

Cheltenham 2019

Ten essential Cheltenham Festival stats you NEED to be aware of...



A FREE Guide from NTF

www.narrowingthefield.co.uk

**Stats are taken from the last six Cheltenham Festivals unless otherwise stated*

Cheltenham Stat #1

32 of the 35 Grade 1 Chase winners passed all the following trends...

Aged 6yo-10yo | Won 1 of their last 3 starts | Ran in a Non-Handicap Chase LTO | DSLR 21-90 | 1-5 starts in current season

Now that is a tad 'general' when it comes to the stats and the stats do vary from race to race BUT if you are looking for a very quick method of finding the most likely winners of the festival Grade 1 chases then that's as good a starting point as any. If you had backed all qualifiers to Betfair SP (197 of them) then you would have actually made a profit (+£48.09 BFLSP), not that I would recommend that, however, it's much more useful as a 'starting point' and it would have knocked out 151 of the G1 Chase losers in the past 6 years. You'd still have some work to do but you'd certainly be well on your way.

Cheltenham Stat #2

Of the 172 Horses aged 11+ to have run at the festival only three have won...

3/172 | 1.75% S/R | -£130.24 BFLSP

Win & Place 28/172 | 16% S/R

Yes, sentimentality, as always, leads you to the Festival poor-house. The simple facts are that the old boys (and girls) struggle to get their heads in front at the Cheltenham Festival. This isn't a place for old legs and it is the younger generation that holds sway here. For the record the winners came in the Foxhunters Chase & the Kim Muir Chase, both races where you are liable to get a higher percentage of older horses anyway.

Cheltenham Stat #3

Of the 114 Horses with 33 or more previous (UK) career starts to have run in a G1 at the last 15 festivals only ONE has won...

1/114 | 1% S/R | -£111.5 LSP

Win & Place 13/114 | 11% S/R

The figures very much point to there being an upper ceiling to the number of starts a horse can have in their career before life at the top level starts to become difficult. That ceiling, according to the stats, is 33+ career starts. The only horse to have bust that stat in the last 15 years is the mighty **MOSCOW FLYER.**

Cheltenham Stat #4

97 of the 102 NON-HANDICAP race winners ran in a NON-HANDICAP race last time out...

5/185 | 2.7% S/R | -£153.37 BFLSP

Win & Place 23/185 | 12.5% S/R

The above figures are of those horses stepping up from a Handicap on their last start before The Festival into a **Non-Handicap** Cheltenham race.

95% of the NON-HANDICAP races were won by a horse running in a NON-HANDICAP last time out.

Making the step up from Handicap company to Non-Handicap company is essentially an extremely difficult thing to do at The Cheltenham Festival.

Three of the five winners came in the X-Country Chase, a race that had only changed from a Handicap to a Non-Handicap three years ago and a race that isn't really your standard festival race anyway.

Cheltenham Stat #5

Only 3 of the 63 Handicap winners were ridden by a claimer with a claim of 5lbs or more...

3/167 | 2% S/R | -£116.59 BFLSP

Win & Place 16/167 | 9.5% S/R

The above is the record of claiming jockeys with a claim of 5lbs or more in Cheltenham Festival Handicap contests. Despite the Handicap fields being ultra-competitive the hefty claim of a young jockey to reduce the weight burden does not, generally, pay dividends, the stats tell us that experienced jockeys are the call and a claimer with an allowance of 5lbs+ has not actually landed a handicap at any of the last FOUR festivals (0/90).

Cheltenham Stat #6

32 of the 34 Grade 1 Hurdle winners (excluding the Triumph Hurdle) came into their race with a rating of OR 143+...

2/188 | 1% S/R | -£111.11 BFLSP

Win & Place 14/188 | 7% S/R

Those that enter the Festival Grade 1 Hurdle races with an official rating below OR 143 (including those that are yet to have been allocated a rating) struggle to make any serious impact, a fact that is not only highlighted by the 1% Win S/R but also by the paltry 7% Win & Place S/R. Again, although this may seem obvious (lower rated horses struggle against higher rated horses in non-handicap company) you are knocking out a serious number of 'no-hopers' (33 fitted the criteria last season and NONE placed). Incidentally the two winners came in the same race, the Albert Bartlett.

