

A FLAGS' PARTY AT THE 2021 TOUR DE POLOGNE

Eleven new national champions will line up at the 78th edition of the Polish race.

Based on current entry lists, the 78th edition of the Tour de Pologne, held from 9 to 15 August, is expected to be a big party of flags with 11 National champions to attend, some of whom are making their first appearance in their new colours.

Among the most eagerly awaited names on the many undulating finishes that characterise the Polish race are the two Bahrain Victorious riders, the Slovenian star **Matej Mohoric**, who has already won twice in his new national champion's jersey, confirming his great peak of form; and **Sonny Colbrelli**, who triumphed at the Italian championship in Imola on the the same track as the 2020 World Championships.

Other riders to keep an eye on are undoubtedly the newly crowned French champion **Remi Cavagna**, one of the most versatile riders in Patrick Lefevere's Wolfpack team. It will also be interesting to see how Kazakhstan's **Evgeniy Fedorov** (Astana Premier-Tech) will perform, being one of the youngest national champions at the start. **Tobias Foss** (Jumbo-Visma) is instead holding both the road and ITT titles and will never change his Norwegian uniform, while **Maciej Paterski** (Polish National Team) will sport the Polish colors in his home race.

Also the time trial is greeted by a number of new national champions showing off their colours on August 14th on the Katowice city circuit and **Matteo Sobrero** (Astana Pro-Team) is definitely one of the favorites in the sixth stage. Katowice will be the perfect setting where to see the new Italian champion in action. After beating world champion Filippo Ganna at the Italian championships last June 18, the Piedmontese rider will sport the national jersey for the first time during the Tour de Pologne time trial.

Another formidable contender will surely be **João Almeida** (Deceuninck - Quick-Step), fresh Portuguese champion who will line up in the race after a promising first part of the season. Home favourite **Maciej Bodnar** (BORA-hansgrohe) is also expected to wear his red and white outfit on the roads of his native Silesia and two other national champions will make the decisive Tour de Pologne ITT exciting: former hour record holder and now Austrian champion **Matthias Brandl** (Israel Start-Up Nation) and **Toms Skujiņš** (Trek-Segafredo), Latvian time trial and road title holder