



Press release - Chamonix (France), Thursday 22 August 2024

## An extraordinary assembly of elite athletes will make the 21<sup>st</sup> edition of the HOKA UTMB® Mont-Blanc 2024 truly legendary!

- Second edition of the UTMB World Series Finals.
- An exceptional elite field for the Finals (OCC - 50K, CCC - 100K, UTMB - 100M) as well as for the four other races of the HOKA UTMB Mont-Blanc.
- An all-star women's field for the UTMB, representing all five continents, including American UTMB Legend Katie SCHIDE, New Zealander Ruth CROFT and China's Fuzhao XIANG.
- In the men's category, the UTMB Legends are back for the UTMB: Jim WALMSLEY to defend his title, accompanied by two other winners from previous editions, Ludovic POMMERET (2016) and Pau CAPELL (2019).
- On the OCC, Rémi BONNET, [UTMB Index world number 1](#), returns after three years looking for revenge. Fellow Swiss Judith WYDER, who also holds the highest UTMB Index in this year's race, is also in with a chance - could the Swiss dominate the podium!
- Follow the event live on [live.umb.world](#) and with major broadcasters such as La Chaîne L'Equipe, Outside TV, DAZN, EITB, and iQIYI Sports.

For the 21<sup>st</sup> edition the HOKA UTMB® Mont-Blanc will bring together an extraordinary field of elite athletes, promising high-stakes duels in every race from August 26 to September 1, 2024. The world's top trail runners will converge on the iconic Mont-Blanc trails, ready to push their limits and deliver an unforgettable spectacle.

For the second consecutive year, the HOKA UTMB Mont-Blanc will host the UTMB® World Series Finals. On August 29 and 30, the [UTMBs](#) (176 km, 100M), the [CCC](#)® (101 km, 100K), and the [OCC](#) (57 km, 50K) will see the discipline's best battle it out in what promises to be an extraordinary trail-running week.

The excitement will extend beyond the Finals, as all race formats — from the TDS® to the ETC — will gather elite athletes from across the globe. Each event, whether short or long, will be filled with thrilling moments and remarkable performances.



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## UTMB 2024: Epic showdowns between legends and rising stars on the Mont-Blanc trails

In the flagship [UTMB](#) race the women's top 5 will showcase global diversity, with all five continents represented. [Katie SCHIDE](#) (USA - UTMB Index 827), the [UTMB Legends](#) 2022 winner, returns after a victorious season that included wins at the Western States™ Endurance Run and the 100K at the HOKA Canyons Endurance Run™ by UTMB®. She will be joined by high-calibre athletes such as [Fuzhao XIANG](#) (CHN - UTMB Index 794), who narrowly missed the podium at the 2023 UTMB, [Ruth CROFT](#) (NZL - UTMB Index 792), [Ester CSILLAG](#) (HUN - UTMB Index 776), third at the 2024 Western States Endurance Run, [Emily HAWGOOD](#) (ZIM - UTMB Index 771), second in the 2023 CCC and winner of the Chianti Ultra Trail by UTMB® in 2024, and [Kagno DEBAYS](#) (NED - UTMB Index 762).

Among the French athletes [Blandine L'HIRONDEL](#) (UTMB Index 804), who finished third in 2023, returns with ambitions to reach the top of the podium. She will face competition from [Manon BOHARD CAILLER](#) (UTMB Index 760), winner of the TDS in 2021, and [Anne-Lise ROUSSET](#) (UTMB Index 752), who came second in the 100M at the MIUT Madeira Island Ultra-Trail in 2024.

In the men's category, American [Jim WALMSLEY](#) (UTMB Index 935) returns to defend his title after last year's stunning victory, aiming for a historic double following his win at the Western States in June. He will face formidable challengers such as [Mathieu BLANCHARD](#) (UTMB Index 905), determined to claim the top spot, Englishman [Tom EVANS](#) (UTMB Index 917), second this year in the 100M of the La Sportiva® Lavaredo Ultra Trail® by UTMB®, and German [Hannes NAMBERGER](#) (UTMB Index 910), who took first place in the same race.

Two other UTMB Legends are also making their return: [Ludovic POMMERET](#) (UTMB Index 888), [winner of the 2016 UTMB](#) and the 2024 Hardrock 100 Endurance Run, and [Pau CAPELL](#) (ESP - UTMB Index 887), [winner of the 2019 edition](#), ready to reclaim the summit.

