



2021 ROAD
WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS

FLANDERS
BELGIUM



ENGLISH

MEDIA GUIDE



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WELCOME TO THE 2021 UCI ROAD WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS

Every year, the UCI Road World Championships are relayed to the entire world, thanks to the hundreds of media representatives who cover this prestigious road cycling event.

In 2021, cycling fans around the globe will be particularly eager to tune in to the UCI Road World Championships: this year's edition promises to be exceptional as it marks 100 years of the event's existence and is taking place in one of cycling's heartlands.

From 19 to 26 September, all eyes will be on the Belgian region of Flanders as athletes battle for the 11 titles of UCI World Champion up for grabs. Famous for hosting some of cycling's greatest Classics, with their signature cobbles and demanding "monts", Flanders is a fitting venue for this very special centenary celebration.

From the individual time trials, to the road races and the incredibly spectacular team time trial mixed relay, the eight days of competition will be intense and entertaining.

While the world's greatest cyclists give their all to try to earn the rainbow jersey, it is you, the media, who

will enable the international cycling community to witness the excitement, the joys and the disappointments that go hand in hand with competition at this level. Photographers and reporters working for TV, radio, print and digital media ensure that fans can live every moment to the full.

The visibility you give the UCI Road World Championships is key for the promotion of our sport and we thank you for this. In keeping with the importance of your role, we have strived to ensure that your working conditions in Flanders are of the highest calibre, be it the Media Centre, the TV compound or other areas set aside for your use.

In addition, we hope that this Media Guide, which contains all relevant information and contacts for your time in Flanders, will be of use during your stay.

Both the UCI and the Local Organising Committee extend a warm welcome to you and wish you a memorable 2021 UCI Road World Championships in Flanders.

CHRISTOPHE MARCHADIER
UCI Head of Communications



© SWpix/UCI

WELCOME TO FLANDERS

Dear cycling fan,

Cycling is coming home in Flanders. We are extremely proud to host the centennial edition of the UCI Road World Championships in our region.

In Flanders we are in love with the magical machine called 'bike'. It is our companion throughout the journey of our life. From the first moment our parents send us into the world on a bike without support wheels, it's the symbol of our freedom. It is a loyal partner that brings us to school, to our hobbies and our friends. It brings us relief from stressful work and keeps us fit and healthy, even in the latter years of our lives.

Cycling is a part of our cultural heritage, it's in our DNA. Every weekend thousands Flemish riders keep their passion alive by riding our challenging roads and cycle paths like a real 'Flandrien' on our famous bergs and cobbles. Flanders is the heartland of cycling and in Flanders we ride.

With the UCI Road World Championships we bring cycling of the highest level to 4 wonderful host cities,

through 3 provinces, making it possible to a huge part of Flanders to come and watch these cycling heroes. As a spectator you are invited to experience our wide offering as a region during your stay - such as our art and heritage, our food and our state of the art craftsmanship. Making it a truly engaging experience, leaving you with great memories of Flanders and the UCI Road World Championships.

Our vision is to deliver a 'State of the Art' UCI Road World Championships and an example for future top events and organizers. The centennial UCI Road World Championships 2021 is more than an event to us. It's a means to create a legacy for the future in multiple domains, like (cycling) mobility, sustainability and innovation.

We look forward to this spectacular week and to share our passion for cycling with you and with the rest of the world!

Enjoy the races and our wonderful region.
For the Flemish Government,



JAN JAMBON

*Minister-President Flemish
minister for Enforcement,
Foreign Policy, Culture, IT
and Facilities*



BEN WEYTS

*Vice-minister-President
Flemish Minister for Education,
Sport, Vlaamse Rand and Animal
Welfare*



ZUHAL DEMIR

*Flemish minister for Justice
and Enforcement, Energy and
Tourism*

WE'RE READY FOR THE 100TH ANNIVERSARY!

The 2021 cycling season has seen many great winners, both women and men, step on the podium in recent months, but the prize that everyone sets their sights on is now fast approaching. Like the peloton and cycling fans worldwide, the local organising committee is eagerly looking forward to 18 September, the long-awaited kick-off of the 2021 UCI Road World Championships. The cycling heartland of Flanders will serve as the backdrop for these championships, which run until 26 September.

We are already looking forward to welcoming you to what is sure to be a unique edition as September also marks the 100th anniversary of the UCI Road World Championships. We will kick off in style with time trials that start on the beach in Knokke-Heist and finish in the heart of the art city of Bruges. In this way, Flanders is playing its trump card as the cycling region par excellence. The circuit will take the aspiring champions along waterways and canals, where the wind is a decisive factor.

Flanders has several other aces up its sleeves for the road races too. After the start in the art city of Antwerp, a typical Flemish circuit awaits the racers, taking them in and around Leuven where the finish line is situated. The succession of short but tough hills in the city interspersed with the typical steep Flemish Brabant roads in the Flandrien loop provides the kind of challenging circuit that is the epitome of racing in Flanders: turning, turning back again and cobblestones.

Many champions have already emerged victorious on these typically Flemish circuits in the past: from Magni to Merckx, to Sagan and Boonen, and Van Vleuten and Bastianelli. Flanders, where champions are born is the slogan with which we are already looking ahead at the Flandriens and Flandriennes who will be entering cycling history after their victory in 2021 on Flemish soil. Their victory sets a new example for young cyclists around the world, who are just finding their balance on their way to school, without training wheels. And for recreational cyclists who want to succeed in their latest challenge or anyone who enjoys a short or long trip by bike. Wherever they are in the world.

Here in Flanders, cycling champions live behind ordinary façades, like you and me. And in September, new cycling champions will be born. Like Yvonne Reynders and Maurizio Fondriest, in Ronse in 1963 and in Ronse in 1988, among others.

So here's to an amazing 2021 UCI Road World Championships! To new champions!

CHRISTOPHE IMPENS & WIM TACK

Co-chairs of WK2021 vzw

CONTACT INFORMATION



UCI CONTACTS

Marie-Charlotte Pacaud

UCI Communications and
Media Relations Officer
marie-charlotte.pacaud@uci.ch

Sonia Lopez

EBU Booking officer
eurovisionsportevents@ebu.ch
+41 79 564 95 84

Tobias Friedrich

UCI TV Production and Accreditation
tobias.friedrich@uci.ch
+41 76 204 9807

Morgane Gaultier

UCI Road World Championships and Strategic
Sports Projects Manager
morgane.gaultier@uci.ch
+41 79 554 82 74

Zack Cooper

UCI Social Media Editor
zack.cooper@uci.ch
+41 79 306 2073

Laura Folchi

UCI Media Centre Coordinator
l.folchi@wingsmedia.it

LOC CONTACTS

Tomas Van Den Spiegel

LOC Communication Director
tomas.vandenspiegel@flanders2021.com

Gert Van Goolen

LOC Press Officer
gert.vangoolen@flanders2021.com
+32 473 97 32 69

Annelore Cleuren

LOC Project Manager Communication
annelore.cleuren@flanders2021.com
+32 494 35 82 32

THE UCI

Founded in 1900, in Paris (France), the Union Cycliste Internationale (UCI) is the worldwide governing body for cycling. It develops and oversees cycling in all its forms and for all people, as a competitive sport, a healthy leisure activity and a sustainable means of transport, but also as a way to have fun.

It represents, to sporting and public institutions alike, the interests of 197 National Federations, five Continental Confederations, more than 1,500 professional riders, a million licensed competitors, millions of cycling enthusiasts and two billion bicycle users.

The UCI manages the development of cycling as a competitive sport and in all its other forms. It commits to reaching the highest standards in all our activity, and to earning and maintaining a reputation as an International Federation of outstanding performance and integrity.

The UCI manages and promotes cycling's nine disciplines: road, track, mountain bike, BMX Racing, BMX Freestyle, cyclo-cross, trials, indoor cycling and cycling esports. Five of these are featured on the Olympic Games programme (road, track, mountain bike, BMX Racing and BMX Freestyle), two in the Paralympic Games (road and track) and four in the Youth Olympic Games (road, mountain bike, BMX Racing and BMX Freestyle). Cycling races have been

held at every Olympic Games in the modern era, and today cycling is the third Olympic sport in terms of medals awarded (66) and athlete quotas (528) at the biggest sporting event on the planet.



© SWpix/UCI

The UCI manages the promotion of its own events, most notably the UCI World Championships for all disciplines. These competitions crown the UCI World Champions, who wear - for one year - the prestigious rainbow jersey. The UCI World Championships constitute the high point of the season in each discipline, and benefit from extensive international media coverage.



© SWpix/UCI

The UCI also organises the UCI World Cups; each of these season-long series brings together competitions of the highest level for the discipline concerned. The UCI World Cups rankings constitute the common theme running through each season. The race for the leaders' jersey is a major challenge, and to be crowned the winner of a UCI World Cup is a significant sporting achievement.

To encourage the global and unified development of cycling, the UCI established the UCI World Cycling Centre (WCC) in 2002. As well as serving as the UCI headquarters, this is also a high-level training and education centre which each year welcomes around 300 promising young athletes and people attending training courses in cycling professions. The UCI WCC's programmes are designed to give all riders, irrespective of where they come or the level of resources available in their country, the opportunity to fulfil their potential at national or international level.

Cycling is also more than just a competitive sport; bicycles have many uses outside the world of high-level sport, as a means of transport and leisure activity. This is why the UCI is developing its "cycling for all" programmes, which aim to improve conditions for bike riding and its accessibility.



© SWpix/UCI

Furthermore, the UCI is responsible for ensuring cycling has the most advanced and efficient anti-doping programme, in collaboration with the World Anti-Doping Agency (WADA) and the National Anti-Doping Organisations (NADOs). However, the UCI is not directly involved in anti-doping testing and planning; delegated to an independent entity, the Cycling Anti-Doping Foundation (CADF) from 2013 until the end of 2020, these operations were transferred to the International Testing Agency in Lausanne (Switzerland) on 1st January 2021.

[More about the UCI](#)



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100TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE UCI ROAD WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS

In 2021, the UCI and cycling will celebrate the 100th anniversary of their World Championships and the battle for the white jersey with rainbow stripes will take place on historic cycling ground: in the cycling heartland of Flanders, where champions are born. 100 years of cycling history and great champions.

ORIGIN

At a UCI Congress in Paris in 1920, the Italian delegation, supported by the Belgians, the French and the Swiss, put their heads together to organise a world championship for professional cyclists. Funny enough, the first cycling World Championship in 1921 was not organised for professional cyclists, but for amateurs. According to the UCI, there were not enough professional riders to organise an event of such magnitude. The World Championship, in the form of a time trial, was held in Copenhagen (Denmark) that year and was won by the Swedish amateur Gunnar Sköld. No rainbow jersey was presented to the winner on this occasion.

Consequently, the UCI World Cycling Championships are not one of the oldest cycling competitions. Liège-Bastogne-Liège (1892), for example, was organised 30 years before the first UCI World Championships were held. The Tour de France (1903), the Tour of Flanders (1913) and Paris-Roubaix (1896) are also a lot older than the very first UCI World Championships (1921).

Six years after these first UCI World Championships, the UCI came up with a new idea: hold them on a circuit for both professional and amateur riders cycling in the same race, albeit with a separate ranking. The first UCI Road World Championships for professional cyclists were thus organised on 21 July 1927 on the Nürburgring in Germany. The race was won by the Italian Alfredo Binda ahead of two other Italians, Costante Girardengo and Domenico Piemontesi. In the amateur category, victory went to the Belgian Jean Aerts who even finished fifth overall. Both winners received a rainbow jersey for the first time.



Gunnar Sköld © Presse Sports



Alfredo Binda © Presse Sports

GROWTH AND EXPANSION

The first women's UCI World Championships were held in 1958. Luxembourg's Elsy Jacobs was presented with the very first rainbow jersey for women in Reims (France). In 1975, the UCI also added a competition for Men Junior. The Women Junior competition followed 12 years later in 1987. The UCI Road World Championships for amateurs continued until 1995 when they were replaced by the Men Under 23 UCI World Championship.



Elsy Jacobs © Presse Sports

Team time trials for national teams in the Men Elite category have been organised since 1962, barring in Olympic years, with Italy winning the first title. The same event for women was introduced in 1987. An interruption to the team time trial at the UCI World Championships in 1994 coincided with the launch of the individual time trial, including for the Men Junior category. A year later, the Women Junior category could also compete in its own individual race against the clock.

The team time trial was reinstated in 2012, but with brand teams. In 2019, however, the UCI came up with a new idea, which is on the race schedule in Flanders this year for the second time only: a Team Time Trial Mixed Relay in which men and women join forces to take home the medal for their country.

THE FIRST RAINBOW JERSEY

The rainbow jersey was first presented in 1927 in Germany to the Italian Alfredo Binda. It was the first year in which professional cyclists could compete in the UCI Road World Championships. Belgian rider Jean Aerts won the jersey in the amateur race. Since then, the jersey's design has remained largely unchanged. The striking white jersey features five horizontal stripes. The colours represent the five continents of Europe, Asia, Africa, Oceania, and America respectively.

The rainbow jersey was first introduced for women's cycling in 1958. The first rider who had the honour of wearing the jersey was Luxembourg's Elsy Jacobs, after her success in the road race at Reims, France.

The list of UCI World Champions is quite impressive: the championships have always crowned great riders as UCI World Champions. Belgium has won the most Men Elite road medals in the past 100 years, with a whopping 26 UCI World Champions. Italy is in second place with 19 gold medals, also an amazing feat. France is in third place with 9 riders in the rainbow jersey, including outgoing UCI World Champion Julian Alaphilippe.

In the Women Elite category, Belgium has won 6 UCI World titles and 17 medals in total in the road race. The Netherlands outnumber other nations, with no fewer than 13 UCI World titles and 34 medals in total. The achievements of Frenchwomen Jeannie Longo during the UCI Road World Championships are phenomenal: she won no fewer than 5 titles and is therefore the rider with the most rainbow jerseys to date.



Jeannie Longo © Presse Sports



Team Trial Mixed Relay © SWpix / UCI

To date, the UCI Road World Championships have featured the individual time trial at 27 editions. Germany has already taken home seven of these titles. Four of them were won by the same rider: Tony Martin. The German holds the most UCI World titles for time trials, along with the Swiss champion Fabian Cancellara. They both have four rainbow jerseys each. Switzerland and Australia share second place with five UCI World Championship titles! Can cycling nation Belgium add another title to the already impressive three medals that it took home in previous years during the 2021 UCI Road World Championships in Flanders?

Frenchwoman Jeannie Longo also holds the record in the Women Elite category in this speciality with four titles. In spite of her four victories, the United States leads the ranking with seven gold medals, followed by the Netherlands in second place and Germany and France in shared third place.

DEAR CYCLING LOVERS, WELCOME TO FLANDERS!

Flanders is the northern, Dutch-speaking region of Belgium, fairly modest in size. To put things in perspective: it's about the size of the state of Connecticut in the US or the county of Yorkshire in the UK. It will come as no surprise that Flanders is an easy place to travel to and around.

Why Flanders? Of course Flanders!

Cycling is a part of our heritage, **it's in our blood**. Flanders is the **cradle** and the **heartland of cycling**. With a terrain of winding, narrow and sometimes brutal roads, its **ancient cobbles** stand testament to pain, suffering and endurance of many of the most hardened cyclists.

Races such as the **Ronde van Vlaanderen** (one of the five **cycling Monuments**!) or **Ghent-Wevelgem** offer a labyrinth of intricate routes that weave between traditional villages and farmland. Flanders' line between the epic and the ordinary, the mortal and the hero, between dream and reality, is as thin as it gets. This is the territory of the true 'Flandriens': strong and relentless cyclists, who never give up and keep on riding, even in the most inclement of weather conditions. In Flanders, the honorary sta-

tus of '**Flandrien**' is granted to cycling legends who have demonstrated true grit and endurance, such as Eddy Merckx, Johan Museeuw and Tom Boonen.

It's more than just bicycle routes, Flanders is a unique place for every cycling passionate. The **cobblestone slope** distinguishes us from other destinations. You can experience the **four K's** of Flandrien heritage: the fabled Koppenberg, the everlasting Kwaremont, mythical Kapelmuur and ferocious Kemmelberg. We dare to state: whoever calls himself a real cyclist, must have conquered our bergs and cobbles at least once.

Flanders is an **all year round cycling mecca**. During wintertime we put on our rubber boots for a **cyclocross**. Every weekend there are races in muddy, sandy or frozen fields or forests.



© Panama



© TooSoonTooLate

In Flanders we cycle more each year

As one can imagine, cycling - recreationally as well as competitively -, is not merely popular but actually loved in Flanders. Cycling is hip, and since we Flemings are hip, we cycle more each year. We even made the European top 3 and received UCI recognition by awarding the UCI Bike Label to the region. Together with the Danes and the Dutch, we use our bikes the most. But we can do even better. Research shows that 70% of our trips are less than 10 kilometers and over half of them are no more than 5 kilometers. This means the bike still has enormous growth potential. So the Flemish government wants to make an extra effort. This means that thousands of kilometers of bicycle paths are restored or newly built. An investment of up to 300 million euros a year.

Safety is an absolute priority for cycle policy in Flanders. That's why there's been heavy investment in the necessary infrastructure. Every day masses of young people are on the road. 60% of traffic from home to school under 5 kilometers is done by bike or on foot. And 40% of traffic from home to work under 5 km is done by bike. Safety has to come first with this vulnerable group. A number of the improvements have become veritable landmarks like the Collegebrug in Kortrijk or the bicycle bridge over the E40 in Wetteren and the forked bicycle bridge in Bruges.

Within the city centres, improvements are being developed. This led to new concepts like the **bicycle street**. We don't think in terms of cycle paths, but of cycle routes. Routes that take you safely from point A to point B on your bike. The finest examples are **cycle highways**, like the one from Leuven to Brussels. Cities, communities, provinces and the Flemish government work closely together on these bicycle highways.

Flanders is equally **ambitious** when it comes to sport and is definitely a **sport region**. This is apparent in the region's commitment to organizing large sporting events and to construct modern sports infrastructure, but even more so in the sports participation rate of its population. Almost 65 percent of the population engages frequently in sport.

Sport Vlaanderen, the sports administration of the Flemish government, wants to provide everyone in Flanders with as many opportunities as possible to play sports and exercise, regardless of age, background or ability. At the same time, it makes every effort so that our Flemish top athletes can excel at world level.

Sport Vlaanderen fulfils these ambitions by continuously optimizing the quality, attractiveness and accessibility of the sports and exercise offering in Flanders. It invests in sports infrastructure, clubs and events, trains coaches, shares knowledge and brings people together.

Sport Vlaanderen also manages fourteen sports centres spread across Flanders, where sports enthusiasts as well as professional athletes and teams can enjoy top sports facilities and even stay overnight for multi-day training purposes.

Interested in staying in one of the Sport Vlaanderen sports centres?

Check www.sport.vlaanderen for more information.

FLANDERS IS ART, FLANDERS IS HERITAGE

Impressive cycling routes, cool events and challenging bucket lists: Flanders has everything for cycling lovers hors catégorie. But that's not all. Why not pay a visit to Flanders' famous historic cities and reward yourself with one of our countless famous beers.

Whether they're cathedrals or belfries, masterpieces from the baroque or contemporary sculptures, age old beguinages, art nouveau buildings or complete city centres: Flanders is packed with **heritage**. That enormous legacy was built by many generations of brilliant craftsmen such as the **Flemish Masters Jan**

greats. He's largely responsible for the creation of Flanders' national psyche and collective consciousness as hard working yet bon vivant. In Flanders, you can still find the **beautiful landscapes, picturesque villages** and the 'joie de vivre' that Bruegel painted so beautifully. Peter Paul Rubens is the youngest of



© M Museum Leuven

Van Eyck, Pieter Bruegel and Peter Paul Rubens. They and their many bold heirs have made and still make Flanders the cultural gem it is today.

Thanks to Flanders the world regards the arts differently. We owe this to three special and major contributors: Van Eyck, Bruegel and Rubens, the Flemish masters. Their enormous legacy has set the artistic scene for centuries and still does today. **The Adoration of the Mystic Lamb**, also known as the **Ghent Alterpiece**, by Jan and his brother Hubert Van Eyck is a first, fine example. This complex tour de force is considered one of the world's greatest artistic treasures. Since its completion in 1432, millions of visitors from all over the world have travelled to **Ghent** to admire it. The masterpiece was groundbreaking in the way nature and people were represented in art. Pieter Bruegel the Elder is another of those all-time

the grand Flemish masters. The great Antwerpian painted various genres: from portraits to major projects, such as religious paintings and important series of historical works. Yet he probably remains best known as the greatest baroque painter.

Those three greats have left behind a stunning legacy that can hardly be overestimated. The Flemish masters are, still today, Flanders' artistic pride and joy. Their masterpieces are on display in museums all over the world, but **there's no place**

better than Flanders to discover that legacy. Take the **Royal Museums of Fine Arts of Belgium**, in Brussels. These museums present, among many others, an impressive collection of Bruegel's masterpieces. If you want to discover Van Eyck's chef d'oeuvre The Adoration of the mystic Lamb, you just have to pop by the **Saint Bavo's Cathedral in Ghent**. That is the exact place for which this wonder was created. The altarpiece has been here for over 600 years. **Antwerp**, on the other hand, is home to **Rubens**. The metropolis still lives and breathes his heritage. Take Rubens House, his former home and workshop. Today that baroque classic is a museum where you'll stand in awe of Rubens' old studio, private collection and some of his own masterpieces. **The Cathedral of Our Lady** is another historic spot where Rubens left his mark. The nearly 500 year old gothic building houses four of Rubens' masterpieces on permanent display.

It's very clear that the Flemish masters have made a firm impression on Flanders' art cities. Whether in stylish **Antwerp**, picture perfect **Bruges**, capital **Brussels**, best kept secret **Ghent** or cozy **Leuven** and **Mechelen**, you'll find plenty of ways to acquaint yourself with that heritage. These art cities demonstrate their rich history, combined with a modern and contemporary vibe. You'll feel as if you're in the 13th, 17th and 21st century all at the same time.

The Flemish masters have made a huge impression on Flanders' art cities, as well as on many generations of artists after them. **James Ensor**, the Flemish Homo Universalis, is just one example. He's considered a pioneer in many styles such as luminism, expressionism, futurism and surrealism. He, in his turn, was an inspiration for the generations who followed. People like **René Magritte**, who put surrealism on the map and who changed the way we look at art. Or the wave of contemporary artists including present-day masters like **Michaël Borremans** or **Luc Tuymans**, both considered part of the very top of contemporary art in the world. Their generation feeds on the legacy of the Flemish Masters. Tuymans himself likes to refer to 'Als Ich Kan', the motto that Jan Van Eyck included in the frame of his famous self-portrait in the National Gallery in London. That translates as 'if I can.' "It says I'm very humble, but behind my humility, lies gigantic ambition. Which is also very true for Flanders.", explains the contemporary master.

That humble yet **ambitious craftsmanship** is crucial in Flanders, and it's not just applicable to the world of art. The same goes for **Flanders' unique food culture**. Love of food and flavour is in a Fleming's blood, and good taste is rooted in our DNA. We are living the good life. We have **fries, beer** and **chocolate**, but there is so much more to discover. **Small-scale microbreweries** are emerging, **innovative chefs** are introducing zero waste methods and are experimenting with local ingredients. Expertise and know-how are passed on from generation to generation.

A creative batch of young entrepreneurs is breathing new life into our traditions. That's what keeps our culinary heritage alive. Discover Flemish cuisine with its **94 Michelin-starred restaurants**. Flanders also has one of the world's highest densities of top-class eateries. However, here you'll find a great offer for any budget. **We offer you Flemish craftsmanship, a delight at any table.**

That is exactly what Flanders is. Whether it's art, heritage, food, comics, fashion, jewellery or anything else: modern craftsmanship, built on a long legacy/tradition is what makes Flanders stand out.



Belgian Beer Weekend © Milo Profi

FLANDERS, WHERE CHAMPIONS ARE BORN

That Flanders loves cycling is obvious. It shows every year on the first Sunday of April. The Flemish High Mass of cycling, the Tour of Flanders, sets the whole country in motion. And that's how it actually goes year after year. From the biggest UCI WorldTour race to the smallest amateur race: everywhere in Flanders cycling comes with a celebration. From the Grand-Place in Antwerp to a small church square in Gullegem, the participating riders are welcomed as heroes.

Winter or summer, spring or autumn, every day of the year Flanders is all about cycling. From characteristic Flemish cyclocross races, nowadays dominated by champions like Van Aert and Van der Poel, over the Six Days of Ghent which Ghent born Sir Bradley Wiggins is so fond of, to the spring classics on the typical Flemish cobblestones that appeal to every cycling fan's imagination. For 365 days, riders are eager to descend to Flanders. Not only because they are welcomed here as heroes, but also because they know that winning a race in Flanders puts them on a unique list. As a winner of numerous Flemish races, Fabian Cancellara is among the names of historic Flandriens: it ranges from Magni and Merckx, over Sagan and Boonen to Van Vleuten and Bastianelli. All wonderful champions of our beloved sport, with roots of their successes in Flanders.

In Flanders, the whole village comes out for a women's junior race on a sunny Sunday, to watch the champions of tomorrow. While a young supporter along the course dreams of being such a champion one day him/herself.

Now, the UCI Road World Championships are coming to Belgium for the tenth time. Just like in 2002, when Mario Cipollini was crowned in Zolder, Flanders will have another immense cycling celebration and at least 11 new champions will be born, inspiring many others, of all ages and nationalities around the globe.



© Presse Sports - Eddy Merckx

FLANDERS 2021 HOST CITIES

With time trials from Knokke-Heist to Bruges and road races from Antwerp to Leuven, the 2021 UCI Road World Championships will take riders and fans to beautiful art cities across the region of Flanders and to the tough climbs in the province of Flemish Brabant. Discover below the assets of each of our host cities.

LEUVEN

Leuven is an international and **lively city**, where heritage and innovation have gone hand in hand for centuries. There is always something going on. With an open and cosy atmosphere, a dazzling nightlife, a large cultural offering and inexhaustible creative wealth, the city has everything of a true metropolis. With its cobbled streets, churches, beautiful beguinages and imposing Gothic town hall, the city exudes grandeur. In short, Leuven has all the assets of a big city in a charming setting and completely human-sized.



©Stad Leuven

Leuven is the **perfect place for a weekend out**. Besides classical highlights and beautiful historical buildings, you will also find specialised and sustainable shops, coffee bars, cafés and restaurants for all kinds of gourmets - from lovers of traditional Belgian cuisine to fans of world cuisine, vegetarians and vegans.

The city is **bustling**. From Leuven Beer Weekends and exhibitions in M Leuven to the fairytale-like Wintertijd and summer concerts and open-air films ... Leuven never stands still. And the students too contribute to the young, dynamic atmosphere that characterises Leuven.

Leuven is the birthplace of KU Leuven, one of the oldest and most prominent universities in the world, and home to many pioneering, innovative companies. Bringing all this knowledge and expertise together and using it to create a better and more sustainable future for and with everyone is Leuven's greatest strength. It earned Leuven - as the first Belgian town - the prestigious 'European Green Leaf Award' and the title of '**European Capital of Innovation**'.

Leuven is the **city of beer**. It is the birthplace and home of Stella Artois. The Oude Markt with its many cafés and terraces invites you to enjoy a fresh Stella, and in the outskirts of town you will find several artisanal breweries. Amber, blond, brown, white ... You are bound to find a beer to your taste here.

Leuven is the **ultimate cycling city**. All sights are within a stone's throw of each other. Do as the people of Leuven do: jump on your bike and pedal your way through the city centre. You also barely have to leave the city centre to find yourself between fields and forests. Map out your own route using the cycling junction network or opt for the route along the four Leuven abbeys. Cycling enthusiasts will also find plenty of great cycling events here, such as De Brabantse Pijl, the Grote Prijs Poeske Scherens or the cyclocross.

Leuven is the '**European City of Sport 2021**'. Every sports fan will find something to his or her liking. You can go wall-climbing, play beach volleyball, swim, play city golf, do work-outs in a bar park, on the fit-o-city course or on a fitness bench... Leuven is also home to the Red Flames and hosts international sporting events such as the pole vault gala, the Yonex Belgian International badminton tournament and, of course, the UCI Road World Championships - a great climax to a fantastic sports year!

Read more about [Leuven](#)

ANTWERP

The **world's diamond capital** and Europe's second largest seaport has always been outward looking and forward thinking, with a cosmopolitan air that has made it a popular destination for visitors seeking culture, history and the very best in food, drink and company.

Antwerp offers an effortless mix of old and new in its art, entertainment and architecture, and is a friendly and walkable creative hub rated by both the New York Times and the Lonely Planet guide as among the world's 10 best cities to visit.

Visitors fall in love with Antwerp's charm from the moment they arrive in its 'railway cathedral', a **Central Station considered among the most beautiful in all the world**. From there, it's a short stroll to many of the city's other architectural masterpieces, such as the Cathedral of Our Lady and the Grand Place, home to the Town Hall and the 16th century Guild Houses in which the reputation of **Flanders' peerless craftsmanship** was first forged. These great historic buildings are also home to some of the world's finest works of art, produced by the **Flemish masters Rubens, Jordaens and Van Dyck**. More contemporary attractions in Belgium's 'capital of cool' include the state-of-the-art Museum aan de Stroom in the fashionable dockside neighbourhood of Het Eilandje, the city's famous Diamond Museum, Antwerp Zoo, and the Port House by Zaha Hadid.

Antwerp's history and modern reputation have made it a magnet for creativity and youth. The city is now the second most **diverse city** in the world with 175 different nationalities living here.

Antwerp is an ideal hosting city of the stages in line of the World Championship Cycling in 2021. Located in the heart of Europe and being one of the world's largest ports, the global centre of diamond trading, a fashion hotspot, one of the cultural capitals of Europe and **one of the 23 Olympic cities**, Antwerp knows what it takes to host large-scale events and to accommodate large numbers of visitors.

With a qualitative sport infrastructure and a good number of activities and events for different target groups, Antwerp is becoming an important sporting metropolis with international ambition and has been awarded with the title "European Capital of Sports in 2013" as the culmination of its concerted drive for greater sports participation.

Hosting sporting events is an important element in Antwerp's sports policy. A diverse and attractive calendar of mass and elite sports events enhances Antwerp's stature as a city of sport. Moreover, it stimulates active and passive sports participation and contributes to community cohesion and civic pride. Last but not least, the organization of international sporting events generates great economic spin-off.



