



MEDIA KIT

The stages of the fifth edition of the ORLEN Nations Grand Prix have been unveiled

Sprinters and climbers will face a complete race in all respects

The ORLEN Nations Grand Prix is one the cycling races in the prestigious series of UCI Nations Cup U23. This is an exceptional event, in which most talented riders from all over the world compete while representing their countries. The upcoming fifth edition of the ORLEN Nations Grand Prix involves three countries with a race course that will run through Hungary, Slovakia and Poland. The riders will have to cover five stages, with a total length of almost 700 kilometers and a total elevation gain of more than 10,000 meters. The UCI race will be preceded by an event for amateurs - ORLEN Nations Grand Prix Challenge in Dlouhé stráně in the Czech Republic, on a 12.5 kilometers uphill individual time trial.



BRIEF HISTORICAL INFO

The history of the ORLEN Nations Grand Prix dates back to 2019. Since then, the project has been steadily developing, gaining more publicity and prestige. Competitors who have raced and won in Poland in the past are now successfully competing in events of the World Tour rank. Past participants include Ethan Hayter - winner of the 2022 Tour de Pologne, Olav Kooji and Marijn van den Berg.

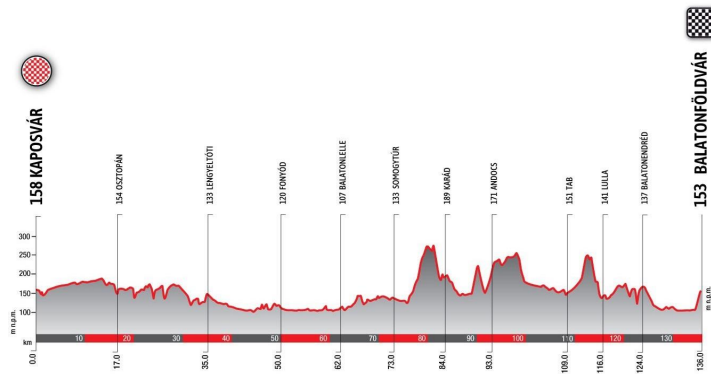




RACE ROUTE

24.05 STAGE 1 - 136 km - Kaposvár- Balatonföldvár | Hungary

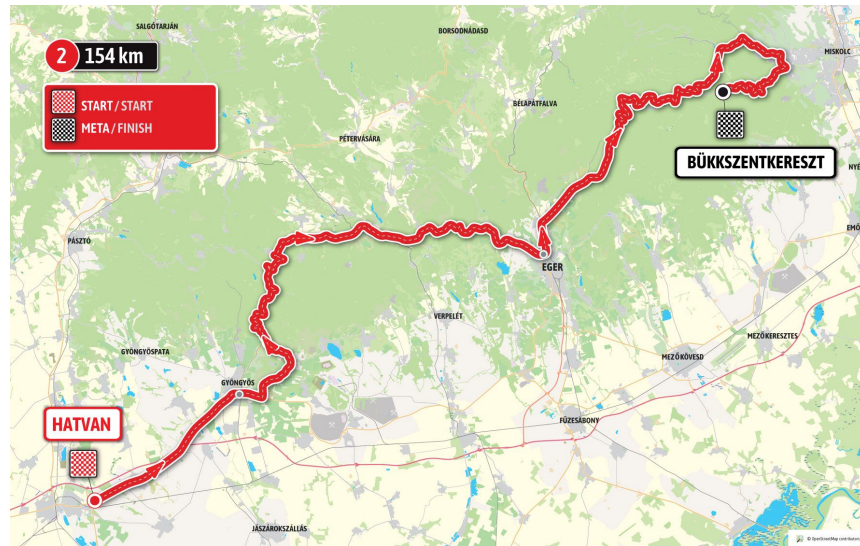
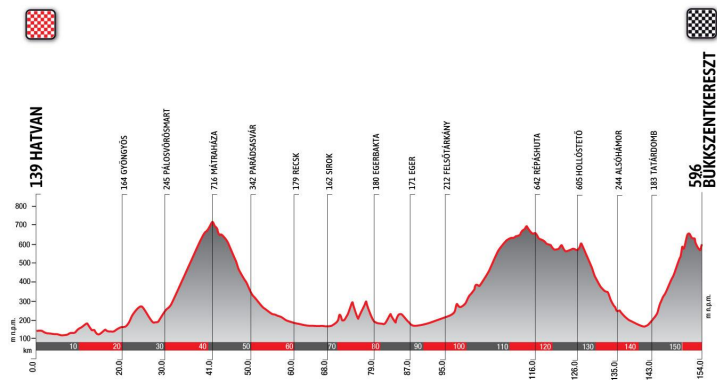
The stage starting in Kaposvár - known for the Zselic nature reserve and the fascinating remains of the Benedictine abbey of Szentjakab - ends in Balatonföldvár - Hungary - and is absolutely a great start to the new edition of the U23 race. This location, no stranger to international cycling, hosted a stage of the Giro d'Italia last year. The course is mostly flat, making it ideal for sprinters, except for the last few meters, which are characterized by an almost unexpected climb with gradients of up to 5%. The breathtaking finish with a splendid view of Lake Balaton will be the deserved reward for the winner of the day.