Cheltenham Stat #7

Leopardstown has been the 'warm-up' track for 40 of the last 165 Festival winners...

40/313 | 13% S/R | +£119.34 BFLSP

Win & Place 104/313 | 33% S/R

That may not seem a lot, but it very easily comes out top as the best track to have had your final Cheltenham prep run at.

Those that WON a Graded race at Leopardstown last time out are especially worth noting...

18/70 | 25.75% S/R | +£59.29 BFLSP

Win & Place 40/70 | 57% S/R

Cheltenham Stat #8

Only TWO of the 125 horses to try and win a Grade One off the back of a break of 24 days or less have been successful...

2/125 | 1.5% S/R | -£80.71 BFLSP

Win & Place 12/125 | 10% S/R

Whilst race fitness is a serious bonus in the Grade 1 races (78 of 81 G1 winners ran within last 90 days) it's even more important to have had adequate rest and repair time. Those runners returning within 3½ weeks of their latest run (overall figures above) have really struggled to make an impact in the G1 Cheltenham Festival races.

(Incidentally both winners were trained by Gordon Elliott)

Cheltenham Stat #9

Those horses that started at large odds (22-1+) on their final start before Cheltenham have really struggled to land a blow...

2/209 | 1% S/R | -£177.93 BFLSP

Win & Place 20/209 | 9.5% S/R

Horses that were unfancied in their warm-up race for Cheltenham need to be treated with plenty of caution, with only a measly 1% of them making it to the winner's circle. The figures are even worse if you only consider the runners in the hurdle and bumper events - 0/97 | 0% S/R | -£97 BFLSP - W&P 6/97 | 6% S/R. The 2 that did manage to win were both Irish trained chasers.

Cheltenham Stat #10

All 8 winners of the JLT Novices' Chase could have been found using the following 5 filters...

Aged 6yo or 7yo | Won 1 of their last 3 starts | Previously run at Cheltenham | Ran over 2m1f+ LTO | DSLR 31 - 80

Which gives 8-year figures of...

8/25 | 32% S/R | +£35.62 BFLSP

Win & Place 14/25 | 56% S/R

It's a race that is still relatively young (compared to a lot of the other races over the 4 days) but there are some sturdy trends starting to appear and the above 5 trends have found you all 8 winners to date, applying them to the final decs has narrowed the field into very workable numbers as well (final shortlist numbers have been 2-4-3-3-1-6-3-3).

Join NTF and receive the tools YOU need to profit from the 2019 Cheltenham Festival!

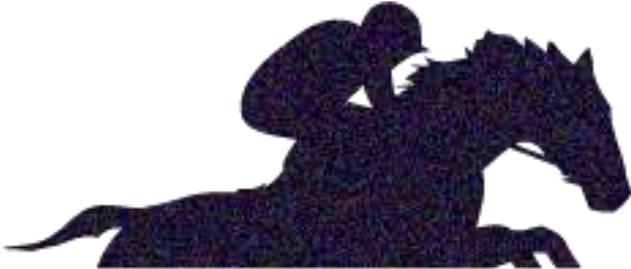
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I will be covering around 20 of the top races from the 2019 Cheltenham Festival as part of my NTF National Hunt subscription service. Over the 4 days I will scrutinize the profiles of past winners and apply it to the runners for this year's races, analysing who exactly meets the EXCLUSIVE NTF PROFILES for each race.

I use my own Race Trends to construct rock solid shortlists for all races covered during the Cheltenham Festival. I then drill down even deeper into the shortlist using my own wealth of in-depth knowledge and experience to zone in on the most likely winners and value alternatives, giving detailed analysis of exactly WHY I make my NTF selections.

The guides for each day are all sent out the evening before so there is plenty of time for you all to get stuck into the in-depth analysis and come to your own conclusions, should you so wish.

Doors Open soon...



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Narrowing The Field

*This guide was created with the help of the excellent
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