Museum aan de Stroom © Stad Antwerp

Sporting events are an essential ingredient of life in Antwerp. Every year, about **sixty different events** attract a total of around 100 000 participants and 600 000 spectators to the city. The City of Antwerp strives to host an appropriate mix of top-level sporting events, mass participation sporting events and sporting events for specific target groups. The top-level sporting events attract over 500 000 spectators every year. Highlights include the start of the cycling spring classic Tour of Flanders, the ATP tennis tournament European Open, the largest running event of the country Antwerp 10 Miles and the new Port of Antwerp Night Marathon.

Read more about [Antwerp](#)

BRUGES

The historical town centre of Bruges is recognized by Unesco as a world heritage site. The city is intersected by the famous canals and boasts numerous monumental buildings, all located within a stone's throw from each other. Thanks to its picturesque and romantic medieval setting, Bruges has been an international top destination for many years now.

But there is more to be found behind the historical facades. Bruges has an extensive cultural offer. The paintings by the Flemish Primitives and the cultural and immaterial heritage bear witness to a rich history, but this city also looks to the future with ambition. Bruges has also given a modern twist to the traditional 'Burgundian' lifestyle, which means that the eating and drinking options are endless. Bruges enjoys an incredible gastronomic reputation, as is demonstrated by the numerous stars awarded to our chefs and restaurants and by the many mentions in respected publications.



Bruges © Jan D'Hondt

Bruges is ambitious and progressive. The easily accessible international port of Zeebrugge is an important economic factor for the city. Fully committed to supporting innovation and sustainability, this port produces electricity by harnessing wind energy. And this drive for innovation is readily apparent in other sectors as well. The Sports Innovation Campus, for instance, conducts practice-oriented research into innovation in sports and into encouraging physical exercise among the wider population. Their research is supported by educational establishments and the higher authority.



Bruges © Jan D'Hondt

Cycling is an environment-friendly and easily accessible form of exercise. To encourage bicycle riding, this city has chosen to invest in several well thought-out bicycle facilities, such as guarded underground bicycle garages and public bicycle pumps. The green belt around the city offers perfect cycling conditions. In recent years, numerous cycle paths, bridges and tunnels have been built in order to create new, safe bicycle links. Similar projects are planned for the next few years, such as the restart of the youth working of the Koninklijke Brugse Velosport, the oldest cycling club in Bruges, and the construction of new bicycle super highways. The city is also involved in several international collaborations allowing the exchange of ideas and good practices.

But apart from recreational and functional cycling, cycle racing also has its place in this city. The Eleven Cities Tour, a semi-classic race created at the beginning of the 20th century, was modernized in 2017 after a long break. The Brugge-De Panne Classic will bring the departures of two World Tour contests (Women and Men Elite) to the majestic Market Square. For 19 years, until 2016, the Tour of Flanders also departed from this square. The growing popularity of women's cycling has also brought the Lotto Belgium Tour to Bruges since 2020.

Cycling and cycle races are immensely popular in Bruges, just like football. Bruges has two teams in the first national division, including reigning champion Club Brugge. The World cycling championships 2021 will be the perfect occasion for the inhabitants of Bruges to enjoy their passion of sports and at the same time display their world-famous hospitality. The battle for the rainbow jerseys in the time trials not only promises to be a highlight in the cycling calendar, but also a unique experience for both locals and visitors alike.

Read more about [Bruges](#)

KNOKKE-HEIST

Knokke-Heist has everything you are looking for, whether you are a lover of culture and cuisine or simply a bon vivant. From luxury shopping to strolling along the sandy beaches, admiring the extraordinary art collections or dining in style... everything is possible.



Knokke-Heist © Skinn Branding Agency

You will find over 80 art galleries spread across the seaside resort, offering everything from antiques to contemporary art. Various public works of art will also brighten up your walk around the town. In Knokke-Heist, an elegant stroll along the promenade has become a real art in itself. It's all about seeing and being seen. And if you love shopping, here you can also shop till you drop, even on Sundays. In the golden shopping triangle (Kustlaan, Dumortierlaan and Lippenslaan), you will find hundreds of boutiques offering various luxury top brands.

In recent years, Knokke-Heist has built up a particularly strong culinary reputation in Belgium and far beyond. The region leads the way on the gastronomic scene, so why not give in to temptation and go on a culinary treasure hunt in Knokke-Heist?

Fancy an adventure? Along the beaches of Knokke-Heist, there are various fantastic beach clubs where you can participate in beach or water sports. From the Easter holidays until early October, you can also enjoy a delicious cocktail at the beach bars with your toes in the sand.

The breathtaking Zwin nature reserve is just a stone's throw from the border with the Netherlands. At

high tide the sea floods the Zwin plain, which lies behind the beach and the row of dunes. This interaction between ebb and flow creates a biotope that is unique in Europe. People who love walking or cycling can enjoy the new International Zwin Dike that connects Knokke with Cadzand. From four vantage points, you can enjoy beautiful views of the wider, deeper and longer Zwingel channel and the new breeding island.

There's no better way to get to know a town or region than on foot or by bike. In Knokke-Heist, the 9-km seawall is the ideal route for walkers and cyclists. However, we also have much more to offer. In the hinterland, the polders invite you to explore. There are no borders, just a network of walking and cycling trails from our own territory to De Panne, the area surrounding Bruges or up to our northern neighbours.

At the Knokke-Heist Tourist Office, you will find various cycling maps on which the detailed cycling routes are clearly indicated.

Read more about [Knokke-Heist](#)



©Knokke-Heist

FLANDERS 2021 PARTNER

FLEMISH BRABANT

Flemish Brabant, the hotbed of cycling! Champions such as Eddy Merckx, Roland Liboton and Sven Nys were raised and became famous here. In this region, people eat, sleep and breathe cycling. But we believe that the future of cycling is also ours. Young talented cyclists such as Thibau Nys, Jasper Stuyven, Victor Campenaerts and Remco Evenepoel are just as eager to score heroic victories, just like their cycling heroes before them.

Flemish Brabant is the premier cycling destination to enjoy a wide variety of cycling disciplines. Balenberg, for example, is a legendary place. This is where they hold the Grote Prijs Sven Nys race every year, but the hill actually owes its legendary status to the fact that the master himself used to race up and down its slopes as a child. You may even be lucky and run into Sven and Thibau here while they train. It's easy to see why Sven chose to build his Cycling Centre on the summit of this hill. And what an adventure awaits you! The Sven Nys Cycling Center is the place to go for and to learn all about off-road cycling. Here you can check out different off-road cycling disciplines such as cyclo-cross, MTB, rock garden, pump track and trial and try them all for free. The experience centre is a great place to find out everything you always wanted to know about this unique sport. End your day with a pint on the stunning terrace of the Velo café. A must for all cycling fans!

In the province of Flemish Brabant, you can ride your own cycling classic and tame the hills of the 2021 UCI Road World Championships final. Explore Sven Nys's favourite training grounds, the hills where Eddy Merckx rode to international fame, or ride your own spring classic on the course of De Brabantse Pijl, where you can tame the memorable hills of the cycling World Championships final. Why not make it a multi-day tour even so you can feel like a real Flan-drien!

Sven Nys Cycling Route

93 km altimeter 900

Eddy Merckx Cycling Route

70 km altimeter 500

De Brabantse Pijl Cycling Route

98 km altimeter 1000

Flemish Brabant is also very popular with beer lovers. Where else will you find such a diverse range of regional beers, breweries and pubs? The province is home to no fewer than 30 breweries, which brew 250 regional beers. It all ranges from the world's largest beer company to small, craft brewers. Here brewing traditions are cherished and handed down from generation to generation, with something to suit everyone's taste and style: pilsner, amber, gueuze or cherry beers. Remember, however, that the beers of Flemish Brabant should always be sampled in moderation.



© Lander Loeckx

If you love to explore stunning castles and landscaped gardens following in the footsteps of the kings and noblemen of yore, then Flemish Brabant is the place to go. Stroll in style through Gaasbeek Park, and take the time to discover the lovely museum garden and its view of impressive Gaasbeek Castle. Visit Horst Castle, which provided the inspiration for the backdrops of 'De Rode Ridder' comics. Beersel Castle, a unique moated castle that is just a stone's throw from Brussels, is also well worth a visit. Or be blown away by the grandeur of the Africa Museum, which is surrounded by a magnificent park that is simply breathtaking in any season.

This green region around Brussels will definitely put a little spring in your step! Flemish Brabant has a dazzling array of hiking trails for keen walkers, with over 3,200 km signposted walks. You can find a selection of these walks in our #dewandelprovincie brochure. Any walk through Flemish Brabant is always surprising, offering plenty of variation and a great experience in the most beautiful landscapes of the Green Belt and the Hageland region.

Read more about [Flemish Brabant](#)

FLANDERS 2021 OFFICIAL VILLAGES

There are 5 of them, the official 2021 UCI Road World Championships villages along the route of the 2021 UCI Road World Championships. Discover below where you can enjoy a great cycling festival in apart from our host cities!

DAMME



© Stad Damme - Jan Darthet

The town of Damme invites you to explore. Relax in the historical centre with its medieval monuments or in the beautiful nature around it: from wide-open polder landscapes over historical dikes and dead straight canals to nature reserves. And although Damme may be small, its culinary reputation is renowned. To say that you will be pampered with culinary delights here is an understatement!



© Overijse

KEERBERGEN



© Peter Loeckx

Keerbergen is ideally located, on the axis that connects Leuven with Mechelen. The quiet, rural town is mainly known for its superb villas and lovely trees and forests. But it is so much more than this: a real green lung, with heathland, fens, and stunning nature reserves. It is very popular with cyclists and hikers, who visit the town to see the Heimolen mill or the old Hansbrug bridge. Keerbergen is also conveniently located in the centre of Belgium's asparagus region. From April to June (the harvest months), you can sample the "white gold" in the town's many restaurants.

OVERIJSE

Overijse is above all known for its excellent table grapes. But beside its grape heritage, Overijse also has a long-standing beer tradition. But sports enthusiasts will also find what they are looking for. You can walk or cycle in the Sonian Forest, through extensive nature or along architectural gems. There are also some challenging mountain bike and cycle routes with tough hills that run through Overijse.



© Huldenberg

HULDENBERG

Huldenberg, with its many cycling and hiking trails, is situated in Flemish Brabant in the Green Belt around Brussels, just a stone's throw from Leuven and Waterloo. Here the Dijle and its tributaries, the IJse and the Laan, meander through the hilly landscape. The cultivation of grapes under glass which made the region so famous started here, near Huldenberg's castle.

TERVUREN

Many famous protagonists in Belgium's history have spent time in Tervuren, in some instances even leaving a visible mark of their stay. Tervuren's most famous legacy is the recently-renovated AfricaMuseum, which is definitely worth a visit! But Tervuren is also a hotspot for nature lovers. Tervuren's park borders on the Sonian Forest, a section of which has been listed as UNESCO World Heritage. But there is another gem worth exploring in the forest: the Geographic Arboretum which is home to over 700 different tree species from all over the world in a habitat that is similar to their own.



Park Tervuren © Hero Scott

RACE PROGRAMME

RACE	ROUTE	TIMING*
Saturday, 18 September, 2021		
Individual Time Trial - Training	<i>Knokke-Heist ► Bruges</i>	9:00 - 11:00
Sunday, 19 September, 2021		
Men Elite Individual Time Trial	<i>Knokke-Heist ► Bruges</i>	14:30 - 16:55
Monday, 20 September, 2021		
Men U23 Individual Time Trial	<i>Knokke-Heist ► Bruges</i>	10:40 - 12:50
Women Elite Individual Time Trial	<i>Knokke-Heist ► Bruges</i>	14:40 - 16:40
Tuesday, 21 September, 2021		
Women Junior Individual Time Trial	<i>Knokke-Heist ► Bruges</i>	10:30 - 12:20
Team Time Trial - Mixed Relay - Training	<i>Knokke-Heist ► Bruges</i>	12:30 - 14:30
Men Junior Individual Time Trial	<i>Knokke-Heist ► Bruges</i>	14:55 - 17:05
Wednesday, 22 September, 2021		
Team Time Trial - Mixed Relay	<i>Knokke-Heist ► Bruges ► Bruges</i>	14:25 - 16:45
Thursday, 23 September, 2021		
Road Race Training	<i>Leuven and Flandrien Circuit</i>	09:30 - 12:30
Friday, 24 September, 2021		
Men Junior Road Race	<i>Leuven circuit</i>	08:15 - 11:15
Men U23 Road Race	<i>Antwerp ► Leuven</i>	13:25 - 17:40
Saturday, 25 September, 2021		
Women Junior Road Race	<i>Leuven circuit</i>	08:15 - 10:15
Women Elite Road Race	<i>Antwerp ► Leuven</i>	12:20 - 16:45
Sunday, 26 September, 2021		
Men Elite Road Race	<i>Antwerp ► Leuven</i>	10:25 - 17:00

* Time trials timings depending on number of participants.

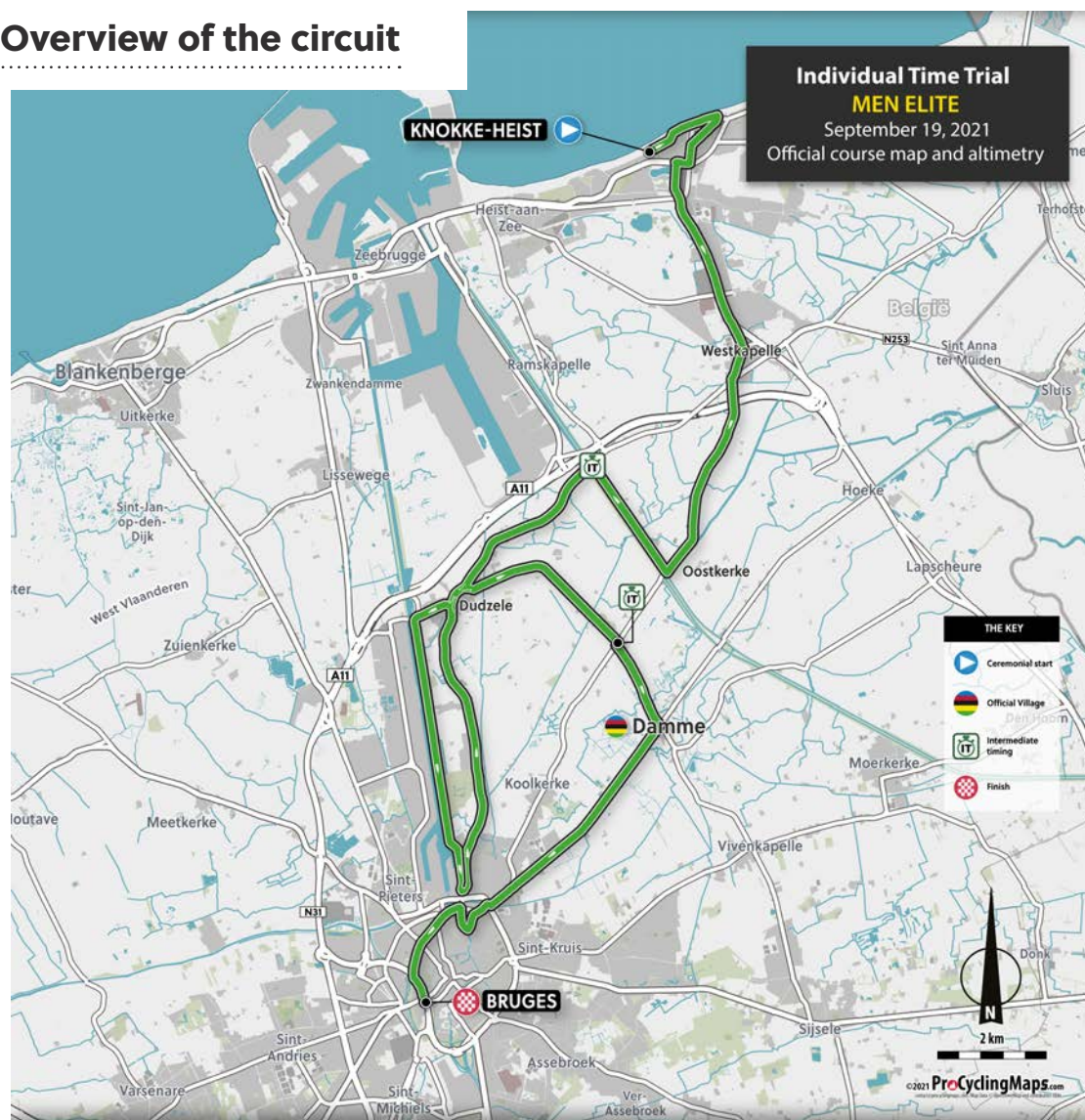
COMPETITION INFORMATION

SUNDAY 19/09: DAY 1 – MEN ELITE INDIVIDUAL TIME TRIAL

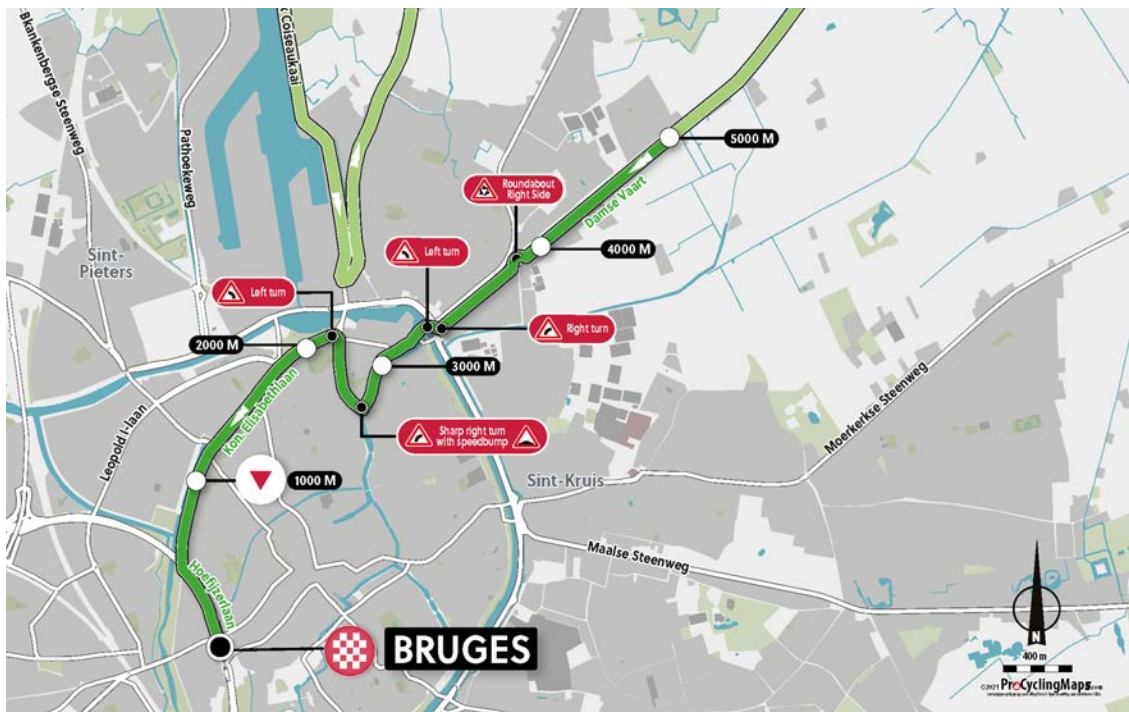
The Men Elite have the honour of kicking off the 100th anniversary of the UCI Road World Championships in the individual time trials. The first racer will start at 2.30 p.m. The 43.3-km circuit will take the riders from Knokke-Heist to Bruges. All the time trials start on the beach (Noordzeestrand), after which the racers will cycle along the shoreline for 1.5 km.

They then ride through the centre of Knokke-Heist and further inland. The circuit takes them through the official World Championship village of Damme and along straight canals and waterways, battling the wind to reach the finish line in 't Zand in Bruges. There we will find out who is the successor to the Italian Filippo Ganna.

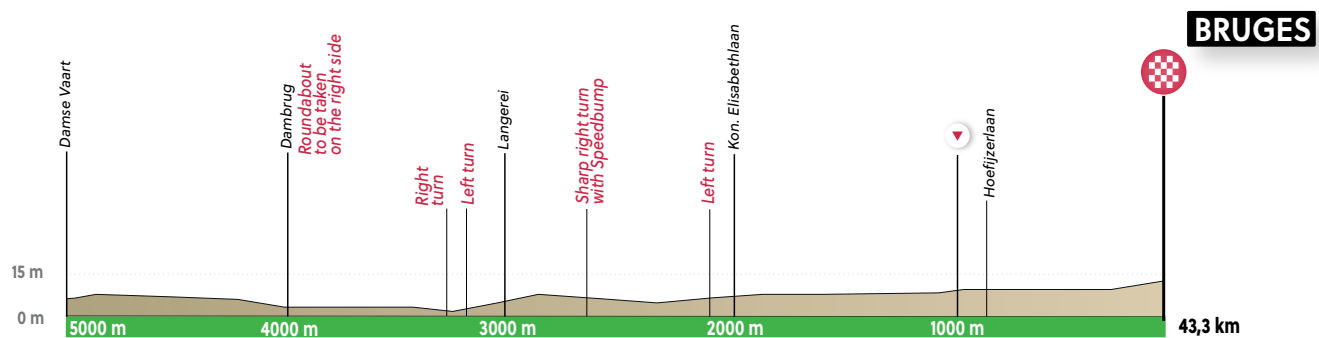
Overview of the circuit



Last 5 km



Last 5 km Profile



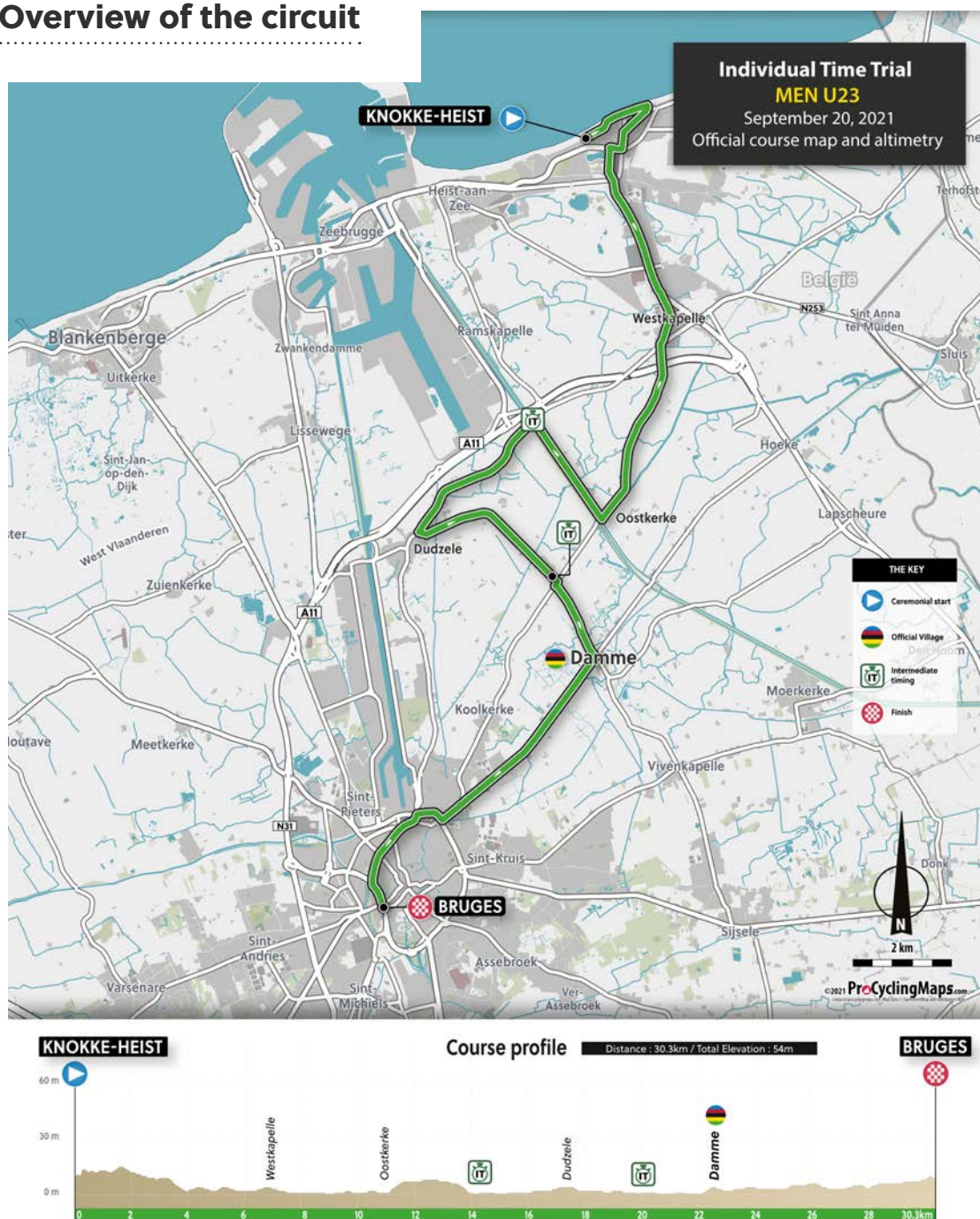
More race information can be found in the roadbook.

MONDAY 20/09: DAY 2 – MEN U23 INDIVIDUAL TIME TRIAL

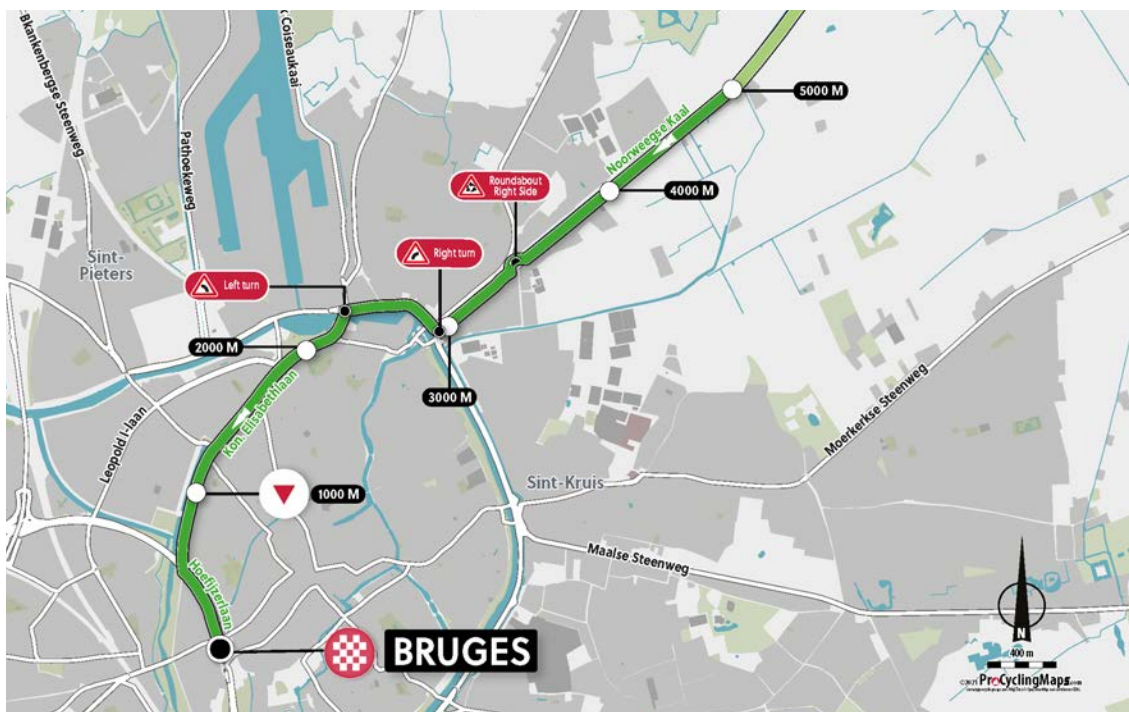
The Men U23 will complete their individual time trials before noon on a 30.3-kilometre circuit. They start at 10.40 a.m. Their circuit is almost identical to that of the Men Elite, except that they skip a loop along

the canal at Dudzele. They turn left in the centre of Dudzele and head for Damme instead. The finish line of the Men U23 circuit is also in 't Zand in Bruges.