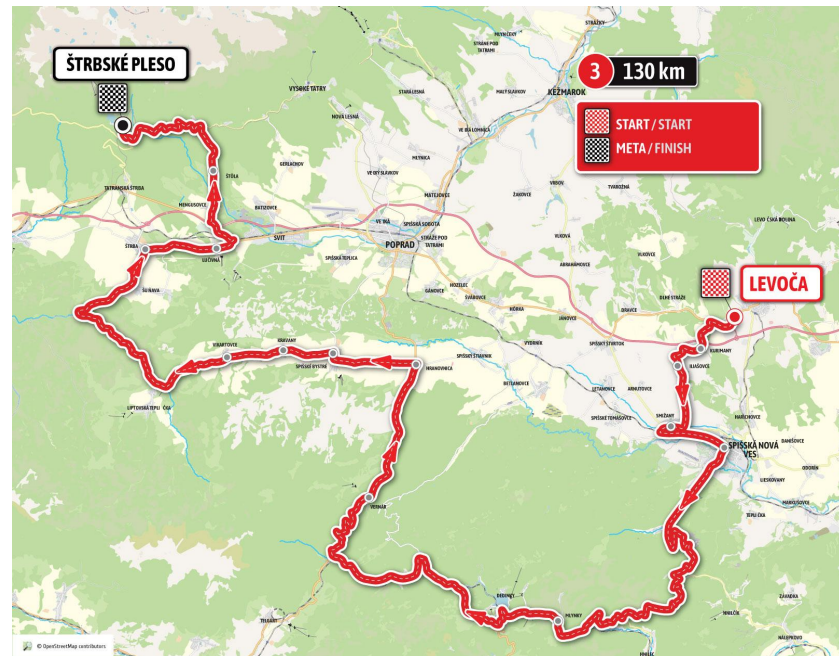
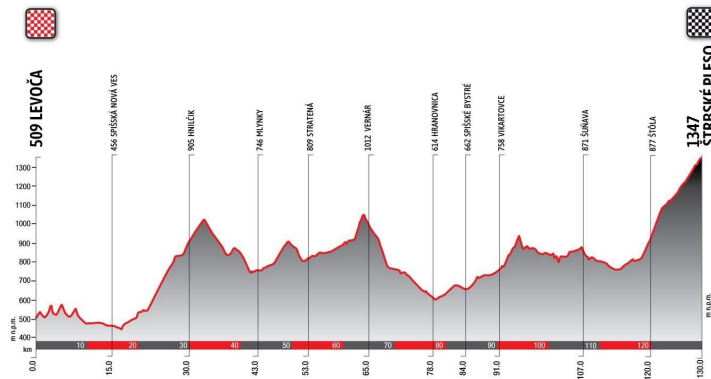
25.05 STAGE 2 - 154 km - Hatvan - Bükksgentkereszt | Hungary

The second stage starts in Hatvan, which in the local language means 'sixty' and legend says that the name is due to the distance separating it from Budapest. This location is in fact exactly sixty kilometers east of the capital. It will be a stage of ups and downs that will favor climbers, with many climbs with gradients of around 5%, totalling 2300 meters of elevation gain. A long and demanding climb of almost 6 kilometers awaits the finish in Bükksgentkereszt, surrounded by beautiful mountain scenery.



