

Ignatas Konovalovas

Nationality	LTU
City	Marseille (FRA)
Birth date	08.12.1985
Age	24
Height	189 cm
Weight	75 kg
Pro since	2008
Cervélo since	2009
Previous teams	2008 – 2008: Crédit Agricole
Career highlights	9 TT World Championships 2009
	1 TT National Championships (LTU) 2009
	1 Stage 21. Etappe Giro d'Italia (ITA) 2009
	1 Giro del Mendrisiotto (SUI) 2009
	1 TT National Championships (LTU) 2008
	1 Stage 2 Tour de Luxembourg (LUX) 2008
	1 TT National Championships (LTU) 2006

Biography

Another young gun who took full advantage of the opportunities provided by his move to Cervélo, the 6-foot-2 Konovalovas notched the best results of his career in 2009. He took an early win at the Giro del Mendrisiotto in Italy before scoring a major victory in claiming the prestigious final time trial on the cobblestoned roads of Rome to close out the 2009 Giro d'Italia. A three-time national time trial champion in his native Lithuania, Konovalovas proved his worth with a solid top-10 at the World Championships time trial in Mendrisio to close out the season. Konovalovas will continue to hone his time trial progress in 2010 with an eye toward someday winning the world title and the Olympic gold medal.

Hobbies:

Movies, reading

Favorite charity:

In Lithuania, we have a charity program for orphans. I need to read more about this—I've seen some TV programs. It's hard to truly understand when you've always had your parents by your side.

Favorite training ride:

A five- or six-hour ride, on a sunny and hot summer day, in a beautiful place, with good music, dreaming about the Tour de France

Favorite race:

World Championships

Favorite Cervélo bike:

P4, the best I could dream for

Product development goal for 2010:

To give my best to help our sponsors improve their equipment so we will feel better and be faster

Personal cycling goal for 2010:

To find out what I can do in big races

Personal career highlight:

9th in the World Championships TT 2009 and 29th in the Olympic Games RR 2008

How and when did you begin riding?

At the end of 1999, because cycling was always a big part of my life (my mum is a cyclist and my dad is a coach)

When did you know you wanted to be a pro?

Since I started riding my bike

What was the proudest moment in your life?

My stage win in the Giro d'Italia

Why do you want to be part of Cervélo TestTeam?

Because in my opinion it is the best team in the world for development for everybody—sponsors, young riders, experienced riders, directors, etc.

Favorite cycling moment:

Giro d'Italia 2009

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

I want to help young people from my country develop in cycling and become professional cyclists and perhaps create a new pro team in Lithuania.

Cycling tip for the average rider:

One day of success or one victory pays you back for all the pain and all the work you've done over the years.