

Tour de Pologne[®]



Tour de Pologne UCI WorldTour: every chance for riders to shine in their home race
Some interesting names of Polish riders on WorldTour teams at the start of the 81st edition of the Tour de Pologne.

The Tour de Pologne UCI WorldTour is once again shaping up to be a great celebration for the country. The public will have another chance to cheer on their favourites, while the Polish riders will have a perfect opportunity to showcase their skills on home soil. The list of home riders includes many teams competing in the WorldTour category and flying the flag for their country around the world.

One of the most eagerly awaited - and loved - names is that of **Rafał Majka**. After winning the third stage of last year's edition, he returns to compete on his home roads and promises to thrill the spectators 10 years after winning the General Classification in Krakow. That year, having come straight from the Tour de France, where he had won two stages and the polka dot jersey as best climber, he seemed - in his own words - too tired to make a difference. Instead, he won the 71st edition of the race. With thirteen years of career behind him, numerous victories in the most prestigious competitions and a third place at the Rio Olympics, the Pole is thrilled to be taking part in the 81st edition of the Tour de Pologne. *"Racing here is something beyond emotions," he explains. "I still remember the moment when I won the general classification in 2015, I consider it one of my most intense achievements. The places where you grew up will always be a part of your heart, and competing on the roads you love pushes you to give your all. It also makes me proud that this race has existed for so long, showing the world the values and beauty of our country from a sporting and cultural point of view. I want to return to the Tour de Pologne to leave something special in the roll of honour, to make the people who see the race happy, to create new memories."*

Another rider who has been particularly active this season will be at the start. Riding for French team Cofidis, **Stanislaw Aniokowski** has had a May to remember. Indeed, the Pole proved that he can hold his own against sprinters such as Jonathan Milan and Alberto Dainese. Certainly, we can expect the sprinters to fight to the last centimetre.

Also among the home riders were **Łukasz Wiśniowski** - Team Bahrain Victorious - and the young **Filip Maciejuk** - Team Red Bull Bora Hansgrohe. The 24-year-old showed off his time trial skills at the Junior World Championships in Bergen, where he won a bronze medal. He will be asked to support his team and to perform well in the 15.4 kilometre time trial that starts in Mysłakowice and finishes in Karpacz.

The race, which starts in Wrocław on 12 August, promises to be a sporting spectacle, with the Polish roads once again packed with fans and athletes throughout the 7 stages.