

**FEI**  
**WORLD  
CHAMPIONSHIPS**  
**PRATONI - ROMA**  
**2022**

EVENTING DRIVING



**FEI World  
Championships 2022  
Pratoni - Press Kit**

## Table of Contents

Introduction .....	3
Road to Paris 2024 .....	5
Pratoni del Vivaro – The Phoenix Rises.....	6
FEI World Championships 2022 Venue.....	8
Full Programme.....	9
Definite Entries .....	9
FEI World Rankings .....	10
FEI Eventing World Athlete Rankings.....	10
FEI Driving World Ranking – Four-in-Hand .....	10
Fast facts about the FEI Eventing and Driving World Championships 2022 .....	12
Past Winners .....	13
Eventing .....	13
Fast facts .....	14
Driving (Four-in-hand).....	16
Fast Facts.....	17
FEI online resources .....	18
FEI Media & Broadcast Contacts.....	19
Pratoni del Vivaro Organising Committee Press Contacts .....	20

## Introduction

From 15 to 25 September 2022, Pratoni del Vivaro (ITA) will host the FEI Eventing and Driving World Championships. An iconic equestrian location full of history and prestige, Pratoni del Vivaro has been fully revamped in the build-up to the Championships, ready to welcome the world's best Eventing and Driving athletes and horses, on their quest for medals, glory and the all-important Paris 2024 qualification slots in Eventing.

### **FEI World Championships: 69 years of top-class equestrian history**

The legacy of FEI World Championships spans decades, starting with Jumping in 1953, held in the iconic Parc des Princes, with 19 athletes on the start list representing 11 nations.

The first FEI Eventing World Championship was held in 1966 in Burghley (GBR), with the Argentinian athlete Carlos Moratorio claiming individual gold and Ireland – with a perfectly “mixed team” including two women and two men - claiming team gold. The FEI Eventing World Championships have gone on to be held every four years since 1966, making this the 15<sup>th</sup> edition.

Two locations have hosted the FEI Eventing World Championship more than once: Lexington and Burghley. Burghley hosted the first FEI Eventing World Championship in 1966 and then a second time in 1974; Lexington hosted the World Championship for the first time in 1978 and then again in 2010 as part of the FEI World Equestrian Games™.

Six nations have won the team Eventing World title: Canada, Great Britain, Germany, Ireland, New Zealand and USA. Great Britain leads the tally convincingly with 6 wins (1970, 1982, 1986, 1994, 2010, 2018) followed by Germany, New Zealand and USA with two wins each and Ireland and Canada with unique wins in 1966 and 1978 respectively.

Individually, Great Britain is also in the lead with five individual titles - Mary Gordon Watson in 1970, Lucinda Green in 1982, Virginia Leng in 1986, Zara Phillips in 2006 and Rosalind Carter in 2018 (all women!). New Zealand has three individual titles - Blyth Tait in 1990 and 1998 and Vaughn Jefferies in 1994 making it a three in a row for New Zealand. Germany has two individual wins - Michael Jung in 2010 and Sandra Auffarth in 2014; USA also has two individual wins - Bruce Davidson with back-to-back wins in 1974 and 1978. And then we have Argentina and France. Argentina produced the first individual winner - Carlos Moratorio in 1966 and France's Jean Teulere in 2002. Both Bruce Davidson and Blyth Tait are the only athletes to have two individual FEI Eventing World titles to their name.

Women have participated alongside men in all the FEI Eventing World Championships since their inception in 1966. In terms of the individual medals tally, men have a slight advantage with 8 wins for them versus 6 for female athletes. Interesting that all GBR athletes to have won the individual title (5) are women.

For Driving, the first World Championship took place in 1972 in Münster (GER), and they have been held consistently every two years with the exception of 2020 which was cancelled due to covid-19, making this the 25<sup>th</sup> edition of the FEI Driving World Championships. Apeldoorn in the Netherlands has hosted the FEI Driving World Championships three times (1976, 1982 and 1988). Two locations have hosted the Championships twice: Riesenbeck (GER) and Kecskemet (HUN).

