

POST'S  
GUIDE  
*to the*  
PAN AM  
GAMES



CYCLING – ROAD

# GUIDE TO THE GAMES

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BY ERIC KOREEN, NATIONAL POST

## Venues

- Milton Time Trial Course
- Ontario Place West Channel

## Venue acronym

MRT, OPW

## Landmark status

*Low*

**MRT** The time trial will take place on a square of country roads starting near the cycling velodrome in Milton. The events there are non-ticketed, which means this could be some cheap entertainment, if you can find your way there, which you probably cannot.

*Medium*

**OPW** Ontario Place was a theme

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park from 1971-2011, full of vaguely dangerous waterslides. It is being redeveloped as “urban parkland,” or so says Ontario’s provincial government. On the premises is the Molson Amphitheatre, perhaps the best-known outdoor music venue in Toronto. During the Games, Slayer, Tim McGraw, Deep Purple and the Dave Matthews Band are playing concerts. The road race also travels through High Park in Toronto’s west end.

## **Transit options**

*Time trial* There is no transit and no parking. Many of the roads in the area will be closed as well.

*Road race* CIBC Pan Am Park, of which the West Channel is part, is served by a number of buses and

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streetcars:

- 509 Harbourfront streetcar from Union Station (subway Line 1)
- 511 Bathurst streetcar from Bathurst Station (Line 2)
- 29 Dufferin bus from Dufferin (Line 2) and Wilson (Line 1) stations
- 193 Exhibition Rocket temporary express bus from Dundas West Station (Line 2)

You can also take the GO Train to the Exhibition stop on the Lakeshore West line. If you must drive, you might find yourself frustrated by road and parking lot closures and Pan Am-related traffic.

For exact directions, try:

[Triplinx.ca](http://Triplinx.ca)

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## [TTC trip planner](#)

### **Schedule**

*July 22* Women's and men's time trials

*July 25* Women's and men's road race

[See the full competition schedule at the Pan Am website](#)

See the road closure maps for the [time trial](#) and the [road race](#)

### **How the sport works**

*Time trial*

For men, the race is 40 kilometres. For women, it is half of that. Riders start one at a time, and try to finish as fast as possible. The winner is the one who finishes in the shortest time. Simple.

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## *Road race*

The riders start in a bunch. The men's course is 165 kilometres, while the women's course is 82.5 kilometres. Both start at finish at Ontario Place. There are teams, so expect countries to work together to give their best rider the best chance to win through strategies involving drafting and pushing or limiting the pace. The first rider across the finish line wins. Duh.

## **Nations competing**

19 nations and 81 cyclists are entered in these four races.

## **Canada's team**

### *Time trial*

*Women* Laura Brown, Vancouver; Jasmin Glaesser, Coquitlam, B.C.

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*Men* Hugo Houle, Ste-Perpétue, Que.; Sean MacKinnon, Hamilton;

*Road race*

*Women* Allison Beveridge, Calgary; Glaesser; Kirsti Lay, Medicine Hat, Alta.

*Men* Guillaume Boivin, Longueuil, Que.; Houle; Rémi Pelletier-Roy, St-Augustin-de-Desmaures, Que.

## **Tournament format**

The time trial is raced against the clock, with the top three times earning medals. The road race is about competing against each other, with the first three to cross the line getting medals.

## **Results from 2011 Pan Ams**

*Time trial*

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## *Women*

1. Maria Luisa Calle, Colombia;
2. Evelyn Yesenia Garcia, El Salvador;
3. Laura Brown, Canada

## *Men*

1. Marlon Alirio Perez, Colombia;
2. Matias Medici, Argentina;
3. Carlos Ivan Oyarzun, Chile

## *Road race*

### *Women*

1. Arlenis Sierra, Cuba;
2. Yumari Gonzalez, Cuba;
3. Yudelmis Dominguez, Cuba

### *Men*

1. Marc De Maar, Netherlands Antilles;
2. Miguel Armando Ubeto, Colombia;
3. Arnold Alcolea, Cuba

## **Why it's worth watching**

Unless you want isolated looks

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at how cyclists' leg muscles put yours to shame, the road race is probably a more scintillating option — and also easier to get to for city dwellers. For the road race, High Park is on the short list of the prettiest places in Toronto. Packing a picnic and watching cyclists ride by at unsafe speeds does not seem like the worst way to spend a Saturday. And it has its own subway station on Line 2. The chance to watch brilliant tacticians on two wheels, seemingly far too close to each other, bending around corners of Toronto's roads will be breathtaking.

## **Competition outlook**

### *Time trial*

Canada's Brown won bronze in Mexico in 2011 and has a gold

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from the track in women's team pursuit earlier in these Games. Glaesser has a silver (omnium) and gold (team pursuit) from the track last week. The other two medallists from the 2011 women's time trial are also back. Only the men's bronze medallist returns from 2011.

## *Road race*

As you can imagine, the ongoing Tour de France takes a lot of the shine off of this event. Cuba's women's gold and silver medallists from 2011 return for another shot. None of the men's medallists from 2011 are here.