26.05 STAGE 3 - 130 km - Levoča- Štrbské Pleso | Slovakia

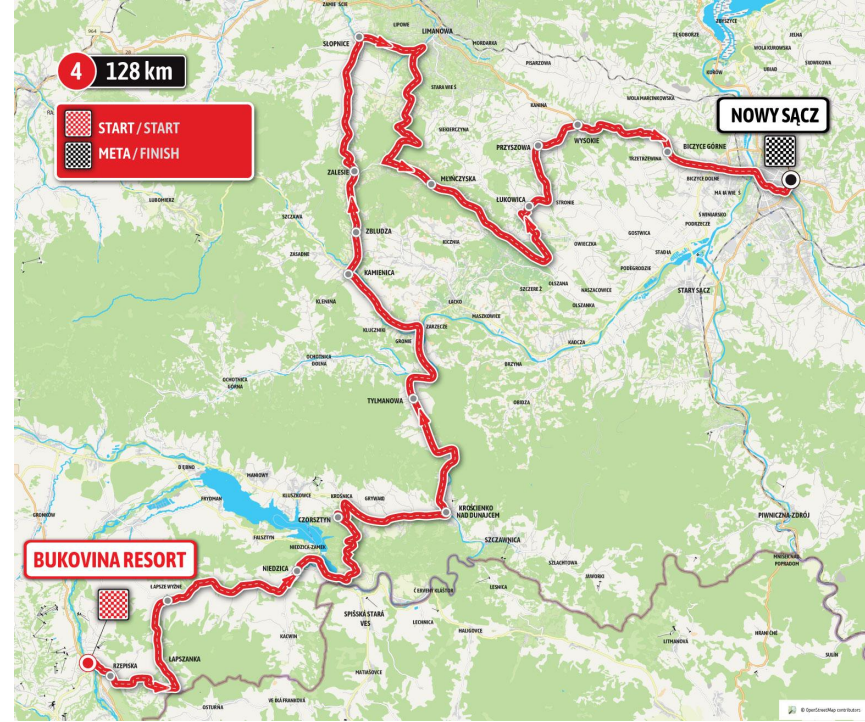
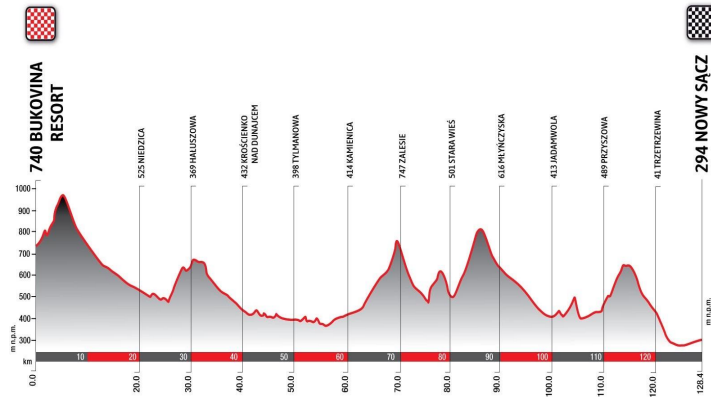
The third stage will move the entire peloton to Slovakia, where breathtaking scenery - very familiar from the Tour de Pologne - will welcome the riders. In fact, the view of the Tatra Mountains will provide the backdrop for this stage completely dedicated to climbers. The altimetry of the route includes very tough climbs with a total altitude difference of more than 2,300 meters. The finish line will be preceded by a ten-kilometer climb that promises spectacle to the last meter before the finish line in the center of Štrbské Pleso, a paradise for lovers of outdoor sports.





