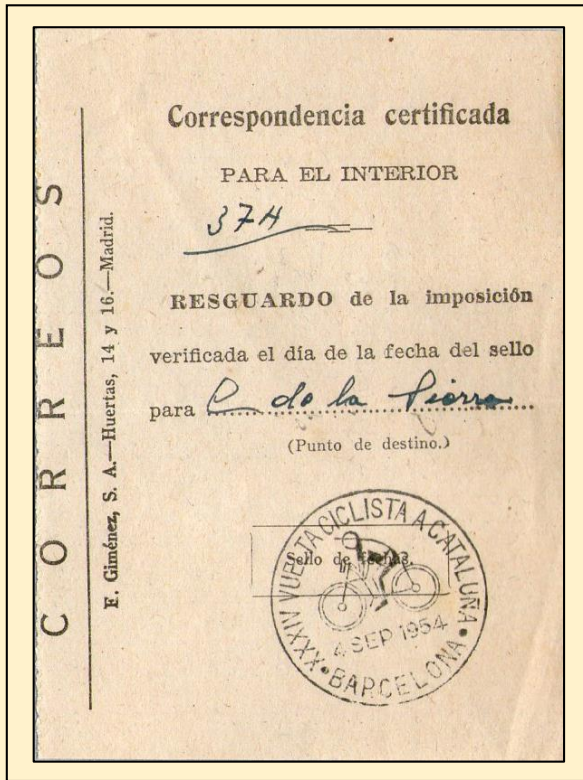


The Tour of Catalonia, La Volta, It is the oldest stage race (1911) after Le Tour and Il Giro. Its enormous international prestige comes from its extraordinary list of winners, which includes the great legends of Cycling: Merckx, Anquetil, Hinault, Ocaña, Indurain...



Spain (1954). Registered letter receipt with first Spanish pictorial rubber stamp devoted to Cycling used as a dater (left) and its regular use on inland letter (up).



Spain (1995). Pictorial rubber postmark depicting Sebastià Masdeu, the first winner of the race (1911).

Sebastià Masdeu won the 1st edition of the race, and Mariano Cañardo is the cyclist who has won most editions (7 times in the period 1928-1939, before and after the Spanish Civil War).

It is remarkable that La Volta is well known among the cyclo-philately enthusiastic because it is the race with the most issued postmarks after Le Tour, Il Giro and The Peace Race.

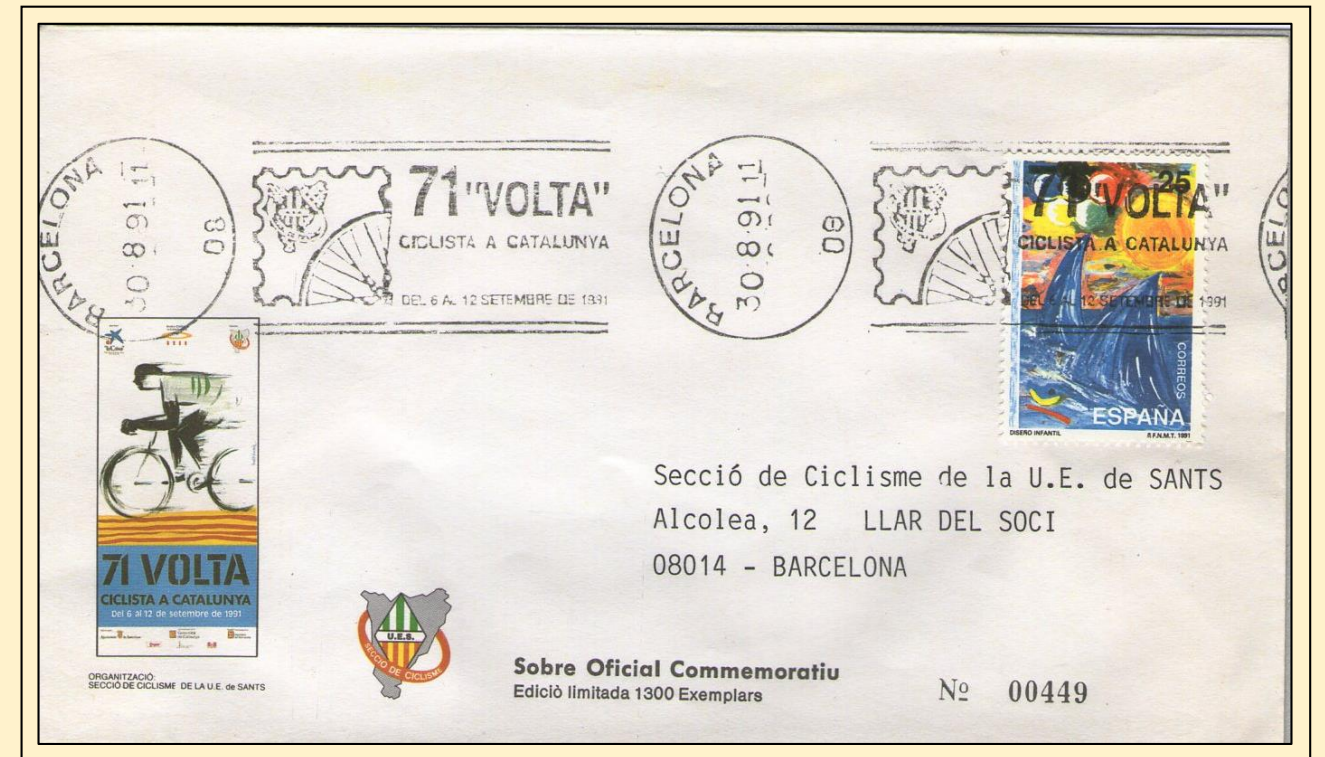
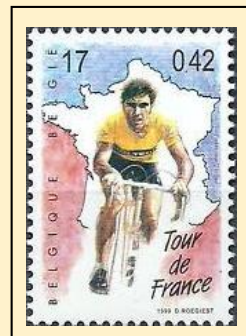


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Spain (1981). Pictorial roll cancellation promoting the race on a letter franked for inland use and used on 10/08/1981.

It was during the years of Developmentalism in Spain that the best international riders began to participate in La Volta, because the dates of the Catalan race were key in the preparation for the season calendar.



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Sobre Oficial Commemoratiu  
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Nº 00449



Spain (1983). Pictorial roll cancellation.



Spain (1955). Upper part of only known complete sheet of 1955 cinderella stamp.