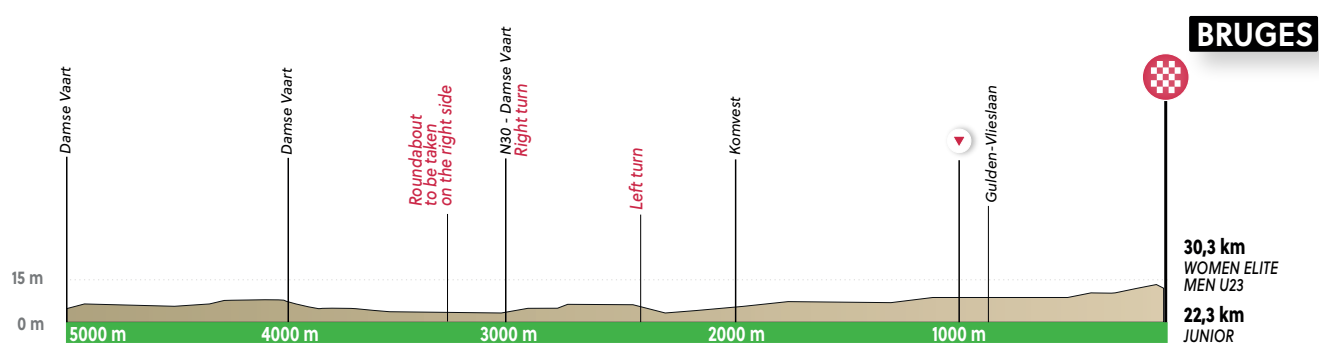
Overview of the circuit



Last 5 km



Last 5 km Profile

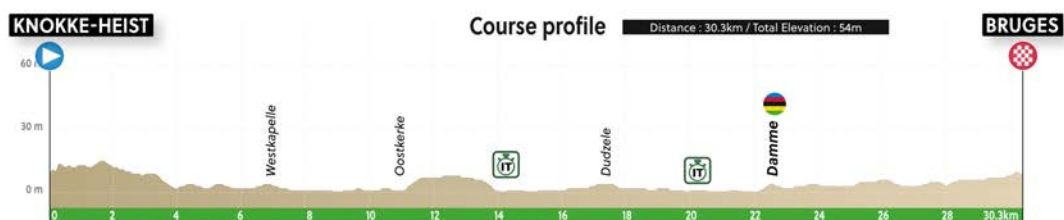
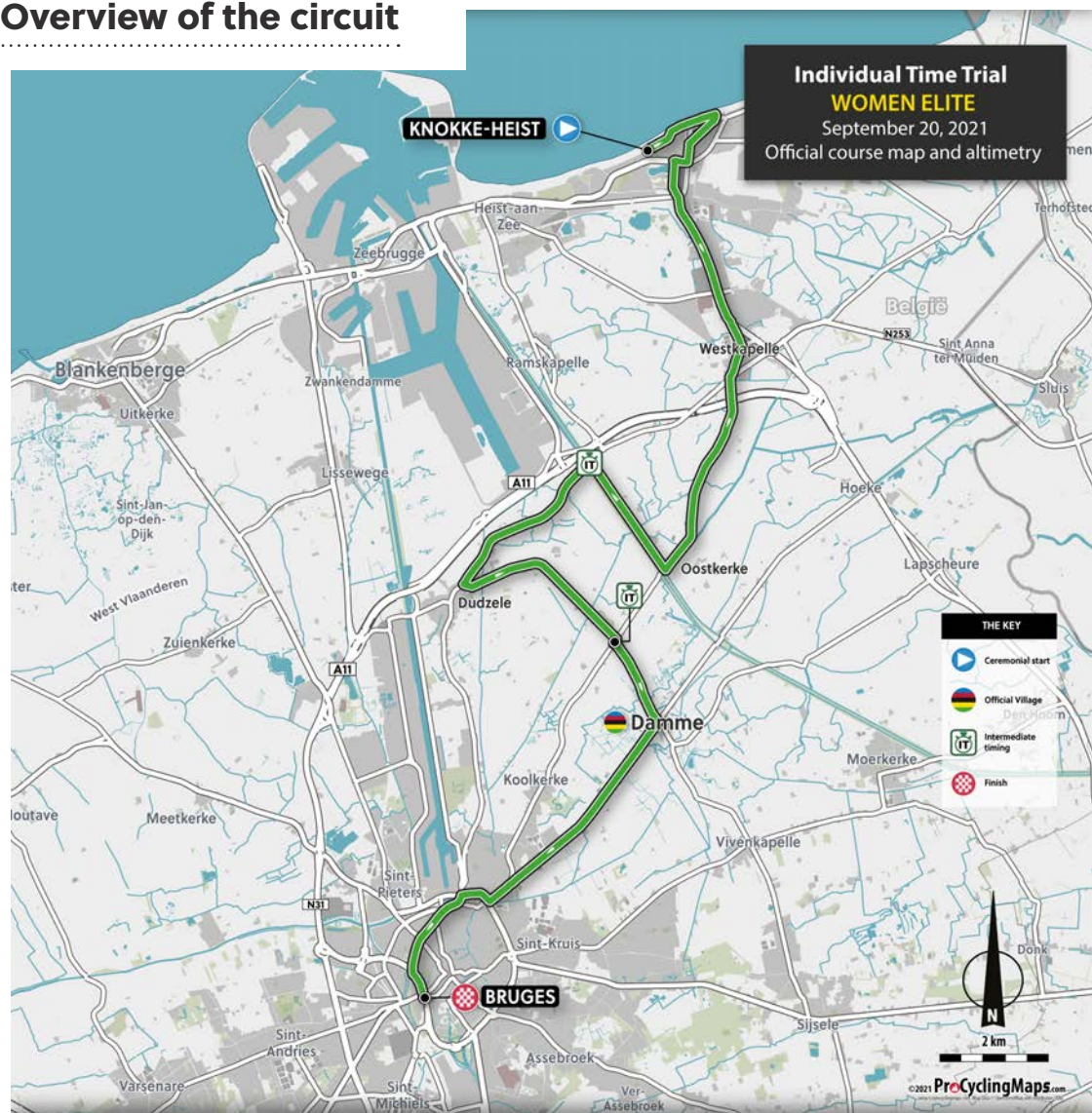


More race information can be found in the roadbook.

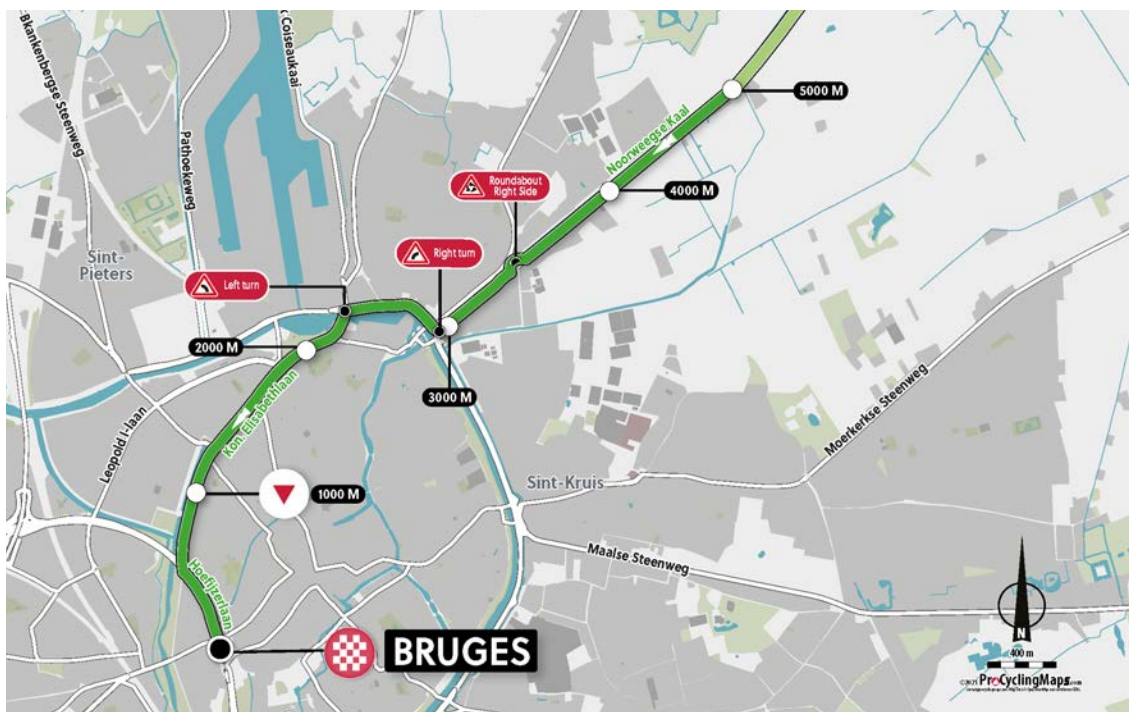
MONDAY 20/09: DAY 2 – WOMEN ELITE INDIVIDUAL TIME TRIAL

The Women Elite will ride the same 30.3-km circuit later that day, from 2.40 p.m., to determine who will be Anna van der Breggen's successor.

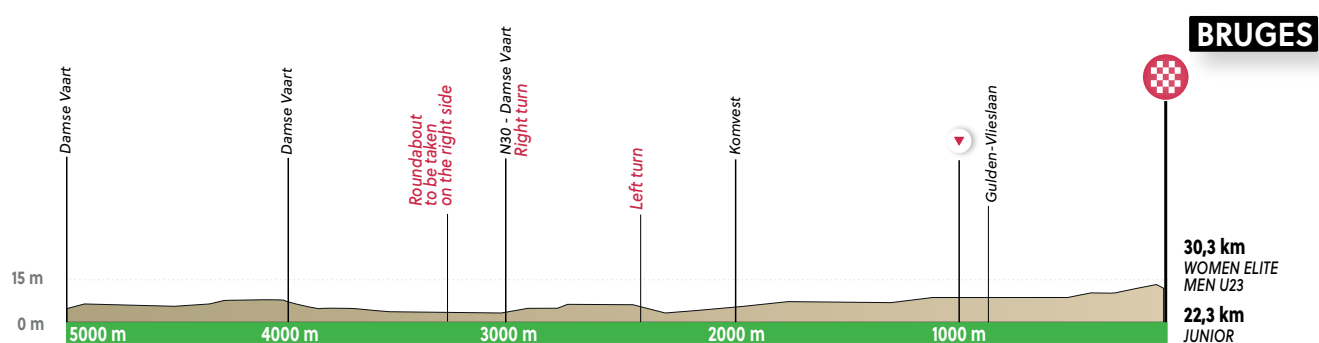
Overview of the circuit



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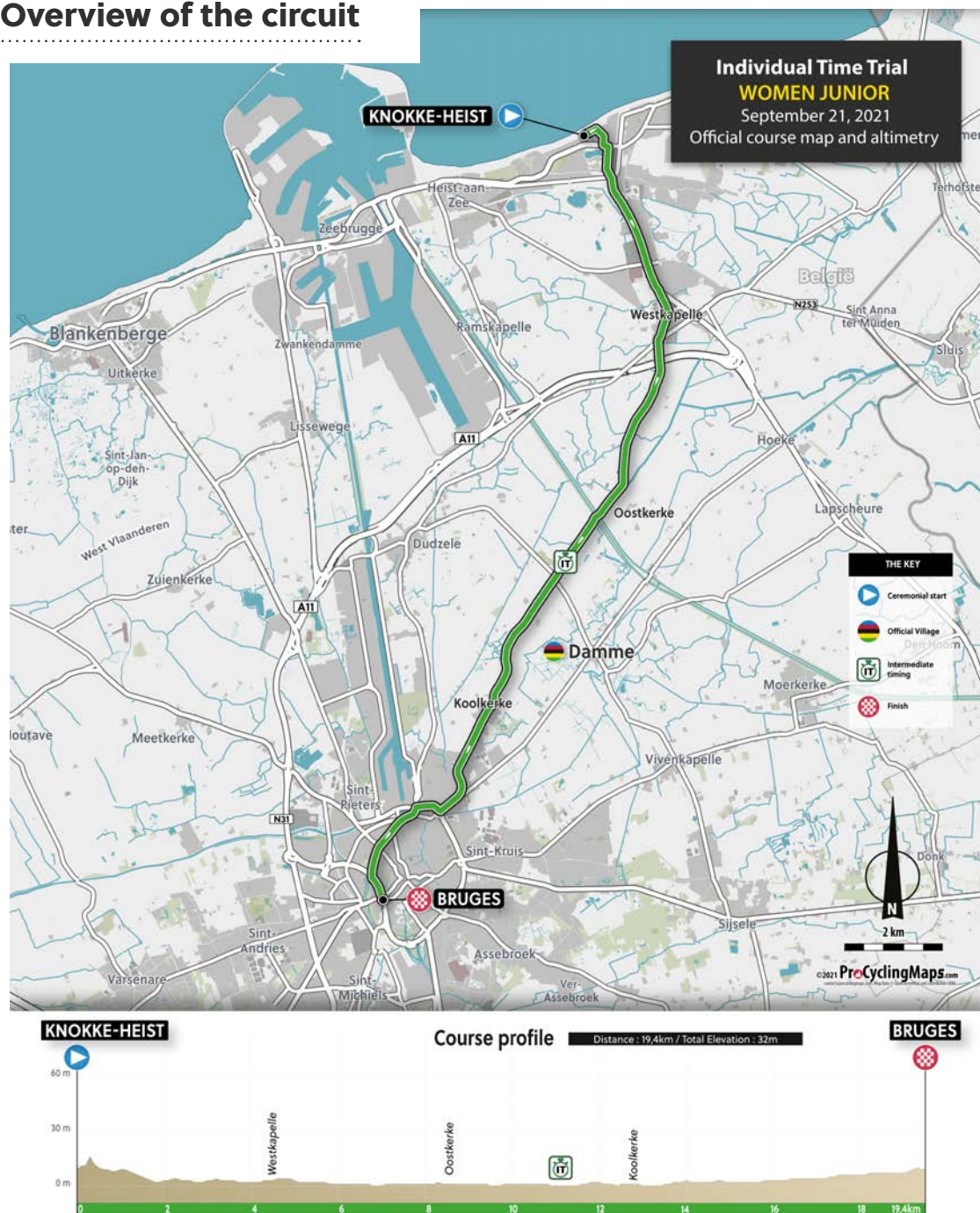
More race information can be found in the roadbook.

TUESDAY 21/09: DAY 3 – WOMEN JUNIOR INDIVIDUAL TIME TRIAL

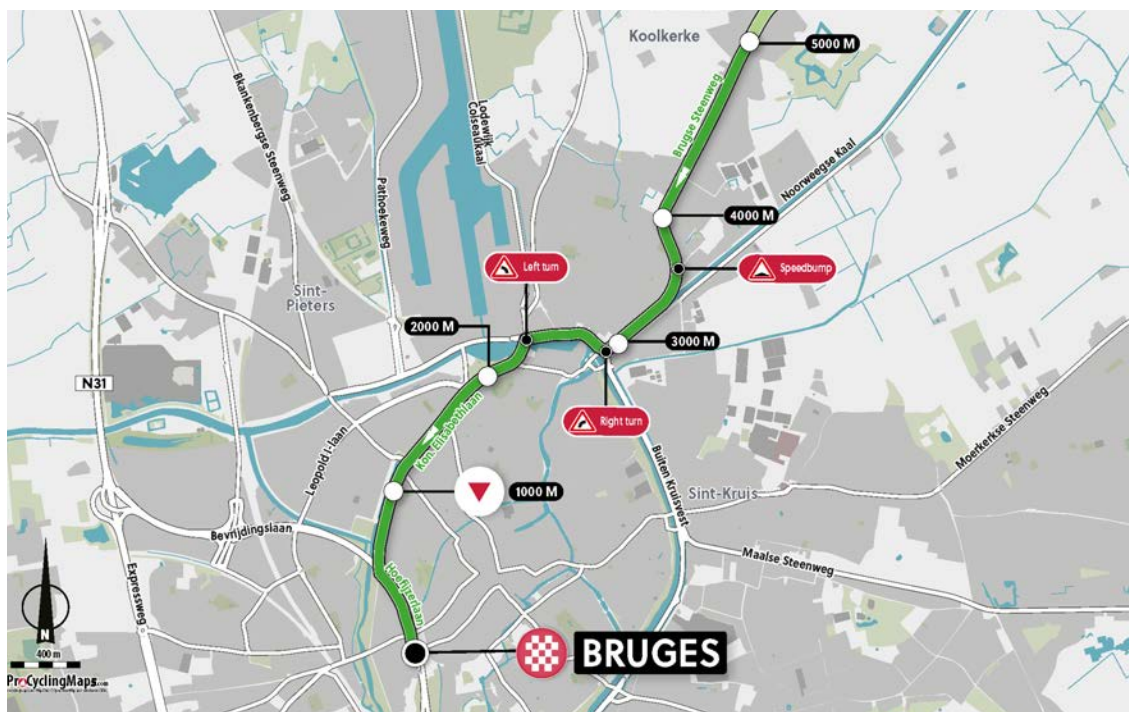
The Men and Women Junior time trials will also start in Knokke-Heist on the beach (Noordzeestrand). The Women Junior time trials start at 10.30 a.m. They must complete a 19.3-km circuit. From Noordzeestrand, they head inland immediately, instead of

cycling along the shoreline like the men. They then ride to Bruges in an almost straight line. The finish line is the same as for the other categories and is located in 't Zand in Bruges.

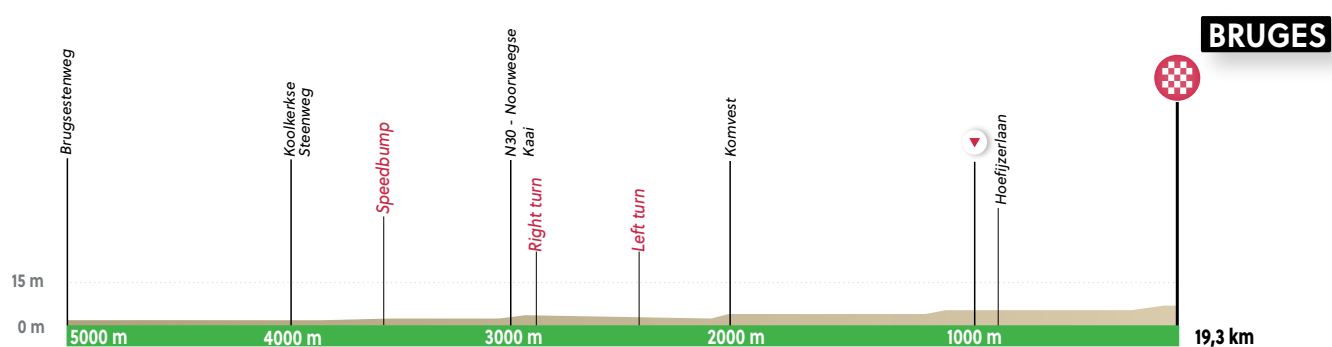
Overview of the circuit



Last 5 km



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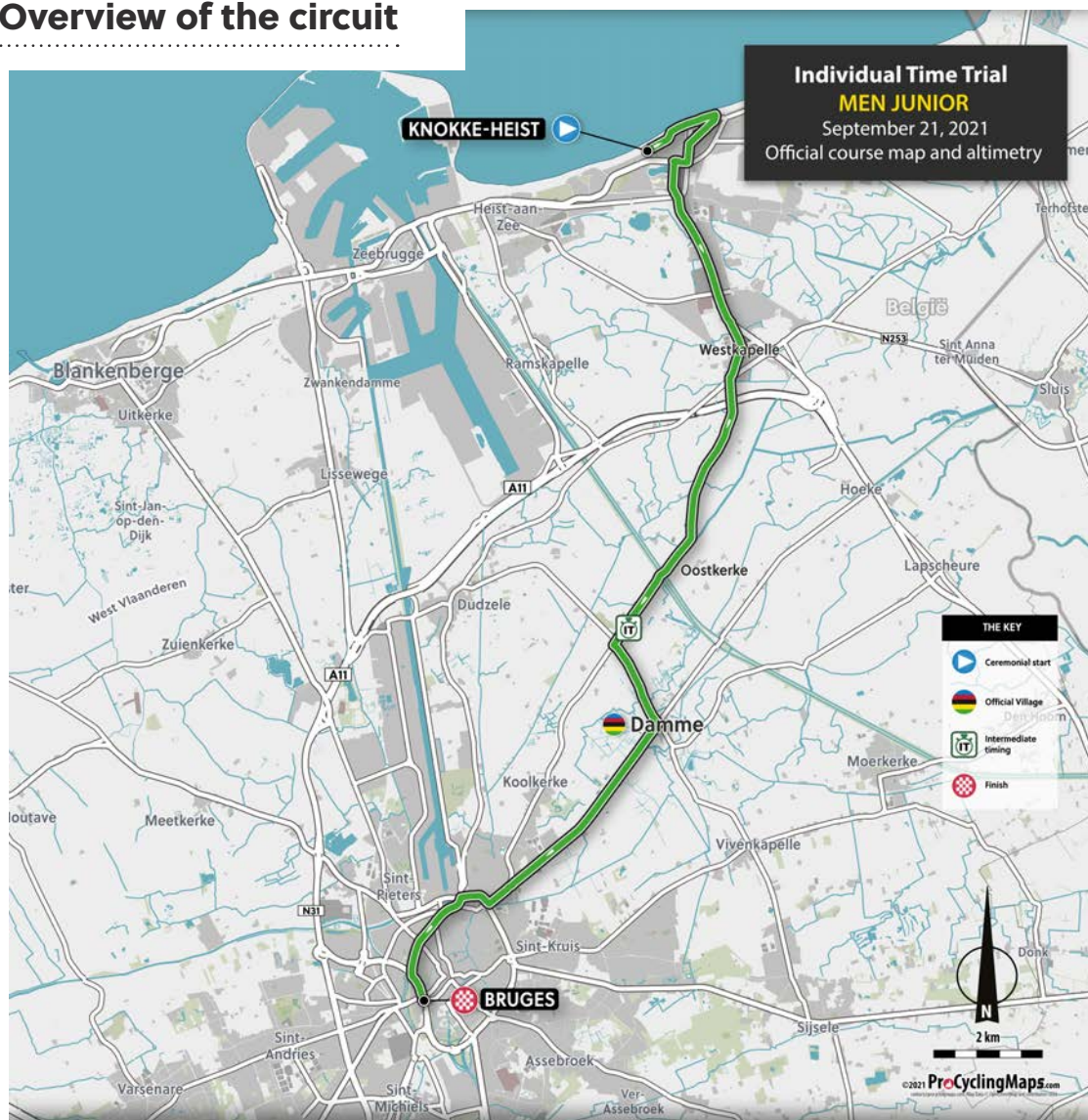
More race information can be found in the roadbook.

TUESDAY 21/09: DAY 3 – MEN JUNIOR INDIVIDUAL TIME TRIAL

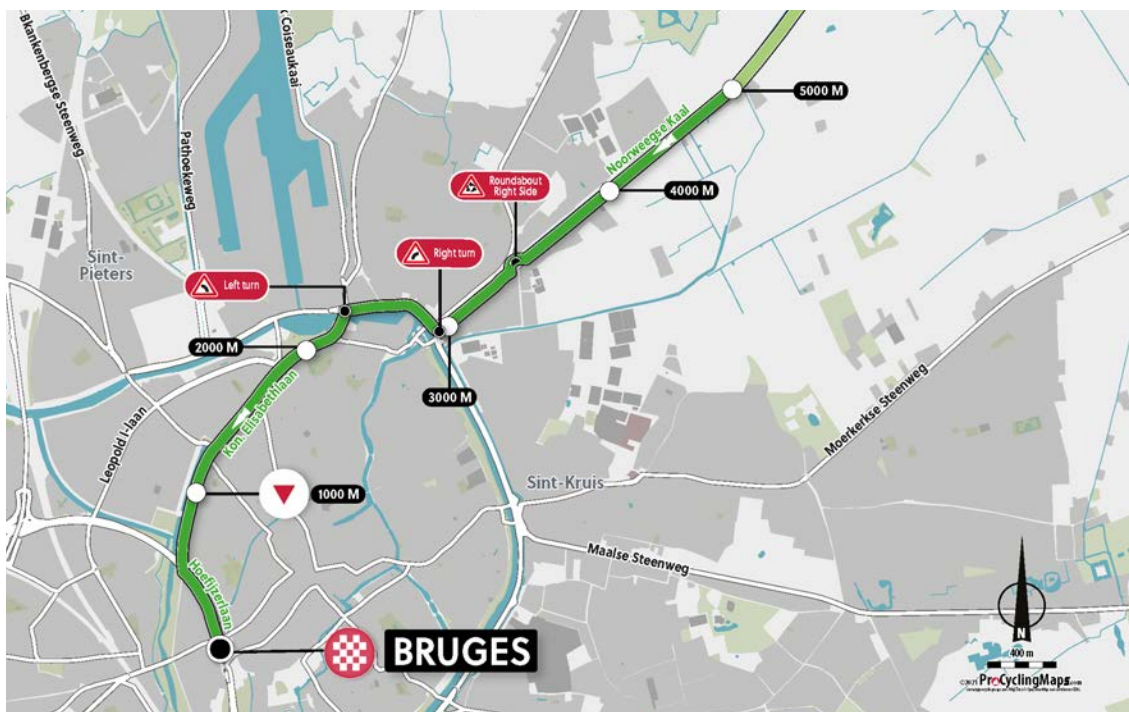
In the afternoon, the Men Junior will complete a 22.3 km circuit, from 2.55 p.m. onwards. Unlike the Men U23 and the Elite categories, they will not pass through Dudzele, heading straight for Damme

instead. From there, they will follow the same circuit as the Women Elite and the Men U23 finishing in 't Zand in Bruges.

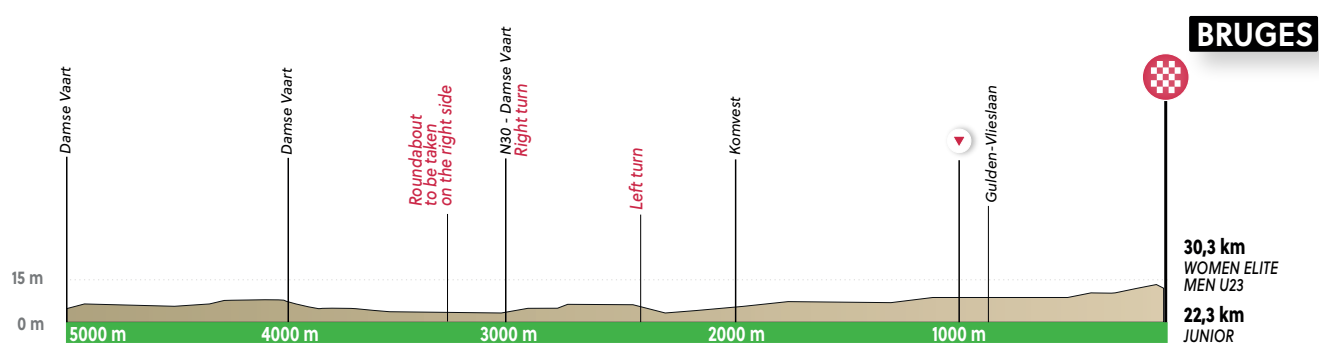
Overview of the circuit



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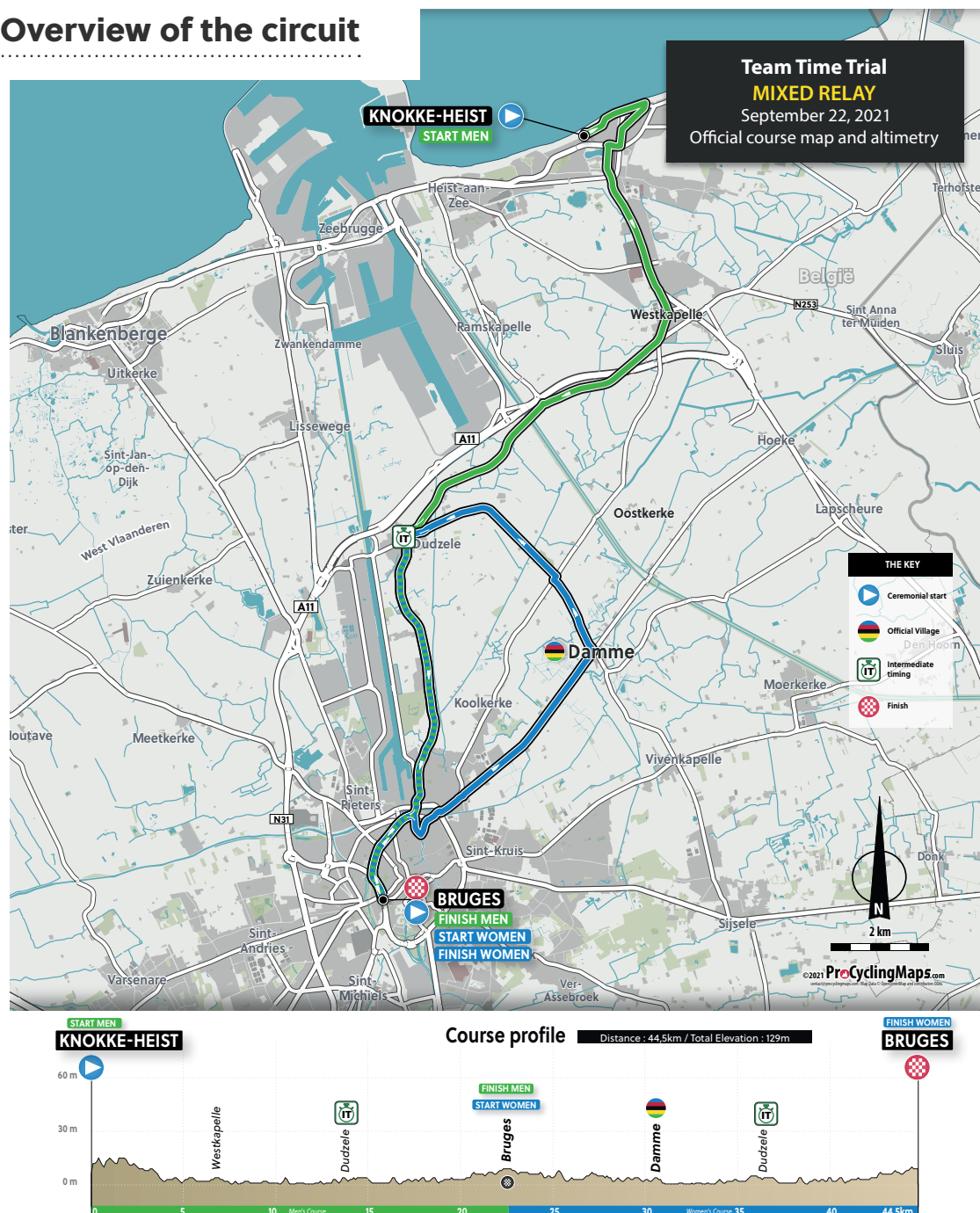
More race information can be found in the roadbook.

WEDNESDAY 22/09: DAY 4 – TEAM TIME TRIAL-MIXED RELAY

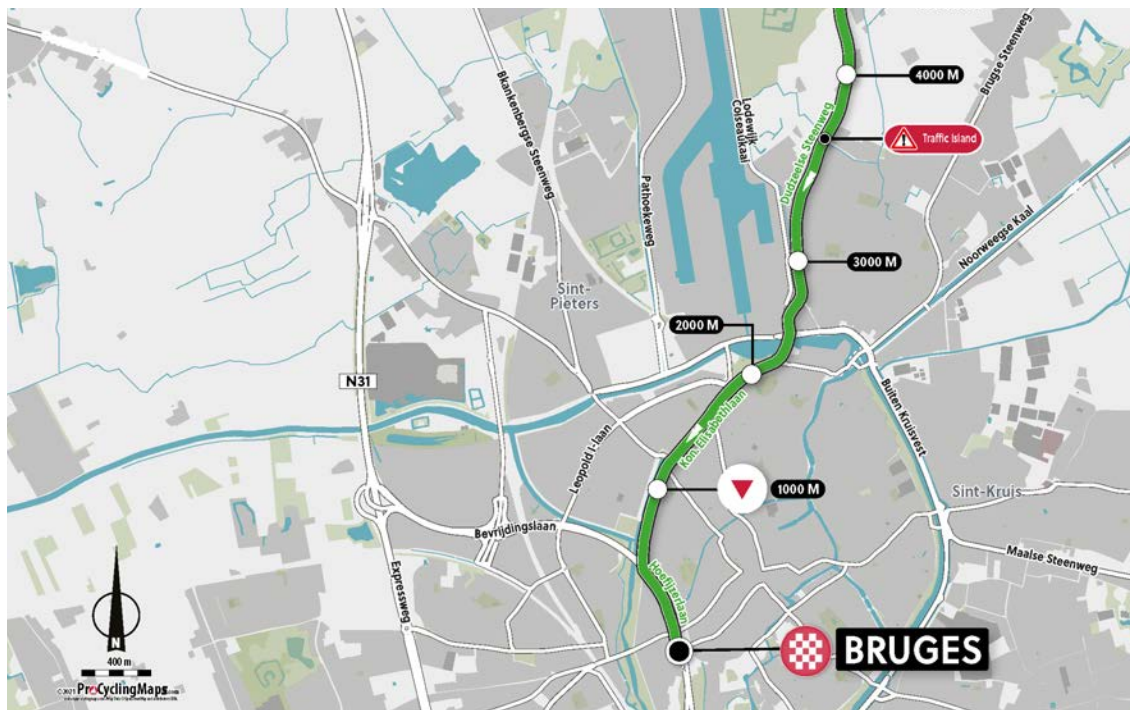
Mixed country teams of 3 men and 3 women will compete against each other in a team time trial. On Wednesday 22 September, the men's teams will start in Knokke-Heist from 2.25 p.m. and cycle towards Bruges, completing a circuit similar to the individual

time trials. Upon their arrival in Bruges, after 22.5 km, the women's team will take over, completing a 22-km circuit, which will take them along Damse Vaart and with start and finish line in Bruges.

