast. Satisfying, even with the distinct lack of delicious herrings. 08-20 09:59

 **Joanna in New York** Dudes turning their pedals in abject indifference. 08-20 10:00


 **Marc @ Toad Hall** "A breakfast without delicious herring is like a day without sunshine." 08-20 10:01

 **BusterSci** So, tomorrow. 08-20 10:01

 **BusterSci** Crash 08-20 10:05


 **BusterSci** And FDJ and UAE and Bahrain not getting back on the bikes 08-20 10:05


 **BusterSci** The FDJ may get back on. The UAE is out. Not sure about the Bahrain. 08-20 10:06


 **BusterSci** Marc Fournier (FDJ), Javi Moreno (Bahrain), and Anass Aït El Abdia (UAE) 08-20 10:07


 **BusterSci** Moreno a big loss of Nibali 08-20 10:08

 **BusterSci** for Nibali. 08-20 10:08

 **BusterSci** Have I mentioned how much I love roads lined with plane trees? 08-20 10:10


 **Joanna in New York** NRRBBB: So, my in-utero foal, AJ (Artie Jr.) will be seen on a 08-20 10:11
65 day ultrasound tomorrow. This is usually the time that a repro veterinarian will be able to "fetal sex" the foal. Hoping the view will be afforded the vet, and really hoping for a colt.


 **Marc @ Toad Hall** A bit of shade must feel good for the riders, too. 08-20 10:11


 **BusterSci** We'll be looking for a report, Jo. Hopefully nothing eclipses the vet's view. 08-20 10:12


 **Gilliemarie** What is a 'plane' tree? 08-20 10:12


 **Joanna in New York** Me too, Buster! 08-20 10:13

 **BusterSci** Plane tree is a large tree with very smooth bark that in much of France 08-20 10:14
serves the role that elms once did in the US. It's related to sycamore.















 **BusterSci** //rumbletalk-images- 08-20 10:15
upload.s3.amazonaws.com/61922326bc2ef459e5ed5de71ef53a57/1503238834-Screen%20Shot%202017-08-20%20at%209.15.15%20AM.png


 **BusterSci** //rumbletalk-images- 08-20 10:16
upload.s3.amazonaws.com/61922326bc2ef459e5ed5de71ef53a57/1503238887-Screen%20Shot%202017-08-20%20at%209.16.09%20AM.png


 **Gilliemarie** Thanks. I was thinking 'airplane' :) 08-20 10:17


 **BusterSci** I do not know where the name came from. 08-20 10:19


 **BusterSci** Train stop 08-20 10:22


	Mons Soseman got my bacon and eggs cooking. cooking is better than the stage is doing right now. ;)	08-20 10:22
	Mons Soseman pretty sights Goilliemarie!	08-20 10:22
	BusterSci TGC right as they arrive at the level crossing.	08-20 10:22
	BusterSci TGV	08-20 10:22
	Katie They had to wait for me! Good morning	08-20 10:23
	BusterSci The species of plane tree most commonly used is a cross between the oriental plane and the American sycamore. The bark is really cool. It's mostly smooth, but has a camo color pattern of grayish, greenish, brownish and sometimes yellowish.	08-20 10:26
	BusterSci //rumbletalk-images-upload.s3.amazonaws.com/61922326bc2ef459e5ed5de71ef53a57/1503239518-Screen%20Shot%202017-08-20%20at%209.26.41%20AM.png	08-20 10:26
	Marc @ Toad Hall I like the poplar-lined roads, too; but those are usually farther north.	08-20 10:27
	BusterSci Crash and motor down. Doesn't look too bad	08-20 10:31
	BusterSci Moreno has abandoned	08-20 10:31
	Mons Soseman //rumbletalk-images-upload.s3.amazonaws.com/61922326bc2ef459e5ed5de71ef53a57/1503239806-IMG_3410.JPG	08-20 10:31
	Mons Soseman my view yesterday	08-20 10:31
	BusterSci I believe Fournier is the only one of the three in that earlier crash who is still riding.	08-20 10:32
	donny So with a crash that involves a race moto of some sort, the Vuelta has officially begun.	08-20 10:32


 **BusterSci** Captain Andy! Captain Andy! My but doesn't he look fine and dandy! 08-20 10:32


 **BusterSci** I guess that isn't a paddlewheeler, so it can't be the Showboat. 08-20 10:35

 **Mons Soseman** The one good thing about not having tv coverage is not having to listen to the Eurosport commentators, in English or Italian. :) 08-20 10:35


 **Mons Soseman** There is a ceremonial paddle at the back that turns as the water goes through it :) 08-20 10:35


 **donny** The German is not much better Mons. 08-20 10:35

 **donny** Motorboat doping? 08-20 10:36


 **BusterSci** Is that like the ceremonial paddle at many fraternities, Mons? 08-20 10:36


 **BusterSci** Thank you, Sir! May I have another? 08-20 10:36


 **BusterSci** Fournier has torn up kit, but is otherwise riding and on back of the peloton. He was sidelined a long time after that crash, so they must not have been moving too fast in the peloton for him to get back on. 08-20 10:37


