



Riders will return to Wirral and race through Heswall, Caldy and Hoylake before passing through the Birkenhead Park finish line and taking in a loop through Seacombe, Wallasey and New Brighton.

Stage five will feature three intermediate Eisberg sprints, sponsored by the UK's number one alcohol-free wine brand Eisberg, at Heswall, Hoylake and Birkenhead Park. The day's three SKODA King of the Mountains climbs come at Kelsall in Cheshire, before the short ascent of Flaybrick Hill in Birkenhead is tackled twice during the race finale.

Earlier this year Wirral Council successfully hosted a round of the OVO Energy Tour Series for the first time with Hamilton Square in Birkenhead welcoming elite men's and women's racing, attracting over 10,000 spectators.

Cllr Christine Spriggs, Cabinet Member for Culture and Tourism at Wirral Council, said: "This year Wirral is the Liverpool City Region Borough of Culture. We've got a hugely exciting programme of events lined up, and the OVO Energy Tour of Britain is the jewel in our crown. Wirral truly does have something for everyone and it's no wonder our visitor numbers get bigger every year."

Commenting on the stage, OVO Energy Tour Series Race Director Mick Bennett added: "Everyone saw the support that the OVO Energy Tour Series generated in Birkenhead and now we are looking forward to making an even bigger impact with the OVO Energy Tour of Britain. Since we announced in January that the race would be coming to Wirral we have had amazing support from Wirral Council and their partners, plus a great reception from the Merseyside public. I am sure this is going to be a memorable stage with incredible community support across the route."

What is happening in Heswall?

Heswall will host one of three daily Eisberg Sprints, which will finish by Our Lady & St John Church on Telegraph Road at approximately 2.00pm.

This is an intermediate sprint where the first three riders across the line win points (3-2-1) towards the red Eisberg Sprints jersey, plus time bonuses. On the day there will be a short run of barriers and branding erected for the sprint, and there will be a judging team there to get the result.

It is guaranteed to feature in the live coverage and highlights on ITV4.

Heswall & District Business Association (HDBA) is encouraging local businesses and residents to welcome the tour to Heswall. HDBA Chairman Stephen Atherton told *Heswall Magazine*: "We hope that people will come out and support this event. It is a great honour for Heswall and the local community to be included on the Tour schedule. We will be providing Union Jacks for spectators to wave whilst welcoming the riders and hope to involve local schools."