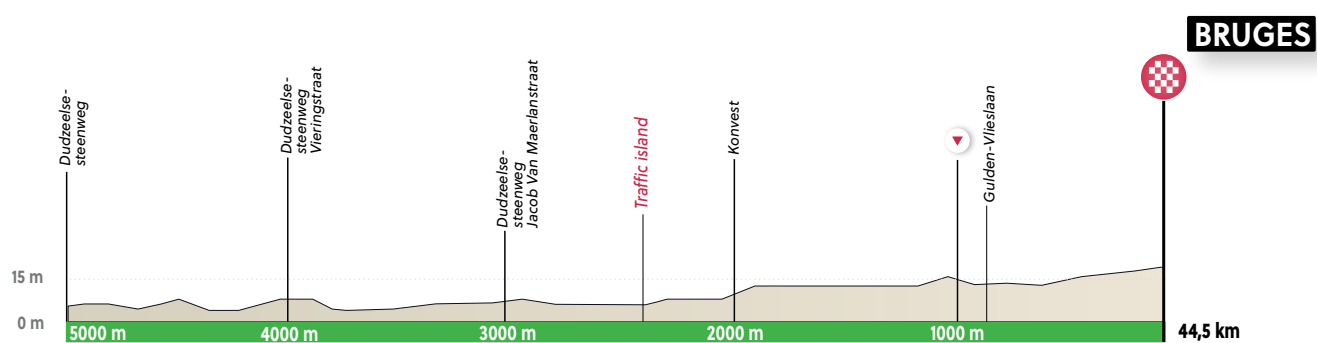
Overview of the circuit



Last 5 km



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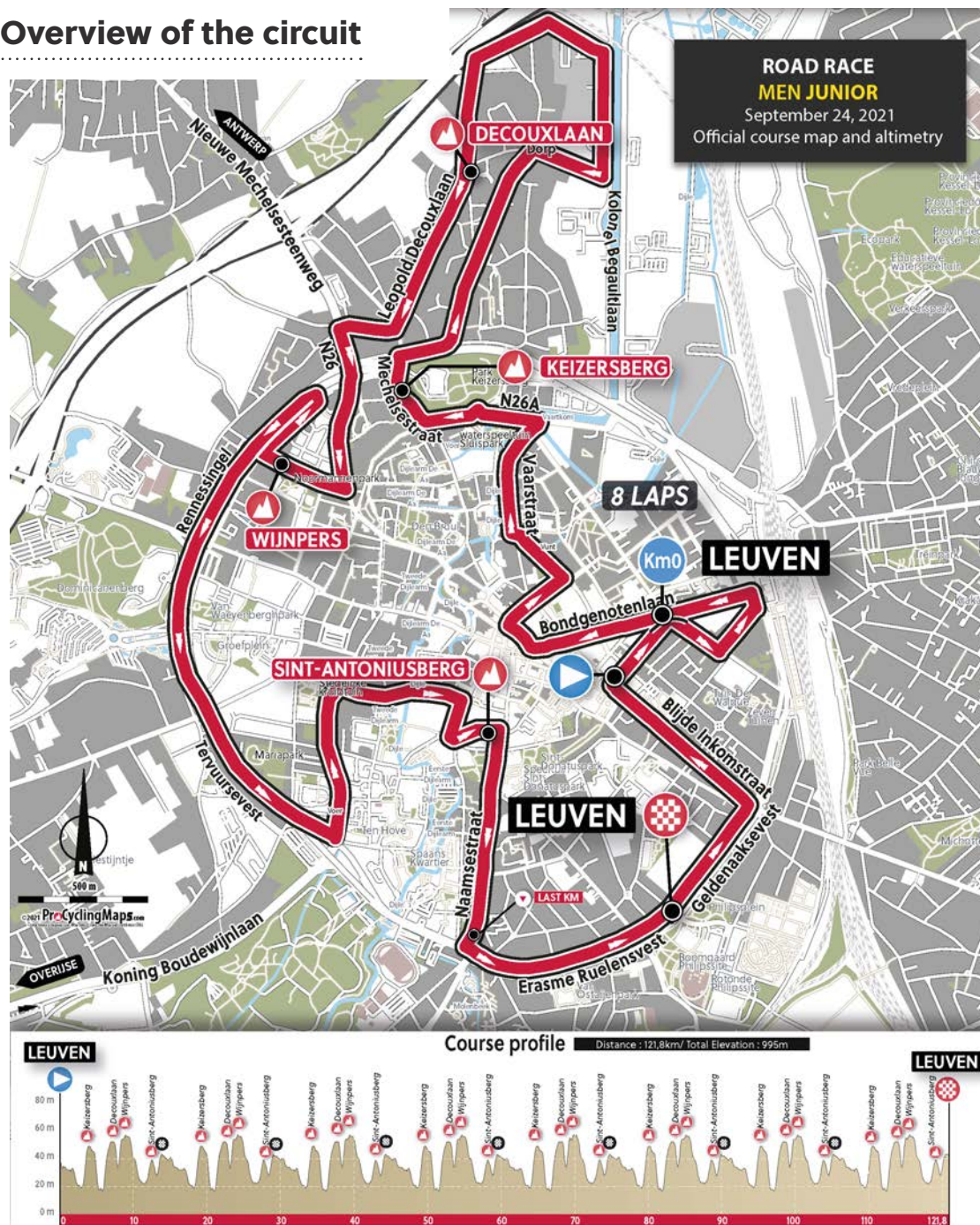
More race information can be found in the roadbook.

FRIDAY 24/09: DAY 6 – MEN JUNIOR ROAD RACE

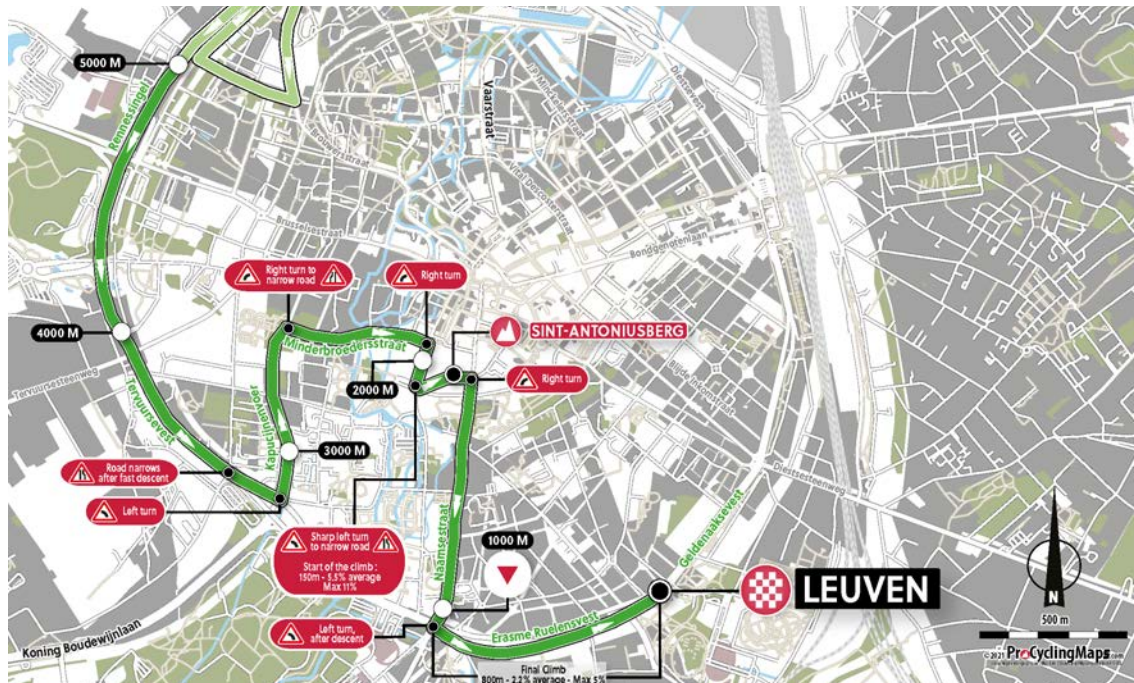
The Men and Women Junior categories start in Leuven. They follow the Leuven loop. The Men Junior riders will start on Friday at 8.15 a.m. and must complete a 121.9-km circuit. It consists of eight rounds

on the local circuit in Leuven. The start is in famous Ladeuzeplein. The finish line is the same as for the other categories, in the slightly ascending Gelde-naaksevest. The elevation gain is 995 metres.

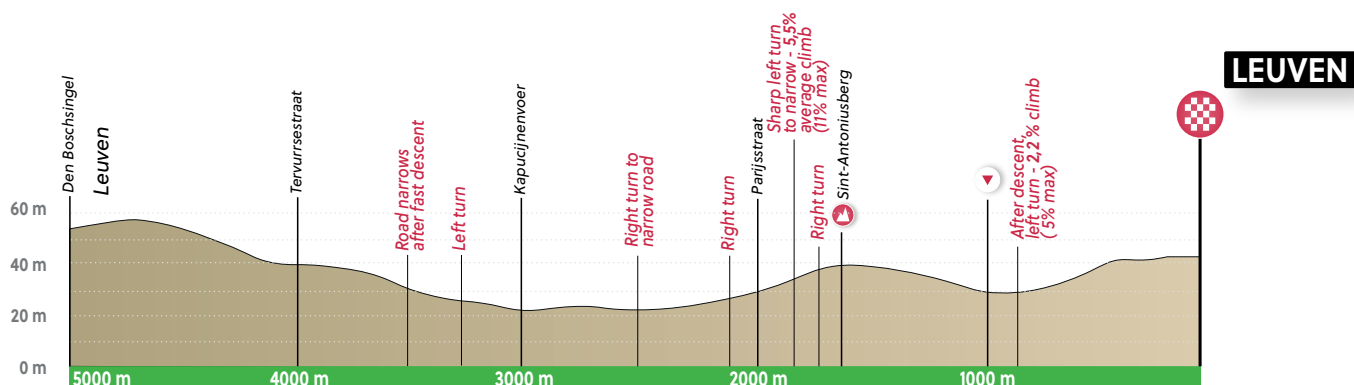
Overview of the circuit



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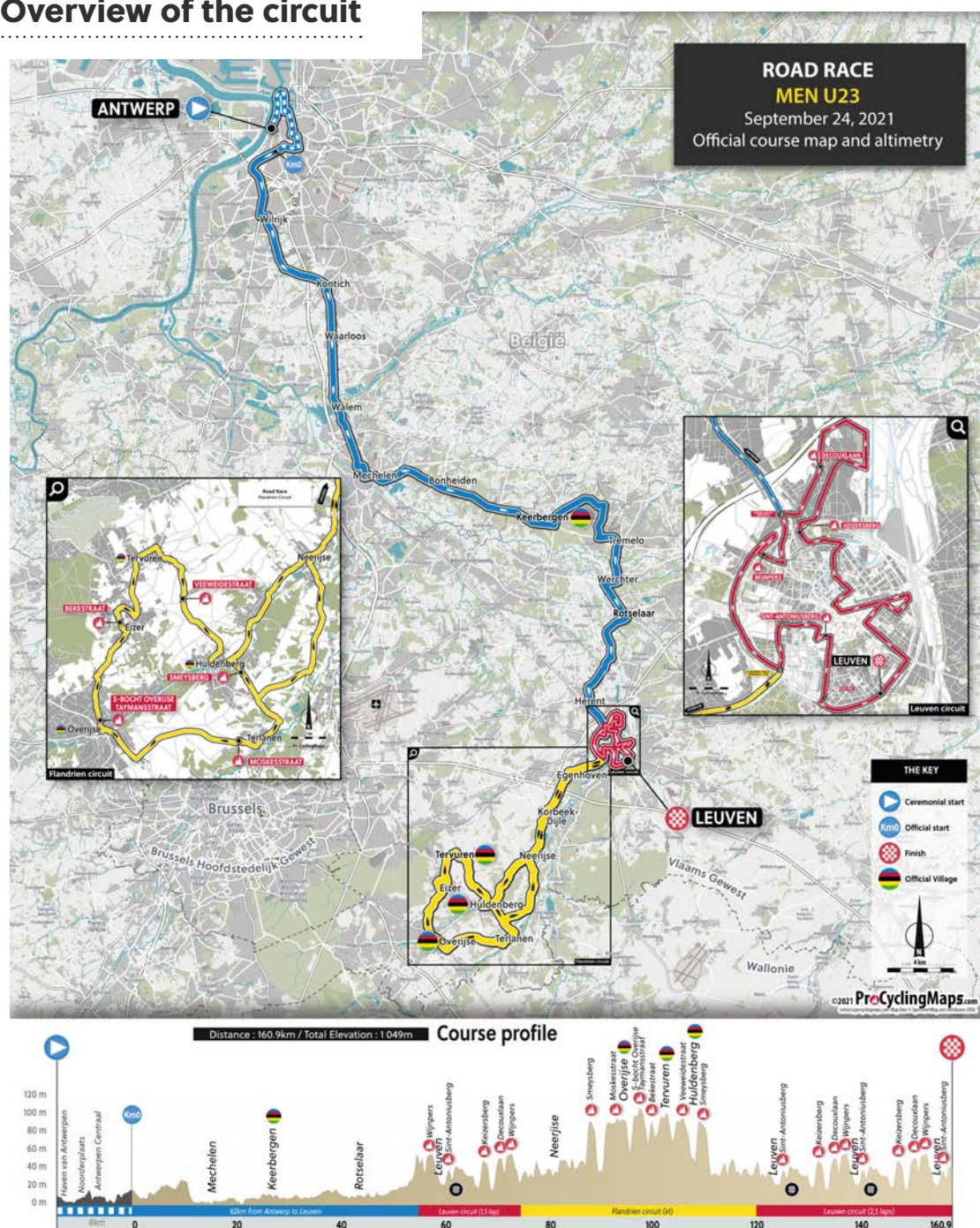
More race information can be found in the roadbook.

FRIDAY 24/09: DAY 6 – MEN U23 ROAD RACE

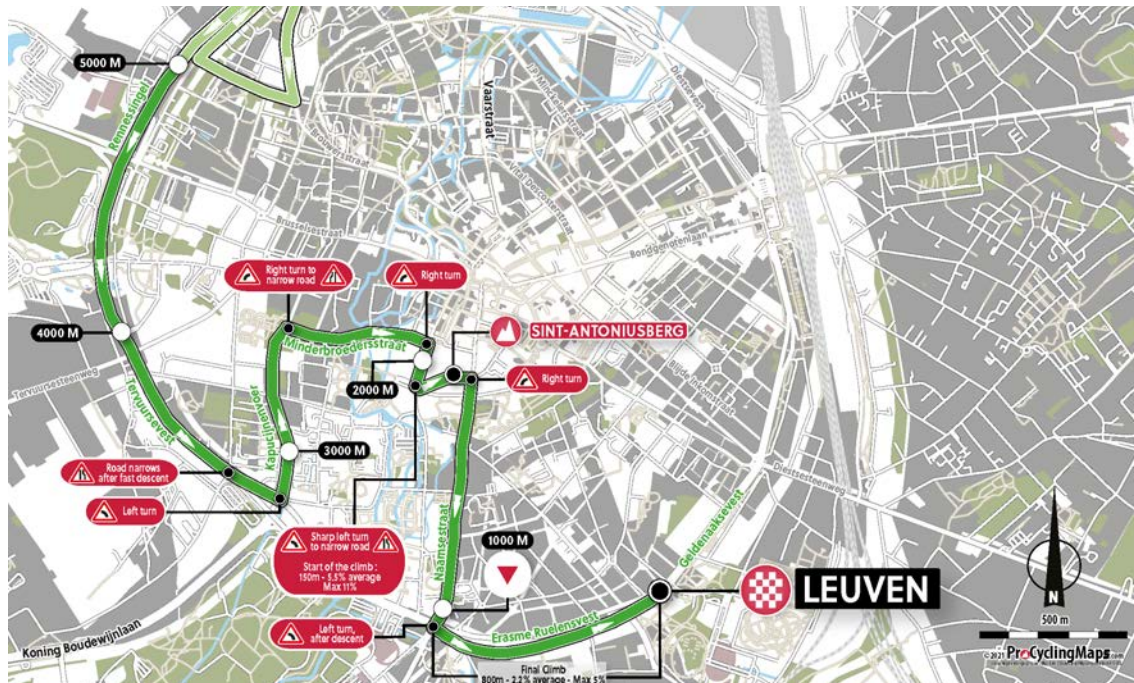
The Men U23 road race starts in Antwerp just like the Men and Women Elite road races. They leave at 1.25 p.m. After riding through the city, the pack heads southbound to Leuven. The Men U23 must follow a small additional loop in Keerbergen, creating a 62-km ride to Leuven. In Leuven, the Men U23 com-

plete 1.5 loops of the local circuit. They then follow the Flandrien loop, followed by another 2.5 rounds on the local circuit in Leuven. The finish line will appear before them in Geldenaaksevest, after 161.1 km. The elevation gain is 1,049 metres.

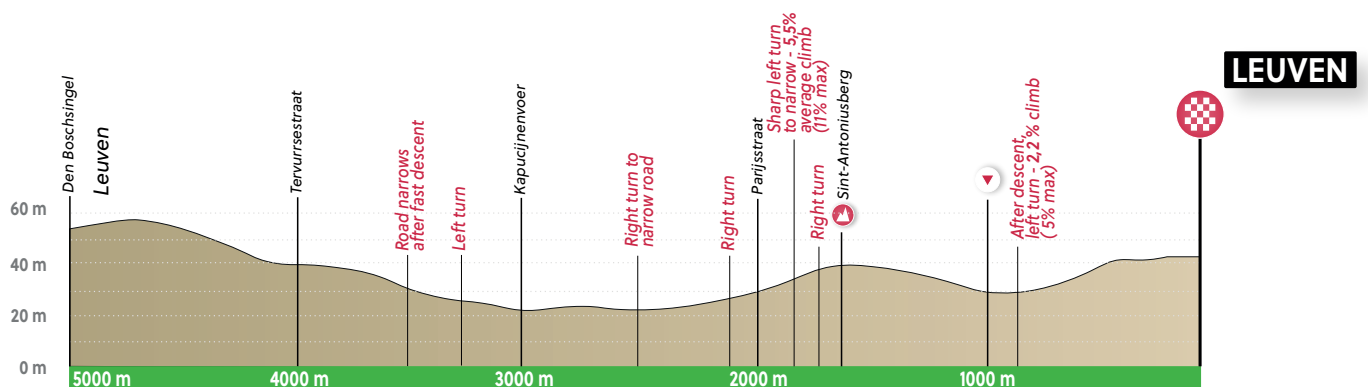
Overview of the circuit



Last 5 km



Last 5 km Profile



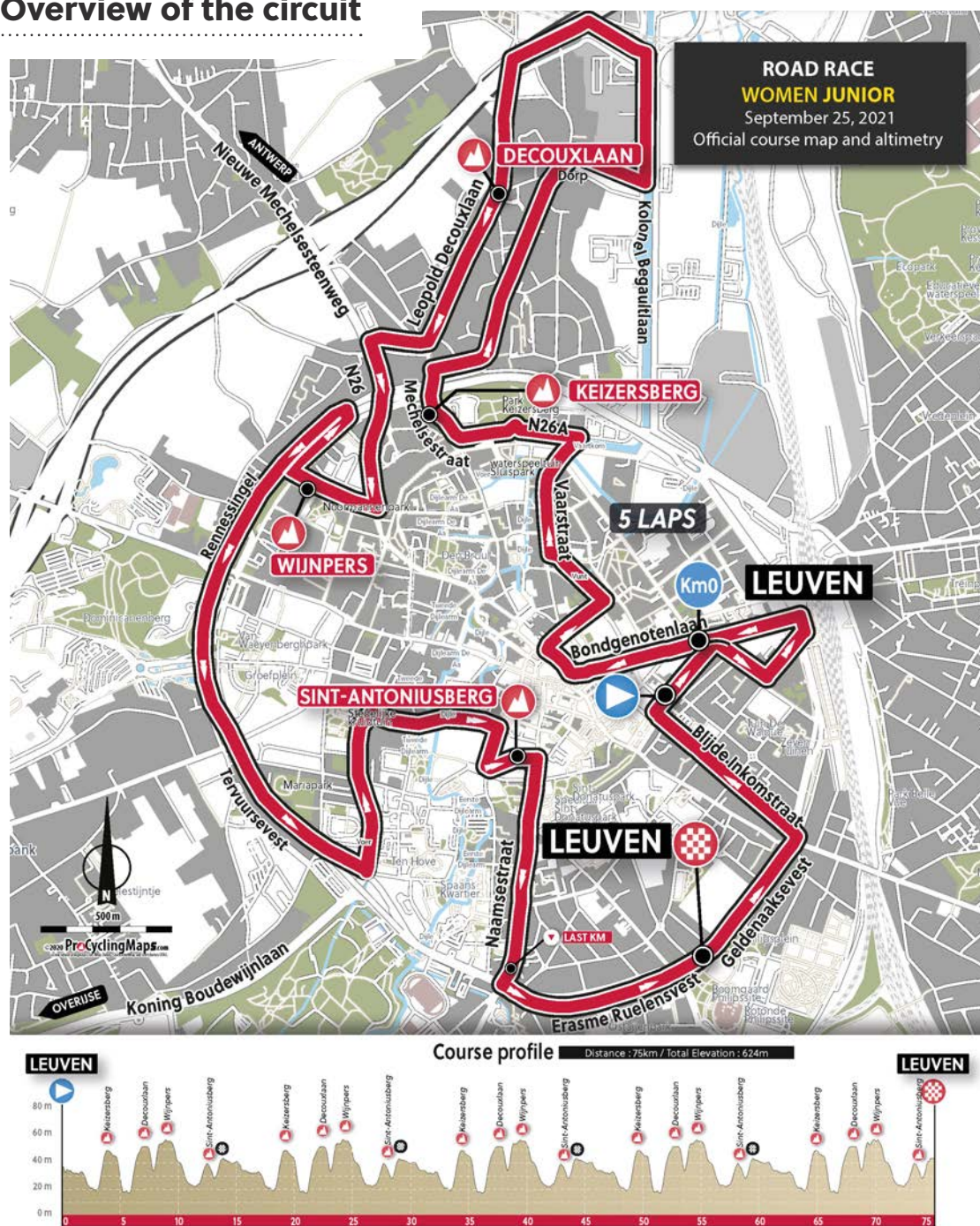
More race information can be found in the roadbook.

SATURDAY 25/09: DAY 7 – WOMEN JUNIOR ROAD RACE

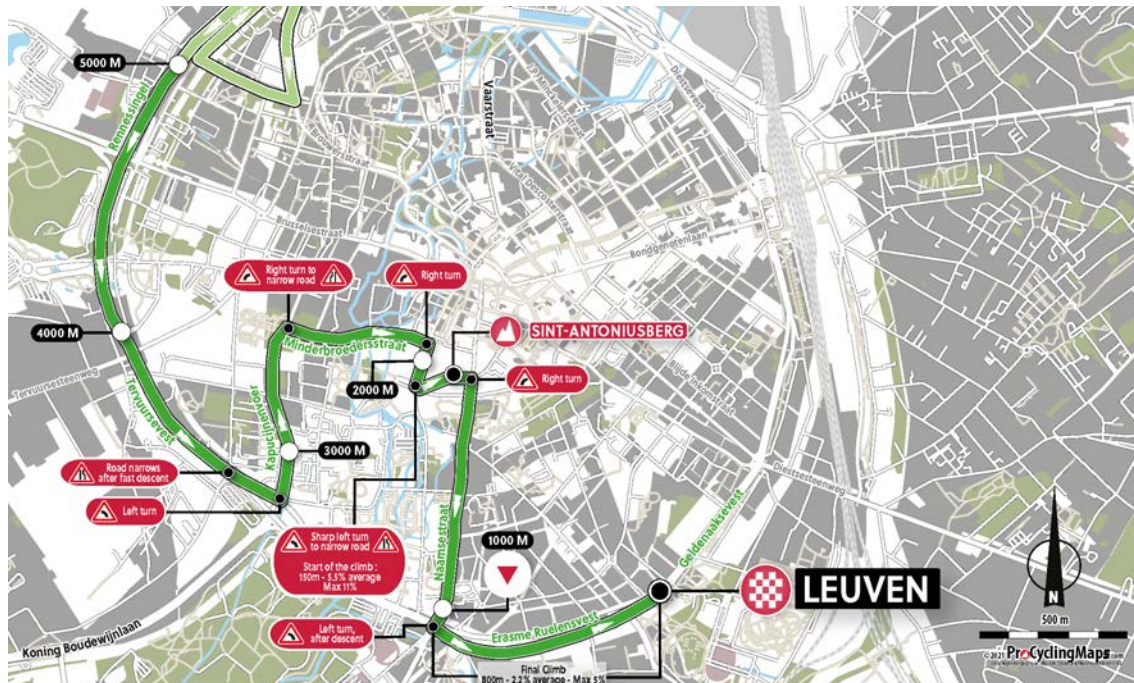
The Women Junior road race starts in Leuven, just like the Men's. A 75.2-km circuit awaits them. Or five rounds of the local circuit in Leuven. They start at

8.15 a.m., in Ladeuzeplein, finishing in Geldenaaksevest. The elevation gain is 624 metres.

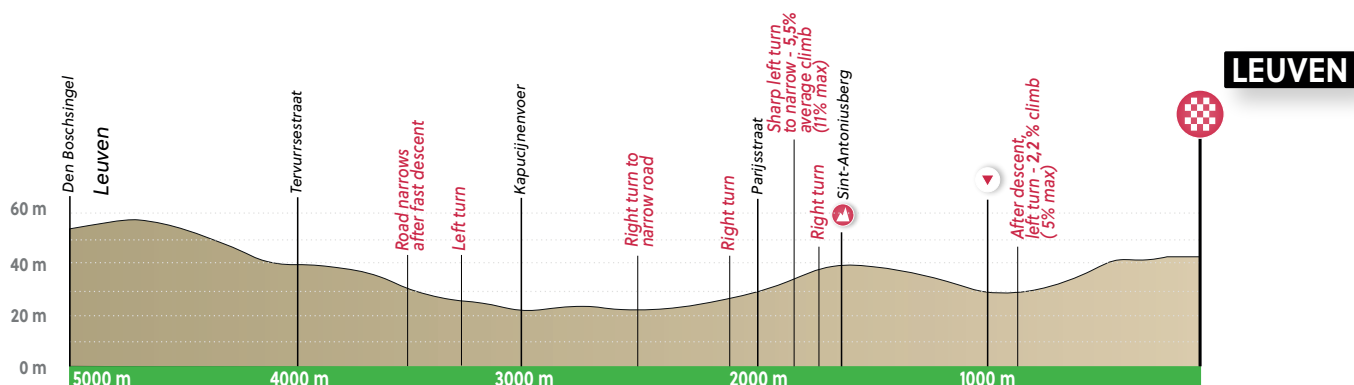
Overview of the circuit



Last 5 km



Last 5 km Profile



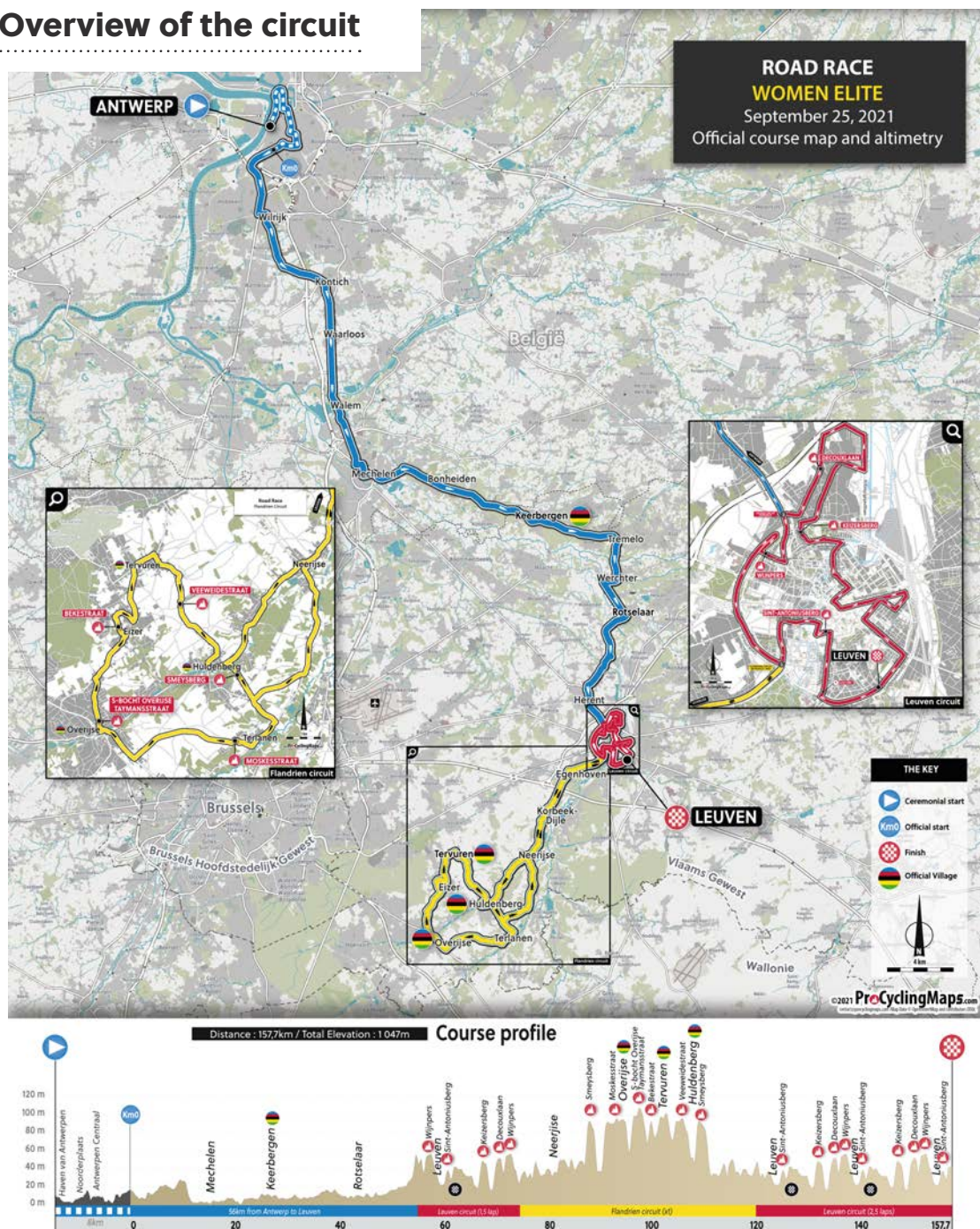
More race information can be found in the roadbook.

