



QUÉBEC 13 SEPT
MONTRÉAL 15 SEPT

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Sagan, Alaphilippe, Thomas, Nibali, Matthews and Van Avermaet lead a strong field at the 10th Grands Prix Cyclistes de Québec et de Montréal

Montréal, Wednesday, August 28, 2019 – In the space of a decade, the [Grands Prix Cyclistes de Québec et de Montréal](#) (GPCQM), the only UCI WorldTour single-day races in the Americas, have become a highlight on the international cycling circuit. They've justly earned the status of "classics," in which [the very best riders in the pro peloton](#) love to compete. And indeed, the list of winners over the years is a veritable who's who of the sport, and includes Peter Sagan, Greg Van Avermaet, Simon Gerrans, Michael Matthews, Robert Gesink, Thomas Voeckler, Philippe Gilbert, Alberto Rui Costa, and Rigoberto Uran, among others. **This year's edition, the tenth, is shaping up to be just as memorable, with one of the most prestigious fields since the races were first run in 2010.**

The 18 UCI WorldTeams, the best road cycling squads on the planet, along with the invited teams by the organizers (Team Canada, Israel Cycling Academy, and Rally UHC Cycling), will be sending their riders best suited to the punishing Québec City circuit (16 laps of a 12.6 km loop, for a total race distance of 201.6 km) and the Montréal course, more taxing overall, with two extra laps this year (18 laps of a 12.2 km loop, for a total of 219.6 km).

KEY RIDERS CONFIRMED TO DATE:

- **Michael MATTHEWS** (Australia, TEAM SUNWEB) memorably won both the Québec City and Montréal races last year.
- **Julian ALAPHILIPPE** (France, DECEUNINCK-QUICK-STEP) currently leads the WorldTour standings, held the Yellow Jersey in this year's Tour de France for 14 days, and is having a phenomenal season.
- **Remco EVENEPOEL** (Belgium, DECEUNINCK-QUICK-STEP), just 19, has been hailed as pro cycling's next breakout star. His victory in the 2019 Clásica San Sebastián, his first one-day race win on the UCI WorldTour, is proof of that promise.
- **Peter SAGAN** (Slovakia, BORA-HANSGROHE) won his record seventh Tour de France Green Jersey as points classification leader in July. The rock star of global cycling is no stranger to success in the GPCQM.
- **Geraint THOMAS** (Great Britain, Team INEOS) won the Tour de France in 2018 and was runner-up this year. This will be the Welshman's fifth appearance at the Québec City and Montréal GPs.
- **Greg Van AVERMAET** (Belgium, CCC TEAM) is the reigning Olympic Champion in road racing, and a fixture in the GPCQM, where he's been on the podium no fewer than seven times.
- **Oliver NAESEN** (Belgium, AG2R LA MONDIALE), one of the world's best Classics racers, has made the Québec City and Montréal races his end-of-season objective.
- **Vincenzo NIBALI** (Italy, BAHRAIN-MERIDA) is a Grand Tour and Monuments master, having won the Tour de France, the Giro and the Vuelta, not to mention Milan–San Remo. This will be his first taste of the GPCQM.
- **Adam YATES** (Great Britain, MITCHELTON-SCOTT), one of the steadiest stage race specialists in the world, can also shine in competitions like these GPs, which suit his qualities as a *puncheur*.
- **Michal KWIATKOWSKI** (Poland, Team INEOS) was World Champion in 2014 and has also won Milan–San Remo, the Amstel Gold Race and the Tirreno-Adriatico. He was also a hard-working team rider for INEOS during the Tour de France, and is a definite threat on the Québec courses.
- **Diego ULISSI** (Italy, UAE TEAM EMIRATES) won the Montréal GP in 2017.
- **Tim WELLENS** (Belgium, LOTTO SOUDAL) won the Montréal GP in 2015.

- **Richie PORTE** (Australia, TREK-SEGAFREDO) has been considered one of the best riders in the world over the past decade or so.

A STRONG CANADIAN CONTINGENT featuring, among others:

- **Michael WOODS** (Canada, EF Education First) was the Bronze Medalist at last year's World Championships and runner-up at Liège-Bastogne-Liège in 2018. The Ontario native will be looking for a great result on home soil.
- **Hugo HOULE** (ASTANA PRO TEAM), who rode in this year's Tour de France.
- **Antoine DUCHESNE** (GROUPAMA-FDJ), back in the saddle after surgery.
- **Guillaume BOIVIN** (ISRAEL CYCLING ACADEMY), runner-up in the Vuelta a Castilla y León.
- **Svein TUFT** (RALLY UHC CYCLING), still in great shape at age 42.
- Plus [Team Canada](#), made up of young riders eager to challenge the very best riders in the international pro peloton.

"For a decade now, we've worked hard to present two great races every year," says **Marcel Leblanc, Executive Vice-President of the GPCQM**. "The Québec City and Montréal GPs are unanimously well regarded, all over the world, for their professional organization, challenging courses, and warm welcome from the fans in Québec. The fantastic calibre of the field for this 2019 edition, as we celebrate the tenth anniversary of the races, is a reward for all the values we've instilled in these events."

ABOUT THE GPCQM

The Grands Prix Cyclistes de Québec et de Montréal, the only UCI WorldTour events presented in the Americas, contribute to fulfilling one of the primary objectives of the International Cycling Union (UCI): the globalization of the WorldTour circuit. These tour stops are in addition to the existing, officially sanctioned events in Europe and Oceania. Since 2010, the organization has been responsible for the planning and conduct of the GPCQM and counts on the invaluable support of public and private partners: the Government of Canada, the Government of Québec, the city of Québec, the city of Montréal, the National Battlefields Commission, Québec City Tourism, Tourisme Montréal, Québecor, Air Transat, and TVA Sports (official GPCQM broadcaster).

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