

Tour de France celebrates 100th anniversary

1903: *Henri Desgrange*, editor of *L'Auto* newspaper, conceives major cycling race to build sales. First Tour, won by *Maurice Garin*, is so successful that rival paper *Le Velo* shuts down

1904: Cheating crisis – riders take trains and fans leave nails in road to scupper favourites' rivals

1905: *René Pottier* wins inaugural mountain climb on *Ballon d'Alsace*

1907-08: *Lucien Petit-Bresson* becomes first double winner

1910-11: High mountain stages through *Pyrenees* and *Alps* introduced

1919: *Yellow jersey* introduced to help spectators identify race leader

1930: Radical changes include cycle manufacturers' teams replaced by national squads and riders all on identical bikes

1937: *Derailleur systems* permitted – enabled change of gear without having to remove wheels

1952: Tour televised for first time

1953-55: *Louison Bobet* seals first straight hat-trick of Tour victories

1957: Great time-triallist *Jacques Anquetil* wins first of five Tours

1967: Death of Briton *Tom Simpson* on *Mont Ventoux* leads to Tour's first drug tests

1969: In a stunning debut, Belgian *Eddy Merckx* wins by 17 mins and also claims points classification green jersey and climbers' prize – only rider to date to win all three categories in one year

1975: Polka dot *King of the Mountains* jersey adopted

1985: *Bernard Hinault* joins Anquetil, Merckx on 5 wins

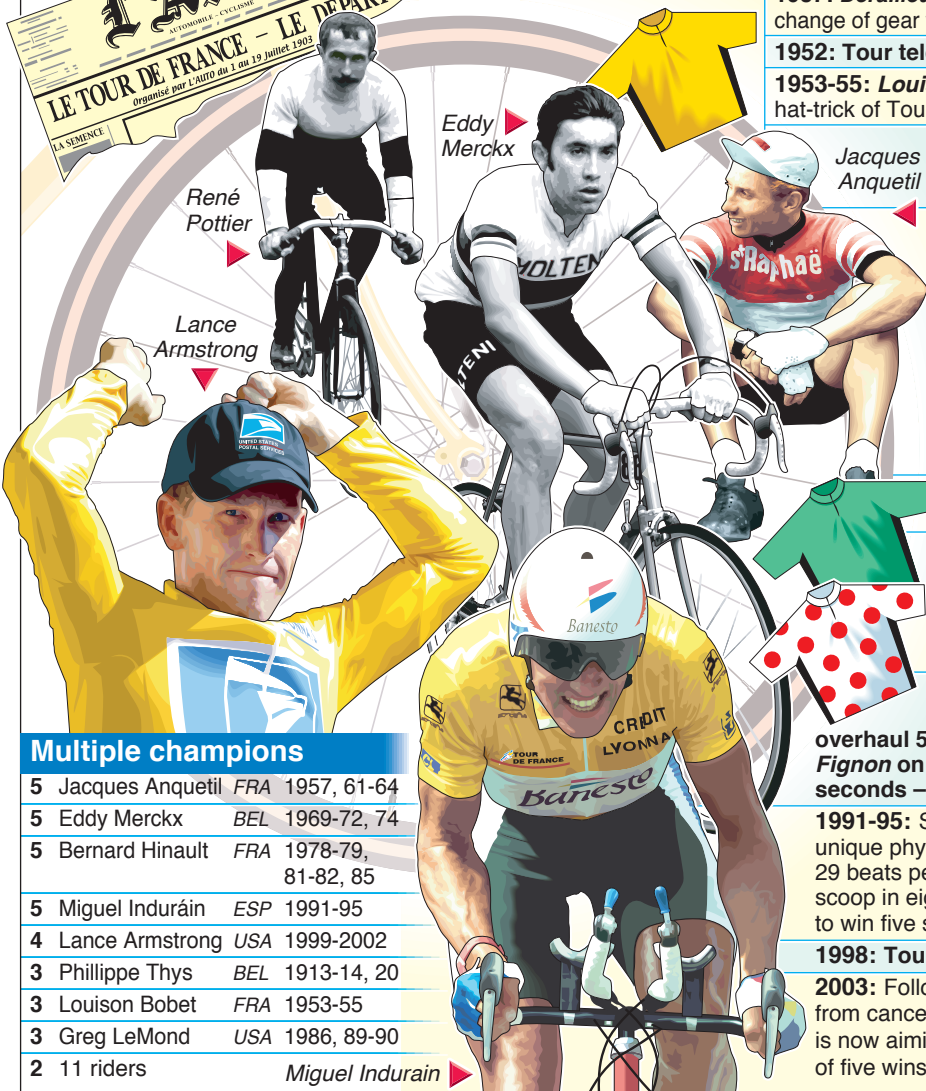
1986: American *Greg LeMond* becomes Tour's first non-European winner

1989: New aerodynamic bike allows LeMond to overhaul 50-second lead of *Laurent Fignon* on final stage to win by eight seconds – narrowest ever victory

1991-95: Spaniard *Miguel Indurain's* unique physique – resting heartbeat of 29 beats per minute and lungs able to scoop in eight litres of air – enable him to win five straight Tours

1998: Tour rocked by doping scandal

2003: Following his amazing comeback from cancer, American *Lance Armstrong* is now aiming to equal Indurain's record of five wins in a row



Multiple champions

5	Jacques Anquetil	FRA	1957, 61-64
5	Eddy Merckx	BEL	1969-72, 74
5	Bernard Hinault	FRA	1978-79, 81-82, 85
5	Miguel Induráin	ESP	1991-95
4	Lance Armstrong	USA	1999-2002
3	Phillippe Thys	BEL	1913-14, 20
3	Louison Bobet	FRA	1953-55
3	Greg LeMond	USA	1986, 89-90
2	11 riders		

Miguel Indurain ▶