 **donny** My eurosport guys just bravely predicted a sprint for the end of the stage. These guys know there stuff. 08-20 10:37


 **BusterSci** 40.5km 08-20 10:37


 **Mons Soseman** Didn't you predict that for today, Donny, last Autumn when they released the route? 08-20 10:40


 **BusterSci** We're waiting for the intermediate sprint at about 31km to go. Should start to ramp up after that. 08-20 10:40


 **BusterSci** 3s time bonus for the sprint isn't enough for anyone to pass BMC riders, but another BMC could try to pip Dennis to get the jersey. That'd make dinner interesting tonight. 08-20 10:42

 **donny** BMC did not say who they were defending the jersey for now did they. 08-20 10:45


 **BusterSci** Gold commentators discussing the lack of high-end sprinters in the race. 08-20 10:45
Somebody could certainly jump the peloton in this group.

 **Katie in the path of Fog** Scrolled through all the NRRBBB... as for the eclipse... one 08-20 10:45
of my employees lives in Portland OR and asked for the morning off to try to get closer. I'm afeared she'll just be in the path of a monster traffic jam


 **BusterSci** Although most of the guys who are good at that (GvA, Peto, Kwiat) aren't 08-20 10:46
here, either.

 **Marc @ Toad Hall** There are not a lot of pure sprinters in this year's Vuelta. I'm 08-20 10:47
picking Dagenkolb for the stage win. Has anyone else a favorite?


 **donny** Tuens 08-20 10:47


 **BusterSci** Both good picks. Trek has said that today is about AC, not JD. 08-20 10:48

 **Katie in the path of Fog** 33.3 08-20 10:48

 **donny** doubt we see much in the way of organized sprint trains for anyone. The TGV 08-20 10:49
is likely the only train on the course today.

















 **donny** Katusha pushing it for the sprint points 08-20 10:51

















 **BusterSci** Is this for the sprint, or trying to split the group? 08-20 10:51

 **donny** started before the sprint but they have just kept going. all back together now in 08-20 10:52
any case.

 **BusterSci** Froome closes the gap 08-20 10:52

 **donny** spoke to soon there is a split! 08-20 10:52

	donny off the back	08-20 10:53
	Joanna in New York The race hots up and feed freezes...	08-20 10:53
	donny Oss is not a bad pick for today from BMC	08-20 10:53
	BusterSci Now the speed drops and it bunches up again in front.	08-20 10:55
	Katie Guys on bikes, only riding faster, Jo	08-20 10:55
	BusterSci AquaBlue on the front	08-20 10:57
	BusterSci Orica now	08-20 10:57
	Joanna in New York Feed came back - and there was much rejoicing!	08-20 10:57
	BusterSci yeah	08-20 10:58
	donny just in time for some more plane trees Jo	08-20 10:58
	Gilliemarie Now we get a race?	08-20 10:58
	donny not yet Gilliemarie, a little faster but not really racing yet.	08-20 10:59
	donny 23km to go	08-20 10:59
	BusterSci Ohs picked up a second at the intermediate sprint. He's leader on the road, now.	08-20 10:59
	BusterSci Oss. Autocorrect	08-20 11:00
	BusterSci 18.6km	08-20 11:04

	donny lots of head shaking and talk going on up front.	08-20 11:05
	donny "you go", "no, you go", "no"	08-20 11:06
	donny finally astana on the front	08-20 11:06
	donny sky holding close	08-20 11:06
	donny sun web likewise	08-20 11:07
	BusterSci Sunweb and Bahrain and Orica as well	08-20 11:07
	BusterSci Bert poking around up there too	08-20 11:07
	donny and trek?	08-20 11:07
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BusterSci Bert poking around up there too

08-20 11:07



donny and trek?

08-20 11:07



donny missed him

08-20 11:07



BusterSci 16km

08-20 11:07



donny beautiful flying buttresses

08-20 11:08



Gilliemarie Where is BMC?

08-20 11:08



donny lost in the bunch at the moment.

08-20 11:08



donny 14km to go

08-20 11:09



donny in town on small roads

08-20 11:09



BusterSci Donny, you're about a half k in front of me.

08-20 11:09



BusterSci It's GC teams leading

08-20 11:11



BusterSci No sign of a sprint train anywhere

08-20 11:11



BusterSci 13km

08-20 11:11



BusterSci 12km

08-20 11:12



donny .7 in front

08-20 11:12



BusterSci The faster they go, the further out front you are.

08-20 11:13



BusterSci 11km

08-20 11:13



BusterSci Aquablue is the only team out there that's just looking for a stage win for their sprinter.