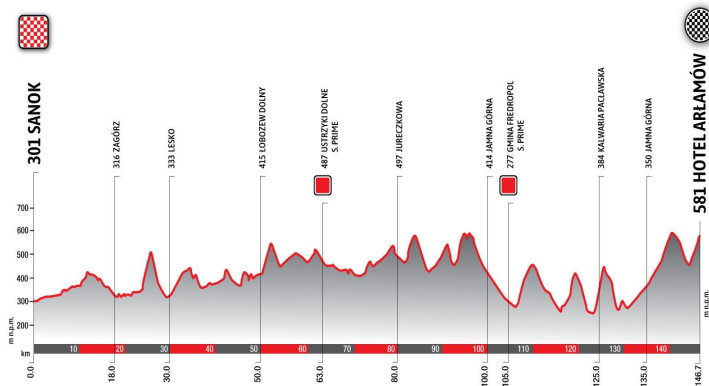
27.05 STAGE 4 - 128 km - Bukovina Resort - Nowy Sącz | Poland

After the stage in Slovakia, the race will move on to Poland, gathering the riders in Bukovina for the start of stage four, an iconic location where the Tour de Pologne has taken place numerous times. The route features a steep initial climb followed by a rolling section that will take the riders to the halfway point of the 128-kilometer stage. The stage features an interesting and rather demanding section that includes a 4-kilometer climb, on which the Polish mountain car championship is held every year. The finish in Nowy Sącz will certainly be an ideal one for the sprinters



28.05 STAGE 5 - 147 km - Sanok - Hotel Arłamów | Poland

The final stage from Sanok to Hotel Arłamów partly follows the route of last year's Tour de Pologne. It is a very exciting final challenge, characterised by several short but sharp climbs that will favour Classics' riders. Two special bonuses located in the town of Ustrzyki Dolne and Gmina Fredropol will make it even more adrenaline-pumping. The final consists of a 2-kilometre climb to be ridden twice with a gradient of 10%. The finish line, located in the Hotel Arłamów, is framed by the beauty of the Carpathian Mountains, and will crown the winner of the fifth edition of this race.





PREVIOUS WINNER AND QUOTES

Nicolas Prodhomme - FRANCE | 2019 EDITION WINNER

Nicolas Prodhomme is now a professional rider for AG2R

'The ORLEN Nations Grand Prix means a lot to me. It is my only victory in the UCI U23 Nations Cup and to win with the jersey of the French team is a very special feeling. We also won the team time trial, which is a nice memory.

Also, I was the first winner of the race, which makes it even more special, a great memory. The race has evolved since then and remains a very nice event for U23 riders.'



Olav Kooij - NETHERLANDS | 2020 EDITION WINNER

Olav Kooij is now a professional rider for Jumbo-Visma

"The ORLEN Grand Prix of Nations is definitely one of the most eagerly awaited races for the U23s. All the best riders in the category take part in the race and that makes it really interesting, because obviously every rider gives it his all. I am really happy that I managed to win and I will always remember it as a very nice victory."



Marijn van den Berg - NETHERLANDS | 2021 EDITION WINNER

Marijn van den Berg is now a professional rider for
EF Education-EasyPost

*"It is a nice race that I did two times. Doing a race with the
National team is always special. And we won both years. Two
years ago I won both stages and that was great. It definitely
helped me getting to the level where I am now."*



Morten Nørtoft - DENMARK | 2022 EDITION WINNER

Morten Nørtoft is now a professional rider for Jumbo-Visma Development Team

'Honestly, the ORLEN Nations Grand Prix is a great race. The organisation is fantastic, the race is super well done. During the competition you feel really safe on the road, the finishes are well planned, there are barriers everywhere and everything you need for any kind of finish. I have to say that the 2022 edition was really good, even though the weather was not the best and we raced in the rain. Maybe that made it even more fun. Yes, it's a fantastic event, I'm curious to see the course for 2023 and I hope to be able to come back.'





