



Le tour du lac par les montagnes

Du 24 au 26 Mai 2019

**9000 runners from 55 countries, and 11 race formats
almost completely full!**

**Two big names for the Ultra-Race: François d'Haene (FR) and Jason
Schlarb (USA)**

Annecy, March 19, 2019

The appeal of the Salomon GORE-TEX MaXi-Race continues to grow, as each race format fills up quicker than ever before.

All races combined, more than 9000 runners of all levels will embark on a full or partial loop around Lake Annecy via the surrounding mountains.

REGISTRATION AS OF MARCH 8, 2019

This year once again, several races filled up very quickly. As soon as registration opened, it **took only 30 hours** for the Marathon race to fill up and a **little more than 3 weeks** for the MaXi-Race. At the beginning of March, registration closed: there are **only 30 spots remaining for the Ultra-Race** and approximately **one hundred openings for the Short-Race**. The latter is a stage on the 2019 Mountain Running World Cup, and several athletes currently on the circuit are expected. **The MaXi-Orientation**, limited to 100 teams, already counts **80 registered teams!**

BY THE NUMBERS!

Registration totals:

1800 runners from Haute-Savoie (French Alps), 3200 from the Auvergne-Rhône-Alpes Region.

2700 runners have participated in at least one edition of the MaXi-Race.

1999 women registered, including 455 for the Marathon-Race, 172 for the MaXi-Race, 194 for the Short-Race, 36 for the Ultra-Race, 6 for the XXL Race, 68 for the XL race, 109 for 2-person R-Race relay, 334 for the 4-person R-Race relay, and 628 for the Femina Race

300 kids are expected to participate in the Mini-Race.

55 nationalities present – the TOP 5 countries represented:

France: 7974 runners - Belgium: 232 - Switzerland: 155 – United Kingdom: 54 - Spain: 35

More than **7000 night stays** in Annecy are expected based on a survey conducted during the registration process. These night stays represent all runners and companions, and are spread out across the Lake Annecy basin.

700 volunteers.

THOUSANDS OF AMATEURS AND SO MANY ELITE RUNNERS!

Each race includes a unique mix of elites and amateurs who will stand together at the starting line. For the 8th edition, alongside the thousands of anonymous amateur runners will be a few well-known names in trail running; several French and international elite runners have announced their participation.

Among them is François d'Haene (FR), who will participate in the **Ultra-Race**, which he won two years ago for the inaugural edition.

Two questions for François:

Participating in the Salomon GORE-TEX MaXi-Race's 115km Ultra-Race is on your 2019 schedule. Why did you choose this race among so many others?

"It was a great experience for me two years ago, and I have fun memories of sharing the experience with the other participants and volunteers. This is a fantastic race in France that fits my schedule this year, perfectly placed between the MIUT in Madeira at the end of April and the Hardrock 100 in the USA mid-July.

I look forward to familiar terrain close to home in the always festive and friendly atmosphere I have come to enjoy. In fact, I really like returning to the Salomon GORE-TEX MaXi-Race, it motivates me to run in France, to travel with my family, and to enjoy support from close friends. I can also answer any questions other trail runners may have about trail running or even wine. Annecy is the ideal place to mix it up!"

Jason Schlarb has also entered the Ultra-Race, is this good news?

"Yes, it's great to be able to compete against other international runners, especially when they are such nice people. I hope that we will have the chance to spend some time on the trail together since the race is so long! It also provides me with a better idea of how in-shape I am and the chance to gauge where I stand relative to other experienced athletes!"

For American Jason Schlarb, this will be his first Salomon GORE-TEX MaXi-Race:

Why did you choose the Ultra-Race in France?

"I came to France to race for several reasons, first is that the MaXi-Race's Ultra-Race has challenging mountain terrain with beautiful views of Lake Annecy. Every year for the last 5 years I have spent time in Europe traveling and racing for 3 to 8 weeks. I have run around Annecy a lot and I know how great the course is. Another reason I entered the MaXi-Race's Ultra-Race is that the race has a great reputation for world-class competition."

Is running with François another source of motivation?

"I planned to race in the MaXi-Race's Ultra-Race before Francois decided to come, so having arguably the best long-distance ultra runner as competition is just a bonus. I have massive respect for François. I consider him not only to be one of the best in the world, but a real leader and role model in our sport of trail running. I also have done and love many of the same races as François. After the MaXi-Race is the Hardrock 100. This year, with Francois, Kilian, Xavier, Dylan Bowman, and I, the Hardrock may very well be the most competitive 100-mile mountain race of the year!"

What are the differences in mentality between trail running in France/Europe and the USA?

"I appreciate the differences between trail running in the US vs France and the EU. While it is quickly changing, trail running, especially ultra distances, has a spirit that is very humble, low-tech, "tranquilo" or even "mountain hippy". Lots of "dirtbags" and beer, but not much gear or compression (haha), and lots of camping comes to mind when I think of the American trail running community or spirit. In France and Europe, trail running seems to be bigger, more mainstream, and has developed with so many races every weekend in every country in the Alps and the Dolomites. Trails and trail infrastructure is so much more developed and organized, while in the US and Canada, there is more wilderness, less trail access, and hardly any huts, trains, or ski areas to help gain access to trails. I appreciate and enjoy both the US and EU trail running scene. I miss the trail running in France, but after a month, I miss the wilderness of Colorado and the Rocky Mountains, my home."

Running alongside them will be Sacha Devillaz (FR) and Patrick Bringer (FR). For the women, American Jamie Aaron, Swiss Luzia Schmid (CH), and Brit Carrie Craig will make up the lead group.