*"The main goal of the year is set for Chamonix; I want it to be magical once again, and we are working hard towards that. I will run the 100M and am more determined than ever!"*

**Pau Capell**

French elite athletes are also in the spotlight, with notable participants including [Germain GRANGIER](#) (UTMB Index 898), [Thibaut GARRIVIER](#) (UTMB Index 906), who finished 6<sup>th</sup> at the 2023 UTMB, as well as [Aurelien DUNAND PALLAZ](#) (UTMB Index 895), [Yannick NOEL](#) (UTMB Index 882), and [Thibaut BARONIAN](#) (UTMB Index 906), all ready to challenge the world's best in this legendary race.

The detailed list is available [here](#).

*"After missing out on the UTMB last year, I'm highly motivated to do whatever it takes to be fit and healthy come August"*

**Ruth Croft**

HOKA UTMB MONT-BLANC		ELITES		
UTMB RANKING	COUNTRY	RUNNER	UTMB INDEX	
♂ MALE				
1	US	Jim WALMSLEY	935	
2	GB	Thomas EVANS	917	
3	AN	Dmitry MITYAEV	913	
♀ FEMALE				
1	US	Katie SCHIDE	827	
2	FR	Blandine L'HIRONDEL	804	
3	CN	Fuzhao XIANG	794	

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## CCC 2024: Fierce competition anticipated with international elite contenders

The CCC promises fierce competition, with nine athletes boasting a UTMB Index above 900. Among them are [Adam PETERMAN](#) (USA - UTMB Index 927), [Petter ENGDAHL](#) (SWE - UTMB Index 923), winner of the 2024 Eiger Ultra-Trail™ by UTMB®, [Manuel MERILLAS](#) (ESP - UTMB Index 922), [Hayden HAWKS](#) (USA - UTMB Index 915), third at the 2024 Western States Endurance Run, and [Daniel JONES](#) (NZL - UTMB Index 911).

In the women's category, the competition on the CCC will be equally intense and international. South African [Toni MCCANN](#) (UTMB Index 801), winner of the 2023 OCC, will be a favourite, alongside American [Heather JACKSON](#) (UTMB Index 769). Other notable competitors include [Rosanna BUCHAEUR](#) (GER - UTMB Index 768) and [Candice FERTIN](#) (FRA - UTMB Index 751), seventh in the 2023 OCC. [Emkay SULLIVAN](#) (USA - UTMB Index 765) and [Jazmine LOWTHER](#) (CAN - UTMB Index 767) will also represent North America.

The detailed list is available [here](#).

*"I am both excited and extremely nervous about participating in the CCC this year, as 100 km is a new distance for me. After competing in the OCC for three consecutive years, I wanted a new challenge, and I believe this is it. I've really enjoyed my training and race preparation. The course reconnaissance was fantastic, and the trails are beautiful, so whatever happens during my first 100 km, I'm happy I made this choice and look forward to the experience."*

**Toni McCann**

HOKA UTMB MONT-BLANC		ELITES		
CCC COUNTRY	COUNTRY	RUNNER	UTMB INDEX	
♂ MALE				
1	US	Adam PETERMAN	927	
2	SE	Petter ENGDAHL	923	
3	ES	Manuel MERILLAS	922	
♀ FEMALE				
1	ZA	Toni MCCANN	801	
2	US	Heather JACKSON	769	
3	DE	Rosanna BUCHAUER	768	

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## OCC 2024: A thrilling international showdown in the 50K race

As the final of the UTMB World Series in the 50K distance, the [OCC](#) promises a thrilling race. The international women's field is set for intense competition, with [Judith WYDER](#) (SUI - UTMB Index 792), winner of the 42 km Marathon du Mont-Blanc in 2024, [Dani MORENO](#) (USA - UTMB Index 786), third in the 2022 OCC, and [Allie MCCLAUGHLIN](#) (USA - UTMB Index 780), returning for the second consecutive year with her sights set on the podium.

Among the European contingent, French athlete [Clémentine GEOFFRAY](#) (UTMB Index 791), first in the 2023 MCC, Spain's [Sara ALONSO](#) (UTMB Index 775), and Italian [Elisa DESCO](#) (UTMB Index 760) promise an exciting battle. Not to be overlooked are other strong international competitors like [Miao YAO](#) (CHN - UTMB Index 785), third in the 2023 OCC, and [Caillin FIELDER](#) (NZL - UTMB Index 775), who narrowly missed the podium in the 2023 race.

In the men's category, the race is set to be fast-paced and intense, featuring the winner of the 50K at the Restonica Trail by UTMB® in July, [Rémi BONNET](#) (SUI - UTMB Index 948), Britain's [Jonathan ALBON](#) (UTMB Index 934), who finished first in the 2023 CCC, and his compatriot [Robbie SIMPSON](#) (UTMB Index 906), winner of the 50K at the 2024 Eiger Ultra-Trail by UTMB.