To date, only men have won the individual title and the sport is dominated by men. Women take part in Driving sport and participate in the four-in-hand Championships but are less prevalent than the men at this level of the sport, and tend to be more involved at singles and pairs level, as well as the ponies circuit. Of the 37 registered drivers on the definite entries for the 2022 edition, two are women.

In the following pages, you will find all the information you need to cover the FEI World Championships 2022 in Pratoni del Vivaro (ITA).

## Road to Paris 2024



The FEI World Championships 2022 in Pratoni del Vivaro will provide the first qualifying opportunity in Eventing for the **Paris 2024 Olympic Games with 7** team qualifying spots on offer. Note the host nation (France) is automatically qualified.

## Pratoni del Vivaro – The Phoenix Rises

By Sarah Dance

For lovers of equestrian sport, the name 'Pratoni' sparks memories of past glories. The setting for the Rocca di Papa Equestrian Sports Centre, in the heart of the beautiful Parco dei Castelli Romani, it first became a famous venue for elite equestrianism when it staged the cross country phase of the Eventing at the 1960 Rome Olympic Games. For 50 years, until 2010, Pratoni hosted many international events across the disciplines, from the first Endurance World Championship in 1986 to the 1998 FEI World Equestrian Games™, and two FEI Driving Singles World Championships in 2006 and 2010.

Then it entered a fallow period and the eyes of the world looked away, other venues around the globe attracting the big events and famous names. The fertile parkland fell prey to campers who used the wood from the obstacles and jumps for their fires; to mountain bikers whose tyres tore into the formerly manicured turf, and to the wild boar and moles, protected species who continue to cause havoc during their nocturnal rampages.

But now, in 2022, Pratoni has arisen from the ashes and for two weeks in September, it will be in focus as it stages the FEI Eventing and Driving Four-in-Hand World Championships.

The next phase in Pratoni's history began with the sale of the land to a conglomerate of local residents. A major fundraising project was undertaken by the Federazione Italiana Sport Equestri (FISE) to provide the reinvestment in Pratoni to make it fit once again for top-level equestrian sport. Thankfully, the budget was secured before the Covid-19 pandemic and the planning had already begun.

The man behind much of the rejuvenation is Giuseppe Della Chiesa (ITA). A former eventer and show jumper who was also event director at the 1998 FEI World Equestrian Games™, he has a special bond with Pratoni as it was his father-in-law who purchased the land for the 1960 Olympics. Sadly, he died before he could see his vision realised, but Giuseppe retains the family association, and together with his dedicated colleagues, has diligently prepared the venue for the World Championships 2022 and secure a legacy beyond this year.

There have been many challenges in creating the new Pratoni. Most of the infrastructure has had to be rebuilt, such as the wooden perimeter fences, the grandstands and the stabling area. The stabling was an early priority with the construction of 320 large loose boxes, an onsite veterinary clinic and a spacious washing and cooling area. Refreshing the arenas with new sand and fibre surfaces was another part of the project.

One of the biggest undertakings, both logistically and financially, has been to build the cross-country fences and marathon obstacles. Giuseppe has designed the ridden phase, but Josef Middendorf (GER) was brought in for the Driving. It was important to create mobile obstacles as a wooden structure has a lifetime of about

five years if it is fixed to the ground, but ten if it can be removed and stored properly.

One area of the site which remains in use since the heyday is the picture-perfect grass arena where the dressage, jumping and cones are held. New grandstands and fencing have been built, and its position next to a hill, sheltered by trees, is ideal for these phases. Another aspect of Pratoni which is great for large-scale events are the natural viewing areas on the hills in the parkland. Nearly all the eight marathon obstacles and most of the ridden fences can be viewed from the same area, which enhances the spectator experience. The top of the most central hill on the course provides a bird's eye view of the event as it happens and will be where the control box and commentary areas are positioned.

Much of the rebuilding of Pratoni is about adapting to the requirements of the modern sport as well as enabling instant communication, while preserving the natural beauty of the park and not negatively impacting the environment.

