

2018



# TOUR OF THE GREAT SOUTH COAST

## August 15 - 19

### FROM CHINA VICTORY TO GREAT SOUTH COAST GOAL

Cameron Scott is coming off a high as he heads into this week's Campolina-Visit Victoria Tour of the Great South Coast.

Scott returned from China last week where he enjoyed "the biggest win of my career" in the Tour of Qinghai Lake, saluting in the third stage as well as finishing third in the final stage of the 235km feature.

And he did it at 2000m-3000m altitude which, he believes, will have him primed for the seventh Tour of the Great South Coast's five-day, 491.8km cycling classic.

Scott, who won the Fulton Hogan criterium championship at the 2017-2018 Tasmanian Christmas Sports Carnivals, is only 20 and is riding in career-best form.

"It is great to gain overseas experience. This was my first time competing in Asia, and it was a real eye-opener to be in central China, he said."

"I spent a few months in Europe last year so gaining international experience and exposure is a real bonus."

Scott is contesting the Tour of the Great South Coast for the first time and, after pedalling in 30-plus degrees in China, knows he can expect colder, wetter and windier conditions when the tour kicks off at Mount Gambier on Wednesday.

However, the Australian Cycling Academy-Ride Sun cyclist, who is part of a brilliant team including Commonwealth Games Gold medallists Sam Welsford and Kell O'Brien, is confident of a bold showing.

"I have seen the course and it is not too hilly. I reckon I will be able to get up them and be around the mark," he said.



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"There looks to be legs that I give myself a chance to contest, especially the opening criterium at Mount Gambier and the final stage at Portland, but we have plenty of options within the team for blokes to have a crack," he said.

Scott, who is dedicating himself totally to cycling, will have 46 Carlin & Gazzard intermediate sprints to tackle and, as he said, he is not fazed by the 20 Scody hill climbs.

The Camden rider from NSW, who represented Australia at the World Junior Champions in multiple events, has the track-speed and skills to become a genuine weapon.

In fact, his victory at the Qinghai Lake tour came on the third of four straight mountain stages. He won with an uphill sprint after joining a breakaway about 10km from the finish.

The aspiring Olympian won praise from ACA sports director Stuart Shaw who said that "we know Cam Scott is a talent" and that he was producing the results which could gain him an elite international contract.

"For such a young rider, this goes a long way," he said. "He can climb, he can time trial, he's one of the best pursuited in the world as well."

"We just want to see him get a chance to race these sorts of races whilst chasing his track ambitions and the Olympics."

Scott, who as a 13-year-old won all three NSW road titles - the under 15 road, criterium and time trial - will be part of more than 100 elite cyclists heading to Mount Gambier.

The multi-sponsored race is backed by the City of Mount Gambier and District Council of Grant in South Australia, and the Glenelg Shire in Victoria. The Victorian State Government is a major contributor.



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