

Chicago Bears vs Tampa Bay Buccaneers NFL Week 3 Predictions

Contributed by Scott Burgess
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The Tampa Bay Buccaneers got their first home win of the season last week after beating Atlanta, while the Chicago Bears suffered their first road defeat to the Carolina Panthers. Week 3 NFL action has the Chicago Bears hosting the Tampa Bay Buccaneers, Sunday September 21, at Soldier Field. NFL oddsmakers at Sportsbook.com have the Chicago Bears as -3 point home favorites over the Tampa Bay Buccaneers with the over/under listed at 35 ½ points. Get your NFL Week 3 Predictions on Chicago Bears vs Tampa Bay Buccaneers in now at Sportsbook.com

The Bears lost 17-20 on the road to Carolina after they blew a 17-3 lead in the third quarter. QB Kyle Orton made 19 of 32 passes for 149 yards with no touchdown passes. RB Matt Forte was their top rusher with 23 carries for 92 yards, but it was RB Jason McKie who had 3 carries for 7 yards with one touchdown. Special teams WR Brandon Lloyd had a 9 yard blocked punt return; he also had 5 catches for 66 yards. The Bears are averaging 23 ppg and they're allowing an average 16.5 ppg. Their overall offense is averaging a 24th ranked 287 total yards per-game with the majority of their yards coming from their 9th ranked running game averaging 149 rushing yards per-game. Their passing game averages a 27th ranked 138 passing yards per-game. Their defense averages a 6th ranked 254 total yards per-game thanks to their 8th ranked rush defense that allows a low 83 rushing yards per-game. The Bears are 1-0-1 ATS and 0-2 over/under. The Bears have won their last two meetings against the Bucs.

The Buccaneers got a home win over Atlanta 24-9 despite a lack luster performance from QB Brian Griese who made just 18 of 31 passes for 160 yards with one touchdown pass. RB Earnest Dunn had 15 carries for 116 yards with one touchdown while WR John Gilmore was the lone receiver to catch for a touchdown; he had two catches for 41 yards. The Bucs are averaging 22 ppg and there are giving up an average 16.5 ppg. Their offense overall averages 23 ppg and they're allowing an average 16.5 ppg. Their overall offense is averaging a 13th ranked 331 total yards per-game with the majority of their yards coming from their 7th ranked running game averaging 155 rushing yards per-game. Their passing game averages a 16th ranked 176 passing yards per-game. Their defense averages a 23th ranked 336 total yards per-game no thanks to their 23rd ranked pass protection that allows a high 233 passing yards per-game. The Bucs are 1-1 ATS and 1-1 over/under.

Recent Trends to Consider:

- Buccaneers are 1-4 ATS in their last 5 games overall.
- Buccaneers are 1-4 ATS in their last 5 games after allowing less than 150 yards passing in their previous game.
- Buccaneers are 1-4 ATS in their last 5 vs. NFC.
- Bears are 4-0-1 ATS in their last 5 games overall.
- Bears are 6-1 ATS in their last 7 games following a S.U. loss.
- Bears are 5-1 ATS in their last 6 games following a ATS loss.
- Under is 4-1 in the last 5 meetings.
- Under is 4-1 in the last 5 meetings in Chicago.

NFL Week 3 Predictions: Chicago Bears vs Tampa Bay Buccaneers

When: Sun, Sept 21, 2008 1:00 PM ET

Line: Sportsbook.com

Pick: Chicago -3

Point-Spreads.com NFL Week 3 Predictions: Chicago Bears vs Tampa Bay Buccaneers – Bears -3

The Bottom Line: The Bucs aren't going to have great success running against the Bears defense and they have no passing game. Da Bears win! Get your NFL Week 3 Predictions: Chicago Bears vs Tampa Bay Buccaneers in now at Sportsbook.com and receive a 10% sign-up bonus on your initial deposit!

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