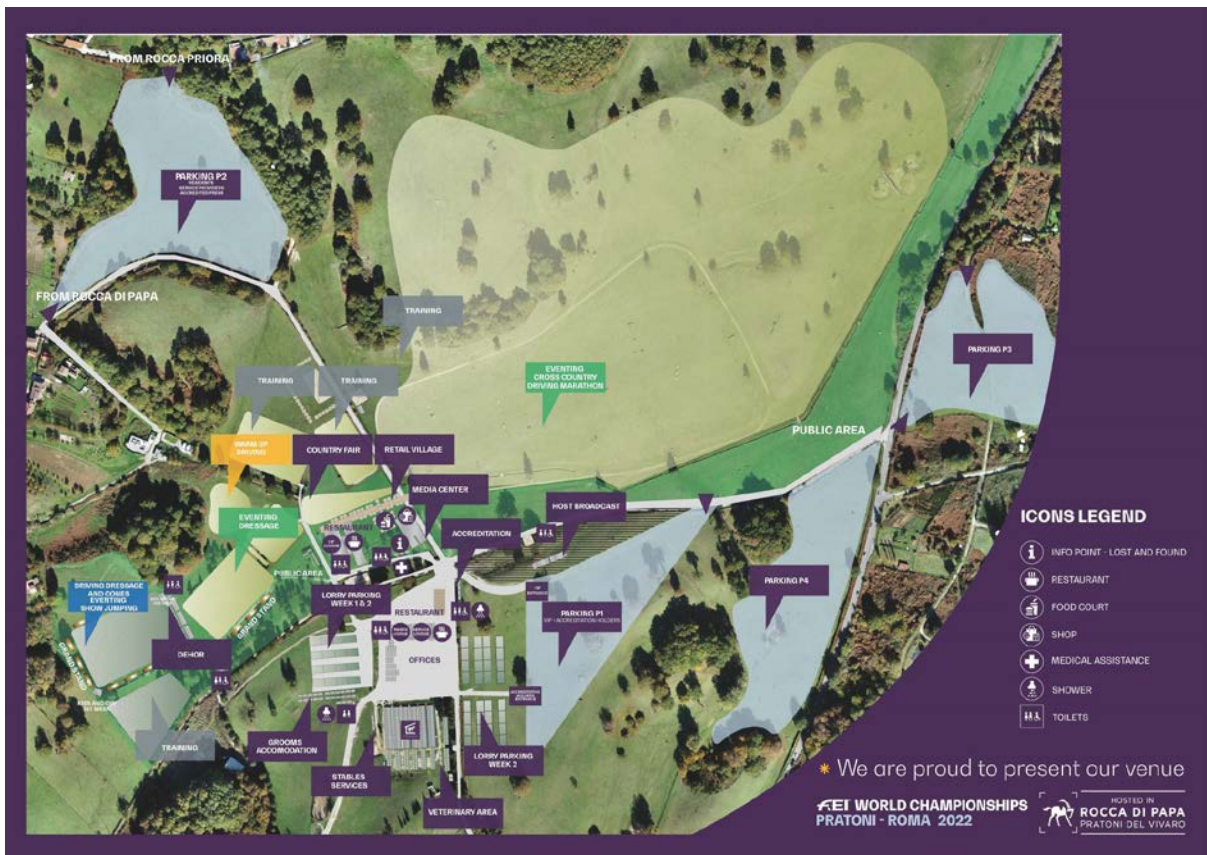
# FEI World Championships 2022 Venue

## Venue Layout

For the FEI Eventing and Driving World Championships 2022, the venue will have:

- 3 Competing areas
- 4 Training areas
- 2 restaurants
- 1 media centre and broadcasting area
- 4 Parking lots









## Venue Map







Check all the details from the FEI Eventing and Driving World Championships 2022 venue [here](#).



## Full Programme

	14 Wed	15 Thu	16 Fri	17 Sat	18 Sun	19 Mon	20 Tue	21 Wed	22 Thu	23 Fri	24 Sat	25 Sun
<b>FEI EVENTING</b>												
<b>FEI DRIVING</b>												

 Competition day    
  Day with individual medals    
  Day with team medals    
  Ceremonies

You can check the full programme and competition schedule [here](#).