08-20 11:13



donny .6 they must have eased off on the last round-a-bout

08-20 11:13



BusterSci The others may have sprinters, but they are GC teams

08-20 11:14



BusterSci Sunweb, LottoJ, Bahrain, leading

08-20 11:14



donny "sprinters"

08-20 11:14



BusterSci 9.8km

08-20 11:14



Trish in MA Wow, If Donny hadn't told us how far ahead he was, we'd have thought he was clairvoyant.

08-20 11:15



BusterSci Dang. Should have DM'd him instead.



BusterSci 9km

08-20 11:15



BusterSci Sky taking control in a cross wind

08-20 11:15



donny Trish, as mons pointed out. I did predict last autumn that todays stage would end in a sprint. Does that not count?

08-20 11:16



donny More dudes out the back



BusterSci We have a spit

08-20 11:16



BusterSci Or a split

08-20 11:16



BusterSci The split was spit out the back

08-20 11:16



Trish in MA Donny, I bow to your obvious superpower!

08-20 11:16



Katie Ugh, trying to hold on at the tail-end in wind ... and now a split?

08-20 11:16



BusterSci 80 or so in front

08-20 11:17




















BusterSci Sky on the front


















08-20 11:17



Katie SkyMartians crank up turboboost

08-20 11:17

	BusterSci 25s back to the dropped riders	08-20 11:19
	BusterSci 5.5km	08-20 11:19
	BusterSci 5km	08-20 11:19
	donny they are strung out on the road a bit now	08-20 11:19
	BusterSci Astana attacks	08-20 11:20
	BusterSci no gap	08-20 11:20
	BusterSci 4km	08-20 11:20
	BusterSci Lovely monestary	08-20 11:20
	donny froome puts knees up on the front again.	08-20 11:21
	BusterSci Froome puts his knees all over the place.	08-20 11:21
	BusterSci 2.5km	08-20 11:22
	donny elbows to now that you mention it.	08-20 11:22
	Katie Which is what I thought Donny was talking about	08-20 11:22
	BusterSci QS on the front	08-20 11:22
	BusterSci Splitting it off	08-20 11:22
	donny and they have a bit of a gap	08-20 11:22
	BusterSci Blythe from Aquablue in there	08-20 11:22

	BusterSci Cannondale trying to close	08-20 11:23
	Joanna in New York Gaps Aplenty!	08-20 11:23
	BusterSci Big gaps	08-20 11:23
	donny 700m and there is a serious attack	08-20 11:23
	Joanna in New York Minimal gap minding...	08-20 11:23
	BusterSci Love QS in the crosswinds	08-20 11:23
	donny trentin	08-20 11:23
	BusterSci 1km	08-20 11:23
	BusterSci QS off the front	08-20 11:23
	donny he opened his sprint at the red kite	08-20 11:23
	BusterSci 500m	08-20 11:23
	BusterSci Ohs trying to close	08-20 11:24
	Mons Soseman Christian Knees? must be Sunday morning	08-20 11:24
	BusterSci Lampaert wins	08-20 11:24
	donny ?	08-20 11:24
	BusterSci Ohs should be in red	08-20 11:24
	BusterSci Donny was wrong a year ago	08-20 11:24



donny I did not say bunch sprint.

08-20 11:25



BusterSci Oh, wait. QS was only 6s back, right?

08-20 11:25



BusterSci I think QS has red!

08-20 11:25



BusterSci Waiting for top tens

08-20 11:26



BusterSci Gold is obsessed with Dennis. He's out of red, at least to Oss. They missed

08-20 11:26

it.



donny The time that is before the time that was is the time for me because, it reminds

08-20 11:27

me of the time I knew what would come after the time in question.



Joanna in New York Thanks Buster and Tim!! Great to see you here, Donny! I have to

08-20 11:27

teach in the AM, will try to be back before the finale. :-)



BusterSci //rumbletalk-images-

08-20 11:27

upload.s3.amazonaws.com/61922326bc2ef459e5ed5de71ef53a57/1503243157-Screen%20Shot%202017-08-20%20at%2010.27.11%20AM.png



BusterSci Getting the wide angle flyover shots that normal presage a top ten list.

08-20 11:28



Mons Soseman Two Italians, two GERMans and a Brit in the top five. What race is this

08-20 11:28

again?



BusterSci But they must be working their slide rules

08-20 11:28



Gilliemarie Thanks guys. See you in the am

08-20 11:29



donny bis morgen alles!

08-20 11:30



BusterSci This is annoying. How hard is it to figure the top 10 GC?

08-20 11:32



BusterSci //rumbletalk-images-

08-20 11:34



BusterSci I'll check in tomorrow, but hopefully Tim can cover the call.

08-20 11:34



Marc @ Toad Hall Thanks, folks.

08-20 11:34



Katie See you all in the morning, before it gets dark again

08-20 11:35



Trish in MA Thanks guys

08-20 11:35