SATURDAY 25/09: DAY 7 – WOMEN ELITE ROAD RACE

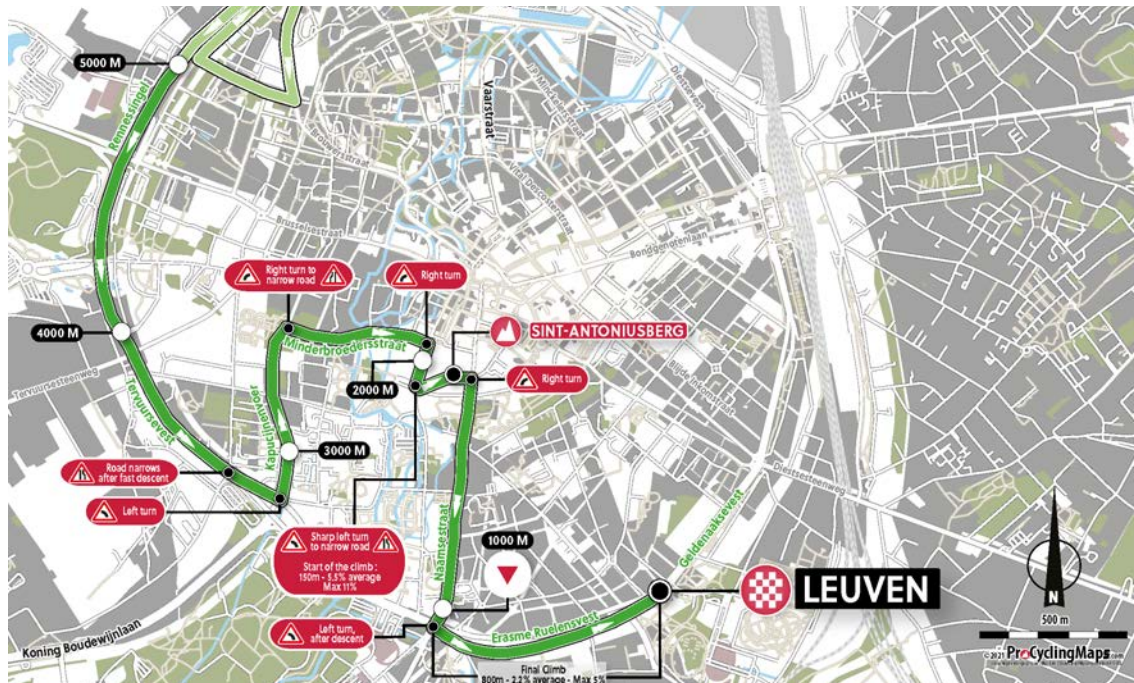
That same day, the Women Elite get to determine who will become the UCI World Champion and the successor of Anna van der Breggen. They start in Antwerp at 12.20 p.m. After a short tour through the city, they must cycle 56 km to Leuven. There they must complete 1.5 rounds of the Leuven city circuit.

Like the Men U23 they will also head southbound, for a round on the Flandrien loop, followed by 2.5 rounds on the local circuit in Leuven. The finish line is as always in Geldenaaksevest. The elevation gain is 1,047 metres.

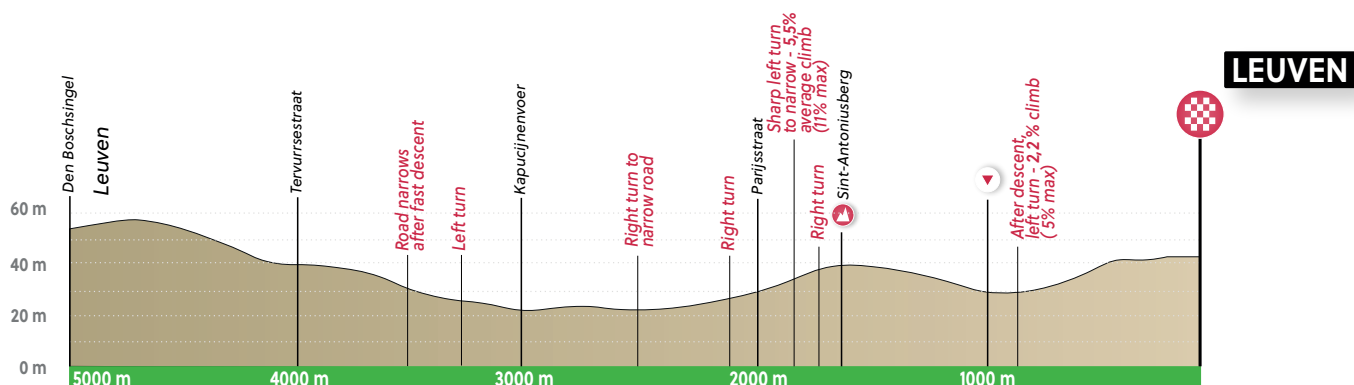
Overview of the circuit



Last 5 km



Last 5 km Profile



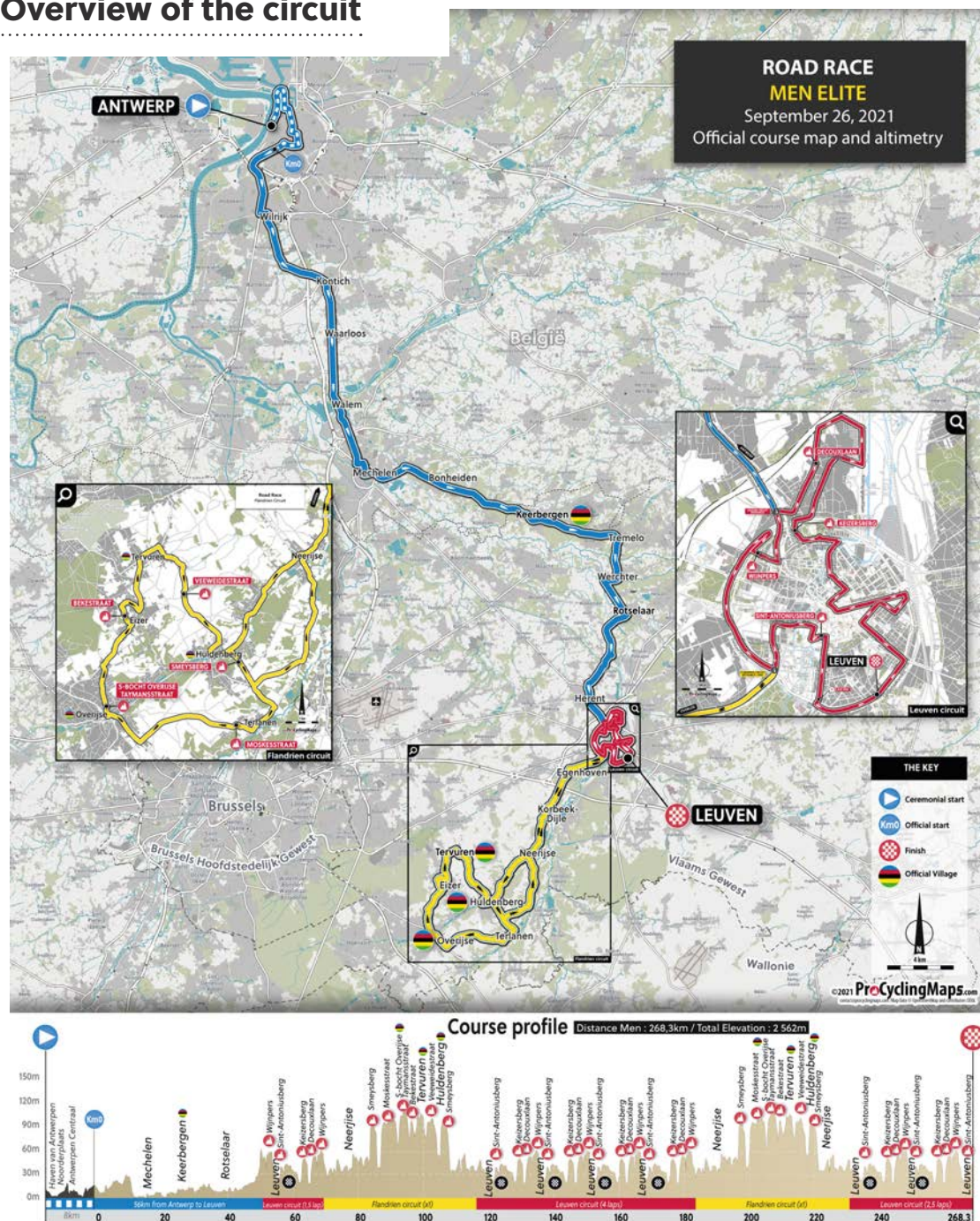
More race information can be found in the roadbook.

SUNDAY 26/09: DAY 8 – MEN ELITE ROAD RACE

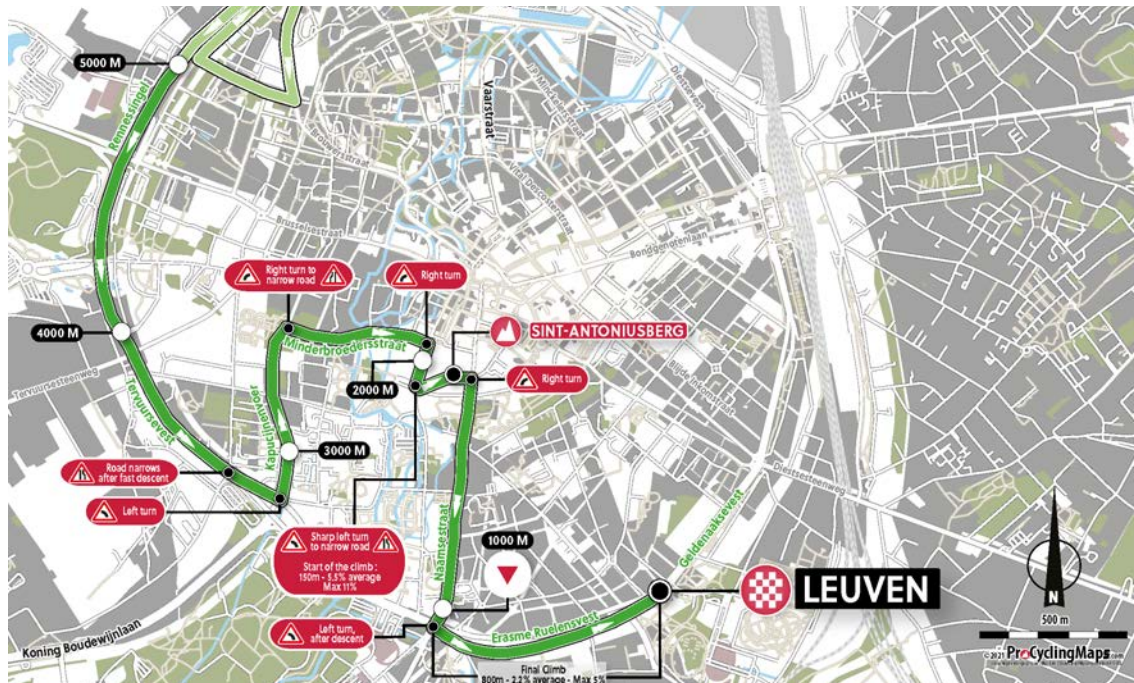
The successor to French rider Julian Alaphilippe will be decided on the very last day of the 2021 UCI Road World Championships, when the Men Elite compete for the World Championship title in Flanders. This time, the pack also sets off from Grote Markt in Antwerp at 10.25 a.m. They arrive in Leuven after an 8-km neutral zone and a 56-km ride. There they must complete 1.5 rounds on the city loop after which they head towards the Flandrien loop. They will ride the

loop once after which another four rounds on the Leuven loop await them. Finally, they cycle south-bound one more time for another round on the Flandrien loop. This takes them back to Leuven, where they must complete another 2.5 rounds of the local circuit. The winner after 268,3 kilometres and 2,562 metres of elevation gain gets to wear the rainbow jersey for one year.

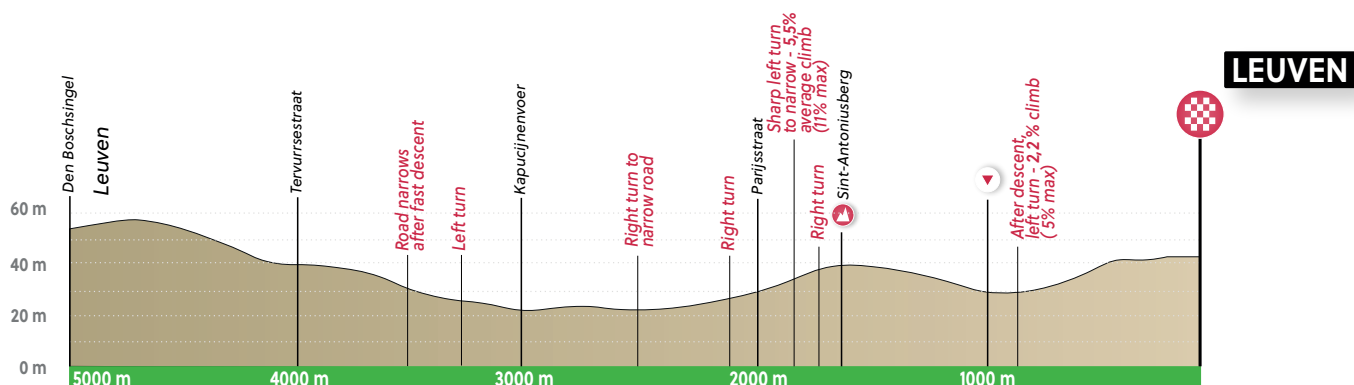
Overview of the circuit



Last 5 km



Last 5 km Profile



More race information can be found in the roadbook.

THE ROAD RACES

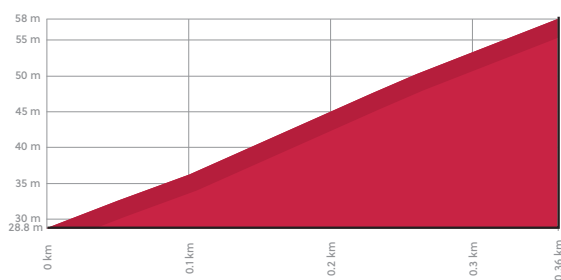
LOCAL CIRCUIT LEUVEN

The first two of four climbs on the city loop await immediately after entering Leuven from Antwerp: **Wijnpers** and **Sint-Antoniusberg**. After the first two climbs, we head towards the finish line on the slightly ascending Geldenaaksevest, near the Philips site. We then turn left onto Blijde Inkomststraat, joining the ring road around Leuven again near the station after 2 km, after having passed through the fan village in Ladeuzeplein. Next up is the famous Bondgenotenlaan. With St Peter's Church and the historic town hall of Leuven appearing ahead, we turn right towards the Law Courts.

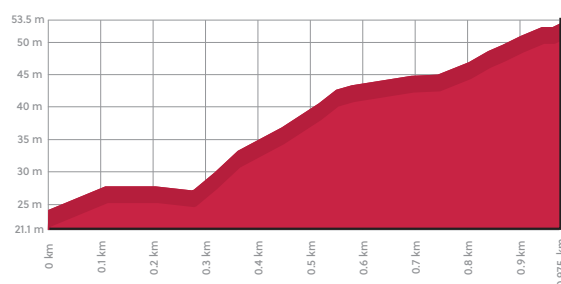
Four km after crossing the finish, we encounter the first of 4 short but steep climbs on the local circuit in Leuven: **Keizersberg** (290 m | 6.6% av. | 9% max.).

After cycling along the Leuven-Dijle Canal, we run into the next hill: **Decouxlaan** (975 m | 2.5% avg. | 6% max.). After Decouxlaan, we turn onto Nieuwe Mechelsesteenweg to head back into the city centre, after which we turn right onto **Wijnpers** (360 m | 8% avg. | 9% max.), the third hill on the local circuit. After Wijnpers, we make our way back to the ring road, towards Kapucijnenvoer and then turn left. Near the Leuven Botanical Garden, we turn right, towards the last hill on the local circuit, called **Sint-Antoniusberg** (230m | 5.5% avg. | 11% max.). This short, steep and narrow hill, which is partly cobbled, is the last obstacle before the slightly ascending finish in Geldenaaksevest.

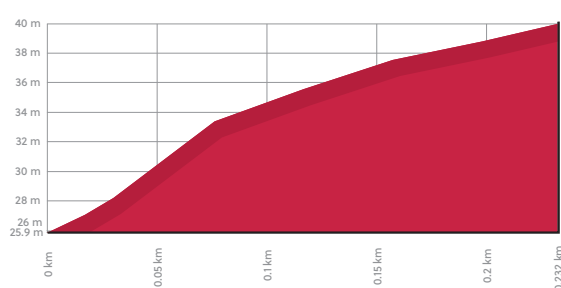
WIJNPERS / 360 M / 9% MAX / 7.98% AVG



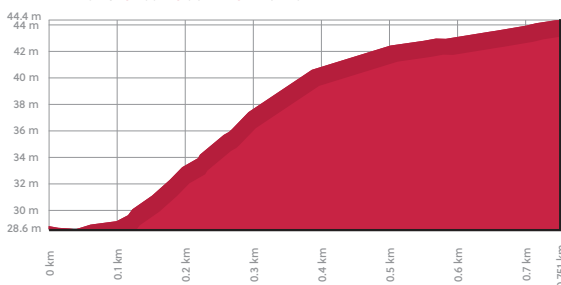
DECOUXLAAN / 975 M / 6% MAX / 2.5% AVG



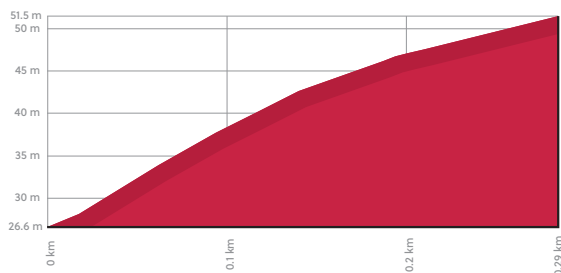
ST. ANTONIUSBERG / 230 M / 11% MAX / 5.47% AVG



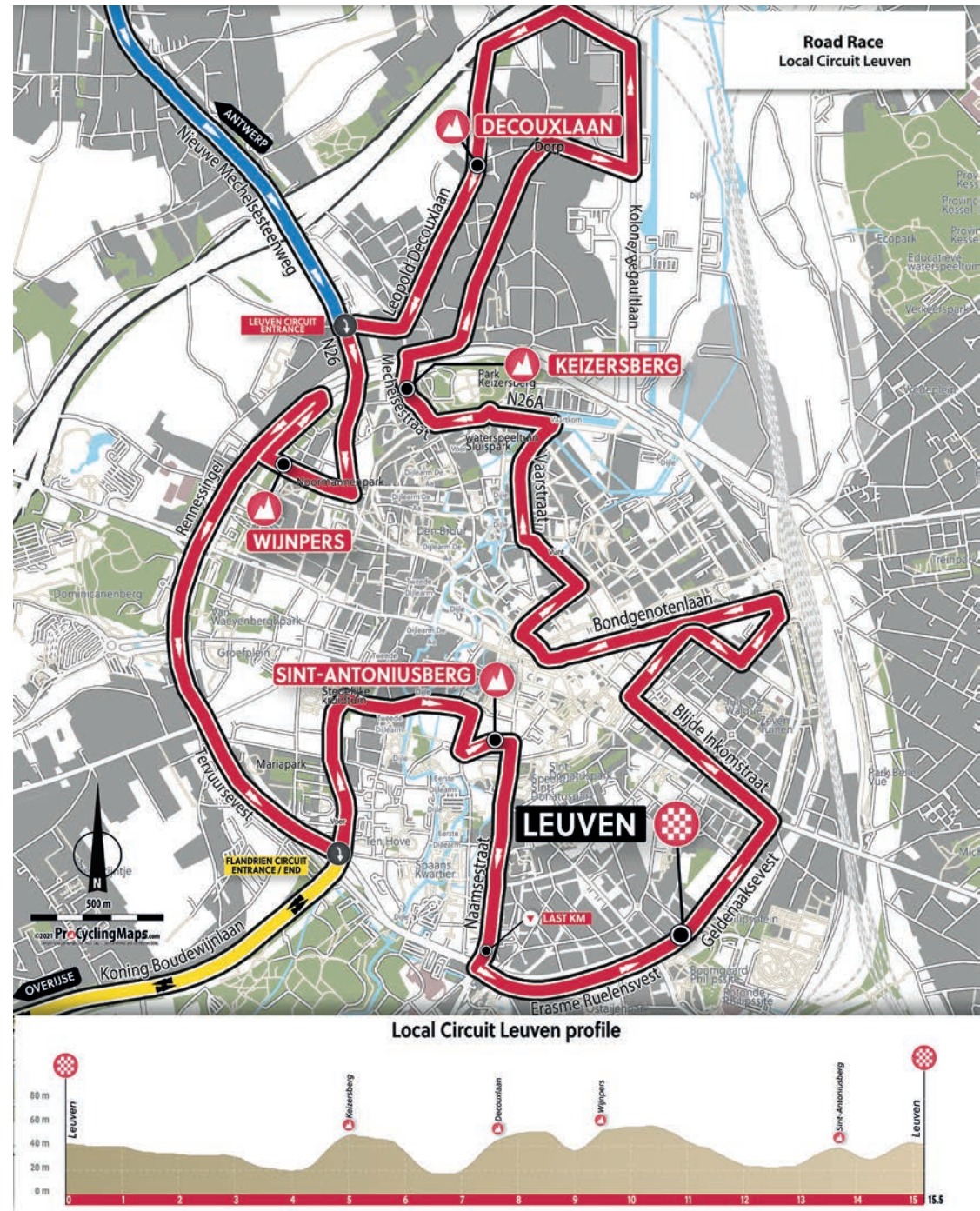
AANKOMST / 750 M / 5% MAX / 2.2% AVG



KEIZERSBERG / 290 M / 9% MAX / 6.6% AVG



LOCAL CIRCUIT LEUVEN

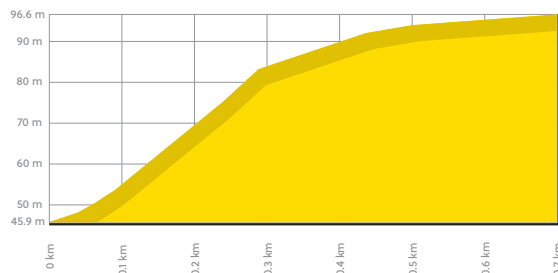


FLANDRIEN LOOP

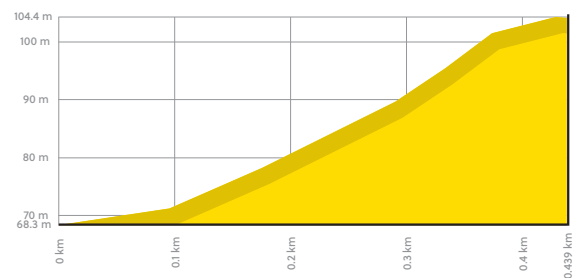
Usually the final of the UCI Road World Championships is ridden on one local circuit. The UCI Road World Championships in Flanders have decided to do things somewhat differently this year. To increase the competition's appeal and make it even more selective, the organising committee opted for a second local round in the Grape Region, on the Flandrien loop. Classic riders will be bound to enjoy the circuit that will take them through the official world championship villages of Huldenberg, Overijse and Tervuren, with 6 tough climbs in short succession. The loop starts with the infamous **Smeysberg** (700 m | 8.8% avg. | 16% max.) in Huldenberg, followed by the cobbles of **Moskesstraat** just three km later (550 m | 8% avg. | 18% max.). With gradients of up to 18%, this is a decisive hill on the Flandrien loop. After Moskesstraat, the riders descend to the centre

of Overijse, to climb to the top of the famous S bend, in combination with Taymansstraat. The aerial views as the pack winds its way through the centre of Overijse are bound to be spectacular. After the **S-bend Overijse - Taymansstraat** (738 m | 5.5% avg. | 18% max.) the pack heads to Eizer, and the last hill on the territory of Overijse, in **Bekestraat** (439 m | 7.5% avg. | 15% max.), another steep and narrow cobbled climb. After Bekestraat the pack enters Tervuren, where a fifth hill awaits in the sub-municipality of Duisburg: **Veeweidestraat** (480 m | 5.2% avg. | 12% max.). The Flandrien loop ends with a second climb of Smeysberg, after which the racers head back to Leuven for the local rounds.

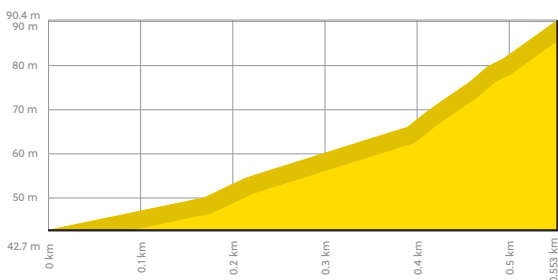
SMEYSBERG / 700 M / 16% MAX / 8.84% AVG



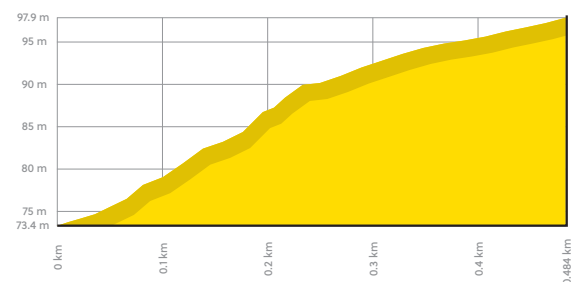
BEKESTRAAT / 439 M / 15% MAX / 7.65% AVG



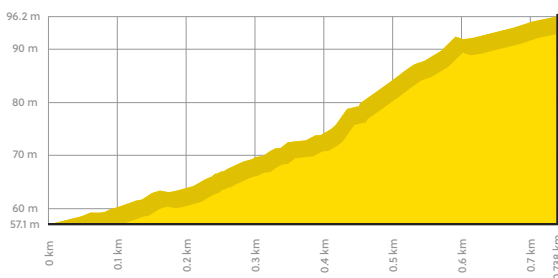
MOSKESSTRAAT / 550 M / 18% MAX / 7.98% AVG



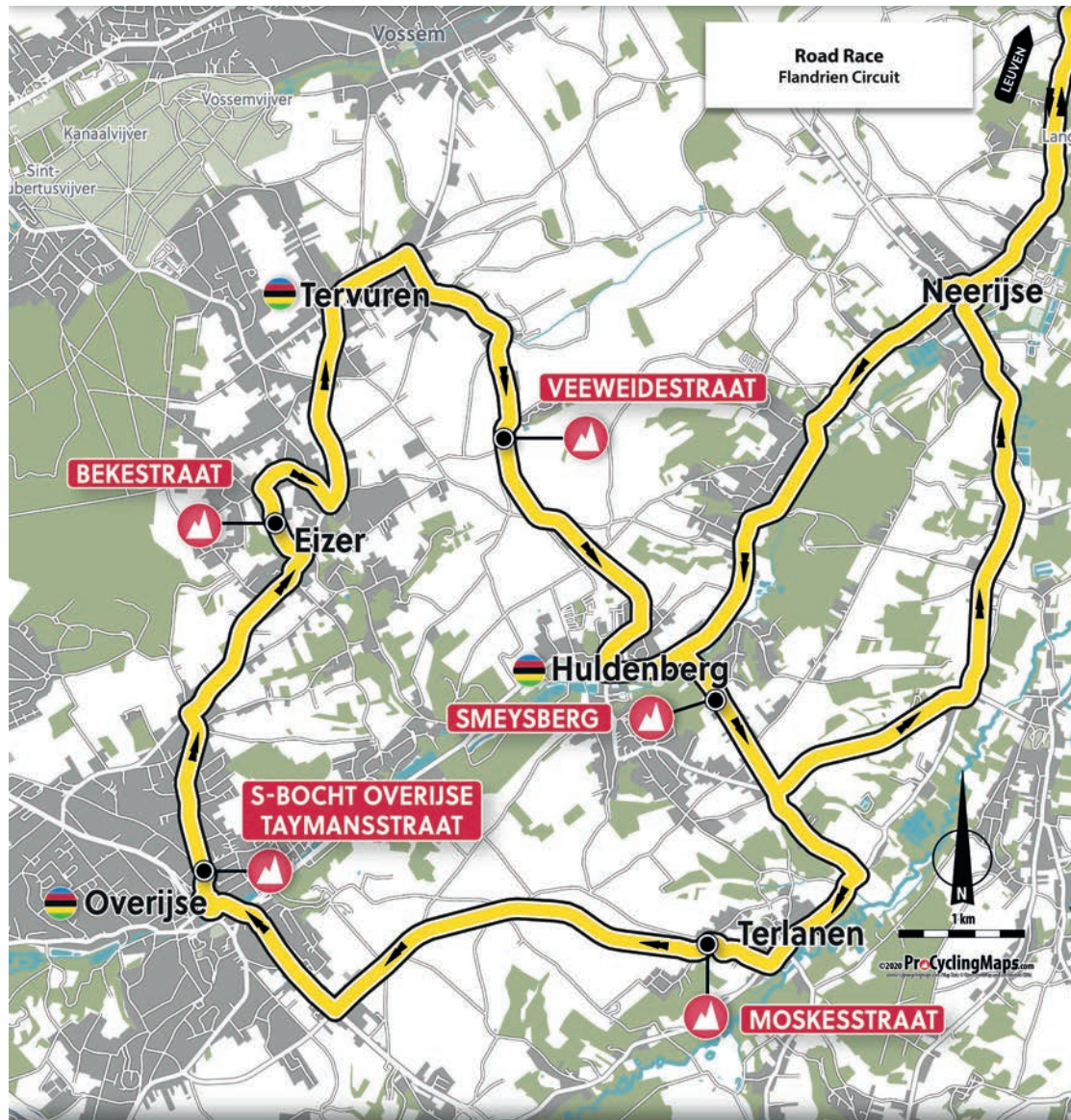
VEEWEIDESTRAAT / 484 M / 12% MAX / 5.16% AVG



S-BOCHT OVERIJSE - TAYMANSSTRAAT / 738 M / 18.3% MAX / 5.53% AVG



FLANDRIEN LOOP

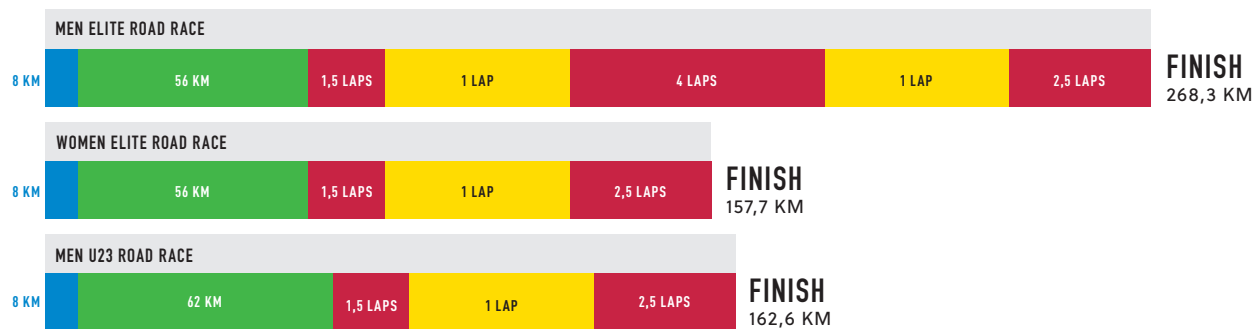


Flandrien Circuit Profile

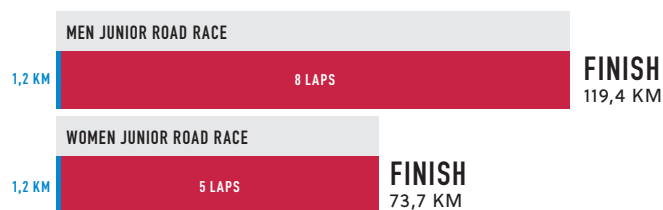


HOW MANY LAPS OF EACH CIRCUIT?

