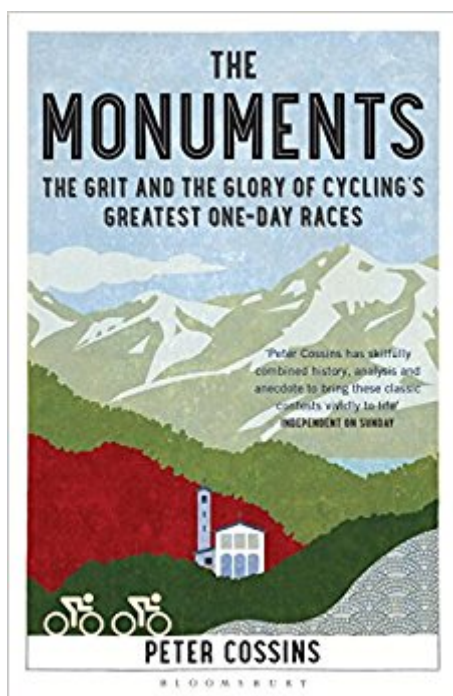


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# The Monuments: The Grit And The Glory Of Cycling's Greatest One-day Races



## Synopsis

The Tour de France may provide the most obvious fame and glory, but it is cycling's one-day tests that the professional riders really prize. Toughest, longest, and dirtiest of all are the so-called Monuments, the five legendary races that are the sport's equivalent of golf's majors or tennis grand slams. Milan-Sanremo, the Tour of Flanders, Paris-Roubaix, Liège-Bastogne-Liège, and the Tour of Lombardy date back more than a century, and each of them is an anomaly in modern-day sport, the cycling equivalent of the Monaco Grand Prix. Time has changed them to a degree, but they remain as brutally testing as they ever have been. They provide the sport's outstanding one-day performers--the likes of Philippe Gilbert, Fabian Cancellara, Mark Cavendish, Tom Boonen, Peter Sagan, and Thor Hushovd--with a chance to measure themselves against one another and their predecessors in the most challenging tests in world cycling. From the bone-shattering bowler-hat cobbles of the Paris-Roubaix to the insanely steep hellingen in the Tour of Flanders, each race is as unique as the riders who push themselves through extreme exhaustion to win them and enter their epic history. In *The Monuments*, Peter Cossins tells the tumultuous history of these extraordinary races and the riders they have immortalized.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

“In this new book from Peter Cossins, each race is given its due including history, anecdotes, and legendary performances.”  
• “Bicycling Magazine”  
“Peter Cossins is an engaging writer who's conversational style makes this an effortless yet interesting read. The cosy tone delivers a great deal with a good balance of history and anecdotes. If you wish

to explore cycling beyond the Grand Tours this is the book. Carlton Kirby

Peter Cossins has been writing about cycling since 1993. He has covered sixteen editions of the Tour de France and spent three years as editor of Pro Cycling magazine and the last four as contributing editor to that title. He has also contributed to the Guardian, the Times, the Sunday Telegraph, the Sunday Express, and the Sunday Herald. In 2012 he collaborated with Tour de France winner Stephen Roche on his autobiography, Born to Ride.

Bike racing - the way it was meant to be.

Good historical account.

An informative book on the Monuments of cycling. The history of which is quite entertaining!

Great book for me, a Masters Cyclist in the 70-74 age group.

Took me awhile to get into this one, but it grew on me. If you have interest in the 5 Monuments of Cycling you'll like it, otherwise you might find it tough to get into?

Excellent historical account of cycling's greatest one day races. In depth research and readable prose make this a must read for the serious cycling fan. Only downside was a bit too much emphasis on the earliest days of each race; nonetheless the overall experience is very informative and enlightening.

A real trainspotters book - goes into endless details and obscure facts. Great if you have that level of interest but whilst interesting for a while, I found myself seeing finishing it more of an endurance task than anything.

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