

2009 Emirates Melbourne Cup (GI)



Horse	Trainer	Jockey
1 VIEWED	Bart Cummings	Brad Rawiller
2 C'EST LA GUERRE (NZ)	John Sadler	Nicholas Hall
3 FIUMICINO (NZ)	Team Hawkes	Steven King
4 MASTER O'REILLY (NZ)	Danny O'Brien	Vlad Duric
5 MOURILYAN (IRE)	Herman Brown	Glyn Schofield
6 ROMAN EMPEROR (NZ)	Bart Cummings	Hugh Bowman
7 ISTA KAREEM (NZ)	Colin Little	Luke Nolen
8 CRIME SCENE (IRE)	Saeed Bin Suroor	Kerrin McEvoy
9 MUNSEF (GB)	Ian Williams	Zac Purton
10 ZAVITE (NZ)	Anthony Cummings	Mark Zahra
11 ALCOPOP	Jake Stephens	Dominic Tourneur
12 HARRIS TWEED (NZ)	Murray Baker	Craig Newitt
13 KIBBUTZ (NZ)	Jarrod McLean	Chris Symons
14 NEWPORT	Paul Perry	Peter Wells
15 WARRINGAH (GB)	Chris Waller	Damien Oliver
16 GALLIONS REACH (NZ)	Richard Yuill	Dwayne Dunn
17 SPIN AROUND	Steven Cooper	Mark Du Plessis
18 BASALTICO (IRE)	Luca Cumani	Danny Nikolic
19 CAPECOVER (NZ)	Alexander R Fieldes	Noel Harris
20 DAFFODIL (NZ)	Kevin Gray	Chris Munce
21 SHOCKING	Mark Kavanagh	Corey Brown
22 ALLEZ WONDER	Bart Cummings	Michelle Payne
23 CHANGINGOFTHEGUARD(IRE)	David Hayes	Glen Boss
24 LEICA DING	Darren Weir	Craig Williams

Viewed (3-1)

6yo b Horse

Scenic (IRE) – Lovers Knot (NZ) (Khozaam (USA))

Owner: Dato Tan Chin Nam

Trainer: Bart Cummings

Jockey: Brad Rawiller

Analysis:

Current Melbourne Cup favorite and last year's winner comes into the race with an impressive win in The Caulfield Cup (GI) and a third place finish in Saturday's Mackinnon Stakes (GI). One of three entries from champion trainer Bart Cummings, Viewed looks to have had the perfect preparation for this year's Melbourne Cup. Barrier 9 only helps his chances at trying to repeat his 2008 victory.

C'est La Guerre (NZ) (15-1)

5yo b Gelding

Shinko King (IRE) – La Magnifique (NZ) (Kampala)

Owner: N. Williams et al

Trainer: John Sadler

Jockey: Nicholas Hall

Analysis:

2008 Melbourne Cup third place finisher hasn't lived up to the hype since that impressive performance. Fourth place finish in the September 5th Makybe Diva Stakes (GII) at Flemington looked promising, but subsequent runs have disappointed even the most loyal backers. Unlikely to crack the placings based on recent form.

Fiumicino (NZ) (50-1)

6yo b Gelding

Zabeel (NZ) – Latte (NZ) (Marroof (USA))

Owner: Nick Moraitis

Trainer: Team Hawkes

Jockey: Steven King

Analysis:

AJC Australian Derby (GI) and BMW Stakes (GI) winner needs a monsoon to arrive if there is any hope of a victory here. One can't argue the Zabeel gelding's form on the wet, but it isn't likely he can compete against these without an ideal track condition. Top notch connections need to be conducting rain dances on race morning.

Master O'Reilly (NZ) (10-1)

7yo b/br Gelding

O'Reilly (NZ) – Without Remorse (NZ) (Bakharoff (USA))

Owner: W.F. Sutcliffe

Trainer: Danny O'Brien

Jockey: Vlad Duric

Analysis:

Hasn't visited the winner's circle since his 2007 Caulfield Cup (GI) triumph, and promising runs since haven't produced the desired effort. Consistent stayer makes his third Melbourne Cup (GI) start, and can definitely be considered for a placing. No serious danger to the top markers, but always promises an outside chance in staying contests.

