

ROAD WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS 2026 PREVIEW: MEDAL PROSPECTS IN MONTRÉAL TIME TRIALS AND ROAD RACES

Friday 18th September 2026: The battle for road cycling's rainbow stripes heads to Montréal in Canada this year, returning after a 48-year absence. From Sunday 20th to Sunday 27th September, road racers and time trialists from juniors to elites will aim for glory in Quebec's largest city - and Canyon will be at the heart of the action with a two-week pop-up location close to the start/finish line.



Although riders will be representing their national teams and wearing their country's colours, they'll still be racing on their regular trade team bikes. Canyon riders from **Movistar**, **Alpecin-Premier Tech**, **Fenix-Premier Tech** and **CANYON//SRAM Racing** will all be present at the start line. With 2025 champions Marlen Reusser, Zoe Bäckstedt, Paula Ostiz, plus 2026 Vuelta a Espana winner Enric Mas, and perennial threat Mathieu van der Poel expected to be racing, Canyon is in with a strong chance of medals again this year.

Here's a run-down of the medal prospects we're expecting to see in each category:

Time trial - race against the clock

The championships kick off with the Individual Time Trials (ITT) – energy sapping, lung-busting, all-out efforts. The Elite Men and Women take on 39.2 km on Sunday 20th September. Under-23 men and women race 31.3 km and 20.3 km respectively on Monday 21 September. Juniors are in action on Tuesday 22 September as are the elite men and women who come together for the 40.6 km Mixed Team Relay.

Canyon riders expected on the start line include

- **Fenix-Premier Tech:** **Lotte Claes** (BE) and **Christina Schweinberger** (AU)
- **Movistar:** reigning TT-champ **Marlen Reusser** (CH, pictured right) and junior champion **Paula Ostiz** (ES), now competing at U23 level; plus home rider **Olivia Baril** (CA);. 2024 U23-world champ **Ivan Romeo** (ES); **Pablo Castillo** (ES) and **Nelson Oliveira** (PT)
- **Canyon//SRAM:** two-time GB ITT winner **Zoe Bäckstedt** (GB, pictured left); plus **Antonia Niedermaier** (DE); **Wilma Aintila** (SW); **Justyna Czapla** (DE) and **Tsige Kahsay-Kiros** (ETH)



All Canyon riders will tackle the course with the **Speedmax CFR TT**, with several riders using an unreleased prototype. Based on Canyon's original Speedmax CFR triathlon bike, but fully adapted to professional time trialling, it's an aerodynamic masterpiece with UCI-compliant supreme race performance.



Road racing - test against the best

The road racing course covers 13.4 km in downtown Montreal with 269 metres of elevation per lap. Starting on Thursday 24 September, the Under-23 Women and Junior Men tackle 134 km of racing. Under-23 men face off on Friday 25 September with 174 km, followed by the 80 km Junior Women's race. On the final weekend the Elite Women race 180 km on the Saturday followed by the Elite Men's 273 km race on Sunday.

The women's elite race is expected to feature Canyon stars including **Lotte Claes** (BE); **Christina Schweinberger** (AU); **Sara Casasola** (IT); **Puck Pieterse** (NL); **Flora Perkins** (GB); **Marlen Reusser** (CH), **Olivia Baril** (CA); **Sara Martin** (ES), **Tota Magahaes** (BR) and **Liane Lippert** (DE).

At U23 level, from Movistar; **Paula Ostiz** (ES) and **Cat Ferguson** (GB, pictured), and from Canyon//SRAM; **Emily Dixon** (AUS), **Wilma Aintila** (SW), **Justyna Czapla** (DE), **Tsige Kahsay Kiros** (ETH), **Joëlle Messemmer** (DE) and **Awen Roberts** (GB) are expected to take to the start line.



The Men's road races look set to feature **David Haverdings** (NL), **Guus van den Eijnden** (NL), **Mathieu van der Poel** (NL); **Gal Glivar** (HU) and **Hugo Houle** (CA) from Alpecin-Premier Tech, and **Ivan Romeo** (ES), **Enric Mas** (ES), **Raul G Pierna** (ES) and **Nelson Oliveria** (ES) from Movistar.

For the Road race, Canyon riders are likely to choose the **Aeroad CFR**: Proven in the wind tunnel against its competitors and validated in real-world racing, it's recognised as one of the fastest bikes in the peloton. Its aerodynamic frame and cockpit design, and rider-optimized geometry allows athletes to save watts while laying down sustained power efficiently. [Find out more here.](#)



About Canyon

What started in founder Roman Arnold's garage has grown into the world's leading direct-to-consumer bicycle manufacturer. Renowned as one of the most innovative brands in the industry, Canyon designs bikes for every discipline – from road, triathlon and gravel to mountain, city, trekking, and e-bikes.

Canyon partners with the finest athletes and teams on the planet, taking insights from the toughest race conditions to engineer bikes and components for the highest levels of the sport. The result: award-winning bikes that set the standard for performance, innovation, and engineering – built to deliver at the highest level on any terrain.

"Pure Cycling" is the mission driving Canyon to ignite a passion for cycling around the world thanks to a streamlined direct-to-consumer model, smart digital services, and Canyon Stores and service partners offering expert advice, community experiences, and full support. At the same time, Canyon is committed to responsible business practices, sustainable production, and the safety and well-being of employees, partners, and the environment.

Canyon bikes are available at canyon.com, through the Canyon app, and at selected Canyon Stores worldwide.

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