

MotoGP facts & figures

■ **Jorge Lorenzo** will be racing for only the second time in the MotoGP class at Catalunya, having missed the race in 2008 after crashing in the second free practice session and suffering concussion. Last year he started from pole and battled for the race victory throughout before eventually finishing second. Lorenzo won the 250cc race at the Catalan GP in 2007 from pole position. He is the first rider since **Valentino Rossi** in 2005 to finish on the podium at the first six MotoGP races of the year.

■ **Dani Pedrosa** has a great record at the Catalan GP and in 2008 he became the only rider other than Rossi to have won in all three classes at the Catalunya circuit. This is his 5th appearance at the circuit on a MotoGP machine; in 2006 he crashed on lap eleven after working his way up to 5th from 11th on the grid, in 2007 he was 3rd, less than half a second behind the winner and in 2008 he took the victory. Last year he arrived at the Catalan GP still suffering from injuries received at in a crash at Mugello and finished sixth.

■ **Andrea Dovizioso** finished on the podium in four successive years at the Catalan GP competing in the smaller classes from 2004 to 2007, including a win in the 250cc category in 2006 after qualifying on pole position. On his first MotoGP ride at the Catalan circuit in 2008 he finished an excellent 4th to be the first non-factory rider across the line. Last year he repeated the result with another 4th place finish.

■ **Nicky Hayden's** single podium at Catalunya was in his world championship winning year of 2006 when he finished second to Rossi. Last year he finished 10th at the Catalan Grand Prix – which was his best result since he had joined the Ducati factory team.

■ Catalunya is the only circuit at which **Randy de Puniet** has had two GP victories, having won the 250cc race in both 2003 and 2004, after qualifying on pole on both occasions. His best result on a MotoGP machine at the circuit was when he was 5th in 2007 riding a Kawasaki. In 2008 he crashed on lap eleven after qualifying in 4th to equal his best grid position of the year. Last year he had a great start to end the first lap in 4th, but slowly dropped back to finish in 8th.

Eight years of MotoGP at the Catalunya circuit

Catalunya is one of the twelve circuits that have been used every year since the four-stroke MotoGP class was introduced in 2002. During this eight year period there have been some incident filled MotoGP races at the Catalunya circuit:

2002 – Valentino Rossi won the first race of the four-stroke MotoGP era at the Catalunya circuit by just 0.88 seconds from his factory Honda team-mate Tohru Ukawa. The home crowd had something to cheer with Carlos Checa battling for the lead before coming home third on his factory Yamaha, with his team-mate Max Biaggi finishing fourth after giving the Yamaha M1 its first ever pole position.

2003 – An historic win for Loris Capirossi, giving Ducati their first ever victory in the premier-class of Grand Prix racing and the first in any class since Mike Hailwood won the 125cc race at the Ulster GP of 1959. Capirossi was followed home by Championship rivals Valentino Rossi and Sete Gibernau, both riding Honda machinery.

2004 – Local hero Sete Gibernau (Honda) qualified on pole but in the race he finished a close second to Valentino Rossi who gave Yamaha their first premier-class victory at the Catalunya circuit since Luca Cadalora in 1994. Marco Melandri's third place finish riding a Yamaha was his first ever podium in the top class.

2005 – Very much a repeat of the previous year with Sete Gibernau qualifying on pole but losing out in the race by a small margin to Valentino Rossi. As in 2004, Marco Melandri comes home third, but this time riding a Honda as Gibernau's team-mate.

2006 – The first attempt at running the race ended with a multi-rider crash at the first corner which eliminated Ducati team-mates Loris Capirossi and Sete Gibernau together with Marco Melandri (Honda). Valentino Rossi (Yamaha) qualified on pole, but made a bad start to end the first lap down in fifth place. He took the lead for the first time on lap nine, which he extended lap by lap for a comfortable five second win over Nicky Hayden (Honda) with Kenny Roberts third on the KR211V. Hayden left Catalunya with a 20 point lead in the championship, having been equal on points with Capirossi at the start of the day. This has been the only occasion during the MotoGP era when there has been no Spanish representative on the podium at the Catalan Grand Prix.

