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WORLD STAGE ARWS 31 MAY TO 6 JUNE, 2009

## press release

The launching of the 2<sup>nd</sup> edition of the Raid in France, a 100% french expedition, 100% sportive and 100% human will traverse, from 31<sup>st</sup> May to 6<sup>th</sup> June 2009, the 'hautes-alpes', the alps of 'haute Provence' and the Var. A minimum 5 day, non stop adventure practised in total autonomy.

The adventure is back! Raid in France promises, to those teams taking part in this 2<sup>nd</sup> edition, titled Alps to Sea 09, an out of the ordinary sportive and human experience linking the 'massif des écrins' to the mediteranean sea. From the Valgaudemar chapel in the 'hautes-alpes' down to Fréjus in the Var via the 'alpes de haut-provence' the participants will experience 520 kms and a total of 15000 metres of ascent/descent in autonomy, surrounded by wild nature which is still sheltered from civilisation.

Without an equivalent in the 'hexagone', Raid in France addresses itself not only to an experienced sportive public but also to passionate amateurs motivated by this challenge.

Registered as part of the Adventure Racing World Series circuit, the world cup of this discipline, Raid in France is run in teams of four (with atleast one female) and two assistants. This intense race offers a return to the real sense of adventure and total immersion in nature which goes beyond oneself calling upon the use of strong human values: – versatility, dynamism and generosity – all indispensable in order to reach the arrival point.

In the programme: snow dominated beautiful crampon sections on glaciers but also moutain bike, trekking, water events, canyoning, horse riding, caving...

The organisational team have organised a succession of events combining performance, physical commitment and communion with an exceptional landscape.

Raid in France is also a true invitation to discover and appreciate nature. Each competitor binds himself by signing the Raid in France charter to return to a real race with the highest respect for the environment.



### ABOUT RAID IN FRANCE

Raid in france was born in 2006 through the initiative of Pascal Bahuaud. This 52 year old from Lyon, 13 times french rowing champion and olympic finalist at Seoul, holds one of the biggest records in the practice of nature sports (10 Raid Gauloises with 6 podiums).

The Raid in France first edition gathered over 120 participants who covered 16,900 metres of ascent: descent and 476 kms across the 'hautes-pyrenees' and the 'pyrenees atlantiques'.

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