## Definite Entries

Check all the athletes participating at the FEI World Championships 2022 in Pratoni (ITA):

[FEI Eventing World Championship 2022](#)

[FEI Driving World Championship 2022](#)

## FEI World Rankings (as per September 2022)

### FEI Eventing World Athlete Rankings

Ranking	Athlete	Country
1	Oliver Townend	GBR
2	Piggy March	GBR
3	Tim Price	NZL
4	Jonelle Price	NZL
5	Rosalind Canter	GBR
6	Pippa Funnell	GBR
7	Martin Boyd	USA
8	William Coleman	USA
9	Michael Jung	GER
10	Laura Collett	GBR

See the full FEI Eventing World Athlete Rankings [here](#).

### FEI Driving World Ranking – Four-in-Hand

Ranking	Athlete	Country
1	Boyd Exell	AUS
2	Koos de Ronde	NED
3	Jérôme Voutaz	SUI
4	Glenn Geerts	BEL
5	Ijsbrand Chardon	NED
6	Mareike Harm	GER
7	Bram Chardon	NED
8	Dries Degrieck	BEL
9	Benjamin Aillaud	FRA
10	Michael Brauchle	GER

See the full FEI Driving World Ranking – Four-in-Hand [here](#)



## Fast facts about the FEI Eventing and Driving World Championships 2022

### Total number of athletes:

- **Eventing:** 90 athletes
- **Driving:** 37 athletes

### Total number of Horses: 420

### Total competing nations:

- **Eventing:** 27 nations
- **Driving:** 16 nations

### Youngest Athletes

- **Eventing:** Nadja Minder (SUI), Jarno Verwimp (BEL) and Alina Dibowski (GER) – 22 years old
- **Driving:** Degrieck Dries (BEL) and Anna Sandmann (GER) – 27 years old

### Oldest Athletes

- **Eventing:** Andrew Hoy (AUS) – 63 years old
- **Driving:** Ijsbrand Chardon (NED) and Ernesto Colman (URU) – 61 years old

### Most Appearances

- **Eventing:** Mark Todd (NZL), Andrew Nicholson (NZL), Philipp Dutton (AUS) and Karin Donckers (BEL) – 7 participations
- **Driving:** Ijsbrand Chardon (NED) – 17 participations

### Nations competing for the first time:

- **Eventing:** Lithuania and Thailand
- **Driving:** Romania and Uruguay

## Past Winners

### Eventing



#### Most Medals (by country)

Country	Individual	Team	Total
Great Britain	14	11	25
United States	8	5	13
Germany	6	7	13
New Zealand	6	3	9
France	1	6	7
Ireland	3	2	5
Australia	1	2	3
Canada	0	2	2
Argentina	1	1	2

#### Most Medals (by athlete)

Athlete	Country	Total
Bruce Davidson Sr.	USA	6
William Fox-Pitt	GBR	6
Helmut Rethemeier	GER	4
Blyth Tait	NZL	4
Mark Todd	NZL	4

#### Reigning Champions (FEI Eventing World Championships – WEG Tryon 2018)

EVENT	GOLD	SILVER	BRONZE
<b>Individual</b>	<b>Rosalind Canter &amp; Allstar B</b> (GBR)	<b>Padraig McCarthy &amp; Mr Chunky</b> (IRL)	<b>Ingrid Klimke &amp; Sap Hale Bob Old</b> (GER)
<b>Team</b>	<b>Great Britain</b> (Rosalind Canter & Allstar B / Piggy March & Quarrycrest Echo / Tom McEwen & Toledo de Kerser / Gemma Stevens & Arctic Soul)	<b>Ireland</b> (Padraig McCarthy & Mr Chunky / Sarah Ennis & Horseware Steller / Sam Watson & Horseware Ardagh / Cathal Daniels & Rioghan Rua)	<b>France</b> (Thibaut Vallete & Qing du Briot Ifce / Maxime Livio & Opium de Verrieres / Sidney Dufresne & Tresor Mail / Donatien Schauly & Pivoine des Touches)

## **Fast facts**

**90 athletes** representing **27 nations** from five continents have been finalised for the highlight of the Eventing season.

