# Rondure

## Rondure

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| **Owner:** | Borders Racing Stable Ltd. |
| **Trainer:** | Katerina Vassilieva |

B.c.3 Oxbow–Carat Weight by Trajectory
Bred in Ontario by Borders Racing Stable Ltd. (Apr 08, 2019)

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|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 2022: | 3 2 1 0 | $193,060 | Turf: | 0 0 0 0 | | | $0 |
| 2021: | 2 0 0 0 | $3,490 | Off Track: | 0 0 0 0 | | | $0 |
| Life: | 5 2 1 0 | $196,550 | Distance: | 0 0 0 0 | | | $0 |
| WO: | 5 2 1 0 | $196,550 | Course: | 0 0 0 0 | | | $0 |

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|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 02Jul22 9 WO | ft ◇ | 1⅛ | :49⁰⁶ 1:12⁷⁴ 1:43⁵⁷ 3 | Stk - MarineG3 - 150k | 76-**98** | 4 | 3⁴ | 2¹½ | **2ʰᵈ** | 1²½ | 15¹ | Hernandez R M 118 L | 4.20 | Rondure118⁵½ Duke of Love118ⁿᵏ Ironstone118¹½ drew away convincingly 8 |
| 12Jun22 9 WO | ft ◇ | 7f | :22⁵⁴ :45¹⁶ 1:21⁰¹ 3 | Ⓢ Stk - QueenstnB - 125k | 83-**97** | 7 | 6 | 6⁵ | 7⁵½ | 4²½ | **2ʰᵈ** | Bridgmohan S 118 L | 3.55 | The Minkster122ʰᵈ Rondure118ʰᵈ Ironstone124¹½ finish strong outside 7 |
| 14May22 10 WO | ft ◇ | 7f | :23²⁷ :46⁵⁹ 1:22⁷³ 3 | Msw 123200 | 68-**88** | 8 | 1 | 6²½ | 5²½ | 1³ | 1¹⁰³ | Bridgmohan S 118 L | 10.50 | Rondure118¹⁰³ Bill Needle118¾ Stronger Together118¹ 4 wide move,drew off 10 |
| 20Nov21 6 WO | ft ◇ | 7f | :23⁷⁸ :47³⁷ 1:23²⁸ 2 | Msw 126800 | 7-**71** | 4 | 12 | 12⁹ | 12⁷¹ | 9⁹½ | 6⁸¼ | Fukumoto D 118 | 9.95 | Wn fr th Mny12¹²¼ Strongr Togthr118²¼ Brodwy Sky118¹½ ►bmp start,in tight str 12 |
| 30Oct21 5 WO | ft ◇ | 6½ | :23¹¹ :46⁵⁶ 1:17⁰⁴ 2 | Msw 126800 | 54-**69** | 1 | 9 | 7³³ | 7³¹ | 6⁶½ | 5⁷ | Fukumoto D 118 | 35.05 | Churchtown121¼ Citrus Boy119¹½ Holiday House121¹½ found best stride late 9 |

**Workout(s):** 14 Aug 22 WO ◇ 4F ft :47.4b 2/13   7 Aug 22 WO ◇ 5F ft 1:02.1b 43/54   31 Jul 22 WO ◇ 5F ft :59.2b 2/41   24 Jul 22 WO ◇ 4F ft :52.3b 91/92

● What's in a name? "I looked at Oxbow (Rondure's sire and winner of the 2013 Preakness Stakes), and thought, 'How am I going to name this guy?'" said Hazel Bennett, of Borders Racing Stable. "I got out the dictionary and started looking at names and came across Rondure. It means, 'gracefully rounded curve.' And that's what we went with."

● After a sparkling season to date, it appears Rondure is well ahead of the curve. Opening his sophomore season with an absolute romp, the Borders Racing Stable homebred finished second, a neck back of fellow Plate contender The Minkster, in the Queenston Stakes. One race later, the Katerina Vassilieva trainee wowed the crowd and his connections with an authoritative score in the Grade 3 Marine Stakes. "He's not overly large in stature, but he's stout," said Vassilieva. "He has a stout, muscular body and a big heart."

● "Excited, of course," offered the multiple stakes winning conditioner, after the Marine. "But business as usual when it comes to the horse. I'm just going to do what I always do - try to take the best care as I can of the horse, and to do right by him."

● The multiple stakes winning conditioner is grateful that two-time Queen's Plate winner and trainer of The Minkster, Dan Vella, who had previously trained Rondure, suggested her name to the Borders team over the winter. "Dan was the one who so graciously recommended me to Borders Racing. If it wasn't for him, I wouldn't even have the horse."

● Bennett is thrilled to have a starter in Canada's most famous horse race. "That's what you do in this business, you dream. But that's okay. It's what you should do. These wonderful animals, they allow you to do that."

## Owners – Borders Racing Stable

Hazel Bennett, who calls Calgary home, and Harry Dobson, who has lived in Monaco for the past 20 years, comprise Borders Racing Stable. Part of the ownership group that sold English soccer powerhouse Manchester United to Malcolm Glazer in the mid-2000s, Dobson is a lifelong horse racing fan. The native of Scotland's roots in Thoroughbred ownership dates back over 40 years. Bennett, who worked as an investment advisor, and is a director with HBPA Alberta and chair of the Alberta Thoroughbred Aftercare Society, met Dobson over 30 years ago. The operation, which currently has approximately 30 horses, including its broodmare band, has 51 career wins on its own, and more victories with various partnerships over the years. Roaring Forties, Viazar and Via Ann are some of the operation's top performers.

## Trainer – Katerina Vassilieva

Katerina Vassilieva's connection with horses began at age 11. After finishing her Master's degree in genetics, she made the decision to pursue a career in Thoroughbred racing. Vassilieva, who worked as a hotwalker, groom, exercise rider and assistant trainer, earned her trainer's license since 2011. Her home base is Woodbine, but she has campaigned successfully at several racetracks, including Gulfstream Park, Keeneland and Belmont Park. One of her big stars is Big Bazinga, who followed the Kentucky Derby trail in 2014 and gave Vassilieva the chance to compete in some of North America's biggest graded races. The multiple stakes winning trainer posted a 20 per cent win average in 2016 and a 25 per cent strike rate in 2020.

## Jockey – Flavien Prat

Flavien Prat, who won the 2019 Queen's Plate with One Bad Boy, has ridden in places like Germany, Italy, and his native France as well as the United States. In 2009, he began riding periodically during the winter in Southern California before returning home shortly thereafter. Prat's first full season in North America was 2015, and he finished second in the standings of the Del Mar summer meet. At Del Mar, Prat earned his first Grade 1 win in the U.S. aboard Wild Dude in the Bing Crosby Stakes. Prat's first graded stakes victory came with Catch a Flight in the Grade 3 Precisionist in 2015. He earned his first Breeders' Cup win in 2016 with Obviously in the Turf Sprint. In 2017, Prat picked up multiple Grade 1 wins with Paradise Woods and Moonshine Memories and also won Grade 1s with Avenge and Ransom the Moon. On Breeders' Cup Friday, Prat secured his second victory when he guided Battle of Midway to a win in the Dirt Mile. Prat teamed with Country House to win the 2019 Kentucky Derby. In fall 2019, Prat achieved the remarkable feat of securing a mount in all 14 Breeders' Cup races. Last May, Prat won the Preakness Stakes for the first time, with Rombauer. Prat has enjoyed great success at Del Mar. He's won the riding title at the summer meet in 2017, 2019, 2020, and 2021, and tied for the title in 2016.