LEADER JERSEY

The leader's jersey - so coveted and valuable - is sponsored by PKN ORLEN - main sponsor of the event - and produced by Quest, ORLEN Nations Grand Prix official partner.





SPECIAL CHALLENGE FOR AMATEURS

Special challenge for amateurs will precede the main event

Ambitious fans of cycling will have an opportunity to challenge themselves on one of the toughest climbs in the Czech Republic.

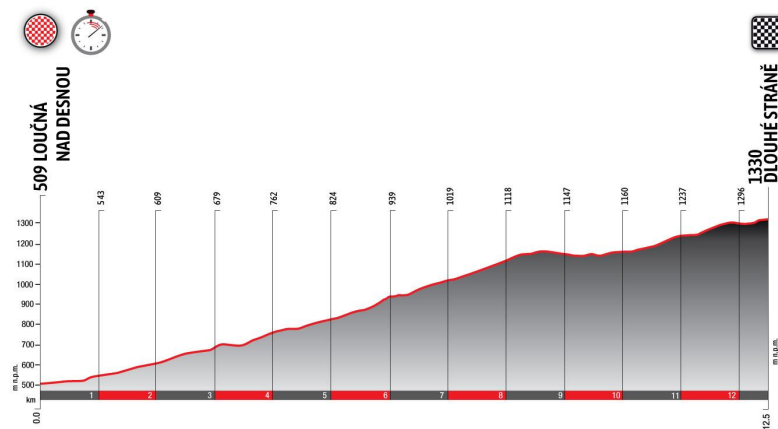
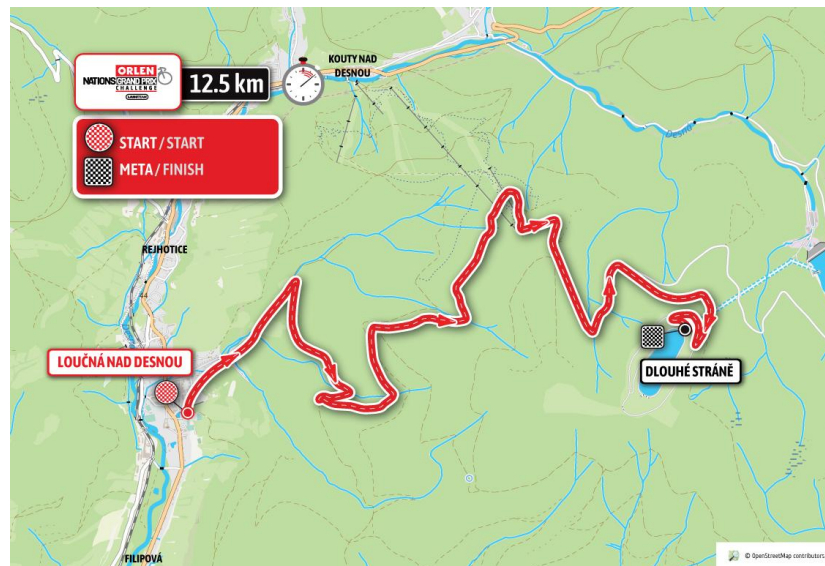
Cycling is full of challenges, opportunities to test your abilities and push your limits. That's why the ORLEN Nations Grand Prix Challenge is a unique race. During an uphill individual time trial on a course designed in the Czech Republic, ambitious amateurs will perform themselves against professional cyclists and maybe even beat their time.



21.05 ITT - 12.5 km - Loučná nad Desnou - Dlouhé stráně | The Czech Republic

The finish is located on the Dlouhé stráně mountain summit. This climb, considered to be one of the toughest in the Czech Republic with gradient up to 17%, was previously a scene for different important races. In 2021, current Italian champion – Filippo Zanna set the record time on this climb. A one-of-a-kind experience is guaranteed, which at the same time will open on Sunday May 21st the ORLEN Nations Grand Prix race week.

For more info and registration visit www.orlennationsgrandprix.com





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