Mourilyan (IRE) (15-1)

5yo b Horse

Desert Prince (IRE) – Mouramara (IRE) (Kahyasi)

Owner: Ramzan Kadyrov

Trainer: Herman Brown

Jockey: Glyn Schofield

Analysis:

European invader comes into Melbourne Cup (GI) without a prep run in Australia, and his last race was a listed affair at Goodwood in England against suspect company. Has had patches of good form at Nad Al Sheba in 2008 and has an outside chance here.

Roman Emperor (NZ) (5-1)

4yo b Colt

Montjeu (IRE) – Gussy Godiva (NZ) (Last Tycoon)

Owner: Cummings, Dato Tan Chin Nam et al

Trainer: Bart Cummings

Jockey: Hugh Bowman

Analysis:

Second place finish in Caulfield Cup (GI) to stablemate Viewed created quite a buzz around this 2008 AJC Australian Derby (GI) winner from the formidable Bart Cummings team. Lightly raced Montjeu colt could be a bit overrated after the aforementioned Caulfield Cup finish, and based on prior form should be a bit longer in the odds against these at 2 miles. Any Bart Cummings trained runner will take a pounding at the windows, and this one will be no different.

Ista Kareem (NZ) (50-1)

9yo ch. Gelding

Germano (GB) – Princesses Touch (NZ) (Touching Wood (USA))

Owner: A. Nehmy and Dr. P. Kardachi

Trainer: Colin Little

Jockey: Luke Nolen

Analysis:

Surprise winner of this year's Sydney Cup (GI) at 2 miles hasn't seemed to round into form this Spring. Ambitious placing here by connections, but one couldn't make a very strong case for this veteran campaigner to finish in the top half of the field.

Crime Scene (IRE) (50-1)

7yo b Gelding

Royal Applause (GB) – Crime (USA) (Gulch (USA))

Owner: Godolphin

Trainer: Saeed bin Suroor

Jockey: Kerrin McEvoy

Analysis:

Only runner from Godolphin camp after the defection of Kirklees looks to be a second tier European stayer. Geelong Cup (GIII) sixth place finish doesn't inspire much confidence, but a run in Australia sometimes propels an overseas runner's form. Couldn't ask for better connections, and any moisture would help this Royal Applause gelding's chances at a placing.

Munsef (GB) (30-1)

8yo b Gelding

Zafonic (USA) – Mazaya (IRE) (Sadler's Wells (USA))

Owner: Dr. Marwan Koukash

Trainer: Ian Williams

Jockey: Zac Purton

Analysis:

Last five starts in England have produced top two finishes, and he seems to relish the staying trip. Couldn't be considered top class by any means, but looks to be an honest campaigner who is well meant. 30/1 morning line looks to be about on the mark. Barrier draw of 5 won't hurt his chances.

Zavite (NZ) (50-1)

7yo b Gelding

Zabeel (USA) – Miss Vita (USA) (Alleged (USA))

Owner: Mrs. N K Falconer et al

Trainer: Anthony Cummings

Jockey: Mark Zahra

Analysis:

Hit a purple patch of form in the Autumn that culminated with the Adelaide Cup (GII) win at Morphettville over the 2 mile staying trip. Spring preparation in Victoria hasn't inspired great confidence in the Zabeel gelding, but you know he'll stay the trip. Present company looks to be too tough for this one, but an honest run could see him finish in the top ten or so.

Alcopop (7-2)

5yo b Gelding

Jeune (GB) – Iota Of Luck (Blevic)

Owner: J. A. Stephens et al

Trainer: Jake Stephens

Jockey: Dominic Tourneur

Analysis:

Rising star began career last year on Melbourne Cup (GI) day at Morphettville Park in South Australia with a maiden win and has done little wrong since. Ten lifetime starts for seven wins culminating with his impressive victory in the Herbert Power Stakes (GII) at Caulfield by open lengths. Significant step up in company here, but the two mile trip should suit. Definite rags to riches story in the making, and will be the sentimental choice for punters. All of Australia will be rooting this one on if he looks a chance at anytime during the stretch run.

