



Press release
Crans-Montana, 16 septembre 2023

Wildstrubel by UTMB 2023 : Swiss Magic Reigns

- 2,076 runners took part to the Wild 110, Wild 70 and Wild 50
- Andy Symonds (GB) and Sara Escobar-Carron (CH) victories on the Wild 110
- Last race of the weekend, the Wild 25, starts sunday at 10h00 from Leukerbad

12 hours, 51 minutes, and 27 seconds. That's the time it took **Andy SYMONDS** to dominate this weekend's flagship race, featuring a 113km course with 6,600m elevation gain, encircling the entire Wildstrubel massif in the Swiss Alps. His arrival was closely followed by the Frenchman **Baptiste CAOTANTIEC** just 10 minutes later, and completing the podium was the Italian **Gilles ROUX** hot on his heels, completing the race in 13 hours, 9 minutes, and 24 seconds.

However, far from watching the clock, **all three of them are unanimous about the extraordinary adventure they experienced all throughout the day.** It all began with an intimate nighttime start in the heart of Crans-Montana, followed by an increasingly magical journey as the landscapes unfolded before their eyes.

Baptiste CAOTANTIEC exclaimed at the finish line, *"I had a blast all day; the landscapes are exceptional, there are 35-meter waterfalls everywhere, it's amazing, truly an incredible day!"*

This scenic beauty was complemented by an exceptional atmosphere throughout the race, whether among the runners themselves, at the front of the pack or in the peloton, or along the trails thanks to the encouragement of the public and volunteers.



Swiss magic also worked its charm in the women's category, with the **exceptional victory of Sara ESCOBAR-CARRON**, the Valaisan Swiss trail champion in 2022 and the favorite on this course, becoming the first of the 78 women who started to cross the finish line. Leading throughout the race, she triumphed in **15 hours, 33 minutes, and 8 seconds.** Switzerland also proudly claimed the **2nd spot on the podium with Kathrin GOTZ from Team Hoka, finishing in 16 hours and 59 seconds.**



Wild 70 & Wild 50 on the menu today

One had to be in the **Bernese region on Saturday morning to experience a double dose of magic with the 70K and 50K starts.** There were two races to begin the day, starting with the Wild 70 at 7:00 AM in Kandersteg and followed by more than XX runners starting their 50km course towards Valais at 8:30 AM from Adelboden.

Bunderschrinde, Hahnenmoospass, Iffigenalp, the Wildstrubel hut, and the Rawil Pass were among the wonders that the runners discovered and appreciated throughout the day in a sporting but above all festive and warm atmosphere, despite the somewhat shy sun early in the morning.

The favorites delivered on the Wild 70, with a duel at the summit between Frenchman **Aurélien DUNAND-PALLAZ** and Swiss racer **Ramon MANETSCH** on the Wild70 course, a duel that ended in Aurélien's victory after 07h36'03" of racing, only 1'35" before the Swiss runner, while in the women's race, Frenchwoman **Anne-Lise ROUSSET** dominated the race and reached the line in Crans-Montana in 08h32'30, joining the Top 10 overall. She was followed xxh later by **Dioni GORLA (DE).**

Wild50 is magical too. Shorter but just as sublime and technical, this course offered a close battle in the men's race between German **Benedikt HOFFMANN** and young Frenchman **Clovis CHAVEROT**, finally won by the German in 04h58'14". The Frenchman, 2nd in the MCC in Chamonix 15 days ago, crossed the line 6 minutes later, closely followed by **Dylan RIBEIRO**, a young hopeful from the HOKA team.

"This second place has a special flavour, I've just come back from 3 long months of ordeal after a stress fracture, to come back like this is just too good. I didn't think it was going to be so hard, Benedikt pushed me right to the end, and on the climb up to the Wildstrubelhut I tried to hang on, but he was just too strong, experience speaking for himself. For a comeback to the competition, I couldn't have dreamt of anything better," commented Clovis Chaverot, with tears in his eyes at the finish line.

Germany also shone in the women's race, with **Daniela OEMUS** winning in 06h05'03 ahead of the Norwegian duo of **Kirsten Hindhammer AMUNDSGARD** and **Mirjam SAARHEIM.**

Video content to download



Download the video [here](#).

Meet us on Sunday for the last glimpse of magic

The final touch of magic will take place tomorrow, starting at 10:00 AM in Loèche-les-Bains with the launch of the Wild 25, a shorter and undoubtedly dynamic course where speed enthusiasts and nature lovers alike can explore the treasures of the Valais. It's also on this route that a joëlette, a specially adapted wheelchair which allows the mountain to be within anyone's reach, will take the start among the Varone Alpine meadows on the way to the finish in Crans-Montana. A unique experience to bring the magic of trail running to everyone.



MEDIA INFO

Access to the media library:
<https://photos.utmb.world/>
ID: utmbPress
Password: PressWorld2022

All the pictures are available [here](#).
Credits: @wildstrubelbyutmb @agencezoom

Notes to the editors

UTMB® World Series

UTMB World Series is the world's ultimate trail-running circuit that unites the sport's biggest stars and passionate runners through the best, leading international events in the most stunning locations. Built on a passion for the mountains with sustainability at its heart, UTMB World Series gives all trail runners the chance to experience the UTMB adventure across the world, with events taking place across Asia, Oceania, Europe, Africa and the Americas. It is the only place where runners can begin their quest to UTMB Mont-Blanc, France, where the prestigious UTMB World Series Finals will be held. For more information, visit www.utmb.world.

UTMB Group

Since the creation of UTMB Mont-Blanc in 2003 by a group of passionate friends, UTMB Group has been the driving force behind the development of trail running. The UTMB Mont-Blanc is the sports pinnacle event, and every year, 10,000 runners earn their place on the start line. UTMB Group also pioneered the LiveTrail technology, an innovative digital service that supports the management of endurance races. Revered by hundreds of thousands of athletes, UTMB has become a global, premium, and leading brand. In May 2021, UTMB Group partnered with The IRONMAN Group to launch the UTMB World Series, which now in its second year, brings together many of the best international events on the planet to provide exclusive access to the sport's pinnacle event, UTMB Mont-Blanc. The UTMB World Series is built on the founding principles of UTMB Mont-Blanc: surpassing oneself; fair-play; respect for people and the environment; and solidarity. Find out more at montblanc.utmb.world.

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