ANTWERPEN > LEUVEN



LEUVEN > LEUVEN



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UCI COMMISSAIRES' PANEL AND ANTI-DOPING OFFICIALS

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Mr Tony MITCHELL (NZL)

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Mr Tom VAN DAMME (BEL)

MAIN MEDIA CENTRE

The written press, photographers and radio/TV accredited journalists who are attending the event can work out of the Media Centres in the Concertgebouw in Bruges and in Sportoase in Leuven. The time trials and road races are organised in different host cities, which explains why there are two Media Centres. You need to be accredited to enter a Media Centre ([see p.54](#) for more information about accreditation).

LOCATION

TIME TRIALS - BRUGES

Concertgebouw
't Zand 34
8000 Bruges

Fri 17/09	open from 10:00
Sat 18/09	open from 08:00
Sun 19/09	open from 10:00
Mon 20/09	open from 08:00
Tue 21/09	open from 08:00
Wed 22/09	open from 09:00

ROAD RACES - LEUVEN

Sportoase
Philipssite 6
3001 Leuven

Thu 23/09	open from 08:00
Fri 24/09	open from 07:00
Sat 25/09	open from 07:00
Sun 26/09	open from 07:00

STARTZONES

There will also be a small press room in Knokke-Heist and Antwerpen.

KNOKKE-HEIST

Casino - enter via main entrance

Sat 18/9	08:00 - 13:00
Sun 19/9	08:00 - 18:00
Ma 20/9	08:00 - 18:00
Mon 21/9	08:00 - 18:00
Wed 22/9	010:00 - 18:00

ANTWERPEN

Groenplaats, 2nd floor, entrance via Eiermarkt

Fri 24/09	09:00 - 18:00
Sat 25/09	09:00 - 18:00
Sun 26/09	08:00 - 18:00

RECEPTION DESK

The reception desk offers support in terms of media services, general information, specific media information, lost and found, and can help journalists find their way inside and outside the building. Signage will be available in the buildings.

WORKSTATIONS

The Media Centre has workstations for accredited members of the media, with sockets, cable internet connection and Wi-Fi, a print and copy service, TV screens to follow the races, and IT support.

The lay-out of the media Centre (MC) will follow social distancing rules, in particular in the spaces between the workstations (150 centimetres). Alcohol-based gel will be made available by the organisers. **As mentioned before, mask wearing is mandatory throughout the event for all media representatives. This means that they must wear a face mask during the entire time they are on the event site (no spatial or area exceptions). This also applies to their workstation in the Media Centre, where masks must be worn.**

The walkways between the rows of tables should only be used for getting around (and not to stop and chat). Journalists will be placed according to the organisation they work for and their nationality. As was the case in the past, photographers who need a LAN network will have a special area set aside for them. To guarantee social distancing, media using the MC will not be permitted to move any furniture around (table, chair).

PIGEONHOLES

Press releases, start lists, competition results and other relevant information will be dropped in pigeon holes to which all accredited media have access.

LOCKERS

Photographers can use the lockers to safely store their equipment. The keys to these lockers can be picked up from the Media reception desk after payment of a cash deposit.

CATERING

There is a cafeteria at the entrance to both Media Centres where you can buy meals and snacks. Tables are available, so please do not eat your meals at your workstation.

Accredited members of the media will also be provided with water and soft drinks free of charge.

PRESS CONFERENCE FACILITY

The press conference facilities are in the Media Centres. All accredited members of the media are welcome to attend the press conferences. The top three finishers of each race will attend the press conferences, along with all six riders of the top three teams of the team mixed relay. Press conferences will be held at the end of each race after the ceremonies and mixzone duties have ended. Water and soft drinks will be provided to the riders and the speakers.

Press conferences for podium-finishers will occur with security measures being respected. The required

space will be maintained between the athletes and the media (including recording material). A distance of 150 cm will be kept between the journalists' chairs. Journalists will only be allowed to stay in the room if they are seated. For questions and answers, the microphones will be cleaned every time a different journalist speaks. Journalists will have to use a boom to attach their recording devices. Athletes and media will use different routes to enter and exit the room. It will be compulsory to wear a mask in this area, which can briefly be taken off by journalists when speaking and put back on as soon as they have finished.

ACCREDITATION CENTRE

Members of the media must wear their accreditation badge at all times during the event. You cannot enter the Media Centre or the events sites without accreditation. Accreditation badges can be collected from one of two Accreditation Centres.

TIME TRIALS - BRUGES

VIVES - Campus Bruges
Xaverianenstraat 10
8200 Bruges

Fri 17/09	09:00 - 19:00
Sat 18/09	09:00 - 18:00
Sun 19/09	08:30 - 18:00
Mon 20/09	09:00 - 18:00
Tue 21/09	09:00 - 18:00
Wed 22/09	09:00 - 14:00

ROAD RACES - LEUVEN

Brabantthal
Brabantlaan 1
3001 Leuven

Thu 23/09	15:00 - 19:00
Fri 24/09	09:00 - 18:00
Sat 25/09	09:00 - 18:00
Sun 26/09	08:00 - 10:00

COVID - 19

A certificate of vaccination or negative test result must be presented when accreditations are withdrawn. The UCI will only approve one of the following certificates:

1. a vaccination certificate (full course of vaccination, and more than 14 days after the last injection)
2. a certificate showing a negative PCR or antigen test result, dated less than 3 days previously or
3. a recovery certificate showing that you have recovered from Covid-19 after a positive Covid-19 test within the last six months.



MEDIA CENTRE PARKING AND TRANSPORT

PARKING

When you collect your accreditation badge, you will also receive a parking pass, if you requested it successfully in advance. You can use this pass to park for free in all the media car parks near the Media Centres.

TIME TRIALS - BRUGES

Interparking
't Zand 17
8000 Bruges

You must follow the diversion due to road closures. Drive to the PPO (Kon. Astridlaan near Vives Brugge - drive there using N31) and follow the signposted route from this point onward. Please also follow the signposted route when leaving. Walking distance to the Media Centre and the press conference venue: approx. 150 m.

ROAD RACES - LEUVEN

Parking Philipssite
Philipssite 3
3001 Leuven

You must follow the diversion due to road closures. Drive to the PPO (Meerdaalboslaan drive there using E40 exit 22 Haasrode) and follow the signposted route from this point onward. Please also follow the signposted route when leaving. Walking distance to the Media Centre and the press conference venue: approx. 300 m.

START KNOCKE-HEIST AND ANTWERP

A media car park is available near the start zone of the time trials in Knokke-Heist and the start zone of the road races in Antwerp. To access it, drive to the PPO and follow the signposted route from this point onward.

- **PPO Knokke-Heist:** Isabellalaan/Kustlaan - accessible via E403-A11 exit 19 Heist Kaaien
- **PPO Antwerp:** crossroads Ledeganckkaai/Van Der Sweepstraat (GPS: Van Der Sweepstraat) - Drive there using R1 (exit 5a Antwerpen-centrum)

BY TRAIN

All start and finish locations of the 2021 UCI Road World Championships are easily accessible by train.

- **Knokke-Heist station:** 17 min. (1.3 km) walk to the start zone of the time trials
- **Antwerp station:** 20 min. (1.6 km) walk to the start zone of the time trials. Or take the tram to Groenplaats (3 stops) - line 9 and 15 - there's a tram every 10min.
- **Bruges station:** 11 min. (850 m) walk to the finish line of the time trials
- **Leuven station:** 22 min. (1.7 km) walk to the finish line of the time trials

For more information about the train services to each of the host cities, please refer to www.nmbs.be

MEDIA SHUTTLE SERVICE

Every day, a dedicated media shuttle will ferry members of the press from the Media Centre to and from the external start location. The hop-on point is always next to the Media Centre. Follow the directions on how to get to the pick-up point when leaving the Media Centre.

Attention, availability is limited and registration compulsory.

How to register?

- You can register at the reception desk in the Media Centre.
- You must register one day beforehand. We will reserve your seat.
- You must do this separately for every race.



BROADCAST MEDIA

INTRODUCTION

All access to the venue for broadcast media (TV and Radio) will be organised according to the different tiers of partnership (Host Broadcaster (HB), Rights Holders (RH), News Rights Holders (RH-N), Non-Rights Holders (NRH)), Team Video Operators (TVO). Accreditation to access venues will only be granted after the rights are cleared with UCI media rights agencies EBU and IMG respectively.

FILMING

The rights for continuous filming of the event are restricted to the authorized parties. Filming for broadcast (including online, social media etc.) may only take place by written permission of the UCI. Please refer to the broadcast contact details.

GENERAL ACCESS AND RESTRICTIONS

EBU staff in their role as Host Broadcasters will be wearing grey bibs, and that will allow them access to all areas in order to ensure a first-class television signal at the European Broadcasting Union's standard. Except for the Host Broadcaster, no RH members are allowed to film on the course after the finish line. This area shall stay as safe and clean as possible. All other media will be recognisable with other bibs and will have access to the Mixed Zone as described above.

PHOTOGRAPHERS AND BROADCASTERS

PHOTOGRAPHERS BIBS

Bibs and accreditation are required to be worn by photographers during the Championships. The bibs are numbered, strictly personal and cannot be replaced in the event of loss. They are separated into different colour categories according to the group they represent.

- **Red bibs** will provide access to the red zone platform to the finish line and to the podium.
- **Yellow bibs** will give access to the yellow zone platform to the finish line and to the podium.



Any photographer who is following a race will be required to wear a mask at all times and maintain social distancing (150 cm) from each rider. Failure to do so may see them lose their accreditation. We will be maintaining the concept of two official UCI and organiser photographer scooters.

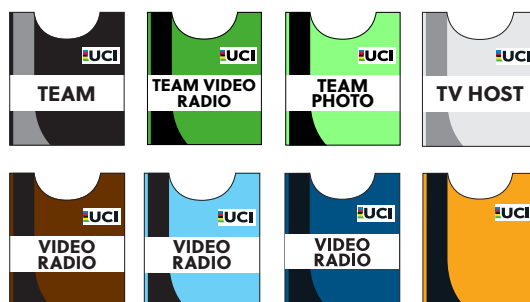
The bib distribution and collection procedure has been adapted. Bibs can only be picked up at the accreditation Centre (AC) during opening hours and will require payment of a deposit of 50 Euros payable in cash (no official documents will be accepted).

Bibs will then need to be handed back at the AC during the opening time or at the Media Centre (to the UCI Media Centre Coordinator Laura Folchi: l.folchi@wingsmedia.it). The bibs must be returned in the plastic bag that they were provided in, otherwise the deposit will not be refunded.

Bibs can only be worn by the named person. Any change in photographer within an organisation during the event will require a new bib which will be provided under the same conditions as mentioned above (i.e. the same bib cannot be used by more than one photographer). Importantly, if a photographer does not return his bib, the second bib for the same media company will not be given to his colleague.

BROADCASTERS BIBS

Bibs and accreditation are required to be worn by broadcasters during the Championships. The bibs are numbered, strictly personal and cannot be replaced in the event of loss. They are separated into different colors corresponding to the media rights categories. These bibs will be handed out at the booking office of the host broadcaster under the following conditions: social distancing, compulsory face mask, bibs handed out in a plastic bag. The bibs will require payment of a deposit of 50 Euros payable in cash (no official documents will be accepted). The bibs must be returned in the plastic bag that they were provided in. The point of contact for any questions related to audio-visual media is Tobias Friedrich, UCI TV Production and Broadcast Services Coordinator: Tobias.Friedrich@uci.ch. As an exception the green Bibs for the Team Video Operators shall be handed out at the Accreditation Centre to the team manager when the team accreditations are picked up. The same deposit requirements as mentioned above shall apply as well.



SHUTTLE SERVICE DURING THE COMPETITION

Every day a dedicated shuttle service will take photographers from the Media Centre to the start zone of the competition and along the circuit. The hop-on point is next to the Media Centre. Please follow the directions when leaving the Media Centre to get to the hop-on point.

The timetable and hop-on points of the shuttle will be updated daily and notified to photographers. Contact person: Wings Media Centre Manager Laura Folchi (see contact details on [page 6](#))

MIXED ZONE

INTRODUCTION

The Mixed Zone is a covered area where accredited media can conduct interviews with athletes immediately after they finish their race. Separate, allocated areas for RH, NRH and Written Press will be set up in the Mixed Zone. As per previous years, all riders will be conducted through the Mixed Zone, with the exception of the top three riders, who will be retained for the Host Broadcaster flash interview and the award ceremony before being brought back to the Mixed Zone afterwards. The Mixed Zone will be located close to the finish line and will be the first media contact with the riders after the race. Any interviews conducted at the studio platforms should be done once the riders have gone through the Mixed Zone. To ensure a smooth process, and for the sake of clarity, if a rider has been chosen for an antidoping control, and in the case he/she is asking to use the restroom, this process prevails over media activities. The rider will be brought back to media after the test has been completed. Otherwise, antidoping process takes place after the press conference.

ACCESS TO THE MEDIA CENTRE

All UCI media partners' TV crews are allowed to access the Media Centre to edit and upload videos, but for logistical reasons, we kindly request you do not to occupy that space when not required.

Depending on the overall numbers of A/V accreditation requests versus the capacity of the press Centres UCI reserves the right to withdraw access for some groups within the Non rights holder category.

MIXED ZONE AT START LOCATIONS

There will be mixed zones prior to the time trials in Knokke-Heist and the road races in Antwerpen. In Antwerpen the media mixed zone tents will be connected directly to the exit of sign-on stage, and divided in two sections (A/V Rights Holders and Written Press). Riders will pass through the mixed zones after leaving the sign-on stage, on their way to the field of play. Only accredited media will be allowed into mixed zone so accreditation must be worn at all times.

SAFETY REQUIREMENTS

The concept of the mixed zone (MZ) is being maintained for all journalists (except for photographers, as is customary). The dimensions of the MZ will

be adjusted and adapted to meet safety requirements (to provide space and ventilation). Access to the zone will be conditional on journalists wearing masks. The required space will be maintained between the athletes and the media areas, and journalists will have to use a boom to attach their recording device.

As was the case in previous years, the UCI and Eurovision will provide rights-holders with spots that they can reserve in the mixed zone. As mentioned above, there will be a required distance of 150 cm in these reserved spots which has to be maintained between the journalist / cameraman and the athlete. It will be compulsory for all media representatives to wear a face mask at all times in these interview areas.

As was the case in previous years, we will also allow non-rights holders (NRH) into the mixed zone for interviews. To maintain the required safety levels however, the UCI reserves the right to refuse an accreditation request from an NRH at its sole discretion in order to limit the number of people present at any one time in the NRH corridor of the mixed zone. Those whose accreditation requests are refused will be informed of the decision in a timely fashion, although no reason will be provided.



PRACTICAL INFORMATION

COVID-19 TRAVEL INFORMATION

In view of the Covid-19-situation, specific safety measures and additional restrictions are currently in place across Belgium. You will find more detailed information on following [website](#). For the latest travel advice to our country, please consult your local authorities.

If you're travelling to Flanders, Brussels or elsewhere in Belgium for a duration of 48 hours or more, you will need to complete [a Passenger Locator Form](#), within 48 hours before your arrival in Belgium.

Take good care of yourself and each other and keep it safe and healthy!



HEALTH

Belgium's health care system is one of the best in Europe. It is easily accessible, offers high-quality treatments and has well equipped hospitals where you will always be taken care of. In case of emergency, you can dial the pan-European #112 (equivalent to 911 in the US). For urgent police care, dial #101. For more information on Belgian medical services, visit [Healthcare Belgium](#).

MONEY

The Belgian currency unit is the EURO (€). In most places you can pay cash, as well as with all major debit or credit cards (Visa, American Express, Diners Club and Euro Card). You can withdraw cash in banks or at a wide spread network of ATM's. Foreign exchange traffic is not regulated. Get the latest exchange rates [here](#).

TIME ZONE

Belgium Time is located in the Central European Time Zone (CET)

- 1 hour ahead of Greenwich Mean Time (GMT + 1)
- 6 hours ahead of Eastern Standard Time (EST + 6)
- 9 hours ahead of Pacific Standard Time (PST + 9)

CALLING (TO) BELGIUM

Belgium's country code is +32, so always dial 0032, followed by the area code and telephone number.

ELECTRICITY

The electric plugs in Belgium might be a bit different from those in your home country. You may need an adaptor of the type AC.220 volts. Plugs are continental 2-pin round.

WATER

In Belgium you can drink water straight from the tap unless indicated otherwise.

WEATHER

The weather in September can vary from pleasant late summer weather to changeable autumn weather. Daytime temperatures average around 16-20°C (possibly even lower towards the end of the month), but large differences between day and night can already occur in September.

PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES

Flanders is an accessible holiday destination for everyone, that includes accommodation, transportation, museums and attractions. For more information on travelling with a disability, click [here](#). For free and tailored information, contact accessible@visitflanders.com or +32 2 504 03 40.

WHAT ELSE CAN YOU DO?

Obviously, the emphasis during the 2021 UCI Road World Championships is on the 11 world titles, but Flanders has much more to offer. The organising committee has provided additional activations in each of the four host cities. Find out more about the fringe programme below.

TIME TRIALS: KNOKKE-HEIST & BRUGES

Knokke-Heist

ACTIVITY	LOCATION	DATE	HOUR
Official opening Flanders 2021	<i>Startramp at the beach</i>	Sat 18/09	11:00
Flanders 2021 Ride Knokke-Heist - Bruges	<i>Evenementenstrand</i>	Sat 18/09	13:00 - 18:30
Flanders2021 Para-cycling Race	<i>Westkapelle</i>	Sun 19/09	11:00
		Sun 19/09	11:00 - 18:00
Official Fanzone Knokke-Heist	<i>Seawall at the start</i>	Mon 20/09	09:00 - 18:00
		Tue 21/09	09:00 - 18:00
		Wed 22/09	11:00 - 18:00

Bruges

ACTIVITY	LOCATION	DATE	HOUR
Official opening Flanders 2021	<i>Finish at 't Zand</i>	Sat 18/09	13:00
Flanders 2021 Ride Knokke-Heist - Bruges	<i>Sint-Lodewijkscollege</i>	Sat 18/09	13:00 - 18:30
Flanders 2021 Para-cycling Race	<i>Finish at 't Zand</i>	Sun 19/09	12:30
		Sun 19/09	11:00 - 18:30
Official Fanzone Bruges	<i>At 't Zand</i>	Mon 20/09	09:00 - 18:30
		Tue 21/09	09:00 - 18:30
		Wed 22/09	11:00 - 18:30
Sing Your Song Live met Brahim	<i>Fanzone At 't Zand</i>	Sun 19/09	17:45 - 18:45
		Mon 20/09	17:30 - 18:30
DJ Voltage	<i>Fanzone At 't Zand</i>	Tue 21/09	17:45 - 18:45
		Wed 22/09	17:30 - 18:30

OFFICIAL OPENING FLANDERS 2021

The centenary of the UCI Road World Championships will kick off with a ceremony involving 120 children between the ages of 12 and 18. Each participating country will be represented by a boy and a girl (including parasports athletes) from clubs that are affiliated with Cycling Vlaanderen. A personalised cycling jersey will clarify which country they represent. They will be presented on Saturday 18 September at 11 a.m. in Knokke-Heist. The children will be the first to ride along the time trial circuit, to the finish line in Bruges.

FLANDERS 2021 RIDE KNOKKE-HEIST - BRUGES

The region around Bruges and Knokke-Heist serves as the backdrop for the time trials during the 2021 UCI Road World Championships. On Saturday 18 September 2021, recreational cyclists can test their mettle on the most important sections of the circuit just before the Men Elite officially open the UCI Road World Championships with their time trials in Knokke-Heist the next day.

Distance: 30 km - 37 km - 65 km

Start: between 1 p.m. and 3 p.m.

FLANDERS 2021 PARA-CYCLING RACE

Accessibility is, alongside sustainability, innovation and creativity, one of the core values of the 2021 UCI Road World Championships. This applies not only to the public, but also to the athletes. Together with Parantee-Psylos, which has a great deal of experience in parasports, the Flanders 2021 Para-cycling Race will be organised during the opening weekend of the World Championships.

The last stage of the Open Flemish Para-cycling Championships will be organised on Sunday 19 September, from 11:00 a.m. until 12.30 p.m., on the same circuit as the time trials, just a few hours before the Men Elite race. Riders can register in four categories: hand bikes, tricycles, adapted two-wheel bicycles and tandems. An excellent opportunity for participants in the Open Flemish Championships to score their last points in this closing stage. But the competition is also open to international participants, in the margin of the UCI Road World Championships.

The riders will start in Westkapelle, completing a 22.5 km circuit, which is almost identical to the circuit of the Women Elite and Men U23 time trials. The finish line of the Flanders 2021 Para-cycling Race is the same as that of the UCI Road World Championships i.e., in 't Zand in Bruges.



Paracycling © Parantee-Psylos

ANTWERP

ACTIVITY	LOCATION	DATE	HOUR
Startpresentation Men U23	Groenplaats	Fri 24/09	11:45-13:05
Flanders 2021 Ride Antwerp	City Centre	Sat 25/09	13:00 - 17:00
Startpresentation Women Elite	Groenplaats	Sat 25/09	10:45-12:00
Startpresentation Men Elite	Groenplaats	Sun 26/09	8:45-10:05
Official Fanzone Antwerp	Groenplaats	Fri 24/09	10:00 - 18:00
		Sat 25/09	10:00 - 18:00
		Sun 26/09	08:00 - 18:00

FLANDERS 2021 RIDE ANTWERP

On Saturday 25 September, Antwerp will turn blue, red, black, yellow and green. During this event, families can enjoy all kinds of rainbow-coloured entertainment along a fun-filled circuit in the margin of the UCI Road World Championships. It is a great

opportunity for people of all ages to explore Antwerp on their bikes, in an alternative and fun way.

Distance: 10 km

Start: circuit open between 1 p.m. and 5 p.m



LEUVEN

ACTIVITY	LOCATION	DATE	HOUR
Start presentation Men Junior	Ladeuzeplein	Fri 24/09	07:00 - 08:00
Start presentation Women Junior	Ladeuzeplein	Sat 25/09	07:00 - 08:00
Photo exhibition - All the eye can see - the rainbow jersey	Cera-gebouw	9/09 - 8/10	10:00 - 17:00 Friday till 21:00
Science & Cycling	Provinciehuis Vlaams-Brabant	22/09 - 23/09	08:00 - 17:00
Innovation HUB	M-Museum	23/09 - 26/09	10:00 - 18:00 (B2C) 18:00 - 22:30 (B2B)
Flanders 2021 Ride Leuven	UCLL Heverlee	Thu 23/09	12:30 - 19:30
Official Expo Zone Leuven	Herbert Hooverplein	Fri 24/09	07:00 - 20:00
		Sat 25/09	07:00 - 20:00
		Sun 26/09	08:00 - 20:00
KOERSbus	Herbert Hooverplein	Fri 24/09	07:00 - 20:00
		Sat 25/09	07:00 - 20:00
		Sun 26/09	08:00 - 20:00
Little Champions	Martelarenplein	Fri 24/09	10:00 - 20:00
		Sat 25/09	09:00 - 20:00
		Sun 26/09	09:00 - 20:00
Pro @ Heart Symposium	Pieter De Somer Aula & Universiteitshal Leuven	Fri 24/09	16:30 - 22:00
		Sat 25/09	08:00 - 15:30
		Sun 26/09	10:00 - 13:00
Official Fanzone Leuven	Ladeuzeplein	Fri 24/09	07:00 - 20:00
		Sat 25/09	07:00 - 20:00
		Sun 26/09	08:00 - 20:00
	Middembermpark at the finish	Fri 24/09	08:00 - 18:30
		Sat 25/09	08:00 - 18:30
		Sun 26/09	08:00 - 18:30
Official Fanzone Smeysberg	Smeysberg (Huldenberg)	Fri 24/09	12:00 - 18:30
		Sat 25/09	12:00 - 18:00
		Sun 26/09	09:00 - 18:30
Official Gala Dinner "The Centennial"	Brabant	Sat 25/09	19:00 - 23:00
Flanders 2021 VIP Ride	UCLL Heverlee	Sun 26/09	8:00 - 11:00
DJ Voltage	Fanzone Ladeuze	Fri 24/09	18:40 - 19:40
Sing Your Song Live met Brahim	Fanzone Ladeuze	Sat 25/09	17:45 - 18:45
		Sun 26/09	18:05 - 19:05

ALL THE EYE CAN SEE - THE RAINBOW JERSEY

This unique photo exhibition zooms in on 100 years of UCI Road World Championships World Championships. From among the rich archives and the collections of a few of his colleagues as well as his own, the Leuven cycling photographer Kristof Ramon selected some of the best and most iconic photos of world champions in their rainbow jerseys.

Take a journey through cycling history in the CERA building in Leuven. The nostalgic and contemporary photos also give you a good idea of the evolution of cycling and photography (cycling photography in particular). Come face to face with cycling heroes past and present and feel the elation of the winner as well as the pain, effort, and disappointment of the

cyclist who failed to win the much-coveted rainbow jersey by a hair's breadth.

Visit this exclusive photo exhibition with photos that have never been exhibited before, from 9 September until 9 October in Leuven.

Where: CERA - Muntstraat 1 - 3000 Leuven

Admission: 9 euro

Opening times: from Monday to Saturday, from 10 a.m. until 5 p.m. Friday until 9 p.m.

Discover more: www.flanders2021.com/expo



Alfredo Binda © Presse Sports



Eddy Merckx © Presse Sports

SCIENCE & CYCLING

Science & Cycling is a cycling conference which will be organised in the margin of the UCI Road World Championships in Leuven on 22 and 23 September.

At the conference, experts from competitive cycling world and scientists will meet to learn and share experiences. Businesses and institutions will be invited to give demos of their products and technology in the experience square alongside the conference.

The participants will consist of researchers, doctors, nutrition experts, sports directors, cycling organisations, trainers and cyclists/triathletes. The conference aims to get contributions from other sport disciplines as well, all with the objective of learning and sharing experiences.

The Steering Committee will invite keynote speakers to share their views with the audience and experts from all over the world are invited to present their work in the conference.

INNOVATION HUB

On the occasion of the 100th anniversary of the UCI Road World Championships, we will look back on all those champions who wore the rainbow jersey in the past and look forward to the future as well. To that end, Flanders 2021 and **Sport Vlaanderen** have joined forces to create a genuine **Innovation Hub** during the 2021 UCI Road World Championships.

FUTURE OF CYCLING EXPERIENCE

In what ways will cycling fans, recreational cyclists and TV viewers experience cycling in the future? The Future of Cycling Experience immerses visitors in a 20-minute search for answers to this question. Discover and try out the latest cycling gadgets at this free experience centre.

When: 23 september - 26 september

Where: M Leuven

Admission: free

Opening times: 10 a.m. - 6 p.m.



FUTURE OF CYCLING MEETUPS

Three theme evenings about the latest technological innovations, ideas and products where prominent speakers will share their views on the future. Topics discussed include digital applications, health, equipment and materials during keynotes by Tom Boonen, Steven Van Belleghem and Mathieu Heijboer or panel discussions. Anyone who is interested in the latest technology in the cycling industry will have an opportunity to be inspired by the cases of Strava, Wahoo and Deceuninck-Quick-Step among others.

When:

• Thursday 23 september:

Let's talk Digital!

Steven Van Belleghem (Nexxworks) -
Joe Weitz (Strava) - Joachim De Vos
(Living Tomorrow)

• Friday 24 september:

Let's talk Equipment!

Tom Boonen & Mathias Plouvier (Classified)
- Michaël Callens (Rein4ced) - Deceuninck-
Quickstep & Deloitte

• Saturday 25 september:

Let's talk Health!

Mathieu Heijboer (Team Jumbo-Visma), kPNI,
Muscle Talent Scan, Wahoo en Boplan

Where: M Leuven

Admission: 150 euro

Opening times: 6 p.m. - 10 p.m.

Check the [full programme](#)

EXHIBITION DOMES

The exhibition domes are the perfect place to get away from the busy competition venues and discover the latest products and bicycle gadgets. Moreover, visitors can keep up with the action on the circuit on the large screens in the domes, while sipping a drink in a cosy cycling-themed setting.

