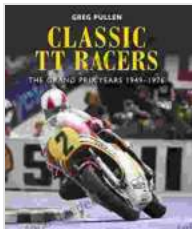


# Classic TT Racers: The Grand Prix Years 1949-1976

The Classic TT is a motorcycle race held annually on the Isle of Man. It is one of the most prestigious and challenging races in the world, and has been won by some of the greatest riders in history.



## Classic TT Racers: The Grand Prix Years 1949-1976

by Greg Pullen

★★★★☆ 4.8 out of 5

Language : English

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Text-to-Speech : Enabled

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Enhanced typesetting: Enabled

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The Grand Prix years of the Classic TT, from 1949 to 1976, were a golden age for the race. During this time, the TT was dominated by some of the greatest riders and machines of all time.

## Riders

Some of the most famous riders to compete in the Classic TT Grand Prix years include:

- **John Surtees:** A four-time world champion, Surtees is one of the most successful riders in the history of the TT. He won the Senior TT five times, and also won the Junior TT and Lightweight TT.
- **Mike Hailwood:** Another four-time world champion, Hailwood is considered by many to be the greatest TT rider of all time. He won the TT a record 14 times, including six victories in the Senior TT.
- **Giacomo Agostini:** An 15-time world champion, Agostini is one of the most successful riders in the history of motorcycle racing. He won the TT seven times, including four victories in the Senior TT.
- **Phil Read:** An eight-time world champion, Read is one of the most successful riders in the history of the TT. He won the TT seven times, including four victories in the Senior TT.
- **Barry Sheene:** A two-time world champion, Sheene was one of the most popular riders of the 1970s. He won the TT five times, including two victories in the Senior TT.

## Machines

The Grand Prix years of the Classic TT were also a time of great innovation in motorcycle technology. Some of the most iconic machines to compete in the TT during this time include:

- **Norton Manx:** The Norton Manx was one of the most successful racing motorcycles of all time. It was ridden to victory in the TT by some of the greatest riders in history, including John Surtees, Mike Hailwood, and Phil Read.

- **MV Agusta:** The MV Agusta was another highly successful racing motorcycle. It was ridden to victory in the TT by Giacomo Agostini, one of the greatest riders of all time.
- **Honda RC166:** The Honda RC166 was a revolutionary motorcycle that dominated the TT in the 1960s. It was ridden to victory by Mike Hailwood, who won the TT four times in a row on the RC166.
- **Yamaha YZR500:** The Yamaha YZR500 was another dominant motorcycle in the TT. It was ridden to victory by Barry Sheene, who won the TT three times in a row on the YZR500.
- **Suzuki RG500:** The Suzuki RG500 was a powerful motorcycle that was ridden to victory in the TT by Kenny Roberts in 1978.

## Races

The Grand Prix years of the Classic TT were a time of great racing. Some of the most memorable races from this era include:

- **1955 Senior TT:** John Surtees won the Senior TT in a record-breaking time, averaging over 100 mph for the first time in TT history.
- **1967 Senior TT:** Mike Hailwood won the Senior TT by a record margin of over three minutes.
- **1972 Senior TT:** Giacomo Agostini won the Senior TT for the fourth time, becoming the first rider to win the TT seven times.
- **1976 Senior TT:** Barry Sheene won the Senior TT for the second time in a row, becoming the first rider to win the TT five times.

The Classic TT Grand Prix years from 1949 to 1976 were a golden age for the race. During this time, the TT was dominated by some of the greatest riders and machines of all time. The races were often thrilling and unpredictable, and the memories of this era continue to inspire fans of motorcycle racing today.

## Image Gallery



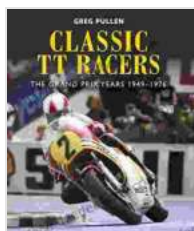


Mike Hailwood is considered by many to be the greatest TT rider of all time, winning the TT a record 14 times.





Phil Read was one of the most successful riders in the history of the TT, winning the TT seven times.



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