Harris Tweed (NZ) (50-1)

4yo b Gelding

Montjeu (IRE) – Sally (NZ) (Prized (USA))

Owner: P. Bayly

Trainer: Murray Baker

Jockey: Craig Newitt

Analysis:

Another runner who would benefit from a wet surface, this Montjeu gelding ran second to Roman Emperor (NZ) in the AJC Australian Derby (GI) in the Autumn and scored an impressive victory in the Tulloch Stakes (GII) at Rosehill. The New Zealand shipper failed impress in his return to Australia on October 17th in the Caulfield Cup (GI), but should be considered a definite place chance if the ground has some give in it.

Kibbutz (NZ) (30-1)

5yo b Gelding

Golan (IRE) – Misskap (NZ) (Kaaopstad (NZ))

Owner: OTI Racing Syndicate

Trainer: Jarrod McLean

Jockey: Chris Symons

Analysis:

2007 VRC Derby (GI) winner hasn't had his picture taken since, but ran a decent fourth in the Moonee Valley Cup (GII) on October 24th. Tough to make a case for this former David Hayes trainee who looks to be in deep water against these.

Newport (20-1)

7yo g Gelding

Encosta De Lago – Sibelienne (GB) (Nishapour (FR))

Owner: Global Bloodstock Syndicate

Trainer: Paul Perry

Jockey: Peter Wells

Analysis:

Crafty veteran hasn't shown much spark since his surprise win in the 2008 Metropolitan HCP. (GI), and has had recent trouble with refusing to come out of the gates and/or throwing the rider soon after the start. Surely has a shot to finish in the top half, especially if he wakes up in the mood to run and decides to accept the rider on his back.

Warringah (GB) (20-1)

4yo b Gelding

Galileo (IRE) – Threefold (USA) (Gulch (USA))

Owner: GG Syndicate Ltd.

Trainer: Chris Waller

Jockey: Damien Oliver

Analysis:

Dangerous British import who can go on any type of ground. Damien Oliver will help this gelding's chances, and if he can stay the distance he's got a shot with the light weight.

Gallions Reach (NZ) (50-1)

7yo b Gelding

Victory Dance (IRE) – Dorinka (NZ) (Straight Strike (USA))

Owner: D. S. & Ms. N. Archer

Trainer: Richard Yuill

Jockey: Dwayne Dunn

Analysis:

Kiwi import won the Zabeel Classic (GI) over 1 1/4 miles at Ellerslie in December and hasn't shown too much since. Two Australian prep runs in the Geelong Cup (GIII) and Bendigo Cup (Listed) haven't inspired much confidence in this one. Has run well at the two mile distance before, with a second place finish in the Auckland Cup (GI) at Ellerslie. A bit of give in the ground would help this outsider's chances.

Spin Around (50-1)

9yo ch. Gelding

Spinning World (USA) – Be Yourself (USA) (Noalcoholic (FR))

Owner: Brookby Stables

Trainer: Steve Cooper

Jockey: Mark Du Plessis

Analysis:

Outsider hasn't impressed in two lead-up runs at Geelong and Seymour, but a return to prior form could have him in with a shot. Former Hong Kong galloper whose win in the Auckland Cup (GI) at Ellerslie back in March inspires some confidence here against this group. Will enjoy the two mile trip and could surprise a bit at odds.

Basaltico (IRE) (30-1)

6yo b Horse

Shantou (USA) – Sfilza (GB) (Indian Ridge (IRE))

Owner: Scuderia Siba – Antezzate SRL

Trainer: Luca Cumani

Jockey: Danny Nikolic

Analysis:

European import from the Cumani barn doesn't look to be up to the level of the trainer's recent Melbourne Cup entrants. No serious wins on this one's resume, and failed to impress in his only Australian run. A good showing here would surprise most everyone. Light impost helps a bit, and Nikolic is an experienced Australian rider.