When: 23 september - 26 september

Where: M Leuven

Admission: free

Opening times: 10 a.m. - 6 p.m.

FLANDERS 2021 RIDE LEUVEN & FLANDERS 2021 VIP RIDE

The Flanders 2021 Ride Leuven starts from Leuven on Thursday 23 September and introduces recreational cyclists to all the climbs in the final of the road race of the 2021 UCI Road World Championships. Besides the hills of the city loop, riders will also get to test their stamina on the Flemish-Brabant climbs of the Flandrien Circuit, including Smeysberg and Moskesstraat. The feeling of release after this tour will only increase the World Championships fever.

Distance: 60 km - 100 km

Start: any time between 12.30 p.m. and 2 p.m. (long) and 12.30 and 2.30 p.m. (short)

Sports enthusiasts looking for that “extra touch” will have the chance to do so on 26 September in Leuven. Join the VIP Peloton cycle the final of the road race of the 2021 UCI Road World Championships under supervision and let the many onlookers encourage you along the way just like the pros. Before and after the ride, cyclists are in for a pampering thanks to the extensive VIP package in addition to experiencing the 2021 UCI Road World Championships from the front row.

Distance: 65 km

Start: around 8 a.m.



KOERSbus

KOERS took the initiative to have a bus converted into a museum on wheels. That's how the KOERSbus was born. In the museum on wheels, visitors can look back on 100 years of world champions on the road in an interactive manner. Using impressive collection pieces and stories, the museum on wheels catapults you through the rich history of cycling.



©KOERS. Museum van de Wielersport (Roeselare)

There is a great deal to experience in the KOERSbus. For example, you can share your 2021 UCI Road World Championships story or souvenir and browse countless 2021 UCI Road World Championships cycling jerseys, medals and bicycles. You can learn about cycling, for example, through the timeline of 2021 UCI Road World Championships milestones you will find there. After a visit to the travelling museum, your 2021 UCI Road World Championships knowledge will be completely up to date and you will be ready to make the most of the 2021 UCI Road World Championships! In short, the KOERSbus brings out the rainbow jersey feeling in every visitor, cycling fan or otherwise.



LITTLE CHAMPIONS

In Little Champions, an initiative of Cycling Vlaanderen, children aged between 5 and 14 get the chance to hone their cycling skills on a challenging cycle track. Our focus is on safety and fun.

Taking bends, slaloming between different attributes, driving over speed bumps... These are the challenges children have to overcome on the Cycling Vlaanderen cycle track. Experienced initiators and volunteers are on hand to perfect the technical cycling skills of children aged 5 to 14. Who knows what potential talent may emerge? Perhaps we will even discover a future cycling champion?

However, the emphasis of Little Champions is on safety. Children benefit from being able to ride a bike proficiently for the rest of their lives, whether they cycle to school or decide at some point to participate in cycle racing. Naturally we also want to include them in the Flanders 2021 story. The 2021 UCI Road World Championships are for people of all ages. This unique cycling experience is sure to boost children's enthusiasm and enjoyment of cycling.

OFFICIAL EXPO ZONE LEUVEN

In Leuven, where the road races finish, an Expo Zone will be set up. The ideal opportunity for businesses to showcase their products and services to a large and diverse international audience!

PRO@HEART SYMPOSIUM

From 24 to 26 September, the pro@heart consortium will be organised in Leuven. Its motto is "Protecting the athlete by improving our knowledge of the athlete's physiology". Renowned international speakers will gather in Leuven over a three-day period with the aim of updating physicians and other medical and paramedical professions and sharing a wider message with athletes, trainers and the wider public.

The conference is organised by the Department of Cardiovascular Diseases of the KU Leuven and the pro@heart consortium in collaboration with the Medical Committee of Belgian Cycling. The event will take place in the Aula Pieter De Somer auditorium and in the University Hall in the historic centre of Leuven.

Want to know more? Click [here](#).

The host cities and the official 2021 UCI Road World Championships villages also have plenty of fun activities in store for visitors.

Click [now](#) and read more about what you can do!

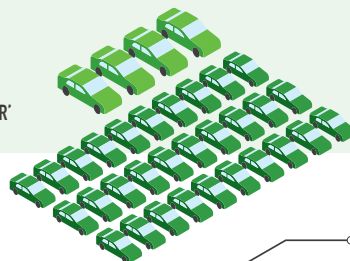
SUSTAINABILITY AT A GLANCE

Flanders 2021 will be a celebration of the past as well as the first step to building a better future. Therefore **sustainability** is one of the core values of Flanders 2021. **Let's make history** by protecting our future, the future of champions. Below you can find the key facts.

4 FULLY ELECTRIC AND 30 HYBRID CARS



THE TRADITIONAL PUBLICITY CONVOY HAS BEEN REPLACED BY A 100% ELECTRIC 'GREEN CAR'



100%

URBAN GREEN ELECTRICITY
IN THE HOST CITIES

MAXIMUM ACCESS FOR **EVERYONE**

- 34 ASSISTANTS INTER
- 45 PARACYCLING ATHLETES
- 4 WHEELCHAIR PLATFORMS
- SIGN LANGUAGES INTERPRETERS ON SITE



EQUAL PRIZE MONEY



MAXIMUM USE OF
**LOCAL SUPPLIERS &
EXISTING BUILDINGS**

969

SIGNALERS &
6600 STEWARDS

WILL ENSURE THAT EVERYTHING RUNS SAFELY

- INVOLVEMENT OF SOCIALLY VULNERABLE GROUPS
- SUPPORTING THE LOCAL LGBTQ+ COMMUNITY

CHASING THE RAINBOW TOGETHER



THE REGION OF FLANDERS RECEIVED THE

UCI BIKE REGION LABEL

9874

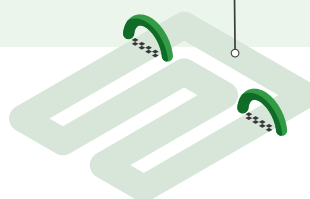
BICYCLE STANDS

19.000

KIDS
WILL ENJOY THE LITTLE CHAMPIONS-PARCOURS,
A CYCLING TRAIL DEVELOPED FOR KIDS



THIS WILL BE A
**SMOKE FREE
EVENT**
FOR THE FIRST TIME



PARTNERSHIP WITH **FOODMAKER** TO
PROVIDE CREW AND FANS WITH
HEALTHY MEALS

Santini

307 CHEMICAL TOILETS AVOIDED

VACUUM TOILETS WILL BE USED FOR THE FIRST TIME



FOR THE FIRST TIME, THE UCI WORLDCHAMPION JERSEY WILL BE
ECO-FRIENDLY.
1 JERSEY WILL BE MADE OF 5 RECYCLED PLASTIC BOTTLES

DEVELOPMENT OF A **SUSTAINABILITY REPORT BY DELOITTE**
FOR THE FIRST TIME IN THE HISTORY OF THIS EVENT, THE CO2-FOOTPRINT WILL BE CALCULATED



+4.000.000

DISPOSABLE CUPS AVOIDED *PRELIMINARY ESTIMATE



450

GREEN TEAMS

769

WASTE STATIONS / 3 LITTER ZONES

MORE INFO: [FLANDERS2021.COM/EN/SUSTAINABILITY](https://flanders2021.com/en/sustainability)

UCI ROAD WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS: NON-SMOKING EVENT

The organisation Kom op tegen Kanker is the Official Charity Partner of the 2021 UCI Road World Championships and one of the pioneers and champions in cancer prevention, tackling preventable causes of this disease. Kom op tegen Kanker and the organising committee hope to do exactly the same during the UCI Road World Championships.

That is why the 2021 UCI Road World Championships will be a non-smoking event. Kom op tegen Kanker has developed a "Smokefree Fan" campaign and hopes to raise awareness throughout Flanders about the fight against cancer.



© Kom op tegen kanker

UCI BIKE REGION LABEL

Flanders was awarded the UCI "Bike Region Label" by the UCI. The UCI Bike Region Label is an initiative that recognises cities and regions across the world that invest in elite UCI events on the one hand in addition to developing strategies to promote everyday cycling for all on the other.

Flanders applied for the UCI Bike Region Label because it is hosting the UCI Road World Championships in September 2021. This major sports event is also a great opportunity to promote functional cycling (cycling during commute to work or school). The fact that Flanders was awarded this label means an extra boost for cycling policy in the region. Indeed, 2021 will not only be the year of the UCI Road World Championships, but also the start of a new cycling policy for which the Flemish provinces and local authorities are joining forces. All with a view to improving cycling in Flanders.

The label was awarded to Flanders because it meets the requirements of the UCI. In addition to organising important UCI events, Flanders has also been able to demonstrate that it has a long-term strategy for cycling and is working on a cycling policy. Improving cycling infrastructure, the promotion of road

safety and a clear increase in bicycle use were all conditions to be awarded this label.

The UCI Bike Region Label confirms that Flanders is more than the homeland of the Flandriens. We are a region where all cyclists will find something to suit their taste. "Flanders has hundreds of cycling routes and networks that take you through our beautiful polders, nature and picturesque places. You can even ride your bike through the water and the trees, and soon you will also be able to cycle through the heath. And after your bike ride, you can relax in our many cafés with a well-deserved regional beer," says Flemish Tourism Minister Zuhal Demir.

"Flanders has already received a prize before the UCI Road World Championships has even started," says Flemish Minister of Sport Ben Weyts with a smile. "This label only adds to Flanders' prestige as a cycling region par excellence. A fact that we will highlight with 100 years of the UCI Road World Championships. Road racing is coming home. We intend to share our love for cycling and cycling races with the rest of the world: with the UCI Road World Championships and with all kinds of cycling-related fringe activities."



© Visit Limburg

BELGIAN UCI WORLD CHAMPIONS

The UCI Road World Championships and Flanders are a match made in heaven, no doubt about that. So it makes sense that Flanders is the setting for this anniversary edition. During this 100th anniversary of the UCI Road World Championships, Flanders and Belgium will also celebrate 26 UCI world champions in the Men's categories and 6 rainbow jerseys in the Women's categories. An overview.

The rainbow jersey has already been awarded to a Belgian 26 times in the history of the UCI Road World Championships. The count starts in 1927, when the UCI Road World Championships for elite riders were organised for the very first time. In the six previous years, when only amateurs were allowed to participate, a Belgian had already triumphed once, in 1925. Henri Hoevenaers was the fastest rider of a pack of 23 on the streets of Apeldoorn.



Georges Ronsse © Presse Sports

From then on, the Belgian world titles followed each other in rapid succession. Starting with the second UCI world championship for elite riders, in 1928. Georges Ronsse rode a majestic 70 km solo in Budapest and was the first Flemish and Belgian rider ever to wear the rainbow jersey. A feat that he would go on to repeat the following year. After just three UCI World Championships the Belgians had already won two.

After that, the Italians dominated the UCI Road World Championships for a number of years. Belgium would have to be patient until 1934. That year Karel Kaers triumphed in Leipzig, Germany, at the tender age of 20. To this day, he is the youngest ever UCI world champion. The next year, another Belgian won the championship in Floreffe, Wallonia. Jean Aerts crossed the finish line alone in the very first UCI Road World Championships to be organised on Belgian soil.

The last two editions before the start of the Second World War were also won by two Belgians. Éloi Meulenberg was the fastest rider in 1937 in Copenhagen (Denmark). One year later, Marcel Kint was crowned the world's best rider in Valkenburg.

THE ERA OF THE GREAT CHAMPIONS

After the war, Belgium would have to wait another three years for its next UCI world champion. Again in Valkenburg, Briek Schotte took advantage of the bickering between Fausto Coppi and Gino Bartali to become the reigning UCI world champion. Two years later, in 1950, he became UCI world champion for the second time at the very first UCI Road World Championships in Flanders. And during the year in between? A Belgium claimed victory yet again. In Copenhagen, Rik Van Steenbergen was the fastest in a three-way sprint at the 1949 UCI Road World Championships. Rik would take home the UCI world championship title again in 1956 and 1957. With his three UCI world championship titles, Rik still co-holds the record today for most titles, sharing it with the Italian Alfredo Binda, the Spaniard Óscar Freire, the Slovak Peter Sagan and his compatriot Eddy Merckx.



Rik Van Looy © Presse Sports

In 1955, another Belgian raised his hands in victory when crossing the finish line. Stan Ockers crossed the finish line on the streets of Frascati in Italy on his own. It would be his only world title.

This was followed by the Van Looy era. The Faema rider became the UCI world champion twice, in 1960 and 1961. He was also the top favourite of the home crowd in 1963, but another Belgian beat Van Looy in the sprint and became the unexpected UCI world champion: Benoni Beheydt.

Belgium would have to wait another four years for a new UCI world champion: 22-year-old Eddy Merckx. Nicknamed The Cannibal, he would become the UCI world champion two more times: in 1971 and 1974. As such, he was added to the list of record holders of world titles, along with Van Steenberghe.



Yvonne Reynders © Presse Sports

In 1970, a young Jean-Pierre Monseré won the UCI world championship title. But the unfortunate rider died a year later in the rainbow jersey during a local race.

In 1976, another Belgian was victorious. In Ostuni, Italy, Freddy Maertens beat Francesco Moser in a two-way sprint. Five years later, Maertens also won the UCI world championship in Prague after being the fastest of a larger group. Another three years later, in 1984, the UCI Road World Championships were held in Barcelona. Claude Criquiellion was the best rider in the Catalan capital, taking home Belgium's 22nd rainbow jersey.

Afterwards, Belgian titles were less forthcoming. Belgium would have to wait until 1990 for another Belgian to become the UCI world champion. Rudy Dhaenens won the world title at the end of his career, ahead of compatriot Dirk De Wolf, in Utsunomiya, Japan. After that, Belgium had to wait for the Lion of Flanders to put his claws in a world title. This happened in 1996. Johan Museeuw proved a stronger rider than the Swiss Gianetti, in Lugano, Switzerland.

Since the turn of the century, Belgium has only been able to win the road race at the UCI Road World Championships twice. The first time in 2005, when Tom Boonen beat Spaniard Alejandro Valverde and Frenchman Anthony Geslin in a sprint in the streets of Madrid. Seven years later, in 2012, nobody was able to keep up with Philippe Gilbert. He was able

to leave everyone behind on the flanks of Cauberg, becoming the undisputed UCI world champion in Valkenburg. To this day, he is the most recent Belgian UCI world champion in the Elite Men category.

Interesting fact: no Belgian has succeeded in winning a UCI world championship title in the individual time trial, which has been part of the UCI Road World Championships since 1994. Campenaerts, Evenepoel and Van Aert have all won medals, but so far the gold has eluded Belgium.

WOMEN

There are six Belgian UCI world championships in the women's categories. Only the Netherlands and France did better in the past sixty editions. Four of those six world titles belong to Yvonne Reynders, who dominated cycling in the late 1950s and early 1960s. She became the UCI world champion in 1959, 1961, 1963 and 1966, in Zandvoort (the Netherlands), Bern (Switzerland), Ronse (Belgium) and Nürburg (Germany).

In 1962, another Belgian took home the rainbow jersey, in between Reynders' two world titles. Marie-Rose Gaillard crossed the finish line solo in Salò, Italy. Yvonne Reynders won the sprint for second place. The last and therefore most recent Belgian women's UCI world championship title dates back to 1973. Nicole Van den Broeck was the fastest of a group of 17 in Barcelona, Spain.

JUNIOR AND U23

The young Flandriens who succeeded in putting themselves in the spotlight in the past during the UCI Road World Championships also deserve an honourable mention.

In the U23 category, Belgium has never won gold in the road race, and only once in the time trial. Dominique Cornu became the 2006 UCI world champion in the time trial in Salzburg, Austria. In the road race, Johan Vansummeren in 2003 and Bjorg Lambrecht, who died much too young, both took home silver in 2018.

In the junior category, on the other hand, Belgians have already won gold medals twice in the road race: Jasper Stuyven did so in Moscow in 2009 and cycling prodigy Remco Evenepoel outclassed the competition in Innsbruck 2018. The latter also won the time trial that year. Two other Belgians were able to pull off this feat in the past. Jurgan Van den Broeck became world time trial champion in Lisbon, Portugal, in 2001 and the unfortunate Igor Decraene was the best time trialist in the streets of Florence in 2013.

Jolien D'hoore was the fastest of the pack in 2008 at the Junior UCI World Championships in Cape Town.

UCI ROAD WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS IN FLANDERS

For the seventh time already, the UCI Road World Championships are coming to Flanders, for the tenth time to Belgium. In the past, races were always held in one city, but the entire region of Flanders will serve as the backdrop for the 100th anniversary of the UCI Road World Championships. Together with the host cities of Knokke-Heist, Bruges, Antwerp and Leuven, the peloton will write the sequel to these six wonderful cycling stories in cycling-mad Flanders.

MOORSLEDE 1950

The UCI Road World Championships were held in Flanders for the first time in the 1950s. Moorslede had the honour of organising this popular celebration in 1950. And rightfully so, because by then Belgium had succeeded in winning the most UCI Road World Championships titles. Fifteen years earlier, Jean Aerts had already been handed the rainbow jersey in front of a home crowd in Floreffe near Namur and the 150,000 spectators who had travelled to Moorslede for the occasion hoped to see this feat repeated.



Briek Schotte © Collectie KOERS. Museum van de Wielersport (Roeselare)

Eight riders headed into the last round of that World Championship together. One of them was Briek Schotte, who had been crowned world champion in Valkenburg two years earlier and who was intent on pulling off this feat again. Schotte broke away from the pack during the only climb of the local round. The others were unable to come up with a response to his cunning acceleration. Kübler, Schulte, Bobet, Middelkamp... they all tried to catch up with "Iron" Briek but to no avail. He was already powering to the finish and the title. Schotte crossed the finish line solo, becoming world champion for the second time in his career.

WAREGEM 1957

Seven years after Moorslede, Flanders was given the opportunity to host the UCI Road World Championships again. This time around, Waregem was the epicentre of the festivities. Just like seven years earlier, a Belgian was able to win the rainbow jersey again, and before a home crowd at that. A remarkable feat given that the competition within the Belgian team was fierce and even greater than the competition with the other countries.

Rik Van Steenbergen and Rik Van Looy were the two figureheads of the Belgian team but they were anything but friends. So when Van Looy broke clear from the pack, Van Steenbergen ensured that other racers rode behind him. And that is how it came to a sprint, in which Van Steenbergen was the fastest rider. Van Looy placed fourth.

The finish line of these UCI Road World Championships were situated in the new sports stadium that had been built in Waregem. Afterwards it was renamed the "Rainbow Stadium". Football club Zulte Waregem still uses it to this day.

RONSE 1963

By the time the UCI Road World Championships came to Belgium for the third time around, Rik Van Looy had already been crowned world champion twice. In 1960 and 1961, he was the fastest in a larger group. After his missed opportunity in 1957, Van Looy hoped to take the World Championship title in front of a home crowd. His opportunity came when the 1963 World Championships were organised in Ronse.

The previous evening, Van Looy made an agreement with all the other Belgians to help him to his victory. In exchange, he had promised them a large sum of money. But one of them would betray him the next day, by sprinting past him in the last metres to the finish line. That role was reserved for Benoni Beheydt, with whom Van Looy had a bitter quarrel afterwards, because Van Looy felt that Beheydt had stolen his third UCI Road World Championships title from him, and before a home crowd at that.



Benoni Beheydt © Presse Sports

As the women's UCI Road World Championships were only organised for the first time in 1958, fans would have to wait until 1963 before a female world champion was crowned on Flemish soil. The sixth women's UCI Road World Championships were held in Ronse, just like the men's. Nobody was able to break clear on the 66-km long circuit. As a result, sixteen riders sprinted against each other for the UCI Road World Championships title. Yvonne Reynders was the favourite for the title and was able to take it home. She proved faster in the sprint than her compatriot Rosa Sels and the Soviet-Russian Aino Puronen.

ZOLDER 1969

The two previous UCI Road World Championships in Flanders had already culminated in a fierce competition between Belgians for the title and the 1969 UCI Road World Championships in Zolder were no different in this respect. Rik Van Looy, who was still hoping to win his third world title, faced heavy competition from a young Eddy Merckx. The latter had been crowned world champion for the first time two years earlier and had won his first Tour de France a few weeks prior to the World Championships.

But neither rider would claim victory on the circuit of Zolder. The two dominant cyclists continued to keep an eye on each other, and that is how the breakaway group was able to get ahead. Thirty kilometres from the finish line, Merckx's domestique Julien Stevens broke clear from the rest of the pack with the Dutchman Harm Ottenbros. Ottenbros proved the stronger rider in the sprint and thus unexpectedly became the world champion.

A feat that would haunt him for many years. The Dutchman was an unpopular world champion in the pack and he was often booed by spectators. He stopped racing in 1976, becoming an artist instead. He ended up tossing his bike into the Eastern Scheldt.

RONSE 1988

After four UCI Road World Championships on Flemish soil over a 19-year period, Belgians would have to wait an equal amount of time after Zolder to witness another one. In 1988, the UCI Road World Championships were organised in Ronse once again. Now too, a Belgian rider had hopes of taking home the championship title: Claude Criquielion. The Walloon rider lived just 15 km from Ronse and knew the circuit like the back of his hand. The finish line was at the top of Kruisberg, where Criquielion used to train regularly.

At the start of the last round in Ronse, thirteen riders were in the running for the rainbow jersey. Criquielion broke clear from the group. The Italian Fondriest

was the only rider who was able to catch up with him. With just 700 m to the finish line to go, the Canadian Steve Bauer joined them, immediately launching into his final sprint to the finish line. Criquielion accelerated, hoping to pass him from the right, but Bauer prevented him from doing so by closing the gap and pushed Criquielion into the barriers. Both riders fell and Fondriest, who didn't have the force to chase them in the sprint, rode past to claim the world title in a surprise finish.

Criquielion started legal proceedings against Steve Bauer after the World Championships, but after a long trial the court did not find in his favour. The judge was of the opinion that Bauer had not acted deliberately.

In 1988, there were no UCI Road World Championships for elite women, as all the riders were participating in the summer Olympics that year. That is why the UCI decided not to organise the women's World Championship. The same happened in '84, '88 and '92.

ZOLDER 2002

In the early 2000s, Flanders hosted the UCI Road World Championships for the sixth time. The host city was Zolder, for the second time. Given that the championships were organised on the flat racing track, sprinters would inevitably have the advantage.

The Italians, who were hugely motivated to guide 35-year-old Mario Cipollini to his first World Championship title, left nothing to chance. Throughout the day they stepped up the pace in the pack several notches, thereby preventing any breakaway from being successful. This also explains why Zolder 2002 was the fastest World Championship ever, with an average speed of 46.5 km/h.



Mario Cipollini © Presse Sports

And their approach proved successful, because nobody was able to beat Il Magnifico. The speedy Italian won the rainbow jersey at the then last UCI Road World Championships in Flanders. He was flanked by Robbie McEwen and Erik Zabel on the podium.

The UCI Road World Championships were only the second women's World Championship to take place in Flanders, after 1963. The women's World Championships namely took place in Czechoslovakia in 1969. In 1988, there were no women's World Championships because of the summer Olympics.

The women were also given their moment in the spotlight on the circuit in Zolder. Three riders decided to break away in the final. Somarriba from Spain, Brändli from Switzerland and the Australian rider Carrigan tried to outsmart the pack. Initially their plan seemed successful, because the pack was unable to close the gap. Ultimately, Swedish rider Susanne Ljungskog tried to catch up with the break-away group single-handedly. And her approach proved successful, because she was able to close in on them just before the finish. The four riders sprinted for the title, but Ljungskog won the sprint convincingly. She was able to extend her title for a year in 2003.

ONLY ONE TIME TRIAL CHAMPIONSHIP ON FLEMISH SOIL

As the individual time trial was only organised for the first time in 1994, there has only been one edition ridden on Flemish soil. The time trials of the 2002 Road World Championships in Zolder started from Kolonel-Dusartplein in Hasselt. A Colombian rider took home the championship title in the men's time trials. Santiago Botero was the fastest rider of the professional peloton on the very flat 40-kilometre circuit. That year, he also won stages in the Tour and the Vuelta.

Russian rider Zabirowa was finally able to claim the title in the women's race. She had already placed second twice in the time trial at the UCI Road World Championships, finishing in the same second as the respective world champions. But in 2002, fate was on her side. She ended up being 15 seconds faster than the Swiss riders Nicole Brändli and Karin Thürig over a distance of 23 km. Zabirowa obtained citizenship of Kazakhstan in 2004.

REIGNING UCI ROAD WORLD CHAMPIONS

Due to the coronavirus pandemic, no Junior races were organised at the previous UCI Road World Championships, in Imola in 2020. Only four competitions were held: the road race and the time trial of the Men Elite and the Women Elite. The outgoing UCI Road World Champions in the Men U23 and Junior categories have therefore been the reigning UCI World Champions since the 2019 UCI Road World Championships in Yorkshire.

WOMEN ELITE INDIVIDUAL TIME TRIAL AND ROAD RACE: ANNA VAN DER BREGGEN

For the first time in her career, Anna van der Breggen was able to complete her impressive list of achievements with a world time trial title at the UCI Road World Championships in Imola (2020). She had placed second four times in the UCI World Championships, but had been unable to win so far. Defending Champion and top favourite Chloé Dygert lost control of her bike in a bend, flying over the guard-rail. She suffered a serious leg injury.

Nobody was able to compete with Anna van der Breggen in the road race. After a solo of 41 kilometres on the difficult course on and around the F1 circuit of Imola, the reigning Olympic Champion claimed her second title. A rare achievement, because only one rider ever pulled it off before her: Frenchwoman Jeannie Longo in 1995. It wasn't the first time that Van der Breggen took the rainbow jersey home. In Innsbruck (2018) she won her first road race title. The

Dutch women seemed unbeatable. Recently Van der Breggen's victory (2020) resulted in a fourth successive world title for the Netherlands: Chantal Blaak (2017), Van der Breggen (2018) and Van Vleuten (2019).



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MEN ELITE ROAD RACE: JULIAN ALAPHILIPPE

In Imola, Italy, the riders around the F1 circuit faced a hilly circuit in the road race. In the local round there were two climbs that each had to be climbed a total of 9 times. The race remained undecided for quite some time and it was only in the penultimate lap that some of the medal hopefuls launched their first attacks. Pogačar was the first to attempt a solo, and Dumoulin, among others, had the same plan. But the pack never let them take off, controlling the race, and thus launching into the last climb together.

The pack broke up following an attack by the Swiss rider Hirschi. Only the Belgian Van Aert, the Frenchman Alaphilippe, the Dane Fuglsang, the Pole Kwiatkowski and the Slovenian Roglič were able to keep up with him. Just before the summit, Alaphilippe was able to accelerate once more. The rest had to let him go and that is how the Frenchman rode solo in the last twelve kilometres to the finish line. Van Aert finished second, Hirschi took bronze.



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MEN ELITE INDIVIDUAL TIME TRIAL: FILIPPO GANNA

In the Men Elite individual time trial the Italian Filippo Ganna was the man everyone wanted to beat. He had won the final men elite individual time trial in the Tirreno-Adriatico a week earlier and faced an almost flat circuit in his home country. It soon became clear that nobody was a match for the fierce

Italian. He covered the 31.7 kilometres at a blistering average speed of just under 53 km/h. At the finish he had a lead of 26 seconds on the second rider, the Belgian Wout van Aert. Swiss rider Stefan Küng finished 29 seconds behind Ganna, taking the third place on the podium.



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YORKSHIRE 2019: TEAM TIME TRIAL-MIXED RELAY: THE NETHERLANDS

The very first Team Time Trial-Mixed Relay UCI World Title went to the strong Dutch block at the 2019 UCI Road World Championships in Yorkshire. Koen

Bouwman, Jos van Emden, Bauke Mollema, Lucinda Brand, Riejanne Markus and Amy Pieters crossed the finish line 22 seconds ahead of Germany.



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USA - Flo (Sport) Bikes

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START LISTS & RESULTS

Once released by the UCI Commissioners, start lists and results will be available in the Media Centre.

The lists will also be available on www.uci.org and on www.flanders2021.com.



