



### **The ORLEN Nations Grand Prix is about to kick off**

**All you need to know about the competition that kicks off the UCI Under23 Nations Cup.**

*Warsaw, 2021 May 27<sup>th</sup>* - Next weekend, Białystok will host the most promising U23 riders for the first Nations Cup race. On May 29 and 30 the athletes will battle on a circuit designed to test both their legs and courage and win a seat in the front row, to discover their skills and make the big step among the professionals.

#### **The course in detail.**

The race includes two challenging and demanding stages, both starting and finishing in Białystok. The first 142km stage features two ascents that the riders will have to climb before heading into the 5.2 km long circuit to be raced three times. The second stage, characterized by an undulating route, is 124km long and is expected to be a fascinating conclusion full of twists and turns.

#### **The talented young riders to keep an eye on during the race.**

Despite its young history, the ORLEN Nations' Grand Prix has already proved to be a springboard for emerging talents. 25 teams will be at the start, including the Polish national team and three regional groups.

There will be many names to consider during this fourth edition. The Italian Luca Colnaghi, real surprise of last year's U23 Giro - where he won the red jersey and scored two stage victories - while recently triumphing at the Matteotti Trophy; The French Paul Lapeira, fresh winner of the Città San Vendemiano Trophy; Ivan Smirnov winner at the Coppa Caduti Nervianesi with a spectacular sprint.

The Polish National Team will attend with Maciejuk Filip - Leopard Team, Papierski Damian - Voster ATS Team, Gałka Michał - Maloja Pushbikers, Proć Bartłomiej - Pogoń Mostostal Puławy, Wawrzyniak Karol - Pogoń Mostostal Puławy, Szymacha Kamil -LKS Golczewo Tower, Miazga Jan - Luks Three in Piaseczno, Górak Dominik - General Store-Essegibi, Drobek Hubert - Gaverzicht-BE Okay.

Tomasz Brożyna, current coach of the U23 Polish team, winner of the Tour de Pologne, Olympian athlete in Atlanta and Athens a few weeks ago stated: 'We will spend time getting to know the route and training so as to get ready for the competition in Białystok. The route is hilly and demanding; it will for sure be an exciting race. We will definitely fight for victory and we have the chance to compete with top U23 riders. I am glad that such a large group of Polish competitors has the opportunity to take part in the struggle and gather valuable experience,' he concludes.

**ORLEN**    
**NATIONS GRAND PRIX**  
**29-30.05.2021**  
**LANGTEAM**

### **The region**

Białystok will be the charming backdrop to this year's competition. The two stages of the ORLEN Nations Grand Prix, taking place on May 29-30, will be hosted in the historic region of Podlachia, a natural pearl with many protected forests and a multi-ethnic land, rich in different traditions. Its capital city, Białystok, will be the protagonist of these two intense days.

Białystok lies in the Białystok Plateau of the Podlaskie Plain, on the banks of the Biała River. This city is a hub of the academic, cultural and artistic life of its region as well as being the most important economic center of north-eastern Poland. The charming streets surrounded by greenery and the many churches are the heart of this place, where tradition blends with modernity.

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