Capecover (50-1)

7yo b Gelding

Cape Cross (IRE) – Set Up (NZ) (Zabeel (NZ))

Owner: K.T. Myers et al

Trainer: Alexander Fields

Jockey: Noel Harris

Analysis:

A New Zealand runner who has found success in his only 2 tries at Flemington. In last year's Melbourne Cup Carnival, he finished 3rd in the Saab Quality (GIII) and a week later notched his career highlight victory in the Queen Elizabeth (GII). Since then has only one win – a 40k open race in New Zealand. Has been tested at today's 2 mile distance twice- with the most notable being a fourth place finish in the New Zealand Cup (GII) back in 2007. More recently in the Herbert Power Stakes (GII), the Cape Cross gelding couldn't finish close to other contenders in today's race and followed that with an equally middle of the pack finish (7th) in the Bendigo Cup (Listed). Hard to take this one seriously considering the poor recent form.

Daffodil (NZ) (10-1)

4yo b Mare

No Excuse Needed (GB) – Spring (NZ) (O'reilly (NZ))

Owner: G & M Chittick

Trainer: Kevin Gray

Jockey: Chris Munce

Analysis:

Kiwi mare has two recent eventful runs, getting knocked around in the New Zealand Oaks (GI) and the Caulfield Cup (GI)- managing fourth place finishes in both. Has been described as unlucky despite winning 7 out of 21 lifetime starts. Most prominently won last April's AJC Oaks (GI) over 1 ½ miles. No shortage of luck in that contest, as she split the field mid-pack and roared home to win by 2 lengths. Has the closing kick to win this, and with today's light weight assignment she's a definite contender.

Shocking (7-1)

4yo b Colt

Street Cry (IRE) – Maria Di Castiglia (GB) (Danehill (USA))

Owner: Earles Racing Pty Ltd.

Trainer: Mark Kavanagh

Jockey: Corey Brown

Analysis:

Saw this gelding run into proper form with a win at Flemington a few days ago in the Lexus Stakes (GIII). Spring lead-up races include two second placings in stakes races- one coming in the twelve furlong Herbert Power Stakes (GII) where he ran into a buzzsaw in Alcopop. Despite the top notch pedigree and purple patch of form, this Street Cry colt wasn't able to keep up with that rival, and will need to show much more on Cup day.

Allez Wonder (20-1)

4yo b Mare

Redoute's Choice – Luna Tudor (Military Plume (NZ))

Owner: Suez Thoroughbreds Pty. Syndicate

Trainer: Bart Cummings

Jockey: Michelle Payne

Analysis:

Well bred mare that showed her competence with a 3rd in last year's Crown Oaks (GI) at Flemington. After spelling, her next campaign culminated with a poor showing (14th) in the AJC Oaks (GI) where she failed to make up any ground in the stretch. More recently, shined in beating sixteen runners in the 1 mile Toorak HCP. (GI) at Caulfield. Last out, she faded from 3rd on the turn to finish 8th in the Caulfield Cup (GI). Two mile distance a definite question, but one she shares with many in today's field. One of 3 starters for Melbourne Cup King Bart Cummings, that alone warrants a serious look.

Changingoftheguard (IRE) (10-1)

4yo b Colt

Montjeu (IRE) – Miletrian (IRE) (Marju (IRE))

Owner: R.P. & Mrs. C.G. Legh et al

Trainer: David Hayes

Jockey: Glen Boss

Analysis:

Lightly raced European entry (7 career starts) that has been transferred from Aidan O'Brien to trainer David Hayes in Australia. Showed a strong closing kick in the 1 ¾ mile Ebor HCP. at York, but hasn't raced since September 12th and lacks an important prep run in Australia. Gets the services of 3-time Melbourne Cup winning jockey Glen Boss (Makybe Diva: 2003-2005), but no one is confusing this youngster with the legendary mare.

Leica Ding (12-1)

5yo ch. Mare

Redding (NZ) – Leica Mine (Belong to Me (USA))

Owner: Mrs. T. Macknamara et al

Trainer: Darren Weir

Jockey: Craig Williams

Analysis:

Has shown her capacity for staying when winning the Tatts Group HCP (1 7/8 miles) at Moonee Valley last December. Has improved form in each of her last 4, and can hang her hat on a hard-charging victory last out in the Geelong Cup (GIII) on Oct. 21. The Geelong Cup winning springboard worked for Media Puzzle when he went on to take the Melbourne Cup (GI) in 2002, and last year almost provided the double for Bauer as he was barely nosed out in the big one. Light weight, distance proven, and in good form, a definite shot at 12-1.