First FEI Eventing World Championship: **1966 in Burghley** (GBR)

**Bruce Davidson Sr. (USA) and William Fox-Pitt** are the athletes, who have won the most World Championship medals with 6

**Great Britain** is the team with most medals with 25. United States and Germany are second with 13.

**Youngest athlete(s):** Nadja Minder (SUI), Jarno Verwimp (BEL) and Alina Dibowski (GER) – 22 years old

**Oldest athlete:** Andrew Hoy (AUS) – 65 years old

**Most appearances:** Mark Todd (NZL), Andrew Nicholson (NZL), Philipp Dutton (AUS) and Karin Donckers (BEL) – 7 participations

### **Pratoni by numbers: FEI Eventing World Championship statistics**

**13.9** The best ever dressage score (in today's scoring), performed by Bettina Hoy and Woodsides Ashby (GER) at Jerez de la Frontera (ESP) in 2002

**22.0** The best ever finishing score, by Michael Jung (GER) and La Biosthetique Sam at Kentucky (USA) in 2010

**4** The number of gold medals won by Blyth Tait (NZL) - 2 team, 2 individual

**1** The number of riders to have won back-to-back individual titles (Bruce Davidson, 1974 and 1978)

**3** The number of former world champions in the field (Michael Jung, Sandra Auffarth, GER, Rosalind Canter, GBR)

**1** The number of gold medal partnerships from 2018 (Tom McEwem riding Toledo de Kerker, GBR)

**6** The number of CCI5\*-L winning horses in the field (FischerChipmunk FRH, Ballaghmor Class, London 52, Toledo de Kerker, Willingapark Clifford, Cartania)

**[Check out the FEI History Hub for more info and stats](#)**



## Driving (Four-in-hand)

### Most Medals (by country)

#### Driving Four-in-Hand

Country	Individual	Team	Total
Netherlands	19	18	37
Hungary	17	13	30
Germany	7	17	24
Great Britain	6	7	13
United States	5	4	9
Belgium	4	5	9
Sweden	4	4	8
Switzerland	3	3	6
Australia	6	0	6
Poland	0	3	3



### Most Medals (by athlete)

Athlete	Country	Total
Ijsbrand Chardon	NED	29
Christoph Sandmann	GER	14
Michael Freund	GER	12
Györgyi Bardos	HUN	10
George Bowman	GBR	9
Koos de Ronde	NED	9
László Juhasz	HUN	9
Chester Weber	GER	8

### Reigning Champions (FEI Driving World Championships - Tryon 2018)

EVENT	GOLD	SILVER	BRONZE
Individual	Boyd Exell (AUS)	Chester Webber (USA)	Edouard Simonet (BEL)
Team	United States (Chester Weber / James Fairclough & Misdee Wrigley Miller)	Netherlands (Koos de Ronde / Bram Chardon & Ijsbrand Chardon)	Belgium (Edouard Simonet / Glenn Geerts & Dries Degrieck)



## **Fast Facts**

**37 athletes** representing **16 nations** have been finalised for the highlight of the Driving season.

**First FEI Driving World Championship:** 1972 in Münster (GER)

**Ijsbrand Chardon** (NED) is the athlete with the most World Championship medals with 29 (13 Gold, 9 Silver and 7 Bronze).

**Netherlands** is the team with most medals with 37. **Hungary** is second (30) and **Germany** is third (24).

**[Check out the FEI History Hub for more info and stats](#)**

## FEI online resources

Keep up to date with the latest news from the **FEI Eventing & Driving World Championships 2022** in Pratoni del Vivaro (ITA) [here](#).

**Schedules** and **results** will be available [here](#).

**The FEI World Championships 2022** in Pratoni del Vivaro will be broadcast live on **FEI TV**, the FEI's official broadcasting platform.

**Images & Content:** Free images for editorial purposes are available from the [FEI Flickr account](#) in the photostream and in the dedicated album.

**Video footage** will be available at <https://fei.broadcast-content.tv/> with the following login details: [media@fei.org](mailto:media@fei.org) Password: **FEI2018**

**Biographies** from the main participants are available [here](#)

You can find the **FEI** on [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#), [Instagram](#) and [FEI YouTube](#)

Join the action on Social Media by using the hashtags **#Pratoni2022** **#ChampionsAsOne** and **#FEIWorldChampionships2022**

Get all the info (results, medal winners, pictures...) from all past FEI World Championships and FEI World Equestrian Games on the [FEI History Hub](#).

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