The American [Eli HEMMING](#) (UTMB Index 914), winner of the 2024 HOKA Canyons Endurance Run by UTMB, will also be competing. Other notable competitors are the Italian [Francesco PUPPI](#) (UTMB Index 917), who finished 2<sup>nd</sup> in the 2023 OCC, and the Spaniard [Antonio MARTINEZ PEREZ](#) (UTMB Index 913), who took 3<sup>rd</sup> place in the same race. French hopes in this event will rest on [Sylvain CACHARD](#) (UTMB Index 911) and [Benjamin ROUBIOL](#) (UTMB Index 902).

The detailed list is available [here](#).

HOKA UTMB MONT-BLANC		ELITES		
OCC ECM	COUNTRY	RUNNER	UTMB INDEX	
♂ MALE				
1	CH	Rémi BONNET	948	
2	GB	Jonathan ALBON	934	
3	IT	Francesco PUPPI	917	
♀ FEMALE				
1	CH	Judith WYDER	792	
2	FR	Clémentine GEOFFRAY	791	
3	US	Dani MORENO	786	

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## TDS, MCC, ETC, and YCC: A range of spectacular races across different distances

In addition to the UTMB World Series Finals, the 2024 HOKA UTMB Mont-Blanc offers a week of unmissable events. From the TDS to the YCC, each race will deliver captivating performances, showcasing talents from all over the world.

### TDS: An epic adventure through the majestic landscapes of Mont-Blanc

With its 148 km and 9,300 m of elevation gain, the TDS (Sur les Traces des Ducs de Savoie) is a challenge that will test the world's best trail runners. Known for its breathtaking scenery and warm atmosphere, this race attracts the most seasoned athletes each year. Among the favourites this year are [Mark DARBYSHIRE](#) (GBR - UTMB Index 888), [Simon GOSSEIN](#) (FRA - UTMB Index 874), and [Simen Hjalmar WASTUN](#) (SWE - UTMB Index 848) in the men's category. In the women's category, [Jacelyne PAULY](#) (FRA - UTMB Index 725), [Ariane WILHELM](#) (SUI - UTMB Index 746), and [Anna CARLSSON](#) (SWE - UTMB Index 723) will lead the way in this international event.

### MCC: The heart of Mont-Blanc for locals and volunteers

The MCC (Martigny-Combe to Chamonix) is a unique 40 km race reserved for volunteers, partners, and local residents, offering an opportunity to immerse themselves in the spirit of the HOKA UTMB Mont-Blanc while discovering the beautiful trails of Mont Blanc. Elite French runners such as [Stéphanie MANIVOZ](#) (UTMB Index 699), [Anthony FELBER](#) (UTMB Index 885), [Iris PESSEY](#) (UTMB Index 715), and [Kevin VERMEULEN](#) (UTMB Index 878) will be among the ones to watch.

### ETC: A thrilling sprint in the heart of the Italian Alps

The ETC offers an exciting adventure over a 15 km course with 1,200 metres of elevation gain in the heart of the Italian Alps. In the women's category, [Maude MATHYS](#) (SUI - UTMB Index 808), [Anaisle BONDOUX](#) (FRA - UTMB Index 767), and [Alice GAGGI](#) (ITA - UTMB Index 744) will be ones to watch. Among the men, [Roberto DELORENZI](#) (SUI - UTMB Index 911), [Daniel PATTIS](#) (ITA - UTMB Index 904), and [Lukas EHRL](#) (GER - UTMB Index 880) are ready for the challenge.

### YCC: The future of trail running

The YCC (Youth Chamonix Courmayeur) is dedicated to the next generation of trail runners, offering young athletes aged 15 to 19 the opportunity to experience two intense races over two days. Between the trail starting in Courmayeur and the short but explosive race in Chamonix, this challenge promises to be a showcase for spectacular performances and the emergence of future trail running stars.

For the complete list of elite athletes participating in the HOKA UTMB Mont-Blanc, please visit [this link](#).

For accreditation requests for the HOKA UTMB Mont-Blanc, please fill out the form available via [this link](#).

## Note to editors

### About 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 HOKA UTMB® Mont-Blanc, where the prestigious UTMB® World Series Finals will be held. Launched in May 2021 through the collaboration between the UTMB Group and The IRONMAN Group, the UTMB World Series circuit brings together many of the best international trail-running events on the planet. For more information, visit [https://utmb.world](#).

### About UTMB Group

Since the creation of HOKA 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 HOKA 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. Rewarded 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 brings together many of the best international events on the planet to provide exclusive access to the sport's pinnacle event, HOKA UTMB® Mont-Blanc. The UTMB® World Series is built on the founding principles of HOKA UTMB® Mont-Blanc: surpassing oneself; fairplay; respect for people and the environment; and solidarity. Find out more at [https://utmb.world](#).

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