ATHLETES OF NOTE ENTERED IN THE OTHER RACES:

MaXi-Race

Chinese runner Canhua Luo (843 ITRA points) will likely contend for a podium finish, just like Frenchmen Vincent Viet (843), Nicolas Duhail (829), Nathan Jovet (823), Arnaud Lejeune (798), and Johnny Lherminier (792). Italian Michele Quagliaroli (791) and Turkish runner Emir Grairi have set their sights set on making it a truly international podium.

Lucie Jamsin (723) from France and Lisa Borzani (695) from Italy are the women's favorites.

Marathon-Race

Several Frenchmen ranked between 876 and 780 ITRA points should lead the pack: Adrien Michaud, Gautier Airiau, Kevin Vermeulen, Hugo Altmeyer, Roland Claverie, Anthony Felber, and Guillaume Peretti. Eric Mbacha (Cameroon) appears to be one of the only non-French runners capable of a podium finish.

Among the women we expect a French-only battle between Lucile Ochs, Camille Ancey, Lea Dusuel, Caroline Lafaye, and Marine Quintard.

The Short-Race, a stage on the 2019 Mountain Running World Cup, will be a weekend highlight. The list of contenders who will participate in the Annecy stage of the World Cup is not yet finalized.

PROGRAM

Please take note

- **Return to the traditional 03:30 start time for the 2019 MaXi-Race** (same as the 2015 Trail World Championships) for runners to enjoy the breathtaking sunrise and views on top of Mt. Semnoz!
- **The Ultra-Race starts at midnight!**

Thursday, May 23, 2019

19:00: MaXi Conference: **Failure, an integral part of both personal and professional success.**

Apply the experience of our speakers, who are elite coaches and athletes, for your own personal and professional development.

18:00 – 20:00: Bib pickup for the Short Race, MaXi Village– *Albigny Beach, Annecy-le-Vieux*

Friday, May 24, 2019

12:30: MaXi-Village opens, bib pickup – *Albigny Beach, Annecy-le-Vieux*

15:30: **Presentation of elite international athletes**

19:00: **Short Race starts**

19:00: MaXi-Village closes

Saturday, May 25, 2019

Midnight (00:00): Start for the Ultra-Race and XXL-Race, Day 1 – Albigny Beach, Annecy-le-Vieux

03:30: Start for the MaXi-Race – Albigny Beach, Annecy-le-Vieux

03:45: Start for the XL-Race Day 1 the R-Race (relay) – *Albigny Beach, Annecy-le-Vieux*

08:00: Start for the Femina-Race – *Menthon-St-Bernard*

06:00: First runners finish day 1 of the XL-Race and XXL RACE – *Doussard*

09:30: MaXi-Village opens – *Albigny Beach, Annecy-le-Vieux*

Starting at 09:30: First runners finish (staggered finishes through Sunday morning) – *Albigny Beach, Annecy-le-Vieux*

12:30 to 18:30: Bib pickup (Marathon-Race) – *Albigny Beach, Annecy-le-Vieux*

12:00 to 12:30: **Lead men finish the MaXi-Race – Albigny Beach, Annecy-le-Vieux**

13:00 to 14:00: **Lead women finish the MaXi-Race – Albigny Beach, Annecy-le-Vieux**

14:00: **Lead men finish the Ultra-Race – Albigny Beach, Annecy-le-Vieux**

15:00: **Lead women finish the Ultra-Race – Albigny Beach, Annecy-le-Vieux**

19:00: MaXi-Village closes – *Albigny Beach, Annecy-le-Vieux*

Sunday, May 26, 2019

06:30: Start for the XL-Race and XXL-Race, Day 2 – *Doussard*

05:30: **Start for the Marathon Race**

- 9:30 – 18:00:** Runners finish, all races – *Albigny Beach, Annecy-le-Vieux*
- 9:30 – 10:30:** Registration for the Mini-Race for kids – *Albigny Beach, Annecy-le-Vieux*
- 10:00:** MaXi-Village opens - *Albigny Beach, Annecy-le-Vieux*
- 11:00 – 11h50:** Mini-Race for kids (see details on the Mini-Race page) – *Albigny Beach, Annecy-le-Vieux*
- 17:00:** Last racer crosses the finish line, all races close – *Albigny Beach, Annecy-le-Vieux*
- 18:00:** MaXi-Village closes



Salomon GORE-TEX MaXi-Race: 11 race formats

- Ultra-Race: 115km, 7000m vertical gain – The Ultra is limited to 1000 runners, 5 ITRA points
- MaXi-Race: 82km, 5200m vertical gain – The flagship race is limited to 2000 runners, 4 ITRA points
- XL-Race: 81km, 5200m vertical gain – Around the lake in 2 days
- XXL-Race: 117km in two days
- R-Race: 80km, 5200m vertical gain as a 2 or 4-person relay team – A challenge to share with others
- Marathon-Race: 40km, 2500m vertical gain – A half loop around Lake Annecy, limited to 2200 runners, 2 ITRA points
- Femina-Race: 16km, 950m vertical gain - 100% for women only, limited to 300 runners
- Short-Race: 16km, 950m vertical gain – The gateway to trail running, limited to 500 runners
- Mini-Race: from 100m to 1km for 300 youth runners
- MaXi-Orientation and Semi-Orientation

*For all race information,
the press kit, press releases, and press passes:*

www.maxi-race.org

High-definition photos → <http://vu.fr/photos-presse-maxirace>

password: presse2018

CONTACTS

Race director

Stéphane AGNOLI -MaXi-Event's -17 rue de la barrade 74960 Meythet, FRANCE

stephmaxirace@gmail.com - Tel: +33 (0)6 60 18 38.15

Media relations – Infocimes

Anne GERY: annegery@infocimes.com Tel: +33 (0)4 50 47 24 61 — +33 (0)6 12 03 68 95