2007 – Casey Stoner (Ducati) won after a tremendous battle with Valentino Rossi (Yamaha). Dani Pedrosa (Honda) came home third just 0.39 seconds behind the winner, making this the closest podium during the 800cc era of MotoGP. Following Pedrosa was John Hopkins (Suzuki) and Randy de Puniet (Kawasaki) so that the first five riders home were riding motorcycles from five different manufacturers, the first time this had occurred in the premier-class since the Swedish GP in 1972 at Anderstorp.

2008 – Dani Pedrosa (Honda) got one of his great starts from second place on the grid to lead at the end of the lap and then cruised to a comfortable win, to become the first Spanish rider to win a MotoGP race at the Catalunya circuit. Valentino Rossi (Yamaha) fought through the field from ninth on the grid to finish second in front of main championship challenger Casey Stoner, who had given Ducati their first pole at the Catalan GP.

2009 – Valentino Rossi won the race from Jorge Lorenzo after one of the best ever final laps which ended with Rossi making a memorable pass at the last corner. Casey Stoner finished third, showing signs of the illness that was to have a major affect on his season. Following this race there was the unique situation of three riders tied on equal points (106) for the lead in the world championship standings.



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Catalunya

■ **Casey Stoner** crashed out of the Catalan GP in his debut year in the MotoGP class while leading the race on lap nine. He won the race in 2007 by just 0.069 seconds after a tremendous battle with **Valentino Rossi**. In 2008 he finished 3rd after scoring his first pole of the year which was also the first pole for Ducati at the Catalunya circuit. Last year he finished third while showing signs of the illness that was to ruin his year.



■ **Ben Spies** will be racing at the Catalunya circuit for the first time; the fifth circuit so far in 2010 where he has had no previous racing experience. Spies is currently the top Rookie in the championship standings, 10 points ahead of **Marco Simoncelli**.

■ **Marco Simoncelli** won the 250cc race in 2008 on his way to winning the world title. Last year he crashed on lap three while battling for the lead in the 250cc race. Although he managed to re-start, he then retired a couple of laps later with a damaged machine.

■ **Colin Edwards'** best result at the Catalan GP is 5th, which he has achieved on three occasions in 2004, 2006 and 2008.

■ **Marco Melandri** has twice finished on the podium at the Catalunya circuit in the premier-class, finishing third on both occasions; in 2004 riding a Yamaha and in 2005 on a Honda. Melandri won the 250cc race at the Catalan GP in 2002 on his way to winning the world title.



Jorge Lorenzo's improving statistics

Jorge Lorenzo's dominant back-to-back victories at the last two GP events have improved his already impressive statistics with regards to percentage MotoGP wins and podiums. As shown in the following tables, these statistics put him high up among the best riders of the modern-era of Grand Prix motorcycle racing (since 1975). In terms of percentage wins Lorenzo is ninth in the table just behind Kevin Schwantz and if he wins at the Catalan Grand Prix his % win figure will be almost identical to that of Eddie Lawson. With regard to podiums, he is sixth in the table below, with a percentage rate that again closely match those of Eddie Lawson.

Valentino Rossi still has the highest winning percentage among riders from the modern-era, but has slipped to second place in terms of podium finishes by a very small margin, behind three times world champion Wayne Rainey.

CAREER WINNING PERCENTAGE IN MOTOGP/500CC CLASS

Rider	starts	wins	win %
1.Valentino Rossi	170	78	45.9
2.Mick Doohan	137	54	39.4
3.Kenny Roberts (Snr)	58	22	37.9
4.Freddie Spencer	62	20	32.3
5.Wayne Rainey	83	24	28.9
6.Casey Stoner	71	20	28.2
7.Eddie Lawson	127	31	24.4
8.Kevin Schwantz	104	25	24.0
9.Jorge Lorenzo	40	9	22.5
10.Barry Sheene	98	19	19.4

