



# 2021 HOUSTON OPEN MEDIA INFORMATION

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THURSDAY, SEPT. 16, 2021

## ORTIZ, GRIFFIN, BURNS, KOKRAK COMMITTED TO 2021 HOUSTON OPEN

*2020 Houston Open Champion Carlos Ortiz headlines elite group  
of first-announced participants for 2021 tournament*

**HOUSTON, TX** - The past two Houston Open champions, **2020 winner Carlos Ortiz** and **2019 winner Lanto Griffin**, along with **Jason Kokrak**, who finished 11th on the PGA TOUR this year, and **Sam Burns**, who finished 18th, have committed to be a part of the field for the **2021 Houston Open**.

The **2021 Houston Open** is set for **November 11-14** at **Memorial Park Golf Course** in Houston.

Back to defend his 2020 Houston Open title, which was his first career PGA TOUR win, **Carlos Ortiz** is coming off a strong 2020/2021 season where he had **three top 10 finishes**. In addition to his victory at the **Houston Open**, he also finished **tied for fourth** at the **Waste Management Phoenix Open** and **tied for eighth** at the **Mayakoba Golf Classic presented by UNIFIN**. Last season, Ortiz qualified for the FedExCup Playoffs for the third consecutive season and fourth overall, advancing to the BMW Championship for the second time, finishing **No. 48** in the **PGA Tour FedEx Cup Standings**. That finish is his **first career top-50** result. In addition to his **three top-10 finishes**, the University of North Texas alum made 20 cuts in 28 starts in 2020/2021 and is currently ranked No. 66 in the world. A member of the Tour since 2015, he has **10 top-10 finishes** and **27 top-25 finishes**. With his victory in the 2020 Houston Open, Ortiz became the first native of Mexico to win the Houston Open, and just the third to ever win a PGA TOUR event.

"I am really excited to defend my title at the Houston Open in November," Ortiz said. "I enjoyed playing the Memorial Park Golf Course last year and I look forward to playing in front of the Houston fans. It will be a great week of golf and entertainment."

**2019 Houston Open** champion **Lanto Griffin** is set to also be a part of the field in 2021. Griffin had **two top-10 finishes** last season, highlighted by a **seventh-place finish at the Farmers Insurance Open**. He also finished **tied for seventh at The CJ Cup at Shadow Creek**. After an outstanding 2019/2020 season where he finished **18th in the PGA Tour FedEx Cup Standings** (stood atop them for four weeks), Griffin made the FedEx Cup Playoffs for the second-straight year last season, ending at No. 89 in the standings. He made 19 of 29 cuts in this season and boasts **six career top 10-finishes** and **25 top-25 finishes** in three years on the Tour.

**Sam Burns**, currently ranked No. 25 in the world, finished **18th in the PGA Tour FedEx Cup Rankings** for the 2020/2021 season and is set to be a part of the Houston Open field for a third-straight season. He is coming off a career year on the Tour, boasting **eight top-10 finishes**, including his **first Tour victory** at the **Valspar Championship**. He also finished **second at the AT&T Byron Nelson** and **third at The Genesis Invitational**. At the 2020 Houston Open, Burns led after the second and third rounds, eventually finishing tied for seventh, but co-led the field in Par-5 Scoring Average (4.33). A member of the PGA TOUR since 2019, Burns has **28 career top-25 finishes**, **14 top-10 finishes** and has made the cut in 55 of 86 career Tour appearances.

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**Jason Kokrak**, currently ranked 27th in the world, **finished a career-best 11th in the PGA Tour 2021 FedEx Cup Rankings** for the 2020/2021 season and will join the 2021 Houston Open field for the first time. He won **two Tour events** in the past year, the **Charles Schwab Challenge** in 2021 and **The CJ Cup at Shadow Creek** in 2020, which were also his first two career victories. Overall, he had **five top-10 finishes** and **12 top-25 finishes** in 2020/2021. At the TOUR Championship, Kokrak capped off the season with an **11th place finish**. A member of the Tour since 2012, he has **32 career top 10 finishes** and **86 top 25 finishes**, making the cut in 170 of 257 career Tour appearances.

General admission tickets and venue hopper tickets are on sale now for the 2021 Houston Open. Visit [www.houstonopengolf.com/tickets](http://www.houstonopengolf.com/tickets) for information on ticket purchases.

### ***MORE TO COME***

The foursome of Ortiz, Lanto, Burns and Kokrak are just the first-announced participants for the 2021 Houston Open. Other notables will be announced as commitments are made, with a full-field announcement occurring closer to the tournament date. Please note that the field for the 2021 Houston Open is subject to change.

**-Astros Golf-**