

João Correia

Nationality	POR
City	Brooklyn (USA) and Monaco (MON)
Birth date	10.02.1975
Age	34
Height	174 cm
Weight	64 kg
Pro since	2008
Cervélo since	2010
Previous teams	2008 – 2009: Bissel Pro Cycling Team
Career highlights	3 Stage 3 Valley of the Sun Stage Race (USA) 2008
Website	http://www.joaosome.com/

Biography

The unlikelyst of Cervélo new riders for 2010. Correia raced pro at 21 before entering the media industry, but he never lost his dream of racing with the world's best. Correia trimmed more than 60 pounds off his frame to regain the lightness and agility to race with the elite pros. He rejoined the pro ranks in 2008 with an American domestic team and gets the nod at 34 to join Cervélo this season for one of the most inspiring stories in the peloton.

Hobbies:

I enjoy reading and traveling with my family and finding great breakfast spots with my wife in Brooklyn where we live.

Field of study:

International business and political science

Favorite charity:

[The Davis Phinney Foundation](#). Davis was an inspiration to me as an athlete in the '90s, and after being diagnosed with Parkinson's disease became an inspiration to thousands by not only showing courage in coping with the disease but being a leader in the community for the fight against Parkinson's.

Favorite training ride:

It is hard to pick one favorite training ride but I have two that stand out in my mind. The first is leaving from Sleepy Hollow, New York, where I grew up after my parents immigrated from Portugal, and riding through Westchester to meet the Gimbles ride on Route 22 just outside White Plains, doing the ride and then heading back to Tarrytown with my best friend, Chris, talking about all the things that happened on the ride. The second is a ride from Lecchi in Chianti (Tuscany) through Gaiole in Chianti up the climb to the Badia a Coltibuono, where my wife and I were married, to Radda in Chianti and then back to Lecchi for a cup of coffee at Paolo's. It has the most beautiful scenery in the world and some of my happiest memories.

Favorite race:

World Championships

Favorite Cervélo bike:

The S3 for sure. That bike is a missile.

Product development goal for 2010:

Cycling is probably the best example of a sport in which amateur athletes can enjoy better equipment than most professionals. I am fortunate to be part of a team that has as a key goal to constantly improve on the equipment of its partners for the benefit of everyday cyclists. It's a goal that isn't simple when you already enjoy some of the best equipment in the world but one that I am embracing and committed to fulfilling.

Personal cycling goal for 2010:

My personal goal is to be an integral member of the team who contributes and does his job from the first training camp in November to the last race of the season in October. As a secondary goal I would like to once again wear my country's national champion's jersey in races outside Portugal to represent the Portuguese immigrant community scattered throughout the world.

Personal career highlight:

Representing Portugal at the World Championships was always a really special feeling. Then I would have to say finishing well in the National Time Trial Championships in 2007 after losing 50 pounds.

Favorite cycling moment:

Again, it's difficult to pick just one, so I'll go with two. The first was watching Greg Lemond win the 1989 Tour de France in the last-stage time trial to beat Laurent Fignon by 9 seconds, and the second was watching Lance Armstrong come back from a crash to win the Luz Ardiden stage of the 2003 Tour de France.

How and when did you begin riding?

My father took me to my first race when I was six years old, in 1981.

When did you know you wanted to be a pro?

When I realized that I would rather be riding my bike than sitting in an office

What was the proudest moment in your life?

Watching the birth of my children and teaching my son how to ride a bike when he was three

Why do you want to be part of Cervélo TestTeam?

Because on this team I found people who shared similar values to my own and believed in me. It's a team full of people who are committed to making the world of cycling a better sport for athletes, sponsors and fans alike.

What do you want to do after your career in cycling?

I would like to get an MBA at a top-tier business school and return to the corporate world. Preferably, I would stay involved in cycling but in a role that doesn't keep me away from my family as much as I have been the last few years.

Cycling tip for the average rider:

Cycling is one of the few sports that allow people of a wide skill set to enjoy doing the same athletic activity together. If you are a rider who is interested in discovering new places through the bike, then I would say don't be afraid to go far and wide to meet new people and discover new cultures. If you are a competitive cyclist at any level and your goal is to get better, then set achievable goals, review them periodically and never ever let anybody tell you that something can't be done.