

# Cycling

France hosts the world's biggest annual cycling event called Tour de France. This takes place in July and lasts for 3 weeks. Basically, we can say that France is known for and is outstanding at cycling. This event attracts more than 12 million people and a television audience of 3,5 billion people worldwide.

**Joseph Groussard** is former French bicycle racer. He rode 9 editions of the Tour de France where he won one stage in the 1959 Tour de France and wore the yellow jersey as leader of the general classification for one day in 1960 Tour de France.

**Alberto Contador** is a Spanish former professional cyclist who won the Tour de France twice.

**LászlóBodrogi** is a Hungarian cyclist who raced in the Tour de France tournament and to date, is the only Hungarian cyclist to participate in the Tour.

And last, but not least is **Jan Ullrich**. He is a German former professional cyclist. He is already retired, but he participated in the 200. Summer Olympics where he won gold and silver medals.

# Soccer

Soccer is the most popular sport in **Germany**. The German national football team has won four FIFA World Cups.

Soccer is also one of the most popular sports in Spain, Hungary, and France.

Both Real Madrid and Barcelona are Spanish teams with some of the best players in the world. **Spain** has won two medals in football during Olympic Games tournaments.

Football is the most popular sport in **France**, followed by Rugby union. They have won two FIFA World Cups, one of only three teams that have entered every World Cup qualifying cycle.

**Hungary** has a respectable football history, having won 3 Olympic titles. Hungary revolutionized the sport in the 1950s, laying the tactical fundamentals of Total Football and dominating international football with the remarkable Golden Team which included legend FerencPuskás, top goalscorer of the 20th century.

# Swimming

**Katinka Hosszú** (the "*iron lady*") is a Hungarian competitive swimmer specialized in individual medley events. She is a three-time Olympic champion and a nine-time long-course world champion. Hosszú is the current world record holder in the 100-meter individual medley, 200-meter individual medley, 400-meter individual medley, 100-meter backstroke, and 200-meter backstroke.

**Laure Manaudou** is a retired French Olympic, world and European champion swimmer. She has held the world record in freestyle events between 200 and 1500 meters.

**Florian Wellbrock** is a German swimmer. He competed in the men's 1500 meter freestyle event at the 2016 Summer Olympics. At the 2019 World Aquatics Championships, he became the first swimmer to win both the 1500m freestyle and the 10km open-water race at an international competition.

**Mireia Belmonte García** is a Spanish Olympic, world, and European champion swimmer. She is the first female Olympic champion in the history of Spanish swimming and is widely considered to be the greatest Spanish swimmer of all time.

# Tennis

**Boris Franz Becker** is a German former world No. 1 professional tennis player. He won five year-end championships, 13 Masters Series titles and an Olympic gold medal in doubles. In 1989 he was voted the Player of the Year by both the ATP and the ITF.

**Tímea Babos** is a Hungarian professional tennis player. In September 2016, she reached her career-high singles ranking of world No. 25, and in July 2018, she reached No. 1 in the doubles rankings, becoming the first Hungarian player to reach the top of the WTA rankings in either singles or doubles.

**Jo-Wilfried Tsonga** is a French professional tennis player. A member of the Tennis Club de Paris (TCP), Tsonga's career-high ATP singles ranking is world No. 5, which he achieved in February 2012.

**Rafael "Rafa" Nadal Parera** is a Spanish professional tennis player currently ranked world No. 1 in men's single tennis by the Association of Tennis Professionals (ATP).