



Press Release
June 12, 2023

11 years of Salomon Zugspitz Ultratrail powered by Ledlenser: Curtain up for Germany's biggest trail running event

Around 3850 runners from 59 nations, 40 exhibitors, 6 competitions from 5 starting locations - the Salomon Zugspitz Ultratrail powered by Ledlenser (ZUT) on June 16 and 17 underpins its reputation as Germany's largest trail running event.

With around 3850 runners from 59 nations, the ZUT has more registrations than ever before. It all started in 2011 in Grainau with exactly 676 participants*. In the previous 10 events, around **19,000 athletes*** came to Garmisch-Partenkirchen or Grainau - where the ZUT was based until 2019. Among the most strongly represented nations are **Germany, followed by the Netherlands, Austria, Great Britain, the USA, France, Belgium and Switzerland**. Women make up just under 30 percent of the field - a higher percentage for the shorter distances than for the longer ones. In the shortest competition, the newly launched Grainau Trail, even significantly more women than men start.

6 competitions from 5 starting locations and new starting time

Garmisch-Partenkirchen has been the central event location for the Zugspitz Ultratrail since 2022 and the destination for all 6 competitions. The start for the ULTRATRAIL will also take place in Garmisch-Partenkirchen - and for the first time already on **Friday evening at 22:00**, so that the majority of the field of participants will reach the finish in Garmisch-Partenkirchen on Saturday at brightness. In between, the 600 or so participants in the supreme discipline will have to cover 111 kilometers and 5180 meters of altitude.

The biggest trailrunning event in Germany
Deutschlands größtes Trailrunning-Event

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The other competitions:

- **Garmisch-Partenkirchen Trail**, 32 km, 1535 hm, start June 16, 2 p.m. in Garmisch-Partenkirchen
- **Ehrwald Trail**, 87 km, 4040 hm, start June 16, 11 p.m. in Ehrwald
- **Leutasch Trail**, 69 km, 2950 hm, start June 17, 9 a.m. in Leutasch/Weidach
- **Mittenwald Trail**, 45 km, 1920 hm, start June 17, 7 a.m. in Mittenwald
- **Grainau Trail**, 14 km, 500 hm, start June 17, 12 noon in Grainau

The Garmisch-Partenkirchen Trail is also part of the **Golden Trail National Series**, supported by title sponsor Salomon.

The Favorites: Excitement on all courses

High tension is to be expected on the supreme discipline, the **ULTRATRAIL** over 111 kilometers. It is hard to identify clear favorites, as the runners listed in the ITRA (International Trailrunning Association) are too close together. The most highly rated runner in the men's race is **Andre Purschke** from **Germany's Dynafit team**, and in the women's race **Marta Wenta** from **Poland**.

The situation is different for the **EHRWALD TRAIL**: With **New Zealander Ruth Croft** of Team adidas Terrex, a clear favorite is on the starting line - she could even reach the finish line before the first men. **Ukrainian Sergei Ulschenko** is the strongest man in the field, at least on paper.

A close race is expected at the **LEUTASCH TRAIL**: the **Germans Joseph Ecker and Christian Wasmer** are at the top of the list, in the women's **Chrissie Wellington from the UK** as well as the **German Hannah Kilgenstein**, who recently won the Chiemgau Trailrun.

In the **MITTENWALD TRAIL**, the favorites in both the men's and women's races come from Switzerland: **Marti Werner and Jamin Nunige**.

The strongest runners overall are already at the start on Friday at the **GARMISCH-PARTENKIRCHEN TRAIL** as part of the Golden Trail National Series: first and foremost the **Swiss Martin Anthamatten** as well as the two **Italians Martin and Bernard Dematteis** and the **German Sven Koch**, who two weeks ago at the IATF in Innsbruck sovereign won the K42. In the women's race there are 3 Germans among the top seeded runners with **Kim Schreiber, Laura Hampel and Dioni Gorla**.

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Strong partners and great expo

Trail running without **Salomon** is unthinkable. The French are probably the best-known brand in trail running and have been the title sponsor of the Zugspitz Ultratrail since its birth. One of their highlights and best-seller in 2023: the all-round trail shoe "Sense Ride 5".

Other long-standing partners:

- Lamp specialist **Ledlenser**, on board this year with their "NEO" headlamp series.
- Watch professional **Suunto** with the brand new "Vertical"
- In addition **Leki, Orthomol, Volkswagen R**, as well as **Sport Conrad**

The Zugspitz Ultratrail is not only in terms of the number of participants the largest trail running event in Germany, also the Expo with its 40 exhibitors is unparalleled and provides for extensive festival atmosphere.

These include: **Salomon, Ledlenser, Volkswagen R, Suunto, Orthomol Sport, Compresssport, Leki, Snowline Chainsen, GaPa, Sidas, Evileye, Explorer Hotels, Moonvalley, Holyfat, The North Face, Tzampas, Lowa, Madrisa Trail, Sporthunger, adidas Terrex, Mammut, Blackroll, Bauerfeind, Black Diamond, Brooks, CEP, Dynafit, Garmin, Oofos, Julbo, New Balance, Craft, Julbo, Pumpkin Organics, Otso, Karpos, Compex, Archmax, Dynadion, Scott.**

The Zugspitz Ultratrail in the daily overview

Thursday 15 June

- 19:00 o'clock: ZUT WarmUP Night Richard-Strauss-Platz

Friday, June 16

- 10:00-22:00 o'clock: ZUT-Expo at the Richard-Strauss-Platz
- 12:30 p.m.: Welcome and Briefing Richard-Strauss-Platz
- 13:00-20:00: ZUT Streetfood Meet & Greet
- 14:00: Start GARMISCH-PARTENKIRCHEN TRAIL
- 18:30: Award ceremony Golden Trail National Series
- 19:30: Chamber concert Richard-Strauss-Days
- 20:30: Award ceremony GARMISCH-PARTENKIRCHEN TRAIL
- 21:00: Surprise concert Richard-Strauss-Platz
- 22:00: Start ZUGSPITZ ULTRATRAIL in Garmisch-Partenkirchen
- 23:00: Start EHRWALD TRAIL in Ehrwald

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Saturday, June 17

- from 9:00: ZUT Expo
- 7:00: Start MITTENWALD TRAIL in Mittenwald
- 8:30: Music hike Richard-Strauss-Days to V9/Hochalm
- 9:00: Start LEUTASCH TRAIL in Leutasch/Weidach
- 12:00: Start GRAINAU TRAIL in Grainau
- 16:00: Award ceremony GRAINAU TRAIL and MITTENWALD TRAIL
- 19:30: Symphony concert Richard Strauss days
- 21:30: Award ceremony LEUTASCH TRAIL, EHRWALD TRAIL, ULTRATRAIL

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