CAREER PODIUM APPEARANCE PERCENTAGE IN MOTOGP/500CC CLASS

Rider	starts	podiums	podium%
1.Wayne Rainey	83	64	77.11
2. Valentino Rossi	170	131	77.06
3.Mick Doohan	137	95	69.3
4.Kenny Roberts (Snr)	58	39	67.2
5.Eddie Lawson	127	78	61.4
6.Jorge Lorenzo	40	24	60.0
7.Dani Pedrosa	75	41	54.7
8.Wayne Gardner	102	52	51.0
9.Freddie Spencer	62	31	50.0
Pat Hennen	24	12	50.0



#07 Gran Premi Aperol de Catalunya

Catalunya

■ **Aleix Espargaro's** 15th place in the 125cc race in 2005 is his only point scoring finish at the Catalunya circuit. He did not compete in the Catalan Grand Prix last year as he was without a ride.

■ **Hector Barbera** won the 125cc race at the Catalan GP back in 2004. He has finished third for the last two years in the 250cc GP at the Catalunya circuit; last year after qualifying on pole.



■ **Mika Kallio's** only podium at the Catalunya circuit was third in the 125cc race in 2005. Last year he finished ninth at the Catalan Grand Prix, a couple of seconds in front of factory Ducati rider Hayden.

■ **Loris Capirossi's** 5th place finish last year is his best result at the Catalan Grand Prix since he gave Ducati their first ever GP win there in 2003.

■ **Alvaro Bautista** has had some great results at the Catalan GP in recent years: he won the 125cc race at the Catalan GP from pole position in 2006 on his way to taking the world title, in 2008 he finished 2nd in the 250cc race after a tremendous battle with Simoncelli and last year he took the race victory in the 250cc class.

Moto2 facts & figures

■ **Toni Elias** has not managed to complete a race at the Catalunya circuit since he was third in the 250cc race in 2004; he missed the MotoGP race in 2005 due to injury, crashed on lap ten in 2006 and suffered a mechanical failure mid-way through the race in 2007. In 2008 he was black-flagged for failing to come in for a ride-through penalty for jumping the start and last year he crashed on lap ten.

■ **Andrea Iannone** won the 125cc race last year at the Catalan GP, after qualifying in eighth place on the grid. Iannone has an incredible record of winning six times from the seven occasions he has finished on the podium. The only occasion when he has finished on the podium and not won the race was at Brno last year when he was 3rd.

Yamaha take 56th win with four-stroke MotoGP bike

Jorge Lorenzo's victory at the Dutch TT was the 56th victory for Yamaha since the introduction of the four-stroke MotoGP class at the start of 2002, which is the same number of wins as achieved by Honda. However, as shown in the following table, Yamaha have been the most successful manufacturer over the 800cc MotoGP era with 29 wins compared to 21 for Ducati and 8 for Honda.

FOUR-STROKE MOTOGP WINS BY MANUFACTURER

56	1. Honda	(8 x 800cc, 48 x 990cc)
56	Yamaha	(29 x 800cc, 27 x 990cc)
28	3. Ducati	(21 x 800cc, 7 x 990cc)
1	4. Suzuki	(1 x 800cc)

Marc Marquez wins three successive races

Marc Marquez followed up his maiden GP victory at Mugello with a second one at Silverstone just two weeks later and then a third just six days later at the Dutch TT. This makes him the second youngest rider to win three successive races, as shown in the following table. If Marquez wins at the Catalan Grand Prix he will become the youngest ever rider to take four successive Grand Prix wins, taking the record from Valentino Rossi.

YOUNGEST RIDERS TO WIN THREE SUCCESSIVE GP RACES

1. Marco Melandri	17 years 29 days	125cc/German/Czech/Imola/1999
2. Marc Marquez	17 years 129 days	125cc/Italy/Great Britain/Dutch TT/2010
3. Valentino Rossi	18 years 140 days	125cc/France/Dutch TT/Imola/1997
4. Haruchika Aoki	19 years 54 days	125cc/Japan/Spain/Germany/1995
5. Jorge Lorenzo	19 years 136 days	250cc/Czech/Malaysia/Australia/2006



Spanish riders having great season

Spanish riders have had a tremendous year so far across all three Grand Prix classes. The following facts and figures illustrate the success of the Spanish riders in 2010:

Riders from Spain have won thirteen of the eighteen Grand Prix races held so far in 2010.

