

Valentino Rossi: the story of an incredible legend

The Italian says goodbye with nine world titles, seven of them in the highest category

Barquisimeto, Lara Nov 15, 2021 ([Issuewire.com](https://www.issuewire.com)) - VENEZUELA - The new report, written by the Venezuelan journalist [Tomás Elías González Benítez](#), analyzes the trajectory of Valentino Rossi, the sports legend, which increases his history by retiring from motorcycling.

Rossi won nine World Championships in four different categories: one in the 125 class, one in the 250, and one in the 500. This class then gave rise to MotoGP, where Rossi became the absolute king. Six world titles, five in a row, from 2001 to 2005.

His career in the 125 and 250 category

Rossi made his World Championship debut in the 125 class, in 1996. The first podium came in Austria, on August 4, and his first victory a couple of weeks later, in Brno.

Rossi's bike is a 'private' Aprilia but, in 1997, he was promoted to the factory team, where he won the title.

As a world champion, Vale immediately jumps to 250. In his first year, in 1998, he finished in second place in the standings, behind Capirossi. A year later, in 1999, he won the World Championship.

His trajectory in 500 and Moto GP

At the end of this season, Rossi lands in the premier class, and he does so on one of the most robust bikes in history.

Aprilia's farewell coincides with the hug to Honda. In 2000, the season started uphill, but Valentino still took home two GPs (Great Britain and Brazil) and finished second.

As in the 250 class, Rossi wins his first MotoGP title, starting the fantastic series of world triumphs with his factory Honda.

2002 season: despite Honda's complicated relationship, Vale beats everyone with 11 victories and 4-second places.

The same movie at the 2003 World Championship, but the paths between Honda and Rossi parted ways at the end of the season.

Valentino seeks new motivations and above all a more welcoming environment.

Yamaha

Rossi comes to Yamaha and feels at home. The debut in South Africa is a chill down the back of all fans. Vale wins and cries. The Championship is yours.

Likewise, in 2005. Bad luck stains Valentino's path in MotoGP 2006. A fall in Valencia prevents him from competing for the title. He finished 13th and the World Champion was Hayden.

The last two titles come in 2008 and 2009, while the 2010 season is marked by the severe injury he suffered at Mugello, during testing: double leg fracture and surgery.

The stop costs the sprint to the World Cup, but Rossi still performs the miracle of returning to the track, just a month and ten days after surgery.

The following two seasons, he would race with Ducati, where he did not get any title, and, in addition, he suffered the loss of his friend Simoncelli.

The return to Yamaha

The return to Yamaha is in 2013, but the overwhelming power of Honda and Marquez pushes Valentino's ambitions backward.

In 2015, he lost the World Cup due to the clash with Márquez himself. The friendship between the two ends in Malaysia after a melee on the track. Rossi comes into contact with Márquez in a dangerous overtaking. The maneuver is considered incorrect and, therefore, must be sanctioned. The punishment for Vale will be the start from the last position in Valencia, in the final GP of the season. Impossible to reach seven points of difference with Lorenzo, who becomes World Champion.

In 2016, Valentino aimed directly for the World Cup (number 10 of his career). Still, determination and optimism are not enough, as is the continuity of results that, in any case, coincides with only two victories.

Rossi is second and in 2017 the most difficult phase of results of his career begins.

On June 25, in the Netherlands, Vale won a spectacular GP and took the podium like a child. A 38-year-old 129-day-old boy, or the 'oldest' rider in history to win a MotoGP race. This is Rossi's latest winning flash.

The Yamaha is no longer the motorcycle that could bring you closer to your dream. Above all, it suffers from the strength of Honda, the relaunch of Ducati, and the surprise of Suzuki, world champion in the year of the pandemic, 2020.

In 2021, Rossi moves from the official Yamaha team to the Petronas satellite team. The results do not come and the outlook turns bleak immediately after the start of the season.

Once fired from the world of motorcycling, everything seems to indicate that Rossi's future is in cars.

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