

For Immediate Release

**The Legendary World Champions Garry Kasparov and Viswanathan Anand
Join Croatia Grand Chess Tour as Wildcards**

June 10, 2021 – The Grand Chess Tour (GCT) has confirmed the field for the Croatia Grand Chess Tour leg that will include four full tour participants and seven wildcards. With legendary World Champions Garry Kasparov and Vishy Anand as well as the World Championship title challenger Ian Nepomniachtchi from Russia the Croatia Grand Chess Tour promises to be action packed.

For the Rapid & Blitz Tournament in Zagreb, similarly to the Paris Grand Chess Tour, the GCT also selected to feature split wildcards where Garry Kasparov will play the blitz portion of the tournament, while Croatian Grandmaster Ivan Saric will be fighting it out in the rapid games. Their combined score will be used to determine final standings. Croatia Grand Chess Tour will include 9 rounds of rapid chess and 18 rounds of blitz chess for a total prize fund of \$150,000.

"The Croatia Grand Chess Tour will feature quite unique competition," said GCT Executive Director, Michael Khodarkovsky. "Fans can expect five days of exhilarating chess demonstrated by the famed world champions, like Garry Kasparov and Vishy Anand, as well as a new wave of the top players like the 2021 World Chess Champion Challenger, Ian Nepomniachtchi and the 2021 champion of the prestigious super tournament in Wijk aan Zee, 22 years old Dutch Grandmaster Jorden Van Foreest."

The confirmed field for Croatia Grand Chess Tour is as follows:

Croatia Rapid & Blitz, July 6 - July 11, 2021

#	Player Name	Player Type	Country	FIDE Rating	URS Rating
1	Vachier-Lagrave, Maxime	Full Tour Player	FRA	2758	2797
2	Grischuk, Alex	Full Tour Player	RUS	2777	2782
3	Mamedyarov, Shakhriyar	Full Tour Player	AZE	2770	2768
4	Giri, Anish	Full Tour Player	NED	2776	2763
5	Kasparov, Garry (blitz)	Wildcard	RUS/CRO	2812	2636
6	Anand, Viswanathan	Wildcard	IND	2753	2764
7	Nepomniachtchi, Ian	Wildcard	RUS	2789	2788
8	Saric, Ivan (rapid)	Wildcard	CRO	2648	2659
9	Duda, Jan-Krzysztof	Wildcard	POL	2683	2726
10	Korobov, Anton	Wildcard	UKR	2729	2748
11	Van Foreest, Jorden	Wildcard	NED	2701	2651

The exclusive tournament broadcast will be streamed live on grandchesstour.org, kasparovchess.com and on [kasparovchess Twitch.tv channel](https://www.twitch.tv/kasparovchess).

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About the Grand Chess Tour (<http://grandchesstour.org>)

The Grand Chess Tour is a circuit of international events, each demonstrating the highest level of organization for the world's best players. The legendary Garry Kasparov, one of the world's greatest ambassadors for chess, inspired the Grand Chess Tour and helped solidify the partnership between the organizers.

The GCT is sponsored by the Superbet Foundation, Vivendi, Colliers International, Kasparovchess, Croatia Grand Chess Tour, and the Saint Louis Chess Club. All Grand Chess Tour 2021 events will comply with local and regional COVID-19 restrictions. For more information about the tour, please visit grandchesstour.org.

Grand Chess Tour



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