Spanish riders are currently lying first and second in the MotoGP standings, top the Moto2 table and occupy the top three places in the 125cc class.

Spanish riders have won the last five MotoGP races. This is the longest ever sequence of successive premier-class Grand Prix wins by Spanish riders.

Prior to this year, Spanish riders had only twice filled both of the top two places in the premier-class; at the French GP in 2004 and in Portugal in 2008. In the first six races of this year Spanish riders have already been one/two in the MotoGP class on three occasions.

Spanish riders have won the last sixteen 125cc races. The last non-Spanish winner in the 125cc class was Andrea Iannone at the Catalan Grand Prix last year. This is the longest sequence of successive 125cc GP wins by one nation in the 62 years history of Grand Prix racing.

The only non-Spanish rider to finish on the podium in the first six 125cc races of the year is Bradley Smith at Silverstone.

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Catalunya

■ **Mike di Meglio** won the 125cc race at the Catalan GP in 2008 on his way to winning the world title.

■ **Ratthapark Wilairot's** fourth place finish at the Dutch TT is the best ever Grand Prix result for a rider from Thailand.

■ **Sergio Gadea's** 23rd place finish at the Dutch TT was the first time this year that he has failed to score points. This means that only **Toni Elias** has finished in a points scoring position in every one of the Moto2 races.

■ **Julian Simon** finished fourth last year in the 125cc race at the Catalan Grand Prix after crossing the line first at the end of the penultimate lap and prematurely celebrating the victory.

125cc facts & figures

■ **Nico Terol's** second place finish in the 125cc race last year was his first top ten GP finish at the Catalunya circuit. Terol crashed out of the Catalan GP in 2008, just two laps from the end of the race while battling for the lead.

■ **Pol Espargaro** made his GP debut at the Catalan GP in 2006 and finished 13th to become the youngest ever GP points scorer at the age of 15 years and 8 days. He started from pole for the first time in his GP career in 2007 at the Catalan GP and finished 2nd. Last year he retired after just five laps with mechanical problems.



■ Following victories at Mugello, Silverstone and Assen, **Marc Marquez** will be aiming to take his fourth successive victory. The last rider to have four successive 125cc GP victories is **Youichi Ui** in 2001, also riding a Derbi. In the 61-year history of Grand Prix racing only two other Spanish riders have had four or more successive 125cc GP wins: **Angel Nieto** and **Jorge Martinez**.

■ **Bradley Smith's** sixth place finish in 2007 is his best result from four GP starts at the Catalunya circuit.

Grand Prix racing numbers

149 – The win by Marc Marquez at the Dutch TT was the 149th Grand Prix victory by Spanish riders in the 125cc class.

39 years ago – Race day in Barcelona will mark 39 years to the day since Barry Sheene, at just his sixth GP event, took his first Grand Prix victory in the 125cc race in Belgium in 1971.

19 – This will be the 19th successive year that the Circuit de Catalunya has been used since it was first included in the Motorcycle Grand Prix series in 1992. Only three current venues have a longer ongoing sequence of hosting Grand Prix events: Jerez, Mugello and Assen.

9 – Jorge Lorenzo's victory at the Dutch TT was his ninth win in the premier-class, which is the same number of victories as fellow Spanish riders Dani Pedrosa and Sete Gibernau. The only Spanish rider with more premier-class wins is Alex Criville with 15.

9 – Valentino Rossi is the most successful rider at the Catalunya circuit with nine victories (1 x 125cc, 2 x 250cc, 1 x 500cc, 5 x MotoGP). The next most successful is Max Biaggi who won at this circuit on four occasions – all in the 250cc class.

5 – Derbi riders have won the last five races in the 125cc race. This equals the longest ever sequence of successive 125cc GP wins achieved by Derbi, in 1988.

4 – Yamaha have been the most successful manufacturer at the Catalunya circuit during the four-stroke MotoGP era with four victories. Honda and Ducati have each won twice in the MotoGP class at the Catalan Grand Prix.

1 – Valentino Rossi's victory in 2006 is the only occasion that the MotoGP race at Catalunya has been won from pole position.