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PALMARES

Men Elite Individual Time Trial

Yr.	Venue	Name	Nat.	Yr.	Venue	Name	Nat.
1994	Italy - Palermo	BOARDMAN Chris	GBR	2008	Italy - Varese	GRABSCH Bert	GER
1995	Colombia - Tunja	INDURAIN Miguel	ESP	2009	Switzerland - Mendrisio	CANCELLARA Fabian	SUI
1996	Switzerland - Lugano	ZUELLE Alex	SUI	2010	Australia - Melbourne	CANCELLARA Fabian	SUI
1997	Spain - San Sebastian	JALABERT Laurent	FRA	2011	Denmark - Copenhagen	MARTIN Tony	GER
1998	Netherlands - Valkenburg	OLANO MANZANO Abraham	ESP	2012	Netherlands - Limburg	MARTIN Tony	GER
1999	Italy - Treviso	ULLRICH Jan	GER	2013	Italy - Toscana	MARTIN Tony	GER
2000	France - Plouay	HONCHAR Serhiy	UKR	2014	Spain - Ponferrada	WIGGINS Bradley	GBR
2001	Portugal - Lisbon	ULLRICH Jan	GER	2015	USA - Richmond	KIRYIENKA Vasil	BLR
2002	Belgium - Zolder	BOTERO ECHEVERRY Santiago	COL	2016	Qatar - Doha	MARTIN Tony	GER
2003	Canada - Hamilton	MILLAR David	GBR	2017	Norway - Bergen	DUMOULIN Tom	NED
2004	Italy - Bardolino	ROGERS Michael	AUS	2018	Austria - Innsbruck	DENNIS Rohan	AUS
2005	Spain - Madrid	ROGERS Michael	AUS	2019	Great Britain - Yorkshire	DENNIS Rohan	AUS
2006	Austria - Salzburg	CANCELLARA Fabian	SUI	2020	Italy - Imola	GANNA Filippo	ITA
2007	Germany - Stuttgart	CANCELLARA Fabian	SUI				

Women Elite Individual Time Trial

Yr.	Venue	Name	Nat.	Yr.	Venue	Name	Nat.
1994	Italy - Palermo	KURRECK Karen	USA	2007	Germany - Stuttgart	KUPFERNAGEL Hanka	GER
1995	Colombia - Tunja	LONGO Jeannie	FRA	2008	Italy - Varese	NEBEN Amber	USA
1996	Switzerland - Lugano	LONGO Jeannie	FRA	2009	Switzerland - Mendrisio	ARMSTRONG Kristin	USA
1997	Spain - San Sebastian	LONGO-CIPRELLI Jeannie	FRA	2010	Australia - Melbourne	POOLEY Emma	GBR
1998	Netherlands - Valkenburg	ZIJLAARD - VAN MOORSEL Leontien	NED	2011	Denmark - Copenhagen	ARNDT Judith	GER
1999	Italy - Treviso	ZIJLAARD - VAN MOORSEL Leontien	NED	2012	Netherlands - Limburg	ARNDT Judith	GER
2000	France - Plouay	HOLDEN Mari	USA	2013	Italy - Toscana	VAN DIJK Ellen	NED
2001	Portugal - Lisbon	LONGO-CIPRELLI Jeannie	FRA	2014	Spain - Ponferrada	BRENNAUER Lisa	GER
2002	Belgium - Zolder	ZABIROVA Zoulfia	RUS	2015	USA - Richmond	VILLUMSEN Linda Melanie	NZL
2003	Canada - Hamilton	SOMARRIBA ARROLA Joane	ESP	2016	Qatar - Doha	NEBEN Amber	USA
2004	Italy - Bardolino	THÜRIG Karin	SUI	2017	Norway - Bergen	VAN VLEUTEN Annemiek	NED
2005	Spain - Madrid	THÜRIG Karin	SUI	2018	Austria - Innsbruck	VAN VLEUTEN Annemiek	NED
2006	Austria - Salzburg	ARMSTRONG Kristin	USA	2019	Great Britain - Yorkshire	DYGERT Chloé	USA
				2020	Italy - Imola	VAN DER BREGGEN Anna	NED

Men U23 Individual Time Trial

Yr.	Venue	Name	Nat.	Yr.	Venue	Name	Nat.
1996	Switzerland - Lugano	SIRONI Luca	ITA	2008	Italy - Varese	MALORI Adriano	ITA
1997	Spain - San Sebastian	MALBERTI Fabio	ITA	2009	Switzerland - Mendrisio	BOBRIDGE Jack	AUS
1998	Netherlands - Valkenburg	HUSHOVD Thor	NOR	2011	Denmark - Copenhagen	DURBRIDGE Luke	AUS
1999	Italy - Treviso	GUTIERREZ P. José Ivan	ESP	2012	Netherlands - Limburg	VOROBYEV Anton	RUS
2000	France - Plouay	PETROV Evgeni	RUS	2013	Italy - Toscana	HOWSON Damien	AUS
2001	Portugal - Lisbon	PATE Danny	USA	2014	Spain - Ponferrada	FLAKEMORE Campbell	AUS
2002	Belgium - Zolder	VAITKUS Tomas	LTU	2015	USA - Richmond	SCHMIDT Mads Wurtz	DEN
2003	Canada - Hamilton	FOTHEN Marcus	GER	2016	Qatar - Doha	MATHIS Marco	GER
2004	Italy - Bardolino	BRAJKOVIC Janez	SLO	2017	Norway - Bergen	BJERG Mikkel	DEN
2005	Spain - Madrid	IGNATIEV Mikhail	RUS	2018	Austria - Innsbruck	BJERG Mikkel	DEN
2006	Austria - Salzburg	CORNU Dominique	BEL	2019	Great Britain - Yorkshire	BJERG Mikkel	DEN
2007	Germany - Stuttgart	BOOM Lars	NED				

Men Junior Individual Time Trial

Yr.	Venue	Name	Nat.	Yr.	Venue	Name	Nat.
1994	Ecuador - Quito	ROGERS Deane	AUS	2007	Mexico - Aguascalientes	PHINNEY Taylor	USA
1995	San Marino - Forlì	COLLINGSWOOD Joshua	AUS	2008	South Africa - Cape Town	KWIATKOWSKI Michal	POL
1996	Slovenia - Novo Mesto	LO VANO Simone	ITA	2009	Russia - Moscow	DURBRIDGE Luke	AUS
1997	Spain - San Sebastian	HIECKMANN Torsten	GER	2010	Italy - Offida	JUNGELS Bob	LUX
1998	Netherlands - Valkenburg	CANCELLARA Fabian	SUI	2011	Denmark - Copenhagen	WURTZ SCHMIDT Mads	DEN
1999	Italy - Treviso	CANCELLARA Fabian	SUI	2012	Netherlands - Limburg	SVENDSEN Oskar	NOR
2000	France - Plouay	MAZUR Peter	POL	2013	Italy - Toscana	DECRAENE Igor	BEL
2001	Portugal - Lisbon	VAN DEN BROECK Jurgen	BEL	2014	Spain - Ponferrada	KAMNA Lennard	GER
2002	Belgium - Zolder	IGNATIEV Mikhail	RUS	2015	USA - Richmond	APPELT Leo	GER
2003	Canada - Hamilton	IGNATIEV Mikhail	RUS	2016	Qatar - Doha	MCNULTY Brandon	USA
2004	Italy - Verona	GRETSCH Patrick	GER	2017	Norway - Bergen	PIDCOCK Thomas	GBR
2005	Austria - Oberwart	KITTEL Marcel	GER	2018	Austria - Innsbruck	EVENEPOEL Remco	BEL
2006	Belgium - Spa-Francorchamps	KITTEL Marcel	GER	2019	Great Britain - Yorkshire	TIBERI Antonio	ITA

Women Junior Individual Time Trial

Yr.	Venue	Name	Nat.	Yr.	Venue	Name	Nat.
1995	San Marino - San Marino	VISENTINI Linda	ITA	2008	South Africa - Cape Town	PETERSEN Maria Grandt	DEN
1996	Slovenia - Novo Mesto	LINKE Rachel	AUS	2009	Russia - Moscow	SOLOVEI Canna	UKR
1997	Spain - San Sebastian	ZABELINSKAIA Olga	RUS	2010	Italy - Offida	SOLOVEI Canna	UKR
1998	Netherlands - Valkenburg	WORRACK Trixi	GER	2011	Denmark - Copenhagen	ALLEN Jessica	AUS
1999	Italy - Treviso	JEANSON Geneviève	CAN	2012	Netherlands - Limburg	BARKER Elinor	GBR
2000	France - Plouay	VANDEKERCKHOVE Juliette	FRA	2013	Italy - Toscana	ERAUD Séverine	FRA
2001	Portugal - Lisbon	COOKE Nicole	GBR	2014	Spain - Ponferrada	STEWART Macey	AUS
2002	Belgium - Zolder	ZUGNO Anna	ITA	2015	USA - Richmond	DYGERT Chloé	USA
2003	Canada - Hamilton	KNÖPFLE Bianca	GER	2016	Qatar - Doha	SWINKELS Karlijn	NED
2004	Italy - Verona	HURIKOVA Tereza	CZE	2017	Norway - Bergen	PIRRONE Elena	ITA
2005	Austria - Oberwart	BRENNAUER Lisa	GER	2018	Austria - Innsbruck	AMMERLAAN Rozemarijn	NED
2006	Belgium - Spa-Francorchamps	SPENCE Rebecca	NZL	2019	Great Britain - Yorkshire	GAREEVA Aigul	RUS
2007	Mexico - Aguascalientes	TOMIC Josephine	AUS				

Men Elite Team Time Trial

Yr.	Venue	Name	Nat.
2012	Netherlands - Limburg	OMEGA PHARMA-QUICKSTEP	BEL
2013	Italy - Toscana	OMEGA PHARMA - QUICK-STEP CYCLING	BEL
2014	Spain - Ponferrada	BMC RACING TEAM	USA
2015	USA - Richmond	BMC RACING TEAM	USA
2016	Qatar - Doha	ETIXX - QUICK STEP	BEL
2017	Norway - Bergen	TEAM SUNWEB	GER
2018	Austria - Innsbruck	QUICK-STEP FLOORS	BEL

Women Elite Team Time Trial

Yr.	Plaats / Venue	Naam / Name	Nat.
2012	Netherlands - Limburg	TEAM SPECIALIZED - LULULEMON	GER
2013	Italy - Toscana	SPECIALIZED - LULULEMON	USA
2014	Spain - Ponferrada	SPECIALIZED - LULULEMON	USA
2015	USA - Richmond	VELOCIO - SRAM	GER
2016	Qatar - Doha	BOELS DOLMANS CYCLINGTEAM	NED
2017	Norway - Bergen	TEAM SUNWEB	NED
2018	Austria - Innsbruck	CANYON SRAM RACING	GER

Team Time Trial - Mixed Relay

Yr.	Venue	Name
2019	Great Britain - Yorkshire	THE NETHERLANDS

Amateur and Men U23 Road Race

Yr.	Venue	Name	Nat.	Yr.	Venue	Name	Nat.
AMATEURS				1971	Switzerland - Mendrisio	OVION Régis	FRA
1921	Denmark - Copenhagen	SKOLD Gunnar	SWE	1973	Spain - Montjuich	SZURKOWSKI Rysz	POL
1922	Great Britain - Liverpool	MARSH David	GBR	1974	Canada - Montréal	KOWALSKI Janusz	POL
1923	Switzerland - Zurich	FERRARIO Libero	ITA	1975	Belgium - Mettet	GEVERS André	NED
1924	France - Paris	LEDUCQ André	FRA	1977	Venezuela - San Cristobal	CORTI Claudio	ITA
1925	Netherlands - Apeldoorn	HOEVENAERS, Henri	BEL	1978	Germany - Nurburgring	GLAUS Gilbert	SUI
1926	Italy - Milan	DAYEN Octave	FRA	1979	Netherlands - Valkenburg	GIACOMINI Gianni	ITA
1927	Germany - Nürburgring	AERTS Jean	BEL	1981	Czechoslovakia - Prague	VEDERNIKOV Andrei	URS
1928	Hungary - Budapest	GRANDI Allegro	ITA	1982	Great Britain - Goodwood	DROGAN Bernd	RDA
1929	Switzerland - Zurich	BERTOLAZZO Pierino	ITA	1983	Switzerland - Altnrhein	RAAB Uwe	GER
1930	Belgium - Liège	MARTANO Giuseppe	ITA	1985	Italy - Giviera Montello	PIASECKI Lech	POL
1931	Denmark - Copenhagen	HANSEN Henry	DEN	1986	USA - Colorado Springs	ALPER Uwe	GER
1932	Italy - Rome	MARTANO Giuseppe	ITA	1987	Austria - Villach	VIVIEN Richard	FRA
1933	France - Monthéry	EGLI Paul	SUI	1989	France - Chambéry	HALUPCZOK Joachin	POL
1934	Germany - Leipzig	PELLENAARS Kees	NED	1990	Japan - Utsunomiya	GUALDI Mirko	ITA
1935	Belgium - Florette	MANCINI Ivo	ITA	1991	Germany - Stuttgart	RJAKSINSKI Victor	UKR
1936	Switzerland - Bern	BUCHWALDER Edgar	SUI	1993	Norway - Oslo	ULLRICH Jan	GER
1937	Denmark - Copenhagen	LEONI Adolfo	ITA	1994	Sicilia - Palermo	PEDERSEN Alex	DEN
1938	Netherlands - Valkenburg	KNECHT Hans	SUI	1995	Colombia - Bogota	NELISSEN Danny	NED
1946	Switzerland - Zurich	AUBRY Henry	FRA	U23			
1947	France - Reims	FERRARI Alfio	ITA	1996	Switzerland - Lugano	FIGUERAS, Giuliano	ITA
1948	Netherlands - Valkenburg	SNELL Harry	SWE	1997	Spain - San Sebastian	ARVESEN Kurt-Asle	NOR
1949	Denmark - Copenhagen	FAANHOF Henk	NED	1998	Netherlands - Valkenburg	BASSO Ivan	ITA
1950	Belgium - Moorslede	HOOBIN Jack	AUS	1999	Italy - Verona	GIORDANI Leonardo	ITA
1951	Italy - Varese	GHIDINI Gianni	ITA	2000	France - Plouay	PETROV Evgeni	RUS
1952	Luxemburg - Luxemburg	CIANCOLA Luciano	ITA	2001	Portugal - Lisbonne	POPOVYCH Yaroslav	UKR
1953	Switzerland - Lugano	FILIPPI Ricardo	ITA	2002	Belgium - Zolder	CHICCHI Francesco	ITA
1954	Germany - Sollingen	VAN CAUTER Emiel	BEL	2003	Canada - Hamilton	LAGUTIN Sergey	UZB
1955	Italy - Rome	RANUCCI Sante	ITA	2004	Italy - Verona	SIUTSOU Kanstantsin	BLR
1956	Denmark - Copenhagen	MAHN Frans	NED	2005	Spain - Madrid	GRABOVSKYY Dmytro	UKR
1957	Belgium - Waregem	PROOST Louis	BEL	2006	Austria - Salzburg	CIOLEK Gerald	GER
1958	France - Reims	SCHUR Gustave Adolf	RDA	2007	Germany - Stuttgart	VELITS Peter	SVK
1959	Netherlands - Zandvoort	SCHUR Gustave Adolf	RDA	2008	Italy - Varese	DUARTE AREVALO Fabio	COL
1960	Germany - Sachsenring	ECKSTEIN Bernhard	RDA	2009	Switzerland - Mendrisio	SICARD Romain	FRA
1961	Switzerland - Bern	JOURDEN Jean	FRA	2010	Australia - Melbourne	MATTHEWS Michael	AUS
1962	Italy - Salò	BONCIONI Renato	ITA	2011	Denmark - Copenhagen	DEMARE Arnaud	FRA
1963	Belgium - Ronse	VICENTINI Flaviano	ITA	2012	Netherlands - Limburg	LUTSENKO Alexey	KAZ
1964	France - Sallanches	MERCKX Eddy	BEL	2013	Italy - Toscana	MOHORIC Matej	SLO
1965	Spain - Lasarte	BOTHEREL Jacques	FRA	2014	Spain - Ponferrada	BYSTROM Sven Erik	NOR
1966	Germany - Nürbergring	DOLMAN Evert	NED	2015	USA - Richmond	LEDANOIS Kevin	FRA
1967	Netherlands - Heerlen	WEBB Graham	GBR	2016	Qatar - Doha	HALVORSEN Kristoffer	NOR
1968	Uruguay - Montevideo	MARCELLI Vittorio	ITA	2017	Norway - Bergen	COSNEFROY Benoit	FRA
1969	Czechoslovakia - Brno	MORTENSEN Leif	DEN	2018	Austria - Innsbruck	HIRSCHI Marc	SUI
1970	GBR - Leicester	SCHMIDT Jürgen	DEN	2019	Great Britain - Yorkshire	BATTISTELLA Samuele	ITA



Women Elite Road Race

Yr.	Venue	Name	Nat.	Yr.	Venue	Name	Nat.
1958	France - Reims	JACOBS Elsy	LUX	1991	Germany - Stuttgart	VAN MOORSEL Leontien	NED
1959	Belgium - Rotheux	REYNDERS Yvonne	BEL	1991	Germany - Stuttgart	VAN MOORSEL Leontien	NED
1960	Germany - Leipzig	BURTON Beryl	GBR	1993	Norway - Oslo	VAN MOORSEL Leontien	NED
1961	Switzerland - Douglas	REYNDERS Yvonne	BEL	1994	Italy - Capo d'Orlando	VALVIK Monica	NOR
1962	Italy - Salò	GAILLARD Marie-Rose	BEL	1995	Colombia - Duitama	LONGO Jeannie	FRA
1963	Belgium - Ronse	REYNDERS Yvonne	BEL	1996	Switzerland - Lugano	HEEB Barbara	SUI
1964	France - Sallanches	SONKA Emilia	LAT	1997	Spain - San Sebastián	CAPPELOTTO Alessandra	ITA
1965	Spain - Lasarte	EICHHOLZ Elisabeth	GDR	1998	Netherlands - Valkenburg	ŽILIŪTĖ Diana	LTU
1966	Germany - Nürburgring	REYNDERS Yvonne	BEL	1999	Italy - Verona	PUČINSKAITE Edita	LTU
1967	Netherlands - Heerlen	BURTON Beryl	GBR	2000	France - Plouay	STAHURSKAIA Zinaida	BLR
1968	Italy - Imola	VAN OOSTEN-HAGE Keetie	NED	2001	Portugal - Lisbon	POLIKEVIČIŪTĖ Rasa	LTU
1969	Czechoslovakia - Brno	MCELMURY Audrey	USA	2002	Belgium - Zolder	LJUNGSKOG Susanne	SWE
1970	GBR - Leicester	KONKINA Anna	RUS	2003	Canada - Hamilton	LJUNGSKOG Susanne	SWE
1971	Switzerland - Mendrisio	KONKINA Anna	RUS	2004	Italy - Verona	ARNDT Judith	GER
1972	France - Gap	GAMBILLON Geneviève	FRA	2005	Spain - Madrid	SCHLEICHER Regina	GER
1973	Spain - Montjuich	VANDENBROECK Nicolle	BEL	2006	Austria - Salzburg	VOS Marianne	NED
1974	Canada - Montreal	GAMBILLON Geneviève	FRA	2007	Germany - Stuttgart	BASTIANELLI Marta	ITA
1975	Belgium - Mettet	FOPMA Tineke	NED	2008	Italy - Varese	COOKE Nicole	GBR
1976	Italy - Ostuni	VAN OOSTEN-HAGE Keetie	NED	2009	Switzerland - Mendrisio	GUDERZO Tatiana	ITA
1977	Venezuela - San Cristóbal	BOST Josiane	FRA	2010	Australia - Melbourne-Geelong	BRONZINI Giorgia	ITA
1978	Germany - Brauweiler	HABETZ Beate	FRG	2011	Denmark - Copenhagen	BRONZINI Giorgia	ITA
1979	Netherlands - Valkenburg	DE BRUIN Petra	NED	2012	Netherlands - Limburg	VOS Marianne	NED
1980	France - Sallanches	HEIDEN Beth	USA	2013	Italy - Florence	VOS Marianne	NED
1981	Czechoslovakia - Prague	ENZENAUER Ute	FRG	2014	Spain - Ponferrada	FERRAND-PRÉVOT Pauline	FRA
1982	GBR - Goodwood	JONES Mandy	GBR	2015	USA - Richmond	ARMITSTEAD Elizabeth	GBR
1983	Switzerland - Altenrhein	BERGLUND Marianne	SWE	2016	Qatar - Doha	DIDERIKSEN Amalie	DEN
1985	Italy - Gaivera del Montello	LONGO Jeannie	FRA	2017	Bergen - Norway	BLAAK Chantal	NED
1986	U.S.A. - Colorado Springs	LONGO Jeannie	FRA	2018	Austria - Innsbruck	VAN DER BREGGEN Anna	NED
1987	Austria - Villach	LONGO Jeannie	FRA	2019	Great Britain - Yorkshire	VAN VLEUTEN Annemiek	NED
1989	France - Chambéry	LONGO Jeannie	FRA	2020	Italy - Imola-Emilia Romagna	VAN DER BREGGEN Anna	NED
1990	Japan - Utsunomiya	MARSAL Catherine	FRA				

Men Elite Road Race

Yr.	Venue	Name	Nat.	Yr.	Venue	Name	Nat.
1921	Denmark - Copenhagen	SKÖLD Gunnar	SWE	1974	Canada - Montreal	MERCKX Eddy	BEL
1922	GBR - Liverpool	MARSH David	GBR	1975	Belgium - Yvoir	KUIPER Hennie	NED
1923	Switzerland - Zürich	FERRARIO Libero	ITA	1976	Italy - Ostuni	MAERTENS Freddy	BEL
1924	France - Paris	LEDUCQ André	FRA	1977	Venezuela - San Cristóbal	MOSER Francesco	ITA
1925	Netherlands - Apeldoorn	HOEVENAERS Henri	BEL	1978	Germany - Nürburgring	KNETEMANN Gerrie	NED
1926	Italy - Milan	DAYEN Octave	FRA	1979	Netherlands - Valkenburg	RAAS Jan	NED
1927	Germany - Nürburgring	BINDA Alfredo	ITA	1980	France - Sallanches	HINAULT Bernard	FRA
1928	Hungary - Budapest	RONSSSE Georges	BEL	1981	Czechoslovakia - Prague	MAERTENS Freddy	BEL
1929	Switzerland - Zürich	RONSSSE Georges	BEL	1982	GBR - Goodwood	SARONNI Giuseppe	ITA
1930	Belgium - Liège	BINDA Alfredo	ITA	1983	Switzerland - Altenrhein	LEMOND Greg	USA
1931	Denmark - Copenhagen	GUERRA Learco	ITA	1984	Spain - Barcelona	CRUIQUELION Claude	BEL
1932	Italy - Rome	BINDA Alfredo	ITA	1985	Italy - Gavera del Montello	ZOETEMELK Joop	NED
1933	France - Monthléry	SPEICHER Georges	FRA	1986	U.S.A. - Colorado Springs	ARGENTIN Moreno	ITA
1934	Germany - Leipzig	KAERS Karel	BEL	1987	Austria - Villach	ROCHE Stephen	IRL
1935	Belgium - Floreffe	AERTS Jean	BEL	1988	Belgium - Ronse	FONDRIEST Maurizio	ITA
1936	Switzerland - Bern	MAGNE Antonin	FRA	1989	France - Chambéry	LEMOND Greg	USA
1937	Denmark - Copenhagen	MEULENBERG Eloi	BEL	1990	Japan - Utsunomiya	DHAENENS Rudy	BEL
1938	Netherlands - Valkenburg	KINT Marcel	BEL	1991	Germany - Stuttgart	BUGNO Gianni	ITA
1946	Switzerland - Zürich	KNECHT Hans	SUI	1992	Spain - Benidorm	BUGNO Gianni	ITA
1947	France - Reims	MIDDELKAMP Theo	NED	1994	Italy - Agrigento	LEBLANC Luc	FRA
1948	Netherlands - Valkenburg	SCHOTTE Albéric	BEL	1995	Colombia - Duitama	OLANO Abraham	ESP
1949	Denmark - Copenhagen	VAN STEENBERGEN Rik	BEL	1996	Switzerland - Lugano	MUSEEUW Johan	BEL
1950	Belgium - Moorslede	SCHOTTE Albéric	BEL	1997	Spain - San Sebastián	BROCHARD Laurent	FRA
1951	Italy - Varese	KÜBLER Ferdinand	SUI	1998	Netherlands - Valkenburg	CAMENZIND Oscar	SUI
1952	Luxembourg - Luxembourg	MÜLLER Heinz	FRG	1999	Italy - Verona	FREIRE Óscar	ESP
1953	Switzerland - Lugano	COPPI Fausto	ITA	2000	France - Plouay	VAINŠTEINS Romāns	LAT
1954	Germany - Solingen	BOBET Louison	FRA	2001	Portugal - Lisbon	FREIRE Óscar	ESP
1955	Italy - Frascati	OCKERS Stan	BEL	2002	Belgium - Zolder	CIPOLLINI Mario	ITA
1956	Denmark - Ballerup	VAN STEENBERGEN Rik	BEL	2003	Canada - Hamilton	ASTARLOA Igor	ESP
1957	Belgium - Waregem	VAN STEENBERGEN Rik	BEL	2004	Italy - Verona	FREIRE Óscar	ESP
1958	France - Reims	BALDINI Ercole	ITA	2005	Spain - Madrid	BOONEN Tom	BEL
1959	Netherlands - Zandvoort	DARRIGADE André	FRA	2006	Austria - Salzburg	BETTINI Paolo	ITA
1960	Germany - Sachsenring	VAN LOOY Rik	BEL	2007	Germany - Stuttgart	BETTINI Paolo	ITA
1961	Switzerland - Bern	VAN LOOY Rik	BEL	2008	Italy - Varese	BALLAN Alessandro	ITA
1962	Italy - Salò	STABLINSKI Jean	FRA	2009	Switzerland - Mendrisio	EVANS Cadel	AUS
1963	Belgium - Ronse	BEHEYT Benoni	BEL	2010	Australia - Melbourne-Geelong	HUSHOVD Thor	NOR
1964	France - Sallanches	JANSSEN Jan	NED	2011	Denmark - Copenhagen	CAVENDISH Mark	GBR
1965	Spain - Lasarte	SIMPSON Tom	GBR	2012	Netherlands - Limburg	GILBERT Philippe	BEL
1966	Germany - Nürburgring	ALTIG Rudi	FRG	2013	Italy - Florence	COSTA Rui	POR
1967	Netherlands - Heerlen	MERCKX Eddy	BEL	2014	Spain - Ponferrada	KWIATKOWSKI Michał	POL
1968	Italy - Imola	ADORNI Vittorio	ITA	2015	USA - Richmond	SAGAN Peter	SVK
1969	Belgium - Zolder	OTTENBROS Harm	NED	2016	Qatar - Doha	SAGAN Peter	SVK
1970	GBR - Leicester	MONSERÉ Jean-Pierre	BEL	2017	Bergen - Norway	SAGAN Peter	SVK
1971	Switzerland - Mendrisio	MERCKX Eddy	BEL	2018	Austria - Innsbruck	VALVERDE Alejandro	ESP
1972	France - Gap	BASSO Marino	ITA	2019	Great Britain - Yorkshire	PEDERSEN Mads	DEN
1973	Spain - Montjuich	GIMONDI Felice	ITA	2020	Italy - Imola-Emilia Romagna	ALAPHILIPPE Julian	FRA

Men Junior Road Race

Yr.	Venue	Name	Nat.	Yr.	Venue	Name	Nat.
1975	Switzerland - Lausanne	VISENTINI Roberto	ITA	1998	Netherlands - Valkenburg	SCANLON Mark	IRL
1976	Belgium - Liège	BESSEMS Ronald	NED	1999	Italy - Verona	CUNEGO Damiano	ITA
1977	Austria - Vienna	VAN HOLEN Ronny	BEL	2000	France - Plouay	YATES Jeremy	NZL
1978	USA - Washington	MAKARKIN Vlad.	URS	2001	Portugal - Lisbon	KVACHUK Oleksandr	UKR
1979	Argentina - Buenos Aires	LEMOND Greg.	USA	2002	Belgium - Zolder	GERARD Arnaud	FRA
1980	Mexico - Mexico	CIAMPI Roberto	ITA	2003	Canada - Hamilton	REUS Kai	NED
1981	Germany - Leipzig	SCHUMACHER Beat	SUI	2004	Italy - Verona	KREUZIGER Roman	CZE
1982	Italy - Florence	SIX Roger	BEL	2005	Austria - Oberwart	ROVNY Ivan	RUS
1983	New Zealand - Wanganui	LILHOLT Sören	DEN	2006	Belgium - Spa-Francorchamps	ULISSI Diego	ITA
1984	France - Beuvron	CORDES Tom	NED	2007	Mexico - Aguascalientes	ULISSI Diego	ITA
1985	Germany - Stuttgart	MEIJS Raymond	NED	2008	South Africa - Cape Town	LE BON Johan	FRA
1986	Morocco - Casablanca	ZANOLI Michel	NED	2009	Russia - Moscou	STUYVEN Jasper	BEL
1987	Italy - Bergamo	TONKOV Pavel	URS	2010	Italy - Offida	LE GAC Olivier	FRA
1988	Denmark - Odense	TAROCCO Gianluca	ITA	2011	Denmark - Copenhagen	LECUISINIER Pierre-Henri	FRA
1989	Russia - Moscow	VETSCH Patrick	SUI	2012	Netherlands - Limburg	MOHORIC Matej	SLO
1990	Great Britain - Middlesbrough	SERPELLINI Marco	ITA	2013	Italy - Toscana	VAN DER POEL Mathieu	NED
1991	USA - Colorado Springs	EVANSHIRE Jeff	USA	2014	Spain - Ponferrada	BOKELOH Jonas	GER
1992	Greece - Olympia	PALUMBO Giuseppe	ITA	2015	USA - Richmond	GALL Felix	AUT
1993	Australia - Perth	PALUMBO Giuseppe	ITA	2016	Qatar - Doha	EGHOLM Jakob	DEN
1994	Ecuador - Quito	MORRAS Miguel	ESP	2017	Norway - Bergen	JOHANSEN Julius	DEN
1995	San Marino - Forlì	CHINA Valentino	ITA	2018	Austria - Innsbruck	EVENEPOEL Remco	BEL
1996	Slovenia - Novo Mesto	LOEW Holger	GER	2019	Great Britain - Yorkshire	SIMMONS Quinn	USA
1997	Spain - San Sebastian	D'AMORE Crescenzo	ITA				

Women Junior Road Race

Yr.	Venue	Name	Nat.	Yr.	Venue	Name	Nat.
1987	Italy - Bergamo	MARSAL Catherine	FRA	2004	Italy - Verona	VOS Marianne	NED
1988	Denmark - Odense	HJORTFLOD Gitte	DEN	2005	Austria - Oberwart	LACOTA Mie Bekker	DEN
1989	Russia - Moscow	DEMET Dede	USA	2006	Belgium - Spa-Francorchamps	LELEIVYTE Rasa	LTU
1990	Great Britain - Middlesbrough	TEUTENBERG Ina	RFA	2007	Mexico - Aguascalientes	PATUZZO Eleonora	ITA
1991	USA - Colorado Springs	VINK Elisabeth	NED	2008	South Africa - Cape Town	D'HOORE Jolien	BEL
1992	Greece - Olympia	KUPFERNAGEL Hanka	GER	2009	Russia - Moscow	CALLOVI Rossella	ITA
1993	Australia - Perth	CHEVANNE-BRUNEL E.	FRA	2010	Italy - Offida	FERRAND-PREVOT Pauline	FRA
1994	Ecuador - Quito	ZILUTE Diana	LTU	2011	Denmark - Copenhagen	GARNER Lucy	GBR
1995	San Marino - San Marino	HEANNI Andrea	SUI	2012	Netherlands - Limburg	GARNER Lucy	GBR
1996	Slovenia - Novo Mesto	D'ETTORE Alessandra	ITA	2013	Italy - Toscana	DIDERIKSEN Amalie	DEN
1997	Spain - San Sebastian	VAN MELIS Mirella	NED	2014	Spain - Ponferrada	DIDERIKSEN Amalie	DEN
1998	Netherlands - Valkenburg	LIEBIG Tina	GER	2015	USA - Richmond	DYGERT Chloé	USA
1999	Italy - Verona	JEANSON Geneviève	CAN	2016	Qatar - Doha	BALSAMO Elisa	ITA
2000	France - Plouay	COOKE Nicole	GBR	2017	Norway - Bergen	PIRRONE Elena	ITA
2001	Portugal - Lisbon	COOKE Nicole	GBR	2018	Austria - Innsbruck	STIGGER Laura	AUT
2002	Belgium - Zolder	DE GOEDE Suzanne	NED	2019	Great Britain	JASTRAB Megan	USA
2003	Canada - Hamilton	MARKERINK Loes	NED				